

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
HIGHLAND CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JULY 5, 2022**

Mayor Hemann called the Regular Session to order at 7:00pm. Council members Frey and Bellm were present. Councilwoman Sloan and Councilman Hipskind were absent. City Attorney Mike McGinley was present via phone. Others in attendance were City Manager Conrad, Directors Cook, Heimburger, Ohren, and Vazquez, Police Chief Presson, Coordinator Hubbard, Treasurer Nicolaides, Deputy City Clerks Hediger and Von Hatten, City Clerk Bellm, and 6 citizens. City Attorney Mike McGinley was present via phone.

MINUTES

Councilman Frey made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2022 Regular Session as attached. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Frey and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Mayor Hemann voted aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC FORUM

Citizens' Requests and Comments:

Highland Chamber of Commerce – Street Art Festival – Special Event Application and Road Closure – Hillarie Holzinger, Executive Director, and Jan Couch, Event Chairman requested permission to hold the event on September 17, 2022. We have submitted our request and necessities in the application before the council. Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Highland Chamber of Commerce's request for use Square and road closures for the Street Art Festival on September 17, 2022, with a rain date of September 18, 2022, as attached. Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. Councilman Frey noted Councilwoman Bellm made a review of what we spent on events, at the last meeting, for the Madison County Fair, and based on that I wonder if this amount is too high. Councilwoman Bellm expressed I would hope this event could become a two-day event. I was hoping that if we increased the advertising, it would allow it to build. How is the budget doing? Director Ohren reported we have about \$15,900 left in the budget. That does not account for any additional events. Councilman Frey pointed out they are asking for funding based on 2,000 people in attendance. Chamber of Commerce Director Hillarie Holzinger stated we had the momentum going, but then things happened. Last year, we tried to get it back off the ground again. With all the new businesses on the Square, we are hopeful that it will be a good turnout. The cost of advertising has gone up, along with other costs. Mayor Hemann pointed out that this is just for approval of the event and road closures. The funding from hotel/motel tax is on the agenda, further down. This has nothing to do with any funding. On the motion, Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Frey and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Mayor Hemann voted aye. Motion carried.

Requests of Council:

Councilman Frey noted we had a serious fire, a week ago, and one of the fire trucks had some troubles. We had to get assistance from another department. Has that issue been resolved or do we need to discuss options? City Manager Conrad reported we had a part that failed. We went back to the manufacturer and the part is on order. Chief Presson explained the part was obsolete. It can be manufactured; it just is not something that is kept stock anymore.

Staff Report:

Nothing to report at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Mayor’s Appointment of Bradley Scott to the Police Pension Board – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve the mayor’s appointment of Bradley Scott to the Police Pension Board, to fill the vacancy from Bonnie McGinley’s resignation, for a term to expire May 1, 2024 as attached. Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Frey and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Mayor Hemann voted aye. Motion carried.

Bill #22-99/RESOLUTION Authorizing Allocation of Hotel/Motel Tax Funding for Highland Chamber of Commerce – Street Art Festival – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #22-99/Resolution #22-07-2949 authorizing allocation of hotel/motel tax funding for Highland Chamber of Commerce Street Art Festival, in the amount of \$5,000, as attached. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Councilwoman Bellm asked are we doing Flugel Fest this year. Coordinator Mallord Hubbard responded we are not. Councilwoman Bellm stated I do not feel it is that out of line. Additionally, I would like to see build up to become a two-day event. Councilwoman Bellm amended the motion to approve \$4,000 of hotel/motel tax funding. Councilman Frey seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Frey and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Mayor Hemann voted aye. Motion amended. Roll Call Vote on the motion as amended: Councilmembers Frey and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Mayor Hemann voted aye. Motion carried.

Bill #22-100/RESOLUTION Authorizing Allocation of Hotel/Motel Tax Funding for Highland Speedway – Summer Nationals Event – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #22-100/Resolution #22-07-2950 authorizing allocation of hotel/motel tax funding for Highland Speedway Summer Nationals Event , in the amount of \$1,500 as attached. Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Frey and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Mayor Hemann voted aye. Motion carried.

Bill #22-101/ORDINANCE Amending the Highland Municipal Code, Chapter 78—Utilities, Article II.—Electric Service Regulations, Division 3.—Billing and Rates, Sec. 78—112.—Schedule of Electric Rates – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #22-101/Ordinance #3201 amending the Highland Municipal Code, Chapter 78—Utilities, Article II.—Electric Service Regulations, Division 3.—Billing and Rates, Sec. 78—112.—Schedule of Electric Rates as attached. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Director Cook explained we changed the ordinance for two reasons. Commercial and Industrial rates had minimum limits, but no cap on maximums. We found that if we did not put a cap on it, it would put us in a precarious position, if we had a really large user. There was a section in here also for off-peak power that we have not used for how long. Councilwoman Bellm summarized this is just cleaning and tidying up. Director Cook concurred. He added we hope that someday we bring in more larger uses and we want to be prepared for it. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Frey and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Mayor Hemann voted aye. Motion carried.

