

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
HIGHLAND CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2018**

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 Michael McGinley, Directors Bell, Cook, Korte and Rosen; EMS Chief Wilson and Fire Chief Bloemker, City Staff: Ann Stoecklin and Mallord Hubbard, Deputy City Clerk Hediger, City Clerk Bellm, 25 citizens and 1 member of the news media.

MINUTES

Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2018 Regular Session as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Michaelis opened the public hearing to receive comments concerning final adoption of the Budget for the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year.

PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Michaelis read a document proclaiming Saturday, April 21, 2018 Arbor Day in Highland. The annual Spring Bloom Festival is being held this weekend in conjunction with Arbor Day. Director Rosen reported there is a full venue of items planned for the day at Silver Lake Park. The event begins at 9:00am. He recognized Peg Bellm for sparking this idea, a few years ago. It is a festival to celebrate the earth. There is a full venue of items, including on soap making, tree care in general, a portable sawmill, soil erosion and conservation and beekeeping seminars. Weather is a big factor in the amount of people that attend. Mayor Michaelis asked if the Ag department, from the high school, would be selling plants. Director Rosen stated they are going to have houseplants for sale. Along with native plants, which are very important for pollination. There will also be a petting zoo.

Mayor Michaelis read a document proclaiming May as Motorcycle Awareness Month in Highland. Jules Branger, ABATE (A Brotherhood of Awareness, Training & Education) member, explained the purpose of their organization is to promote education, safety and awareness of motorcycles in general and to keep an eye out for us. He stated he has been with this organization since it started.

PUBLIC FORUM

Citizens' Requests and Comments:

St. Paul School Student Appreciation Day Road Closure Request – Amber Tallman, teacher at St. Paul's Catholic School, requested permission for the 900 Block of Lemon Street, between 9th Street and Main Street, to be closed off from 9:00am to 1:30pm on Thursday, May 18, 2018, during activities for Student Appreciation Day. Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve the request of the Viking Parents Association for closure of Lemon Street, between 9th Street and Main Street, on May 18 2018, as attached; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Highland Band Parents' Association – Cow Pie Bingo Square Use Request – Patty Take, Co-President of Highland Band Parents' Association, requested permission for the group to hold Cow Pie Bingo on the Square, on Thursday, September 13, from 5:30pm-8:00pm. She stated this is our largest fundraiser of the year, for the band. The middle school and high school bands will perform while we watch the cow walk around and wait for a winner. Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve the request for use of the Square for Cow Pie Bing and bathrooms, on Thursday, September 13, as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Elmer Emig, President of Weinheimer Sr. Citizens, a 501(3) (c) tax-exempt organization. Mt. Emig noted there are some of those citizens in attendance tonight. We are asking you to consider constructing a 4,316 sq. ft. building for us, with at least fifteen disability parking spots and fifty to seven other parking spaces. The senior citizens have called the Weinheimer Building our home for fifty-one years. ADA compliance was not an issue. We, seniors, are living longer and we need more attention and help. We are living longer in our homes. Five of our seniors, coming to our meetings, have fallen. One was hospitalized for a full month. When a senior is injured, it takes a long time to heal. Parking is a tremendous issue for us. The parking lot across the street is over 50 yards away. The parking lot behind city hall is 250 yards away. People come carrying dishes for our luncheon, pursues, bags, and sometimes an umbrella. It is impossible for those in a wheelchair, walking with canes or walker, to maneuver all this. The entrance door has a handicap button, but you have to back up 4-5 feet on the incline to push the button and allow it to open. The city has help assist with funding for a dog park and all-abilities playground in Glik Park. But, the most vulnerable, the seniors need a place to keep ourselves and our minds active. It would give us a place for card games, board games, table tennis, crafts, small TV viewing area, an area for line dancing and/or social dancing, or a small reading place. The building should feature a large area for social gatherings with a non-commercial kitchen. A place where a project, if not completed in one day could wait or go on for several days with several people participating in it. Trenton, Marine, New Douglas, Belleville, Shiloh, Caseyville, and Collinsville, all have places for seniors to go to and to keep them active. They try to keep their minds active and their bodies physically moving. It would our community to participate in SWIC's PSOP (Programs & Services for Older Persons). This is a chance for our tax dollars to come back to Highland. SWIC has various programs that they sponsor and bring to these centers. Without a facility, we are unable to obtain their wonderful programs and services. It would be great if we can bring that to Highland. I, and my committee, have been working with the city for one and one-half years. We have looked at three to four existing buildings. The cost to retro fit is putting us above what a new facility would cost us. They also did not have adequate parking or the space to make the parking adequate. There is space to the west of KRC center. There is parking space there as well. With it being the city's property, already, it would lower the initial cost of the project. We are asking for the council's support of an agreement to have an architect work on the design of the facility.

