

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
HIGHLAND CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2016**

Mayor Michaelis called the Regular Session to order at 7:00pm. Council members Frey, Schwarz, Nicolaides, and Bellm were present. Others in attendance were City Manager Mark Latham, City Attorney John Long; Directors Bell, Gillespie, Imming, Korte, Peck, Rosen and Schoeck; Fire Chief Bloemker, EMS Chief Wilson, Treasurer Foechner, Deputy City Clerk Hediger, City Clerk Bellm; 2 citizens, and one member of the news media.

MINUTES

Councilman Frey made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2016 Regular Session as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Frey, Bellm, and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Councilman Schwarz abstained. Motion carried.

PUBLIC FORUM

Citizens' Requests and Comments:

2016 Race & Fair Event Dates Request – Sue Zobrist, 11308 Ellis Road, St, Jacob, Secretary of Madison County Fair Association and Manager of Highland Speedway, requested approval of race dates and fair dates for grandstand event. Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve the race dates and fair dates as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Mayor Michaelis stated that occasionally he will receive a complaint regarding the race, and received a call this past week from a man. This person does not want to see the races leave; however, he has issue with the Sunday morning and Tuesday night practices. I do not see the Sunday morning races on the request. My suggestion was that he and other concerned citizens should come to council meeting tonight. Mayor Michaelis noted I told him I would leave a proposed race schedule at the front desk. I am not sure if he stopped in and picked that up or not. Councilman Schwarz noted that the Sunday morning practices are not on the list of dates provided. Mrs. Zobrist explained the kids' modifies were practicing yesterday (Sunday morning). That group is for kids ages 10-15. They were practicing, yesterday, when there would be no one else there, so that they could get used to the track and the feel of driving the car on the track. Mayor Michaelis noted, if this individual came up and picked up a copy of the schedule, and this was not on the agenda, I am sure he will not be happy. Mayor Michaelis also requested that someone from the Fair Association or the speedway come before the start of the season and practices, in the future. Mrs. Zobrist stated she thought the new forms they had filled out for the City took the place of coming before the council. Director Bell informed the council that they had filled out all the paperwork and everything is in order. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Bellm, and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Councilman Frey abstained. Motion carried.

Requests of Council:

No comments or requests presented.

Staff Reports:

City Manager Latham reminded the council of the Special Session of City Council scheduled for April 29, 2016. City Manager Latham explained staff would like to use the session for planning within the next two years and some further out. Staff hopes to have the results from the community survey back for that session also.

Oak Street Reconstruction Project Findings Summary- Director of Public Works Joe Gillespie provided a summary of project findings for the Oak Street Reconstruction, to date. Oak Street is presently an oil and chip surface. It is used considerably for school traffic and Lindenthal Park events. There is also limited street parking. The interest in upgrading Oak Street goes back as far as twenty years. Mailings were sent to all parties along Oak Street. We presented three options for feedback from those residents and property owners.

There is a marginal difference in the alignments between all three options. Oak Street, presently, provides thirty-three feet of right of way. Typically, a thoroughfare street would have sixty feet of right of way. Option 1 would be for two-way traffic, with ten-foot travel lanes and parking on one side, which would be six feet wide with a two-foot gutter feed on the west side. Option 2 provides no street parking, with a sidewalk on one side, and two-way traffic. Option 3 introduced one-way (southbound) from the creek to the intersection of Papin Street. It allows for an eight-foot parking lane on the one side, two-foot curb and gutter, and a sidewalk on the eastside.

We handed out information sheets at the public hearing and asked residents to rank the options. Option 3 was overwhelming chosen as the top choice, eight times. Option 1 was chosen as the preferred choice three times. Option 2 was the least chosen. A few days after the hearing, someone from right outside of the area pointed out that the mail trucks travel northbound with all mailboxes on east side of Oak Street. With Option 2, it can work by placing the mailboxes inside the sidewalk. I met with Postmaster Annette Pierce regarding the issue. Her feedback was that Option 2 works. She was not in favor of Option 3, due to parking in front of the boxes and ability to do package delivery. Feedback received from the residents included: there is no alley on the west side; sidewalks and parking are important; one-way traffic is confusing and would be frustrating, in particular people from out of town.

Councilman Schwarz stated he does not feel that mail delivery would be an issue with one-way traffic; however, with the school traffic, all you are doing is pushing traffic to other side streets. Eliminating the parking is not an option. Mayor Michaelis noted one property owner stated they would not give the right of way needed, because of the traffic being pushed off to other side streets, with the one-way traffic option. Councilwoman Bellm stated Option 3 needs to come off the table if the mail delivery is not going to work. Yes, it was the best idea, I thought, up front. While a sidewalk is highly desirable, I do not see how we could not give people parking along there. I would still be in favor of Option 3, if we could figure out how to get them mail delivery. She inquired what would happen if we were unable to get the needed right of way from this property owner. City Attorney Long explained we would get appraisal on the amount of right of way needed. If they refuse, we would have to go after eminent domain, which could take some time. Councilman Frey asked how much more land would be needed to add a sidewalk to Option 1. Director Gillespie replied eight additional feet. It would require right of way purchases from each property to add the sidewalk. It was the consensus of council that we have to give these residents parking, if we are going to do this project. Councilwoman Bellm asked if the sidewalk have to be five-feet wide. Director Gillespie replied yes. If this were a federal funded project, it would have to be six-feet. Councilwoman Bellm asked which side of the street has fewer houses. Councilman Frey pointed out that it is equal on each side. Councilwoman Bellm stated, while it is not

practical, we could look at purchasing some of the homes along there and make the street the width needed.

