

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
HIGHLAND CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2017**

Mayor Michaelis called the Regular Session to order at 7:00pm. Council members Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides were present. Others in attendance were City Manager Mark Latham, City Attorney Michael McGinley, Asst. City Manager Peck; Directors Bell, Cook, Gillespie, Imming, Kim, Korte and Schoeck; EMS Chief Wilson and Fire Chief Bloemker, Treasurer Foehner, Deputy City Clerk Hediger, City Clerk Bellm, 25 citizens, with 27 Daisies, Brownies and Girl Scouts; and 1 member of the news media.

PROCLAMATION

After the Girls Scouts, Daisies and Brownies lead everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Michaelis read a document proclaiming the week of March 12-18, 2017 as Girl Scout Week.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Mayor Michaelis recognized HHS Senior Trent Rakers, this year's IHSA State Wrestling Champion in the 152 lb. weight division. Mayor Michaelis stated Mr. Rakers was featured twice in the Belleville News Democrat. Here, tonight, with Trent and his family are the HHS Wrestling Coaches Terry Ohren, Ted Cippichio, and Jason Boxell. Coach Ohren reported Trent broke his leg during football season, earlier this school year. When that happened, I did not think I would see him on the mat this year. He has 147 wins with only 19 losses. Trent wrestled in varsity, all four years, with only one of his losses coming to him from someone in his grade. Mayor Michaelis noted he met Trent when he was rehabilitating at the same facility I go to. He is a state champion in character also.

MINUTES

Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2017 Regular Session as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

PUBLIC FORUM

Citizens' Requests and Comments:

No requests or comments brought forth.

Requests of Council:

Mayor Michaelis reported he has talked to legal counsel about if there should be a limit on the amount of gaming parlors we have in this community. Councilman Frey stated he was approached about it again, today. The way I understand it, is that we have a set number of licenses, but with different types of licenses. Mayor Michaelis acknowledged there are those that sell beer and wine only and others selling food and liquor. Councilman Frey stated he thinks it should only be those selling food and liquor. City Attorney Mike McGinley explained that through ordinance we can set how we want to limit those types of licenses. Mayor Michaelis reported, similar to liquor licenses, there would be limits to the different types. He noted if someone wanted to have a Class A liquor license, we are at the limit with twenty-four establishments, until this last week or so. Mayor Michaelis asked the council to think about it. We will have that on the agenda, for council discussion, in two or three meetings from now.

Staff Reports:

City Manager Latham reported all councilmembers should have received a copy of the proposed budget. A special budget session will be held next Monday, March 10, 2017, at 7:00pm.

NEW BUSINESS

Bill #17-15/RESOLUTION Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement with Oates Associates, Inc. for the Broadway/Iberg Rd./VHP Roundabout - Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve Bill #17-15/Resolution #17-03-2440 approving and authorizing the execution of a preliminary engineering services agreement with Oates Associates, Inc. for the Broadway/Iberg Rd./VHP Roundabout as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Councilman Schwarz noted in the information provided, it states we have reviewed and it most advantageous to go with Oates Associates. What goes into the decision? Public Works Director Joe Gillespie reported we performed a quality-based funding analysis. We solicited three firms to submit four-page proposals. Each member of the committee went through, reviewed and scored those submittals. We all scored with Oates Associates as the top scoring firm. A lot of it was based upon performance and experience. Councilman Schwarz asked how do their rates compare. Director Gillespie responded they are comparable. They are not the cheapest; however, they have worked with the City of Highland for over twenty-five years, so they know the community, our expectations, and history of the area and projects. We felt they would be a good fit for this project, because they have done our other two roundabouts. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaidis voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #17-16/ORDINANCE Creating the “Streamer’s Dream” Rate Schedule for the Delivery of RF Video and IPTV Services to Residential Customers – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #17-16/Ordinance #2770 creating the “Streamer’s Dream” rate schedule for the delivery of RF Video and IPTV services to residential customers as attached; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. Director Angela Imming reported we found ourselves at the cusp of the market, in that consumers are finding more ways to get their video content. We do not want to spend a lot of capital to establish an “on demand” service. More people are streaming their movies off the internet. The concept with the “Streamer’s Dream”, consumers go out and get their entertainment, while maintaining them as a consumer with FoxSports Midwest and HCS wireless. We do still provide RF services with 60MB wireless solution and include FoxSports in with that. Councilman Schwarz asked if this will cannibalize our lower tier. Director Imming acknowledged it might; however, we do not have an unbundled package that does not have the FoxSports Midwest. We have 403 customers that have 60MB and 94 with basic RF services, and we have an expanded RF package (109 channels) that is not high definition. She estimated about 110 customers with expanded basic service. Councilman Schwarz asked if there is an incremental cost with this, or is it a flip of the switch. Director Imming estimated the monthly cost for us will be about \$20. Director of Finance Kelly Korte pointed out that this could cannibalize the lower tier customer; however,

