

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
HIGHLAND CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 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 Attorney Kathryn Warren, Directors Gillespie, Cook, and Widman, Deputy Clerk Flake and 6 citizens.

MINUTES

Councilman Napper made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 3, 2025 Regular Session as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

PUBLIC FORUM

Citizens' Requests and Comments:

No citizens' requests or comments.

Requests of Council:

No requests from council.

Staff Reports:

Joe Gillespie stated that Dan Cook told him that the Christmas lights are going up really well. Dan Cook stated that the lights are up on the street lamps because the electric department will be doing major work next week. Sarah Sloan stated that the lights look great. Cook stated that once those lights are up, they have to be plugged in. Cook stated that we had a citizen reach out to fix up Santa's shop. This citizen fixed some of the wood, replaced a window and put new siding on it. Brad Korte is working on the mechanics. We have several ladies who do seamstress work and they are redoing the outfits.

Mayor Hemann asked Joe Gillespie about the work on Poplar Street. Gillespie stated that the contractor came back. They reheated the pavement, to smooth it out and the road is done. He stated that our crews put down the stripes. Gillespie stated that they completed everything we asked of them. Mayor Hemann stated that I drove it again and I thought it was pretty smooth. Gillespie stated that since it's a new road, you are more aware of it.

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Notice of Municipal Letting, Bid # PW-04-25, for Water Main Replacement 2025 – Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to approve notice of municipal letting, bid # PW-04-25, for water main replacement 2025. Seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Joe Gillespie stated that there was one thing that was noticed. The plans provided are not the final plans for construction. The plans have some tweaking and some administrative items that need to be cleaned up. Gillespie stated that these plans were included, so you had a visual. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Approve Notice of Municipal Letting, PW-05-25, for Main Street and Pine Street Parking Lot Expansion – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve notice of municipal letting, PW-05-25, for Main Street and Pine Street parking lot expansion. Seconded by Councilman Napper. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #25-124/RESOLUTION Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement with Oates Associates for South Poplar Street Reconstruction, PW-16-25 – Councilman Napper made a motion to approve Bill #25-124/RESOLUTION #25-11-3234 approving and authorizing the execution of a preliminary engineering services agreement with Oates Associates for South Poplar Street reconstruction, PW-16-25, for \$54,300. Seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Joe Gillespie stated that this project will be by the Primary School. He stated that this is specifically for the street reconstruction. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #25-125/RESOLUTION Approving and Authorizing Local Public Agency Engineering Services Agreement Between Oates Associates and City of Highland for South Poplar Street Reconstruction, PW-16-25 – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #25-125/RESOLUTION # 25-11-3235 approving and authorizing local public agency engineering services agreement between Oates Associates and City of Highland for South Poplar Street reconstruction, PW-16-25, for \$221,820. Seconded by Councilman Klaus. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #25-126/ORDINANCE Declaring Personal Property of the City of Highland Surplus and Authorizing its Sale and/or Disposal, Specifically, a 2017 Ford Explorer – Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to approve Bill #25-126/ORDINANCE #3414 declaring personal property of the City of Highland surplus and authorizing its sale and/or disposal, specifically, a 2017 Ford Explorer. Seconded by Councilman Klaus. Bill Napper asked if this vehicle will be sold right away or would we use it for training. Dan Cook stated that this vehicle was a police cruiser before. He stated that he drove it home and it needs a lot of work. He stated that if the Police Department or Fire Department needs it for training, they can use it. Cook stated that we recently sold a 2004 Dodge Ram and we got \$5,000 for it. He stated that there is a following of people that like to buy police vehicles. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

REPORTS

Accepting Expenditures Report #1302 for November 1, 2025 through November 14, 2025 – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to accept Expenditures Report #1302 for November 1, 2025 through November 14, 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 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)(11) to discuss litigation. Seconded by Councilman Napper. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Klaus, Sloan, Bellm, and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried. Open Meeting temporarily adjourned at 6:44pm.

Mayor Hemann reconvened the Regular Session at 7:16pm. Council members Klaus, Sloan, Bellm and Napper were present. Others in attendance were City Attorney Warren, Director Widman and Deputy Clerk Flake.

Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Councilwoman Sloan. All aye, none nay. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:16pm.

Kevin B. Hemann, Mayor

Chris Flake, Deputy Clerk