Bill #22-102/ORDINANCE Declaring Personal Property of the City Surplus and Authorizing It Sale and/or Disposal, Specifically a 2011 Ford Forestry Bucket Truck – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #22-102/Ordinance #3202 declaring personal property of the city surplus and authorizing it sale and/or disposal, specifically a 2011 Ford Forestry Bucket Truck as attached. Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Frey and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #22-103/RESOLUTION Approving Joe Horstmann's Application, on Behalf of Horstmann Premier Financial, and Awarding Certain Financial Incentives Under the city of Highland Façade Improvement Program – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #22-103/Resolution #22-07-2951 approving Joe Horstmann's application, on behalf of Horstmann Premier Financial, and awarding certain financial incentives under the City of Highland Façade Improvement Program as attached. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Frey and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Mayor Hemann voted aye. Motion carried.

Bill #22-104/RESOLUTION Authorizing the City to Enter a Contract with Nextsite LLC for Research Services – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #22-104/Resolution #22-07-2952 authorizing the city to enter a contract with Nextsite LLC for Research Services as attached. Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. Councilwoman Bellm asked Coordinator Mallord Hubbard to talk about what they have done for us in the past. Economic Development Coordinator Hubbard reported Nexsite has provided assistance in improvements and research data components that we have used and found to be very helpful in the past. When speaking with different developers we felt this module of their services was something we want to focus more on. We have not been as satisfied with other part of the agreement. Councilman Frey clarified this is \$7500 per year for first two years, and then it will increase after that, if we continue. Coordinator Hubbard confirmed. He added we spoke with another research firm and found their prices to be similar. However, we decided to stay with them, based upon the experience we have built with them. City Manager Conrad reported we were not happy with their recruiting side of the contract; however, we have been happy with the research data side of things. Coordinator Hubbard explained they provide us with traffic counts, demographics, and information on where the customers that are shopping at various places in town are coming from. Mayor Hemann asked you have also provided this data to the Industrial Development Commission. Coordinator Hubbard replied yes. Councilman Frey noted traffic counts and photos of what is in an area can be pulled off different websites already with paying for it. Director Breann Vazquez reported this is an existing contract. We are simply paring it down and saving some money. Yes, some of this same information can be obtained freely; however, utilizing this service we can provide more customized specific reports and presentations. Most of it is a customized portfolio presentation. Councilman Frey clarified we are under contract with this firm already. Director Vazquez replied yes, this actually is a reduction in the budgeted amount for this. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Frey and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Mayor Hemann voted aye. Motion carried.

Bill #22-105/RESOLUTION Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Proposal for Preliminary Engineering Services with Oates Associates, Inc., for US 40 / Connector Road Intersection Study and Plans, PW-05-22 – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #22-105/Resolution #22-07-2953 approving and authorizing the execution of a proposal for preliminary engineering services with Oates Associates, Inc., for US 40 / Connector Road Intersection Study and Plans, PW-05-22 as attached. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Councilwoman Bellm inquired this to see about getting access off Route 40 to provide access to the backside of the new Public Safety Facility. City Manager Conrad reported we are working with hospital. HSHS kept a little boot-heel piece of property. We are working with the IDOT and the hospital to get the access for the intersection. It is easier for a municipality to work with IDOT than a private organization. We will then work with HSHS to provide them access through our property. Because this is technically the police department's property, they will be the beneficiary of this when it is completed. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Frey and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Mayor Hemann vote aye. Motion carried.

REPORT

Accepting Expenditures Report #1222 for June 18, 2022 through July 1, 2022 – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to accept Expenditures Report #1222 for June 18, 2022 through July 1, 2022 as

attached. Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Frey and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Mayor Hemann voted aye. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to temporarily adjourn this regular session to enter into executive session under the Illinois Open Meetings Act under the following exemption: 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21) to discuss approval of executive session minutes and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) to discuss collective negotiating matters. Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Frey and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Mayor Hemann voted aye. Motion carried. Open Meeting temporarily adjourned at 7:29pm.

Mayor Hemann reconvened the Regular Session at 7:42pm. Council members Bellm and Frey were present. Councilwoman Sloan and Councilman Hipskind were absent. Others in attendance were City Manager Conrad, Director Heimbürger, Chief Presson, Deputy City Clerks Hediger and Von Hatten, and City Clerk Bellm. City Attorney McGinley was present via the phone.

NEW BUSINESS (Continued):

Bill #22-106/RESOLUTION Approving a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police – Patrol Officers’ Unit – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #22-106/Resolution #22-07-2954 approving a collective bargaining agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police – Patrol Officers’ Unit as attached. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Frey and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Mayor Hemann voted aye. Motion carried.

Bill #22-107/RESOLUTION Approving a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police – Sergeants’ Unit – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #22-107/Resolution #22-07-2955 approving a collective bargaining agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police – Sergeants’ Unit as attached. Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Frey and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Mayor Hemann voted aye. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. All council members voted aye, none nay. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:44pm.

Kevin B. Hemann, Mayor

Barbara Bellm, City Clerk