people are pulling the cord. This is something that sweetens the pot and gets them to stay with us for little cost. The KPI we should be measuring is what our loss is each month to those cutting the cords. That has been about 15 a month. Councilman Schwarz asked why you think this will not cannibalize the customer base. Director Imming stated those with 109 channels really like television and the variety of channels. We do not sit down and watch television as we used to. Most people are multitasking in front of the television set. We want the customer hooked on our internet. That is where the market is headed. We do not want them going to Charter for internet service. So, if we talk to them about the streaming and internet service, we maintain them or gain them as a customer base. Councilwoman Bellm asked is there anything we have contracted for that we have to pay for, which people may not use those services. Director Imming explained we have to pay into and report into the local channels, as well as pay into the management firm for local channels usage. We have to report some of the expanded basic as digital and pay a fee, even though they do not use it; therefore, if some of them drop to the Streamer's Dream, we will not have to pay the fee on those. Councilman Schwarz asked how many customers we have in expanded basic. Director Imming stated we do not separate those out.

Councilwoman Bellm asked if it would be better to discuss this during budget. This is a radical change. Councilman Schwarz expressed he was initially concerned about cannibalization; however, three things said tonight has made me ready to vote in favor of this: First, we are likely to lose them in the future anyways; the profit margin is better; and, this is what the rest of the market is doing. Councilman Nicolaides asked is this just an additional package offering. Director Imming replied yes. This is just adding a channel to the skinny bundle. This is \$10 over the cost of just wireless service. Councilman Frey noted this would be less maintenance. Councilwoman Bellm asked what happens if they do not want to take the router. Director Imming responded they will not get this package, because we cannot guarantee the quality and performance. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Approve Notice of Municipal Letting for Bid #PR-01-17 for Construction of a Veterans' Memorial Wall – Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve Notice of Municipal Letting for Bid #PR-01-17 for Construction of a Veterans' Memorial Wall as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm, and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Approve Notice of Municipal Letting for 2017 MFT Maintenance Materials (Section 17-00000-00-GM) – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Notice of Municipal Letting for 2017 MFT Maintenance Materials (Section 17-00000-00-GM) as attached; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

REPORTS

Approve Warrants #1050 & #1051 – Councilman Schwarz made a motion to approve Warrants #1050 & #1051 as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Councilman Schwarz made a motion to temporarily adjourn this regular session to enter into executive session under the Illinois Open Meetings Act under Section 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21) to discuss approval of executive session minutes and 2(c)(1) to discuss the employment of specific employees of the public body; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Schwarz, Frey, Bellm and Nicolaides voted aye, none nay. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.

Mayor Michaelis reconvened the Regular Session at 8:12pm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Nicolaides, Bellm, Frey and Schwarz were present. City Manager Latham, City Attorney McGinley, Asst. City Manager Peck, Directors Cook, Imming, Korte and Schoeck, Deputy City Clerk Hediger and City Clerk Bellm were also present.

Councilman Frey made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Councilman Schwarz. All council members voted aye, none nay. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:12pm.

Joseph Michaelis, Mayor

Barbara Bellm, City Clerk