

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
HIGHLAND CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 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 Mike McGinley, Directors Gillespie, Cook, Heimbürger, Koehnemann, Ohren, Nicklin and Widman, City Treasurer Nicolaides, Deputy Clerk Flake and 7 citizens.

MINUTES

Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2025 Regular Session as attached; seconded by Councilman Klaus. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Hemann read a document proclaiming the month of November in the City of Highland as United States Marine Corps Month.

PUBLIC FORUM

Citizens' Requests and Comments:

Optimist Christmas Tree Lot – Special Event Application – Kevin Keeven requested to have the Optimist Christmas Tree Lot located on the square on the pad on the northeast corner. Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to approve the special event application as attached. Seconded by Councilman Napper. Director Dan Cook advised that he had been in contact with the Optimist Club and that the lights wouldn't be on until after the Christmas parade. Councilman Napper asked if they would have the trailer there and Keeven stated that they would. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Brian Rasmussen stated that he wants clarification on agenda item K. He stated that the city is looking at providing 25% for a SRO at St. Paul Catholic School. He stated that these are public funds for a private school. He stated that he doesn't expect the council to address it now. City Manager Conrad stated that we would address it when the item comes up during the council meeting.

John Kapp stated that we had two big events at the square. The trick or treat trail on the square was beautiful. Mayor Hemann agreed and stated that it was wonderful to see.

Requests of Council:

Sarah Sloan stated that Treats on the Streets was amazing and well done to Marshall Rinderer.

Staff Reports:

City Manager Conrad stated that we recently finished our street rehabilitation. We noticed a part of Poplar was rough. Conrad stated that we are working with the contractor for a potential fix to try and smooth out Poplar Street. He stated that they are going to try and fix it this week. Mayor Hemann noticed it was better than what it was. The Contractor was not happy with it either.

