

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
HIGHLAND CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 2013**

Mayor Michaelis called the Regular Session to order at 7:00pm. Council members Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides were present. Others in attendance were City Manager Mark Latham, City Attorney John Long; Directors Cook, Gillespie, Korte, Rosen and Schoeck; Police Chief Bell, Fire Chief Bloemker, EMS Captain Crosby, Supervisor Limestall, Library Director Kim, Treasurer Foehner, Deputy City Clerk Hediger, City Clerk Bellm; 6 citizens, and one member of the news media.

MINUTES

Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 5, 2013 Regular Session as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

PUBLIC FORUM

Citizens' Requests and Comments:

Moose Lodge #2749 – Veterans' Day Parade Request – Harold Schellenger, 6910 Cemetery Road., St. Rose, requested permission for the Moose Lodge and American Legion to sponsor and hold the second annual Veterans' Day Parade on Sunday, November 10, 2013. The parade route will be the same. The only thing different is that it will be moved back to 2:00pm, at the request of the church. This is a very short parade going down Main Street from the corner of Olive and ending at the downtown square. The parade will be held in conjunction with National Veterans' Week, which is November 10 – 16, 2013. Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve the request for the Moose Lodge and American Legion for the Veterans' Day Parade and presentations on Sunday, November 10, 2013 as requested; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Personal Address and Presentation - Lynette Schuepbach, 105 N Harvest Crest Court, Highland, stated she attended a convention a few months ago, where she saw a presentation given by an author of a book called, "For the Love of Cities", Peter Kageyama. Ms. Schuepbach presented copies of the book to all the council members and the mayor.

Fire Chief Rick Bloemker introduced Joe Patrick, who came into Highland today. Mr. Patrick is walking across the United States, starting from California. He is spending the evening at the Highland Fire House. Mr. Patrick stated he is doing the walk to honor those who died during the 9-11 attack and all the soldiers that have been killed in Iraq and Afghanistan. He rolled out the blanket, which includes 6,718 pictures, including 245 members from Illinois. Mr. Patrick pointed out that Illinois is the fourth largest contributing state. He will be getting an update to the blanket with another panel added on Tuesday, as there have been 60 soldiers lost since April, when he started on his journey.

Along his journey, he meets with families of those who are shown on the blanket. Mr. Patrick reported, yesterday, I met Bradley Smith's family, in Troy. Today, I met with Marge Duhacek, mother of Gary Vasquez. Tomorrow, I will be in Greenville; then Vandalia; Effingham on Friday; and, hopefully, Indianapolis next Wednesday. After viewing the blanket, Mayor Michaelis and council thanked Mr. Patrick for stopping in, for sharing what he is doing, and wished him well on his journey.

Marsha Roe, 713 Poplar Street, came to provide her "two cents" on the matter of allowing chickens. She stated I hope the city does not allow it. There are more important things for the city to be handling. With regards to the city's solid waste service, I hope we do not get Harry's, again. We have to have the trash out by 6am and sometimes it is 7pm until they get there. Whomever we get, I hope they realize you cannot leave the trashcans in the middle of the driveway. People pass using the bike lane, if I do not pull in my driveway fast enough for them. I hope whomever we have for trash service will have more common sense. I do not know what we can do for Poplar Street. There is a double yellow line and people still pass. On Lindenthal, there is a sign that says, "Share the Road." I do not know if signs would fix anything. Chief Bell reported we provide speed control on the north end of Poplar; however, we will see what we can do. With the hills, there is a blind spot. Hopefully, with the peripheral route, the traffic should lighten up and become more local traffic. Ms. Roe noted that since the stop sign was taken away at Poplar and 6th Street, it seems like cars speed up some times when they see me trying to back out of my driveway.

City Manager Latham reported we did go out for proposals for solid waste service providers. There was only one proposal submitted. We will be meeting with that company tomorrow at 10:00am to see what we can work out. It is not Harry's Disposal. Councilman Schwarz inquired about the letter we received from Republic Waste. Is there anything we could have done to accommodate them with a longer lead-time? City Manager Latham explained we did not go out just for a bid, we requested proposals for service. Councilman Schwarz inquired why there were not more proposals submitted. City Manager Latham explained there are few companies out there providing this service. Republic Waste and Waste Management are the largest. It is tough for small entities to be competitive. Harry's is independent and pays a premium at the landfills. Mayor Michaelis expressed he cannot begin to tell everyone how difficult it is to find a waste service that is perfect. The number of those submitting proposals is indicative.

Requests of Council:

Councilwoman Bellm noted that at the last meeting we looked at the possibility of having a marketing company represent Highland. I would hope that we could have a discussion on what we are looking for, how we would anticipate a company would represent us, and get an idea of approximate costs. Councilwoman Bellm stated I would like us to re-visit the proposal of a call center for HCS. I do believe we need a weekend and evening call center. I would like to seek proposals from a minimum of three companies, along with a description of the type of services they would provide and what type of issues would require a call out of our in-house staff. I would hope we could find something local.

Staff Reports:

City Manager Latham stated if the council approves awarding the bid for the northeast quadrant of the peripheral route, we would like to hold a groundbreaking ceremony on August 29, 2013 at 10:00am, at the corner of Michael Road and Iberg Road.

City Manager Latham recognized Deputy City Clerk Lana Hediger for her achievement of acceptance as a Fellow in the Athenian Leadership Society, which is an esteemed leadership society of municipal clerks of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks. Lana participated in her first dialogue in April 2010 and completed ten dialogues, which focus on the helping municipal clerks develop critical thinking skills and increase their leadership ability in improving local government. She is one of few to make it into that league.

