



FARMINGTON HILLS WATER SYSTEM ADVISORY COUNCIL (WSAC) MEETING

Tuesday, October 17, 2023 – 1:00PM

CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS – COMMUNITY ROOM

31555 W 11 MILE ROAD

FARMINGTON HILLS, MI 48336

(248) 871-2530 www.fhgov.com

Approved on 2/6/24

SUMMARY:

1. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order by Chairperson DiCea at 1:02 p.m.

2. Roll Call

- Members Present:
 - Kate DiCea, Chairperson - WRC Water Systems Engineering
 - Mike Pucher, Vice Chairperson - Oakland County Neighborhood & Housing Development and Farmington Hills Resident
 - Tammy Gushard, Secretary - Farmington Hills Engineering
 - Tony Drautz - Oakland County Health Division
 - Erin Quetell, Farmington Hills Resident
- Attendees:
 - Teresa Newman, WRC Consultant

3. Approval of Agenda

- Motion by Gushard to approve the agenda as published. Support by Drautz.
 1. Ayes: 5
 2. Nays and Abstentions: 0
 3. Motion Carried

4. Approval of February 7, 2023 Minutes

- Motion by Gushard to approve the minutes as distributed. Support by Quetell.
 1. Ayes: 5
 2. Nays and Abstentions: 0

3. Motion Carried

5. Public Comment - No public in attendance.

6. Unfinished Business

- Statewide Drinking Water Advisory Council (SDWAC) – Survey Results
 - 200 Webinar participants were asked to provide their feedback on the toolkit items presented, 31 participants completed the survey. Materials most likely to be used are social media copy, posters, and door hangers.
 - Erin asked if we had guidance on the longevity of the FH WSAC. Tammy explained that the requirement is to hold one meeting per year. The meeting in February is necessary to appoint officers for the year following City Councils approval of the member appointments, the October meeting is scheduled to discuss the lead and copper results.
- Mike reported out regarding the research that he did on cleaning aerators in the newer model faucets. There are different methods to find the aerators and suggested searching on YouTube.
- Update on the WRC standard operating procedures to notify residents that have results up to but not above the action level. Kate confirmed that phone calls are being made to customers that don't require written notification of an action level exceedance.
 - Erin asked if it would be prudent to provide residents with a reminder annually. Kate explained that the water quality reminder "Water Tips" Infographic is mailed in March and also attached with E-bills. It is also attached to the Water Quality Report.
 - Erin suggested that this may be a good item to post on social media. Kate will look into whether this is feasible. Tammy explained that FH staff is managing social media and could coordinate these posts.

7. New Business

- SDWAC Update
 - Kate explained that SDWAC is sending a survey to WSAC members. Tammy reminded the group that the SDWAC could provide assistance with outreach to school aged kids.
 - Tony asked whether the FH WSAC has received any information or guidance from SDWAC. No one was aware of having received any information from the State.
 - Tony asked if there were translated materials available for cultural groups. Kate and Tammy confirmed that the Water Quality Consumer Confidence Report is distributed in Arabic, English, Mandarin, and Spanish.

- Farmington Hills Lead and Copper Compliance Sampling for 2023.
 - 32 homes were sampled.
 - Lead results ranged from non-detect to 3.4 ppb. Five homes had lead results less than or equal to 3.4 ppb.
 - Copper results were 11 to 560 ppb.
 - Erin asked if any were repeats. Kate wasn't certain but will check.
 - Kate inquired with the State regarding whether FH qualified to be placed on the 3-year sampling since there hadn't been any action level exceedances. The State replied that FH wouldn't qualify until 2025 because the Water Quality Parameter requirements began in 2022.
- Distribution System Materials Inventory (DSMI) Update
 - Connie Sims is consulting with WRC to review FH DSMI data. She is reviewing and cleaning up old data, pulling new data, recording water main projects since 2015, and updating data from new (2023) work orders.
 - Kate will confirm the level of in-home verification required in FH. Tammy explained that verification has been done in older neighborhoods over the years. The FH Plumbing Inspector had been providing material verification when they have access inside of buildings.
 - Erin suggested using rental inspectors for service line verification.
- Farmington Hills Public Education and Awareness
 - The group discussed sharing information for the "Imagine A Day Without Water" www.Imagineadaywithoutwater.org campaign next year. It is too late this year as it is occurring on October 19, 2023.
 - Tammy participated in the City-wide Open House and displayed a house with various pipe materials, handed out pamphlets and materials for kids. Over 2,000 residents attended.
 - The group discussed programs that would be appropriate for school aged kids. A tabletop model with a water tower and piping was suggested as something that would draw attention from the younger generation.
 - Erin asked if FH participates in the Green Schools program. It is a certification that schools can get by incorporating green methods in their school. Tammy wasn't sure if Farmington Schools participates.

8. Next Steps

- The 2024 meeting schedule was approved as follows:
 - February 6, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. at Farmington Hills City Hall
 - October 15, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. at Farmington Hills City Hall
- Bylaws and Roster of Officers
 - Five members are necessary to conduct the business of the WSAC. The WSAC Bylaws identifies the election of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary to serve a one-year term. Each year, the officers shall be chosen by a vote of the WSAC members within 30 days of the Farmington Hills City Council appointments for Commissions and Councils. Officers cannot serve more than two successive years in one position. WSAC members are appointed or re-appointed by Farmington Hills City Council for a term of 3 years.
 - The reappointment terms are staggered:
 1. Kate DiCea was appointed this year for a one-year term that expires on 2/1/2024.
 2. Tammy Gushard and Mike Pucher terms expire on 2/1/2025.
 3. Tony Drautz and Erin Quetell terms expire on 2/1/2024.
 - The group suggested that FH WSAC may scale back to one meeting per year when annual sampling isn't required.
 - Tammy suggested that there is room for additional residents to be added to the WSAC, there is a requirement to have at least one resident member but no restrictions on the number of resident members.

9. Meeting Adjournment – Chairperson DiCea called for the meeting to be adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

- Motion by Quetell and seconded by Drautz.
 - Ayes: 5
 - Nays and Abstentions: 0
 - Motion Carried