

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
HIGHLAND CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 2019**

Mayor Michaelis called the Regular Session to order at 7:00pm. Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind were present. Others in attendance were City Manager Mark Latham, City Attorney McGinley, Directors Conrad, Cook, Gillespie, Imming, Korte, Rosen and Slover; Chief Wilson, B&Z Administrator Speraneo, Deputy City Clerk Hediger, City Clerk Bellm, one member of news media, and 4 citizens.

MINUTES

Councilman Frey made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 5, 2019 Regular Session as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

PUBLIC FORUM

Citizens' Requests and Comments:

2019 HHS Homecoming Parade & Pep Rally – Streets Closure and Square Use Request - HHS Homecoming Committee, Monica Rensing, Representative, presented a copy of the parade route to the council members. She reported this year, they would like to have the HHS Homecoming Parade & Pep Rally on September 25, 2019, with lineup at 6:30pm and parade starting at 7:00pm. We will have volunteers at all the intersections to assist with traffic and closures. After the parade, we will gather on the Square for a pep rally. We are asking for road closures to help with traffic control, by the school, 5pm-6:30pm. Additionally, we are requesting usage of the downtown Square and facilities for the pep rally. Clean up will be handled by the parade committee. Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve the requests of the 2019 HHS Homecoming Parade & Pep Rally, on Wednesday, September 25, 2019 as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Dennis Warbler, with Bulldog Radio, stated we are community-minded radio station. We are a streaming radio station. We do radio sports casting of football, baseball and basketball games. This season we are planning to add video. We will be doing and airing spotlights of Chamber businesses. We would like to expand that to other city officials and offer that as programming as well.

Requests of Council:

Councilwoman Sloan stated she helps with cleanup of the high school parking lot, once a month. We are picking up beer cans at high school parking lot. I see that as an issue. She asked if more patrol of the parking lot could be done. Mayor Michaelis asked if it is a large amount. Councilwoman Sloan reported she picked up three on Saturday. I only do this once a month, I am sure other staff and people are picking up. Councilman Frey agreed the lot was trashed every day during the summer. Councilman Hipskind expressed concern that if police go out there, then the kids are not going to be in that lot, they are going to be elsewhere. Councilwoman Bellm stated I am surprised they are drinking out there. I would not be that bold. She suggested maybe a little rattling. Police Chief Chris Conrad reported we have met with the school on a variety of things. This is a concern for the school as well. We are working on a couple different things. We did make some vaping and drinking arrests out there, this summer. Peer pressure is a good tool that can be used both ways. The school has implemented a plan to have different groups be responsible for cleaning up the parking lots are different days. The hope is they will put pressure on others to pick up after themselves and not littering. The problem with blocking off the lot is that we have a lot people using the tennis courts until very late at night.

Staff Reports:

City Manager Latham reported a meeting was held with all the homebuilders, last week. We went over the new inspection program. It was a good meeting. We plan to follow up and have at least a meeting with them annual.

City Manager Latham reported, with the heavy rains, last week, we recorded over ten-inches of rain over a portion of the northern end of the lake. A lot of improvements we made to the sanitary sewer system, the past few years. In 2013, when we had storms of that size, we had numerous people up here at that time, with stories of flooding in their homes. Public Works staff has spent a lot of time cleaning out drainage areas. We mainly had complaints of backyard drainage issues, this time.

There was a fairly sizeable electric outage due to electric lines snapped off during one of the storms, last week. In realistic terms, the area was out for a small amount of time for the size of lines taken out and the number of poles that were replaced.