Mayor Michaelis reported a few months ago, he along with City Manager Latham, Mark Rosen, and Ryan Hummert attended a seminar on the Emerald Ash Borer that was infecting and killing trees in different areas of the country. This past week, I was having some trimming done at my home. The staff of Personal Preference alerted us that the trees in my neighbor's yard were infected. I had not noticed it; however, the one is beyond saving and the other one was in the early stages. Director Rosen stated, at this point, we are trying to get the word out about the disease. Traps were put out in the park, this past year. We were not seeing any. There are two ways to treat. There is treating with injection or there is complete saturation of the ground around the trunk. We have 129 Ash Trees on the city's right-of-way. We are doing what we can with city trees. The signs of infestation begin with a lot of holes in the trunk and woodpeckers around the tree. Mayor Michaelis noted the instructor stated it is 100% fatal for infected trees.

OLD BUSINESS

Bill #13-53/ORDINANCE Amending the HMC to Allow Keeping Chickens – Mayor Michaelis requested a motion. With no motion made by any council members, Bill #13-53 failed.

NEW BUSINESS

Award Bid (Section 07-00059-00-PV) for Construction of Iberg Road Extension -- Northeast Quadrant of Peripheral Route (PW-15-06) – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to award Bid (Section 07-00059-00-PV) for construction of Iberg Road Extension - Northeast Quadrant of Peripheral Route (PW-15-06) to Keller Construction, Inc., of Glen Carbon, Illinois, in the amount of \$6,570,058.62 as attached; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Award Bid #PD-06-13 Emergency Outdoor Warning Siren System – Councilman Schwarz made a motion to award Bid #PD-06-13 Emergency Outdoor Warning Siren System to Global Technical Systems, of Jacksonville, Illinois, in the amount of \$103,487.00 as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Councilman Schwarz inquired are they talking about putting five towers around town. Did they all propose that? Are we comparing apples to apples? Chief Bell explained different manufacturers have different ratings and ways of covering areas with sound. What we put in the request for proposals is that regardless of what they provide us, their equipment must provide sound coverage to blanket the city limits. Councilman Schwarz noted I never know why the sirens going off - if it is a windstorm, tornado, or hail storm. Will be there be different tones for what type of storm it is? Chief Bell replied no. We activate the sirens in accordance with the National Weather Service. The equipment will be capable of different tones; however, we are going to keep it at one tone. We get enough calls about why the sirens are going off and if it safe to go out after a period of time. If we did different tones, people would be calling asking what the different tones mean. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #13-76/RESOLUTION Authorizing Purchase of 2014 Ford Police Interceptor as Ambulance Assist Vehicle for the EMS Department – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #13-76/Resolution #13-08-2146 authorizing purchase of 2014 Ford Police Interceptor as ambulance assist vehicle for the EMS Department from Tri-Ford, Inc., in the amount of \$26,919 as attached; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #13-77/RESOLUTION Authorizing Application for Funding for Developing and Constructing the Sharpshooters' Trail – Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve Bill #13-77/Resolution #13-08-2147 authorizing application for funding for developing and constructing the Sharpshooters' Trail as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #13-78/ORDINANCE Vacating Portion of a Platted Alley Between Lot 10 in Second Southland Subdivision and Lot 30 in Willow Creek Estates Subdivision – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #13-78/Ordinance #2583 vacating portion of a platted alley between Lot 10 in Second Southland Subdivision and Lot 30 in Willow Creek Estates Subdivision as attached; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. Councilman Schwarz inquired why we would vacate a portion of an alley. City Manager Latham explained Mrs. Rehkemper who maintains the property approached us. She would like to dedicate a portion of property to Rick Bloemker, as she has no means of taking care of the property. We are establishing a twenty-foot easement for utilities. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #13-79/ORDINANCE Vacating Part of the Utility and Drainage Easement at the North End of Lot 26 of Prestige Estates Subdivision, as Shown on the Plat of Prestige Estates Subdivision – Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve Bill #13-79/Ordinance #2584 vacating part of the utility and drainage easement at the north end of Lot 26 of Prestige Estates Subdivision, as shown on the plat of Prestige Estates Subdivision as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #13-80/ORDINANCE Approving and Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Redevelopment Agreement for Tax Increment Finance Proceeds and the Waiver of Certain Fees Pursuant to the Business Economic Support Act and Other Actions Related Thereto – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #13-80/Ordinance #2585 approving and authorizing the mayor to execute a redevelopment agreement for Tax Increment Finance proceeds and the waiver of certain fees pursuant to the Business Economic Support Act and other actions related thereto as attached; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. Councilman Schwarz asked are property taxes for the city being waived for ten years or eighteen years. City Manager Latham explained eighteen years is the longest it could go based upon the length of the TIF, but not to exceed twenty percent of the property improvements. Councilman Schwarz expressed eighteen years and \$89,000 is way too generous. Councilwoman Bellm inquired this is the way TIF is set up; we do not have the option of saying we do not have a maximum. City Manager Latham confirmed. Director of Finance Kelly Korte explained the maximum is \$89,000; however, it is only twenty percent of the increase in property taxes based on the property improvements. He will still pay the base property taxes. This amount is based upon assessed valuation, too. City Manager Latham added they are also required to provide us with copies of invoices to substantiate the improvements. Roll Call Vote: Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, Councilman Schwarz voted nay. Motion carried.

REPORTS

Approve Warrants #921 & #923 – Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve Warrants #921 and #923 as attached; seconded by Councilman Nicolaides. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Councilwoman Bellm abstained. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. All council members voted aye, none nay. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 7:51pm.

Joseph Michaelis, Mayor

Barbara Bellm, City Clerk