Requests of Council:

No requests or comments made.

Staff Reports:

City Manager Latham introduced Mallord Hubbard, whom has been working with the City of Highland for some time now, has been moved into the Economic & Business Recruitment Coordinator's position.

We recently had a meeting with IDOT regarding the new roundabout at Iberg/Veterans' Memorial Parkway/Broadway. We felt IDOT was dragging our feet with this project. We are now confident we will have this out to bid in January 2019.

City Manager Latham reported we are still working on replacing culvert under CSX at Poplar Street. They are going to be doing some soil borings and surveying in conjunction with that project, which is required to get CSX approval on engineering, prior to starting the project.

There is a change of ownership occurring with Joiner Sheet Metal & Roofing. They are in process of purchasing the former Cabinet Gallery building. We are working on developing a TIF agreement. They are looking at doing the closing in the property in the next few weeks.

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Mayor's Reappointment of Bonnie McGinley to the Police Pension Board –

Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve the mayor's re-appointment of Bonnie McGinley to the Police Pension Board, for another two-year term, to expire May 1, 2020 as attached; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Approve Mayor's Reappointments to the Industrial Development Commission –

Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve the mayor's re-appointments of Darell Bellm, Jon Greve, Diane Korte-Lindsey, Ryan Goodwin, and Eric Rehkemper to the Industrial Development Commission, all for one-year terms, as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #18-47/ORDINANCE Amending Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Budget –

Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #18-47/Ordinance #2845 amending Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Budget as attached; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. Councilman Schwarz asked what changed on this. City Manager Latham explained that throughout the year there are things that change. Some are additions. For example, the police department took in more video gaming revenue than anticipated. Councilman Schwarz noted these are basic adjustments, but no surprises. City Manager Latham replied no, just adjustments. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #18-48/ORDINANCE Adopting Budget for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 –

Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve Bill #18-48/Ordinance #2846 adopting budget for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Councilman Schwarz asked what the changes are. City Manager Latham responded these are the changes discussed in the budget meeting. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #18-49/RESOLUTION Authorizing Sole Source Purchase of Electronic Evidence Device from Cellebrite Inc. – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #18-49/Resolution #18-04-

2520 authorizing sole source purchase of electronic evidence device from Cellebrite Inc. as attached; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. Councilman Schwarz noted it appears you looked at three products, but only one person can sell this brand. Chief Bell explained there are only three companies that have developed this type of software. They are all comparatively priced, but only two are really in the running based on discussions we had with other departments that were not happy with the third brand. We chose this one based upon customer satisfaction and that it services a wide array of products. They do not sell retail. We are getting the pricing that other departments are getting. Quite frankly, there are not that many players in this market. The cost is comparable to other two brands. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #18-50/RESOLUTION Authorizing Purchase of a New 2018 Ford Escape from Tri-Ford, Inc. – Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve Bill #18-50/Resolution #18-04-2521 authorizing purchase of a new 2018 Ford Escape from Tri-Ford, Inc., in the amount of \$21,978, as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Councilman Schwarz asked why an Escape over other brands. EMS Chief Brian Wilson stated we have another one in the Building & Zoning fleet and that vehicle has worked out well. Councilman Schwarz asked was it cheaper than what is on the state’s bid list. Chief Wilson stated it was very comparative. We could get a Ford Escort off the state bid list. However, this is cheaper for the vehicle we are getting and we are trying to match the fleet. Councilman Schwarz asked what we are replacing. City Manager Latham reported we are replacing a vehicle we got for \$1 from the county several years ago. Councilman Schwarz suggested before making these purchases, we need to look internally before purchasing. If that it is not an option, he would ask to look for something slightly used versus the new markup. I would do that and I would ask the same of the city, in the future. I understand trying to match the fleet in this case. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #18-51/RESOLUTION Authorizing City to Share Costs with Landowners Stan and Sharron Giffhorn for Construction of Sediment Basin and Pond Dredging Project to Reduce Silt and Sediment Load Entering Silver Lake – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #18-51/Resolution #18-04-2522 authorizing City to share costs with Landowners Stan and Sharron Giffhorn for construction of sediment basin and pond dredging project to reduce silt and sediment load entering Silver Lake as attached; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. Councilman Schwarz asked is each one \$37,000 for us. What is the landowners’ benefit of splitting the cost with us? City Manager Latham responded that is a very good question. We have been directed to do something about the siltation into Silver Lake. It does not make good sense to dredge only one area of the lake and then have to come back in a few years and do it again, because it silted back in. It is much better to do something with the watersheds. We have been working closely with the surrounding landowners. We have three landowners who are willing to participate in the cost of projects that will directly affect the watershed. The Giffhorns have a pond that is old and the water is spilling over into a creek, due to the cattle moving in and out of it. This would rebuild the pond. Mike Andreas, Heartland Conservancy Engineer, has been studying this and knows all the areas of the lake and its condition. The landowners are investing. The cost-share split is based upon the federal government guidelines. We have had two meetings with landowners. Just to get them to come to the table has been a huge step.

