



Special Study Meeting  
 9:00 am, Saturday, January 29, 2022  
 City Council Chambers  
 23600 Liberty Street  
 Farmington, MI 48335

## FINAL

### SPECIAL STUDY MEETING MINUTES

A study session meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on January 29, 2022, in Farmington City Hall, Farmington, MI. Notice of the meeting was posted in compliance with Public Act 267-1976.

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 am by Mayor Bowman.

#### 2. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Johnna Balk	Councilmember	Present	
Sara Bowman	Mayor	Present	
Joe LaRussa	Mayor Pro Tem	Present	
Steve Schneemann	Councilmember	Present	
Maria Taylor	Councilmember	Present	

#### City Administration Present

Deputy Clerk Hilton  
 City Manager Murphy

#### Others Present

Charlie Fleetham, Project Innovations, Inc., facilitator

#### 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Move to approve the agenda as presented.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	LaRussa, Mayor Pro Tem
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Taylor, Councilmember
<b>AYES:</b>	Bowman, LaRussa, Schneemann, Taylor, Balk

#### 4. PUBLIC COMMENT

State Representative Samantha Steckloff spoke briefly.

## 5. COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR AND DISCUSSION AS DESIRED

Mayor Bowman ran through housekeeping items and talked about the goals, expectations, and procedure for this meeting. She noted that Council meets once every two years with the help of a moderator to provide input and discussion as to what should be prioritized going forward.

## 6. STRATEGIC PLANNING AND GOAL SETTING – PROCESS REVIEW

### Vision Statement

The City of Farmington in 2021 is a family-friendly community well-known for the connectedness and engagement of its citizens, including residents and businesses; the quality of its diverse neighborhoods and interactive public spaces; the economic viability of its thriving commercial districts and its sustainable and reliable city services.

- Intentional boards and commissions are directed toward making Farmington a desirable place to live and own a business
- City Administration and City Council recognize social media has changed the rules of citizen engagement – participants drive the process
- Creating a sense of place: community activities such as festivals, farmers markets, Warner Mansion, ice rink, walkable and multi-modal infrastructure connecting commercial and public space nodes.

### Progress Tracking:

- Bi-monthly, the City Manager will update the Mayor on this Strategic Plan.
- Quarterly, the City Manager will update the Council on this Strategic Plan.

## 7. STRATEGIC PLANNING AND GOAL SETTING – PROCESS REVIEW

### **Strategy 1: Maintain Financial Sustainability**

S-1A: Continue optimization of pension costs for the long term.

- Develop gap plan showing hi / low cases.
- Develop and present a cost / benefit analysis of transitioning to a defined contribution plan by 2030.

S-1B: Continue to sustain city infrastructure

- Task engineering firm to develop high level scope of work and cost estimate for preparing an asset management plan.
- Pathways Committee to evaluate sidewalks, including sidewalks in the neighborhood approaching Longacre.

### **Strategy 2: Support Activities and Events that Promote Placemaking**

S-2A: Complete analysis of sustainability strategy for Warner Mansion and develop implementation plan / action times.

S-2B: Continue optimization of enforcement of speeding and pedestrian safety, including a process review after completion of Farmington Road streetscape.

S-2C: Develop a strategy to utilize / optimize soon to be implemented fiber optic internet infrastructure for “digital” placemaking.

**Strategy 3: Improve Electronic Communications**

S-3A: Consider enhancements to Project Dashboard based on input from City Council.

S-3B: Complete investigation of development of online cemetery search tool.

S-3C: Optimize current communication strategy in response to the termination of the publication of the Farmington Voice.

**Strategy 4: Sustain and Improve Economically and Socially Viable Neighborhoods and Commercial Districts that are Attractive and Well Maintained**

S-4A: Close the sale of the Maxfield Training Center to the City.

S-4B: Prepare cost / benefit analysis for redevelopment of City Hall.

S-4C: Complete development and implementation of rental house ordinance, to include short term rentals.

S-4D: Parking Committee to consider creating incentives for private parking owners to open parking to public.

S-4E: Identify next significant redevelopment opportunity and present recommendations to Council for consideration and action.

**Strategy 5: Sustain our City’s Built and Environmental Infrastructure**

S-5A: Complete and submit Tree City application to appropriate agency.

S-5B: Task engineering firm to prepare a presentation on flood prevention, including the application of green infrastructure / technologies.

**Strategy 6: Develop Smart City Technology**

S-6A: Create a five-year plan to utilize the city’s soon-to-be implemented fiber optic internet infrastructure to provide innovative services to residents and businesses and improve existing services through automation.

**Strategy 7: Sustain Market Competitiveness**

S-7A: Evaluate wage and benefits of surrounding communities and communities of comparable size regarding department heads and non-union staff.

S-7B: Legal Counsel to complete report on potential impact of marijuana legalization impact on housing stock.

**Planned Study Sessions**

- PS-1: Conduct a study session to consider designing and implementing an enforcement process for existing ordinances as they relate to the existing built environment (e.g., signage, tidiness, maintenance, etc.) and an enforcement process related to planned property improvements, including consideration of bolstering ordinances.
- PS-2: Conduct a study session to learn about available tools/applications to provide a crowd source process for code enforcement, case management, and digital permitting.
- PS-3: Conduct a study session to learn about the feasibility of establishing deconstruction insurance policies or bonds for new and existing housing and commercial buildings to ensure future redevelopment is not limited by the cost of making sites ready for redevelopment.
- PS-4: Conduct a study session to learn about the mechanics and potential benefits of creating a revolving fund to help residents pay for burying power lines.
- PS-5: Upon Historical Commission completion of house inventory; develop and review proposed set of standards for governing properties in the Historic District.

**Action Items:**

1. City Manager to evaluate application for inclusive wording and update as appropriate.
2. City Manager to add agenda topic for Utility Committee meetings related to prevention and response to power outages.
3. Council Member LaRussa to identify desired changes to the Project Dashboard (see S-3A).

**8. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Representative Steckloff gave closing comments.

**9. COUNCIL COMMENT ON PLAN COMPLETION**

No Council comment was heard.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**Move to adjourn the meeting.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Taylor, Councilmember
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Schneemann, Councilmember

The meeting adjourned at 11:42 AM.

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Sara Bowman, Mayor

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Halley Hilton, Deputy Clerk

Approval Date: April 18, 2022