

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION  
HIGHLAND CITY COUNCIL  
MONDAY, MAY 6, 2019**

Mayor Michaelis called the Regular Session to order at 7:15pm. Council members Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind were present. Others in attendance were City Manager Mark Latham, City Attorney City Manager Mark Latham, City Attorney Michael McGinley, Directors Conrad, Cook, Gillespie, Imming, Korte, Rosen and Slover; Chief Wilson, Coordinator Hubbard, B&Z Administrator Speraneo, Intern Brittney Polo, Treasurer Foehner, Deputy City Clerk Hediger, City Clerk Bellm, Library Director Kim, two members of new media, and 11 citizens.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Citizens' Requests and Comments:

*Lee Iten Post #439 and VFW Ladies' Auxiliary Poppy Days Announcement* – Linda Iberg, President, along with Phyllis Reidelberger, Dot Durbin, Angela Kim, and Mary Beth Broughton were present. Ms. Iberg stated the poppies are not sold, but provided in exchange for a donation to raise money to support veterans' hospitals. We will be at Highland Tru-Buy, Walmart and the post office to accept donations. There are eight Veterans' Administration hospitals in Illinois and two in the local Missouri area. The poppy flower is a flower of remembrance. The cloth flower is made in basement of an American Legion Hall in Bloomington, Illinois and assembled by disabled veterans. Ms. Iberg also reminded everyone of the Memorial Day activities, which will begin with salutes at St. Paul's Catholic Cemetery at 9:15am; Highland City Cemetery, 9:45am; Grantfork Cemetery, 10:30am; and, the parade step off will be at 1:00pm, with the ceremony to follow at the VFW Hall at 2:00pm. Thanks to all veterans for their service. Ms. Iberg presented the first poppy to Mayor Michaelis.

*Highland Lion's Club Presentation* – Ryan Goodwin, Memorial Day Biathlon Chairman, along with Gene Redman and Lion's Club President Brian Krueztberg, presented a plaque to Chief Conrad. Mr. Goodwin noted this year's event will mark the fortieth year for the biathlon. We want to acknowledge the support of the police department and everything they do to make the biathlon possible.

Requests of Council:

No comments or requests presented.

Staff Reports:

City Manager Latham mentioned good news in that the city received its rate setting equalized assessed valuation (EAV), this past week. The past several years, that increase has been hovering around 2%. For 2018, we have a 3.22% increase in the EAV, which mean a 0.30% decrease, with a tax levy rate of 2.0575%, assuming the multiplier does not change. It has been since 2008 that we saw such an increase.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Bill #19-49/RESOLUTION Authorizing Allocation of Hotel/Motel Tax Funding (Highland Historical Society for Marketing the Homestead Harvest Days) – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #19-49/Resolution #19-05-2614 authorizing allocation of hotel/motel tax funding, in the amount of \$1,500, to the Highland Historical Society for marketing of the Homestead Harvest Days as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Mayor Michaelis noted everyone realizes that a couple months back we changed the procedure in the way that we allocate monies from hotel/motel tax funds. He asked City Manager Latham to explain the process. City Manager Latham explained we have an application process that identifies where they will marketing and what that marketing will cost, coupled with how many overnight stays they believe are created by their event. City Attorney Mike McGinley added the allocation of funds is controlled by state statue. Funds are to be expended solely to attract overnight visitors to the community or for convention uses pursuant to state statue of these funds. Mayor Michaelis stated he wanted to bring that dialogue together to explain to the new councilmembers of how we have come to that process. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #19-50/ORDINANCE Authorizing the Sale of City-Owned Surplus Real Estate to Ken Redding (914 and 916 Deal Street) Pursuant to Attached Contract – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #19-50/Ordinance #2930 authorizing the Sale of City-Owned Surplus Real Estate, 914 and 916 Deal Street, to Ken Redding, pursuant to attached contract in the amount of \$35,500 as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Councilman Hipskind inquired what the appraisal price was. City Attorney McGinley replied he did not have that figure available. He recalled the appraisal came in between \$20,000-\$25,000 for each lot. The properties were posted for sale bids. One bid received was \$17,000. The other was Mr. Redding's. Based upon statue we had to have at least 80% of appraisal price. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #19-51/ORDINANCE Authorizing the Purchase of Real Estate from Carl Mersinger for Possible Future Construction of a Road and/or Another Public Purpose – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #19-51/Ordinance #2931 authorizing the purchase of real estate from Carl Mersinger for possible future construction of a road and/or another public purpose as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #19-52/ORDINANCE Authorizing the Purchase of Real Estate from St. Joseph's Hospital, of the Hospital Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis, for Possible Future Construction of a Public Safety Building, and/or Another Public Purpose – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #19-52/Ordinance #2932 authorizing the purchase of real estate from St. Joseph's Hospital, of the Hospital Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis, for possible future construction of a Public Safety Building, and/or another public purpose as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Councilwoman Bellm inquired is this the strip along Troxler Avenue. Director Conrad reported there are actually two strips of property. One along is along Troxler, and the another piece runs between our property and the hospital's. We are purchasing the easements for roadway. Councilman Frey noted for the record that the purchase price for these is \$5,000. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #19-53/ORDINANCE Authorizing Surplus Real Estate Interests In Easements, and Surplus Personal Property Including Utility Facilities, To Be Sold According to 65 ILCS 5/11-76-1 and 65 ILCS 5/11-76-4 – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #19-53/Ordinance #2933 authorizing surplus real estate interests in easements, and surplus personal property including utility facilities, to be sold according to 65 ILCS 5/11-76-1 and 65 ILCS 5/11-76-4 as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Councilwoman Bellm asked for explanation. City Attorney McGinley explained, if you remember, we

