

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
HIGHLAND CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2017**

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, Asst. City Manager Peck, City Attorney McGinley; Directors Cook, Gillespie, Imming, Korte, and Rosen, Fire Chief Rick Bloemker, Deputy City Clerk Hediger, and City Clerk Bellm, Library Director Kim, 5 citizens and one member of the news media.

MINUTES

Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2017 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:

Lebanon Cedar Cruisers Annual Volkswalk Request - Lebanon Cedar Cruisers Annual Volkswalk Request – Bill Malina, President of the Lebanon Cedar Cruisers, of New Baden, Illinois, requested permission for the group to continue with their annual Highland walk on May 12, 2018. He reported we start at Square and bring our own water, table and chairs. We would only need use of the restroom, and if it rains the gazebo. We do not put any markings out. We provide a map with directions to guide people. The walk starts at 8:30am; and, we headed home around noon. Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve the request of the Lebanon Cedar Cruisers to hold their annual Volkswalk on Saturday, May 12, 2018, as requested; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

2018 Optimist Shootout Funding Request – Rick Ringwald, Representative for Optimist Shootout, stated we are here requesting, as in the past, Silver Level Sponsorship (\$1,000) and police protection at the event, to be held January 6, 2018. This year's event line-up consists of seven games. Both boys and girls. We do have the number one high school recruit from within Illinois. From Missouri, a top twenty in the nation recruit, and a North Carolina State commit. We have the top ten national rated sophomore from the Chicago area. This year, we do have a group from Atlanta that has requested to film our event for online viewing. It provides an opportunity for the school's tech program to shadow them. This is something that does not cost us anything, but we would receive half the proceeds from the downloads. Mr. Ringwald pointed out that is our twenty-seventh year hosting the event. We are really happy with the line-up for this year, and have developed a reputation as one of the premier basketball events. Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve a Silver Level Sponsorship and

provide police protection as requested; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Mayor Michaelis asked what the line-up is for this year. Mr. Ringwald reported it starts with Lebanon v. Highland Ladies' Basketball team; then, Edwardsville v. Kansas-City Rockford; Whitfield v. Carbondale; Highland Boys v. Columbia; Poplar Bluff v. Belleville West; Vashon v. Champaign Central; and, finishing with Morgan Park v. Chaminade. We should have a lot of people from out of town in for the event, to showcase our community. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

2017 Highland Masonic Lodge #583 Old Swiss Sausage Supper Street Closure Request – Gary Jascur requested permission to have traffic limited on 9th Street, from Walnut Street to Pestalozzi Street, to one-way only, and no parking on either side of 9th Street, on Sunday, February 11, 2018, from 6:30am to 8:00pm. He reported we serve 800 – 1,000 people in that one day. Our focus is to step up the curbside service. Mayor Michaelis asked Lt. Conrad if this acceptable with the police department. Lt. Conrad responded we met with Mr. Jascur a few weeks ago, we went over the plan, and find it acceptable. We have forwarded the request to Street & Alley for the necessary signage. Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve the request of the Masonic Lodge for traffic restrictions on Sunday, February 11, 2018 as requested; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Requests of Council:

Mayor Michaelis announced, with great sadness, Dennis Bellm, a great businessman and servant of the community passed away this week. Dennis served as a member of the Police & Fire Pension Board. We extend our condolences to the family of Dennis Bellm. Lt. Conrad stated Mr. Bellm served for many years, on the pension board, and worked hard to get us to where we are now, when our pension fund was in its infancy. His work put us in a very good position. We are very appreciative of everything he has done.

Staff Reports:

City Manager Latham referred the council to the memo before them, that was prepared by Director Dan Cook regarding an emergency expenditure. We have taken down our one substation based upon issues found in an inspection. Director Cook reported the annual oil testing indicated trouble in the tap changer on the Westside Substation transformer. Upon further inspection, it was found that there was arcing occurring within the tapchanger, which burnt up several components within. A remanufactured load tap changer (LTC) has been ordered and will be installed by Solomon, in the amount of \$62,790.00. Repair are expected to be completed the week of January 2, 2018.