Councilman Schwarz asked what the actual project is. The first one involves dredging the pond and constructing a sediment basin that will catch the runoff before it enters the lake. The second one, at the Schwarz Farm, involves a huge area that continues to washout. There will be a pond will be constructed to catch the water and prevent the washout. At the Hunsche Farm, there is a grassy area with a lot of trees that is washing out. Within the trees, they want to landscape it out with rock to slow down the water. Councilman Schwarz summarized the intent is to slow down the siltation and sediment from filling in the lake, so that if we go in and dredge Silver Lake in the future, it will not fill in right away. City Manager Latham concurred. We have applied for federal grant funding, through Madison County

NCRS 319. We hope to hear something on that sometime this summer. Mayor Michaelis reported, back when I was first elected, thirteen years ago, Silver Lake was called an impaired land of water. It was given that title by Illinois Department of Natural Resources because of the amount of phosphorus and other chemicals that came into the lake from the fields. To get money from federal or state grants they want to know what you are going to do before we give you money to dredge the lake. Mayor Michaelis asked Director Mark Rosen to report on what we have done so far. Director Rosen reported to get funding, we had to start with going back and collecting samples at different times of the year, over several years. In 2008-09, we secured some funds through Federal Grant 319 and was able to add riprap to an area of shoreline. We have to have an all-encompassing plan on how to improve conditions around the lake. When you have a plan that is working with landowners, it moves us to the top of list at ability to secure the grant funds.

City Manager Latham reported we held our first meeting with the landowners in Grantfork. The concern was is the city really going to help us or just tell us what to do. Mr. Andreas really knows what is needed. Once we show the landowners we are serious about working with them, there may be more willing to participate. Director Rosen reported Madison County is actually going to adopt our plan into theirs and accept it. Mayor Michaelis pointed out, like most projects, it takes a long time. During that time, there was warnings about limiting the number of fish caught and eaten from Silver Lake. This cooperative effort is one of the ways to help improve the watershed. Director Rosen stated there have been a lot of adjoining landowners that have done some great things along the lake over the years. Mayor Michaelis noted one of the first aerial shots, taken back at the start of this, showed pictures with a cow in the lake. Councilwoman Bellm expressed we are very fortunate to have people buy into this. What they are doing is going to benefit Silver Lake and the citizens of Highland. That is commendable. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #18-52/RESOLUTION Authorizing City to Share Costs with Landowners Jared and Jamie Schwarz for Construction of Sediment Basin and Pond Dredging Project to Reduce Silt and Sediment Load Entering Silver Lake – Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve Bill #18-52/Resolution #18-04-2523 authorizing City to share costs with landowners Jared and Jamie Schwarz for construction of sediment basin and pond dredging project to reduce silt and sediment load entering Silver Lake as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #18-53/RESOLUTION Authorizing City to Share Costs with Landowner Hunsche Family Farm for Construction of Sediment Basin and Pond Dredging Project to Reduce Silt and Sediment Load Entering Silver Lake – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #18-53/Resolution #18-04-2524 authorizing City to share costs with Landowner Hunsche Family Farm for construction of sediment basin and pond dredging project to reduce silt and sediment load entering Silver Lake as attached; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #18-54/RESOLUTION Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Proposal for Architectural and Engineering Services with David A. Loyet and Associates, Inc. for New Senior Citizen Center – Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve Bill #18-54/Resolution #18-04-2525 approving and authorizing the execution of a proposal for architectural and engineering services with David A. Loyet and Associates, Inc. for new senior citizen center as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Councilman Schwarz asked if we are going to approve a study, then what is the master plan. Is the city going to pay for this? There was a theater group wanting to build a center. Is it possible to put some of these things together? City Manager Latham stated we hope to put together a building design. Adding onto the KRC is one thing. As we apply for the grants, we have to have something to show in the grant application. This group is looking for construction of an approximately 4,600 sq. ft. building. They

know exactly what we need. We don't have anyone on staff to draw that up. Councilman Schwarz asked is the plan to get all grant funds for this. He expressed concern we are trying to bite off more than we can chew. City Manager Latham stated we hope to fund this entirely with grants and in-kind services. There are several contractors willing to support this. There is a construction group over at SIUE that helped with the pavilion constructed at Rinderer Park. We could reach out to them and see what assistance we can get. The only thing we have applied for, right now, is the funding. Councilwoman Bellm stated I have no problem with spending \$7,000 to draw up a plan. I am concerned about how we are going to pay for this. I am concerned about taking funds from one department and moving funds over. While I mention in-kind services, I am not in favor of city staff asking for donations for city projects. If the city cannot afford to do project, we should not be doing it. Civic organizations can do that; but, for city staff to do it gives me concern. I have no problem with this part of it. I am not convinced we can build a 4,600 sq. ft. building for \$400,000. Councilman Frey pointed out that if this constructed at Glik Park, by the KRC, water lines, sewer lines and roadways to take care of. I am not sure where funds are going to come from. City Manager Latham reported he has spoken with Representatives Charlie Meier and John Shimkus. I really believe there are people out there that are concerned and will provide some in kind services to make this happen. If we get \$100,000, it will be a start.