passed a letter of understanding for the sale property between Lochman Station and Jarvis Station. In order to sell the property, we have to declare it as surplus property and then accept bids for the next thirty days. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #19-54/ORDINANCE Amending the Municipal Code of Ordinances, Chapter 54, Article II, Combined Planning and Zoning Board, Section 54-28, Term of Office and Vacancy – Filling Procedure – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #19-54/Ordinance #2934 amending the Municipal Code of Ordinances, Chapter 54, Article II, Combined Planning and Zoning Board, Section 54-28, Term of Office and Vacancy – Filling Procedure as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Councilwoman Bellm asked this is just cleaning up text. Building & Zoning Administrator Breann Speraneo explained this is just removing an outdated section in the existing ordinance. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #19-55/ORDINANCE Amending Zoning Classification of 241 Buckingham Court, From “R-2-B” Multiple Family Residential To “R-1-C” Single-Family Residential – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #19-55/Ordinance #2935 amending zoning classification of 241 Buckingham Court, from “R-2-B” Multiple Family Residential To “R-1-C” Single-Family Residential as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Award Bid #BZ-09-19 for Demolition of Structures Located at 717, 719, and 723 Main Street – Councilman Frey made a motion to award Bid #BZ-09-19 for demolition of structures located at 717, 719, and 723 Main Street to S. Shafer Excavating, Inc., in the amount of \$58,400.00 as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Councilwoman Bellm expressed I hate to see them go, but I have been in them three times. They are beyond saving. We got some good photos of the fabulous moldings and other architectural items. There is a stamped “Highland Foundry, 1870” foot stoop, which has been salvaged from it already, and we retrieved some doors and some Christmas trees that Highland Supply made years ago. So, we have a couple of things. Mayor Michaelis stated, as another reminder to the staff, that the Highland Historical Society would like those pillars from the one storefront. Chief Brian Wilson acknowledged they are aware of that. It is going to be very tricky getting those out of there in one piece. That lentil is holding all of that together. Mayor Michaelis asked that they do as much as they can to preserve a couple of those architectural items for display. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Approve Notice of Municipal Letting for Motor Fuel Tax Maintenance Materials (MFT Section 20-00000-00-GM) – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Notice of Municipal Letting for Motor Fuel Tax Maintenance Materials (MFT Section 20-00000-00-GM) as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Councilman Hipskind asked for explanation of what this is. City Attorney McGinley explained these are the taxes generated as a non-home ruled community that is given back to communities. This is advertising for the expenditures of those funds for roadway maintenance. Public Works Director Joe Gillespie added this is the Motor Fuel Tax funds collected by state and distributed to communities based upon population for roadway maintenance. This one is to advertise for the materials for the seal coating of streets. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

## **REPORT**

Approve Warrant #1128 – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Warrant #1128 as attached; seconded by Councilman Hipskind. Mayor Michaelis asked Finance Director Kelly Korte to

explain what the warrants are. Director Korte explained these are presented every council meeting. The warrant is a listing of all bills that checks have been printed for payment. This is for the council's approval to send those checks out. All the invoices included in the warrants are in the box, in case the council would like to view a particular invoice. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Councilwoman Bellm abstained. She stated there is a reimbursement check in there to me, for advertisement cards for the Spring Bloom Festival and another item for the Highland Arts Council for Art in The Park, which I hope to be a vendor at. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Councilman Frey. All council members voted aye, none nay. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.

Joseph R. Michaelis, Mayor

Barbara Bellm, City Clerk