City Manager Latham pointed out the council has information in their packet regarding our water main replacement plan. We plan to have the engineer here, for the January 16, 2018 meeting, to present the plans and answer any questions.

Mayor Michaelis recalled Shirley Lodes came to the last council meeting and expressed concerns about the acoustics of this room. When someone comes to a meeting and expresses their concerns, I feel it should be looked at. I am not sure that if John said “Hi” from where he is sitting or came to the microphone, that the sound would be any different. He asked the directors if they could hear things clearly. Director Cook admitted I do not have the best hearing, but it is difficult. Councilwoman Bellm acknowledged it is not as bad to hear up here, but sitting out in the audience area the sound is much worse. Mayor Michaelis expressed I think we need to have some professionals come in and look at the issue. If it is the equipment, then we should have it replaced. City Manager Latham reported that we had someone come in and provide options, about eleven years ago. They recommended adding acoustic panels to the ceiling and some to the walls to fix the issue. Part of it is the design of the building. Mayor Michaelis stated I think we, at least, should start by looking at the microphones and speakers.

NEW BUSINESS

Bill #17-120/ORDINANCE Amending the 2017-2018 Budget – Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve Bill #17-120/Ordinance #2822 amending the 2017-2018 Budget as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #17-121/ORDINANCE for Levy, Assessment and Collection of Taxes – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #17-121/Ordinance #2823 for Levy, Assessment and Collection of Taxes as attached; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm, and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #17-122/RESOLUTION Approving and Adopting 2018 Meeting Dates for the City Council, Boards and Commissions – Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve Bill #17-122/Resolution #17-12-2487 approving and adopting 2018 meeting dates for the City Council, Boards and Commissions as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm.

Bill #17-123/ORDINANCE Amending City Personnel Policy Manual, Section 6.16, “Harassment,” and Adopting Section 6.16 (A), “Policy Prohibiting Sexual Harassment,” to be Added to City Personnel Policy Manual *Instantly* – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #17-123/Ordinance #2824 amending City Personnel Policy Manual, Section 6.16, “Harassment,” and adopting Section 6.16 (A), “Policy Prohibiting Sexual Harassment,” to be added to City Personnel Policy Manual *Instantly* as attached; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. Councilwoman Bellm stated I understand this change is at the directive of the State of Illinois. Is it any different than what we had in there before? Director Lisa Schoeck stated what we had was a good policy. This is just more detailed and cites current laws. City Attorney Mike McGinley advised what the city had was more than adequate. What the state sent deals more with remedies and processes to follow if something should come about. Councilwoman Bellm expressed this is where I get on my soapbox and say this whole thing is getting out of hand. I would hope that people can use some common sense. Mayor Michaelis pointed out this directive was signed by Governor Rauner. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #17-124/RESOLUTION Authorizing Approximately 0.281 Acres to be Declared Surplus and Sold According to 65 ILCS 5/11-76-4.1 – Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve Bill #17-124/Resolution #17-12-2488 authorizing approximately 0.281 acres to be declared surplus and sold according to 65 ILCS 5/11-76-4.1 as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #17-125/RESOLUTION Appropriating Motor Fuel Tax Funds for 2018 for the Maintenance of Streets and Highways – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #17-125/Resolution #17-12-2489 appropriating Motor Fuel Tax Funds for 2018 for the maintenance of streets and highways as attached; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #17-126/RESOLUTION Urging the Governor to Veto Senate Bill #1451 Establishing the Small Wireless Facilities Deployment Act – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #17-126/Resolution #17-12-2490 urging the governor to veto Senate Bill #1451 establishing the Small Wireless Facilities Deployment Act as attached; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. City Manager Latham reported this bill is on the governor’s desk. He has not signed it yet. Many of the communities in the IL Municipal League pointed out that how this (bill) is drafted companies can come and jump our poles for little compensation. Verizon has already made a precursor to us. I have asked City