City Manager Latham suggested pursuing Option 1. He felt most of the homeowners on the eastside would work with the city to provide for a sidewalk along there. Councilman Frey noted that two homes along there get delivery to the door, already. If you divide and cluster the boxes, it may be more workable. City Manager Latham suggested the city send a letter to the residents, updating them with the information that, after speaking with the postmaster, Option 3 is not a feasible option; however, we would like to work toward providing a sidewalk along the east side of the street.

NEW BUSINESS

Making Tentative Budget for FY 2016-2017 Available for Public Review at City Hall and Setting the Public Hearing Date for Monday, April 18, 2016 – Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve making the tentative budget for FY 2016-2017 available for public review at City Hall and setting the public hearing date for Monday, April 18, 2016 as attached; seconded by Councilman Nicolaides. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm, and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #16-23/RESOLUTION Requesting Road Closure for 2016 Schweizerfest Event – Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve Bill #16-23/Resolution #16-04-2372 requesting road closure of Illinois Route 160/Broadway, from Washington Street to Laurel Street, between 9:00 am on Friday, June 10, 2016, and 5:00 am on Monday, June 13, 2016 for 2016 Schweizerfest Event as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm, and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #16-24/RESOLUTION Requesting Road Closures for 2016 Schweizerfest Parades – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #16-24/Resolution #16-04-2373 requesting road closure of Illinois Route 160 from Spindler Lane to Cypress Street, on Saturday, June 11 and Sunday, June 12, 2016 between 4:45pm and 6:30pm, for 2016 Schweizerfest Parades as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Councilman Frey asked if the forms have been filled out and if the roads are the same as the past couple of years. Director Bell reported the routes and road closures are the same as the past couple of years. Everything is completed; we are just waiting on the insurance documents. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #16-25/RESOLUTION Approving and Authorizing the Execution of Local Agency Agreement for Federal Participation with State of Illinois, Through the Illinois Department of Transportation, for Construction of Ten-Foot-Wide Shared Use Path Along Troxler Avenue From IL Route 143 to IL Route 160 – Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve Bill #16-25/Resolution #16-04-2374 approving and authorizing the execution of local agency agreement for federal participation with State of Illinois, through the Illinois Department of Transportation, for construction of ten-foot-wide shared use path along Troxler Avenue from IL Route 143 to IL Route 160 as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm, and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Approve Notice of Municipal Letting for Bid #PW-02-16 for Rinderer Park Water Main Directional Boring – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Notice of Municipal Letting for Bid #PW-02-16 for Rinderer Park Water Main Directional Boring as attached; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. Councilwoman Bellm inquired is this a start to get water out at Rinderer Park, which is primarily for restroom. City Manager Latham replied it is also for water at the dog park. Councilman Schwarz noted there are a lot of people walking along there, and the restrooms would get a lot of use.

Councilwoman Bellm pointed out when looking at Oak Street, which we do not have money for, and the purchase of a new fire truck that is needed, I am not sure we need to rush into getting water out there. We have other things to put our money in. There are costs to this with the boring costs, plus the cost of employees to be laying the lines and the lines themselves. I would like to see what the total cost of this whole package is. I am not saying we do not need it, but I am not sure that we should be putting it there now. Councilman Frey agreed we should be conservative with our spending, because we do not know what we are getting from the State of Illinois. City Manager Latham explained the line is in out there already. We just need to bore under Michael Road and into the park. Director Gillespie estimated a cost of \$50,000 to get water inside the park. Councilman Frey stated I agree with putting water into the park, because the cost is only going to increase with time. Whether we build the restrooms now, or wait, is another thing. Councilman Schwarz pointed out we spent all this money to put the road out there, the park there, and there are a lot of people walking along there. I just think we need to finish it. Councilman Nicolaides concurred it is not going to get any cheaper. Councilwoman Bellm stated if the council is in favor of putting the water into the park, I am okay with that; however, I would like to look at the rest of the costs. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Award Bid #PW-06-14 for the Clarifier Construction Project at the Water Treatment Plant – Councilman Schwarz made a motion to award Bid #PW-06-14 for the Clarifier Construction Project at the Water Treatment Plant to Korte Luitjohan Contractors, Inc., in the amount of \$1,259,600 as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

REPORTS

Approve Warrants #1017 & #1018 – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Warrants #1017 & #1018 as attached; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. 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 7:57pm.

Joseph Michaelis, Mayor

Barbara Bellm, City Clerk