NEW BUSINESS

Award Bid, for Sale of City Owned Surplus Real Estate, Silver Lake North Property – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve the bid to sell city owned real estate, Silver Lake North Property, to Charles and Susan Urban. Seconded by Councilman Napper. Conrad stated that this is a part of a larger catch basin on the north end of the lake. He stated that these are the type of projects that we look for. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #25-115/ORDINANCE Authorizing the Sale of City Owned Surplus Real Estate to Charles and Susan Urban Pursuant to Conditional Real Estate Sales Contract – Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to approve Bill #25-115/ORDINANCE # 3410 authorizing the sale of city owned surplus real estate to Charles and Susan Urban pursuant to conditional real estate sales contract as attached. award bid Seconded by Councilman Klaus. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Approve Mayor's Appointment of Jay Korte to the Police and Fire Commission – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Mayor's appointment of Jay Korte to the Police and Fire Commission with his term expiring in 2027. Seconded by Councilman Napper. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #25-116/RESOLUTION Approving Estimate Tax Levy – Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to approve Bill #25-116/RESOLUTION #25-11-3229 approving estimated tax levy as attached. Seconded by Councilman Klaus. Councilman Napper stated that this is not passing the tax levy, this is saying we are publishing it and taking it to a hearing. Conrad stated that we have to put it on the website for 30 days. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #25-117/RESOLUTION Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Preliminary Engineering Services Contract with Curry and Associates Engineers, Inc., for Street Resurfacing 2026 – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #25-117/RESOLUTION # 25-11-3230 approving and authorizing the execution of a preliminary engineering services contract with Curry and Associates Engineers, Inc., for street resurfacing 2026 for \$32,700.00 as attached. Seconded by Councilman Napper. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #25-118/RESOLUTION Waiving Competitive Bidding Requirement and Authorizing a Construction Contract with Joiner Sheet Metal and Roofing and City of Highland – Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to approve Bill #25-118/RESOLUTION #25-11-3231 waiving competitive bidding requirement and authorizing construction contract with Joiner Sheet Metal and Roofing and City of Highland for \$191,044.00 as attached. Seconded by Councilman Klaus. Conrad stated that this will be the 2nd contract with the TIPS program. This is like a joint purchasing program. Mayor Hemann stated that this saves us from competitive bidding. Conrad stated that they also approve the cost at the government rate. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #25-119/ORDINANCE Declaring Personal Property of the City of Highland, Illinois, Surplus and Authorizing its Sale and/or Disposal, Including a 2014 AEV Ambulance – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #25-119/ORDINANCE #3411 declaring personal property of the City of Highland, Illinois, surplus and authorizing its sale and/or disposal, including a 2014 AEV ambulance as attached. Seconded by Councilman Napper. Conrad stated that items G and H are together. We recently had an opportunity to view a demonstration model ambulance which was for sale. Conrad stated that this doesn't happen often. We had it in our plan to replace the 2014 model. Conrad stated that the demonstrator model has approximately 10,000 miles. He stated that this is a rare opportunity and it is also a true waiver of customary bidding. The Mayor and Councilman Sloan were able to see it. Sarah Sloan stated that it is an amazing piece of equipment. Conrad stated that Items I and J are together. Conrad stated that we are looking at doing local funding for the ambulance and stretchers. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #25-120/RESOLUTION Authorizing the Purchase of a 2024 AEV Trauma Hawk X Series Ambulance from American Response Vehicles for \$406,871.00 and Waiving Customary Bidding Procedures– Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to approve Bill #25-120/RESOLUTION #25-11-3232 authorizing the purchase of a 2024 AEV Trauma Hawk X Series ambulance from American Response Vehicles for \$406,871.00 and waiving customary bidding procedures as attached. Seconded by Councilman Klaus. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #25-121/ORDINANCE Declaring Personal Property of the City of Highland, Illinois Surplus and Authorizing its Sale and/or Disposal, Including Three Ferno Manual Load Stretchers – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #25-121/ORDINANCE # 3412 declaring personal property of the City of Highland, Illinois surplus and authorizing its sale and/or disposal, including three Ferno manual load stretchers as attached. Seconded by Councilwoman Sloan. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #25-122/RESOLUTION Authorizing the Sole Source Purchase of Two (2) Power Load Stretchers from Ferno for \$142,214.80 and Waiving Customary Bidding Procedures – Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to approve Bill #25-122/RESOLUTION #25-11-3233 authorizing the sole source purchase of two (2) power load stretchers from Ferno for \$142,214.80 and waiving customary bidding procedures as attached. Seconded by Councilman Napper. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #25-123/ORDINANCE Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with City of Highland, and St. Paul Catholic School for a School Resource Officer – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #25-123/ORDINANCE #3413 approving an intergovernmental agreement with City of Highland, and St. Paul Catholic School for a School Resource Officer as attached. Seconded by Councilman Napper. Conrad stated that these intergovernmental agreements with St. Paul or HCUSD 5, we look at the funding formulas, which includes school days off and summer months. We found when we take the amount of time that the SRO spends at school vs. not at school, it comes out to be 75% at school and 25% we get the employees back. Conrad stated that we get the SRO's back during the summer, when we have a lot of vacations and special events. The school gets them for approximately 9 months. The school would pay them for 75% of the time and we pay for the 25% of the time that we have them.

Mayor Hemann stated that it is our job is to protect everyone, regardless of religious affiliation. Attorney McGinley stated that this is well within the purview to accept this. Mayor Hemann stated that things happen in our country and its important to protect our children. Councilman Napper stated that this fosters trust. The school is familiar with the officer and the officer is familiar with the students. Conrad stated that we have had a partnership with the HCUSD and it is a great relationship. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

REPORTS

Accepting Expenditures Report #1301 for October 18, 2025 through October 31, 2025 –
Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to accept Expenditures Report #1301 for October 18, 2025 through October 31, 2025 as attached. Seconded by Councilman Klaus. 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 7:05pm.

Kevin B. Hemann, Mayor

Chris Flake, Deputy Clerk