Elmer Emig, president of the senior citizens association, stated that without a drawing, it is almost impossible to get funding. Since the article showed up in the newspaper, two businesses showed up with interest to help. At this time, we cannot do any of that until we have a plan in place. For any of this, we have to have some type of drawing. Councilwoman Bellm acknowledged there are very generous people in town. I do not have an issue with that. If we need to spend \$7,000 for drawings, I am okay with that. I just do not want to see the city out there again soliciting donations. Councilman Schwarz asked if there is any negative impact on the public safety and police department facilities projects moving forward, by going after funds for this. With the "powers that be" for federal and county grants, is that going to play against each other with these grants? I worry about other entities feeling we are losing focus on what our goals are when we are asking for grant funds for two different things. City Manager Latham pointed out members of the HACSM came asking for assistance to build a facility. We ended up getting a Madison County grant for \$125,000 and they ended up raising the rest of the funds. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Approve Acceptance of Proposal for City Council Chambers Audio System Upgrade Submitted by Tech Electronics, Inc. – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve acceptance of proposal for City Council Chambers audio system upgrade submitted by Tech Electronics, Inc. as attached; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. Councilman Schwarz noted there are some ADA issues with the building. Will this address some of those issues? City Manager Latham explained this is just upgrading the speakers, primarily. Councilman Schwarz asked, if we going to do something, do we want to look at headphones for ADA. City Manager Latham reported we already have those. This will provide for wireless microphones for those unable to come up to microphone. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Approve Notice of Municipal Letting, Bid #PR-04-18, for Removal and Installation of Poured in Place Playground Surface – Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve Notice of Municipal Letting, Bid #PR-04-18, for Removal and Installation of Poured in Place Playground Surface as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Councilman Schwarz asked do we know an estimated cost. Director Rosen reported \$34,000. We have a grant for half of that. All council members voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Approve Notice of Municipal Letting, Bid #BZ-05-18, for Demolition of Structures at 914/916 Deal Street and 1311 Oak Street – Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve Notice of Municipal Letting, Bid #BZ-05-18, for demolition of structures at 914/916 Deal Street and 1311 Oak Street as

attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Discussion - Modification of existing "Net Metering" Ordinance for Light & Power Customers – Director Cook reported he has three goals with the modifications he would like to propose. The status of solar energy in the community has changed. The current ordinance was put into place four years ago. Today, we have several people that are part of that program. There has been quite a few changes in funding and tax rebates have pushed this. Pushes by, collaborative efforts between federal, state, and locally, Midwest Solar and Solarize Madison County, have increased the number of users within our system. Our ordinance was loosely drafted at that time. With push getting harder and based upon what happens with new tariffs with China, we need to modify our ordinance. We have one installation within Highland that has only paid us \$28 for electric over the last three years. The homeowner put in solar energy, insulated the home, and installed new doors, windows and lighting. Our system cannot sustain itself with a volume of these within the system. We have nothing in there to limit the size of system put in. We would like limit it to 80% of consumption of unit and 10kw size system. To preclude the grayness of the ordinance is to prevent pushing the limits. I suggest we make changes to that.

Director Cook stated I am here, also, to ask about commercial and industrial customers. We have received a few calls from these solar companies. As a member of IMEA, we have access to a larger association. I have reached out to inquire about how other members regulate this with larger users. There is not a legal obligation. If we tell them "no", they can file under PURPA, a federal entity to allow them to install a system. I am reaching out to see what allowance you want to give to commercial and industrial. I would suggest limiting them to 50% of their usages. They would still fall under the same rules. There may be a potential to preclude future residential.

Councilman Frey stated I concur we do need to put some caps on it. Director Cook pointed out we have fixed costs. We have vest interest in wind farms, solar farms, and hydro farming, as members of the IMEA. If we do not purchase enough energy our costs will go up to cover fixed costs. Councilwoman Bellm expressed I agree it does need to be rewritten as things have changed. We have to protect the overall citizens of Highland. As technology changes we will have to adjust. Director Cook stated he will work on the changes and bring them back to the council in a proposed ordinance.

REPORTS

Approve Warrant #1091 – Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve Warrant #1091 as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. 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 8:25pm.

Joseph Michaelis, Mayor

Barbara Bellm, City Clerk