Attorney Mike McGinley to put together an easement ordinance in place. Otherwise, all of a sudden you see a wireless antenna on our poles without any request. It is not good for any community to have this. The ordinance will designate the poles are easement and require anyone wanting to come on to our easements to fill out a permit otherwise they will be fined. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #17-127/RESOLUTION Approving Retransmission Consent Agreement Between Meredith Corporation and the City of Highland d/b/a Highland Communication Services – Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve Bill #17-127/Resolution #17-12-2491 approving Retransmission Consent Agreement between Meredith Corporation and the City of Highland d/b/a Highland Communication Services as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #17-128/RESOLUTION Waiving Normal and Customary Bidding Procedures and Authorizing Purchase of ITRON Electric Meters from Anixter Power Solutions, LLC – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #17-128/Resolution #17-12-2492 waiving normal and customary bidding procedures and authorizing purchase of 140 ITRON Electric Meters from Anixter Power Solutions, LLC in the amount of \$35,000 as attached; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #17-129/RESOLUTION Waiving Normal and Customary Bidding Procedures and Authorizing Purchase of Polyphase Meter Communication Modules with Associated Licenses from Tantalus Systems, Inc. – Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve Bill #17-129/Resolution #17-12-2493 waiving normal and customary bidding procedures and authorizing purchase of 140 Polyphase Meter Communication Modules with associated licenses from Tantalus Systems, Inc., in the amount of \$30,237.20 as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill 17-130/RESOLUTION Approving Balancing Change Order #1 and Final to Sportsman Road Reconstruction Project - Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill 17-130/Resolution #17-12-2494 approving Balancing Change Order #1 and Final to Sportsman Road Reconstruction Project as attached; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. City Manager Latham pointed out that this actually a decrease of \$4,212.44 in the contract. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

REPORTS

Approve Warrants #1078 & #1079 – Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve Warrants #1078 & #1079 as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm, and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

Discussion – Single-Family New Construction Starts – Assistant City Manager Lisa Peck explained this is simply revisiting the end of season construction numbers as requested a few months ago. As you can see from the information provided, for new construction starts within Madison County, Highland is #5. This is the same position, as we were when we started having this conversation. Councilwoman Bellm noted the numbers are only from January through June. Asst. City Manager Peck stated she saw errors in the numbers for July through December, so she did not want to show those.

Primarily construction season, as far as issuance of permits, is over by then. This is a pretty accurate representation of the construction season. She pointed out we are staying consistent. Councilwoman Bellm noted when you look at Edwardsville, they are significantly larger in population than we are now; and, we know what is going on in Troy. In comparison to other communities, we are in line. We know the unincorporated construction numbers are out there. Councilman Frey asked what the permit fees to build in these other communities are. Asst. City Manager Peck reported Edwardsville is \$12,165 for a new home, with a \$3,000 school impact fee included; Glen Carbon is over \$10,000, also, with the \$3,000 school impact fee as well. Godfrey, whom had more new home permits (9 versus our 6), is the only one with more permits than Highland with lower permit fees. Councilman Schwarz asked do any of those communities offer incentives. Asst. City Manager replied not that I am aware of. Councilwoman Bellm stated I would like to see more construction, but I do not think we are out of line. Asst. City Manager Peck asked the council for direction on the next process. Councilwoman Bellm expressed she would like to see this reviewed again in a few months, when the construction season is going again. Asst. City Manager Peck reported this is something I continually monitor.

Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to temporarily adjourn this regular session to enter into executive session under the Illinois Open Meetings Act under 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5) to discuss the sale and purchase of real property; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.

Mayor Michaelis reconvened the Regular Session at 8:12pm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Nicolaides, Bellm, Frey and Schwarz were present. City Manager Latham, Asst. City Manager Peck, Lt. Conrad, City Attorney McGinley, Deputy City Clerk Hediger and City Clerk Bellm were also present.

Mayor Michaelis stated nothing discussed in Executive Session this evening would be acted upon in this session.

Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. All council members voted aye, none nay. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:12pm.

Joseph Michaelis, Mayor

Barbara Bellm, City Clerk