

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
HIGHLAND CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2025**

Mayor Kevin Hemann called the Regular Session to order at 6:30pm. Council members Klaus, Sloan, Bellm and Napper were present. Others in attendance were City Manager Conrad, City Attorney Kathryn Warren, Directors Gillespie, Heimbürger, Hubbard, Koehnemann, Wilken and Widman, City Treasurer Nicolaides, Deputy Clerk Flake and 4 citizens.

MINUTES

Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2025 Regular Session as attached; seconded by Councilman Napper. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2025 Executive Session as attached; seconded by Councilman Klaus. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Mayor Hemann opened a sealed bid for the Silver Lake North Dam Property. Hemann advised that we received one bid. City Manager Conrad stated that we will not take any action tonight. He advised that we will evaluate the bid and make a recommendation at the next meeting. Mayor Hemann advised that the bid is from Charles and Susan Urban. The bid states, "I propose to purchase the roughly 1.836 advertised as part of PIN# 02-1-18-00-000-025 as part of a larger drainage basin project with the IL EPA grant program referred to as 319 grants. If awarded the property, as consideration I propose constructing a dam on the portion of ground described above which will then create a catch basin for sediment and runoff from almost 200 acres of ground that would otherwise drain into Silver Lake. The majority of the pond would be on existing property I already own, or am working in conjunction with other landowners. As the owner, the maintenance and upkeep of the pond and dam will be the responsibility of me and any successive owners. As further consideration, I agree to a reversion on the property so that if the ground subject to this bid is no longer used for the purpose of the dam and catch basin, that the ground would return to the City."

PUBLIC FORUM

Citizens' Requests and Comments:

Annual Lighted Christmas Parade – Special Event Application – Taylor Sheely requested an amendment to the Annual Lighted Christmas Parade special event application. They are wanting to broadcast the parade for people who cannot attend. Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve the amendment to the special event application as attached. Seconded by Councilman Napper. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

First Congregational Church Fall Festival – Special Event Application – Mayor Hemann advised that this event occurred yesterday, so there will be no vote on the special event application.

Requests of Council:

Councilwoman Sloan wants to readdress the trash issue. Sloan stated that she has seen furniture piled up on the streets and trash cans full. She would like to readdress this, due to the weather changing. City Manager Conrad stated that we can push out information through our social media channels.

Staff Reports:

Conrad informed the council that we are pleased to report that we received a letter from IDOT. This funding letter is a state appropriation and separate from the grant program that we applied for. This is for the Poplar Street South reconstruction project. This will be from VFW Road to 30th Street. This will allow us to put in gutters, curbing, a center turn lane, and also a shared use path from VFW Road to the new school. We have scheduled a meeting with the Department of Transportation Local Roads at the end of this month to put together a timeline to complete the project. This is for the full amount of 2.6 million dollars. Mayor Hemann stated that we would like to thank our Representatives and our Senator. Conrad stated that we are extremely grateful to Representatives Hoffmann and Meier who worked on this. We are also thankful to Senator Plummer who was a supporter of this and Secretary of Transportation Biagi. This will be a nice addition to the community.

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Mayor's Reappointments of Jacob Rose and Jeffrey Menz to the Historical Commission–

Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Mayor's reappointments of Jacob Rose and Jeffrey Menz to the Historical Commission for a three-year term expiring in October of 2028. Seconded by Councilwoman Sloan. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Award Bid # E-14-25, for Purchase of 7 – 75 kVA Padmount Distribution Transformers –

Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to award bid # E-14-15, for purchase of 7 – 75 kVA Padmount Distribution Transformer, in the amount of \$28,525.00 as attached. Seconded by Councilman Napper. City Manager Conrad stated that we are now receiving transformers in weeks, rather than years. Mayor Hemann stated that this is great news. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Approve Notice of Municipal Letting, Bid # PR-15-25, for Spindler Pickleball Courts –

Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve notice of municipal letting, bid # PR-15-25, for Spindler Pickleball Courts as attached. Seconded by Councilman Napper. Mayor Hemann stated that this has been a long time coming and we are excited to see this happen. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #25-108/RESOLUTION Accepting IMLRMA Renewal of Property, Casualty, and Worker's Compensation Insurance Coverage for 2026– Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to approve Bill #25-108/RESOLUTION #25-10-3225 accepting IMLRMA renewal of property, casualty, and worker's compensation insurance coverage for 2026 as attached. Seconded by Councilman Klaus. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #25-109/ORDINANCE Amending Chapter 6, of the Code of Ordinances, City of Highland, Alcoholic Liquor, to Increase the Number of C Liquor Licenses to Five – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #25-109/ORDINANCE #3407 amending Chapter 6, of the code of ordinances, City of Highland, alcoholic liquor, to increase the number of C liquor licenses to five, as attached. Seconded by Councilman Napper. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #25-110/RESOLUTION Issuing a “C” Liquor License to TruBuy Market, Inc., Pursuant to Chapter 6, of the Code of Ordinances, City of Highland, Entitled Alcoholic Liquor– Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #25-110/RESOLUTION #25-10-3226 issuing a “C” liquor license to TruBuy Market, Inc., pursuant to Chapter 6, of the code of ordinances, City of Highland, entitled alcoholic liquor as attached. Seconded by Councilman Klaus. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #25-111/ORDINANCE Declaring Personal Property of the City of Highland, Illinois, Surplus and Authorizing its Sale and/or Disposal, Including Items from Highland Communication Services – Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to approve Bill #25-111/ORDINANCE #3408 declaring personal property of the City of Highland, Illinois, surplus and authorizing its sale and/or disposal, including items from Highland Communication Services as attached. Seconded by Councilman Klaus. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #25-112/RESOLUTION Waiving Customary Bidding Procedures for Purchase of a New Dump Truck Body Equipment for Street and Alley Division Pursuant to Sourcewell Pricing – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #25-112/RESOLUTION #25-10-3227 waiving customary bidding procedures for purchase of a new dump truck body equipment for Street and Alley Division pursuant to Sourcewell pricing to Truck Centers Incorporated for \$71,343.85 as attached. Seconded by Councilman Napper. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #25-113/RESOLUTION Approving Application and Awarding Certain Financial Incentives Under the City of Highland Façade Improvement Program to Myrtle & Grace Boutique for 823 Main St., Highland, Illinois – Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to approve Bill #25-113/RESOLUTION #25-10-3228 approving application and awarding certain financial incentives under the City of Highland façade improvement program to Myrtle & Grace Boutique for 823 Main St., Highland, Illinois as attached. Seconded by Councilman Klaus. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Amend Bill #25-114/ORDINANCE Declaring Personal Property of the City of Highland, Illinois, Surplus and Authorizing Its Sale and/or Disposal, Including a 2015 Dodge Charger – Deputy Clerk Flake advised that the 2015 Dodge Charger is not an SUV. Flake also advised that the VIN was incorrect and it should read (VIN 2C3CDXKT7FH754782). Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to amend Bill #25-114/ORDINANCE declaring personal property of the City of Highland, Illinois, surplus and authorizing its sale and/or disposal, including a 2015 Dodge Charger, reflecting the above changes. Seconded by Councilman Napper. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #25-114/ORDINANCE Declaring Personal Property of the City of Highland, Illinois, Surplus and Authorizing Its Sale and/or Disposal, Including a 2015 Dodge Charger – Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to approve Bill #25-114/ORDINANCE #3409 declaring personal property of the City of Highland, Illinois, surplus and authorizing its sale and/or disposal, including a 2015 Dodge Charger as attached. Seconded by Councilman Napper. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

REPORTS

Accepting Expenditures Report #1300 for October 4, 2025 through October 17, 2025 – Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to accept Expenditures Report #1300 for October 4, 2025 through October 17, 2025 as attached. Seconded by Councilman Napper. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Councilman Napper. All aye, none nay. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:58pm.

Kevin B. Hemann, Mayor

Chris Flake, Deputy Clerk