Mayor Michaelis recalled, in 1965, I was a freshman in high school. At that time, there was a serviceman, Bill Tschudy, who was shot down in combat. He spent seven years as a POW. Our community has really forgotten about this man. Last year, Mike Voegelé, who served on the ship with Bill, in the war, spoke about him at the Veterans' Day Service. Next month, Highland Area Community Schools Alumni Hall of Fame Association will be inducting Mr. Tschudy into the Hall of Fame. The banquet will be held on Saturday, September 27. It is a paid event with breakfast and then listening to the inductees and/or those speaking on their behalf about their achievements. If you contact Sherry Fletcher, she will be able to get you tickets for the event. At this time, I am not sure when Bill, now 84, will be arriving in Highland for the event. This will be a big event when Bill comes in. I anticipate the fire department having a huge banner with a large procession. I think it will be a very emotional event for those that know the family and remember the events of that time. Mayor Michaelis asked the council if they had any questions regarding this event. Mayor Michaelis expressed hope that the Highland News Leader/BND has something in their publications regarding this. It is a very big event and very deserving. Councilwoman Bellm agreed. I do not think he has ever been recognized. He was a very private man. I hope people will read up on it and support the event. Mayor Michaelis added I hope people will come and support Bill and his wife for his years of service.

NEW BUSINESS

Bill #19-94/RESOLUTION Authorizing Allocation of Hotel / Motel Tax Funding for the Highland Flügel Fest – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #19-94/Resolution #19-08-2635 authorizing allocation of hotel/motel tax funding for the Highland Flügel Fest as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Councilwoman Bellm expressed I think this is going to be fun. Councilwoman Sloan stated I looked at the budget, asked around and have researched geofencing. The articles I read, make it seem that it is geared more towards businesses. I think it is something that could be cut for the dollar amount. Mallord Hubbard explained we want to target people who attend similar functions in the St. Louis area. Our hope is to educate them on the event. We would be open to suggestions. If it is the council's decision to cut that, it is fine. We do plan on a very heavy social media marketing campaign for this event. Councilwoman Bellm asked what is geofencing. Mr. Hubbard explained it can target anyone that has specific interests and/or is in the area. Councilman Hipskind reported we use it for our firm. It provides good analytics, to help develop statistics for next year. Councilwoman Sloan asked, in saying social media, do you mean primarily Facebook. Mr. Hubbard replied yes. Councilwoman Sloan asked where the 425 came from. Mr. Hubbard stated that is an amount figured from coordinating advertising through IllinoisSouth Tourism. Councilman Hipskind stated I think this marketing plan is very diversified. Since this is the first year, it is so hard to project attendance. I hope it is a big event. Do you have a backup plan if attendance is large and how we would be able that. Mr. Hubbard responded we are having monthly meetings with all department directors. Our biggest worry is that we cannot gage what the numbers will be for this year. We have no idea what to expect. Councilman Hipskind reported I have had some people in Belleville asking me about this. Is the sponsorship still open? Mr. Hubbard replied yes. We should be able to cover our expenses before the event with the sponsorships. Councilman Hipskind suggested he contact Joe Hortsmann, who has run Schweizerfest and is chairing Kirchenfest this year, for help with assistance. Councilman Hipskind asked are we using different logos in social media. Mr. Hubbard replied no, we have a logo. If you are referring to the one on Facebook, today, that was created by one of our sponsors, The Korte Company, to announce their sponsorship of the event.

Mayor Michaelis asked what people can expect. Mr. Hubbard reported there will be a mix of booths provided by service organizations and businesses, as well as individuals. There will be beer and Excel Distributing will have Ski and other soft drinks available. Highland Civic Women's Club has agreed to run the kids booth. We have Bottoms Up Blues Band, from St. Louis that will performing. There will be a wings eating competition and a competition between booths of restaurants, individuals and businesses. Several activities including yard pong and a bags tournament. We know it is close to end of pumpkin sale season, so are not sure if there will be a pumpkin patch; however, the kids' booth will have pumpkins to paint. Mayor Michaelis stated the council will need to vote on this as is. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #19-95/RESOLUTION Waiving Normal & Customary Bidding Procedures and Authorizing Execution of a Contract to Purchase Content from Indaward Broadcasting, LLC / Bulldog Radio to Provide Video Content for HCS Channel 3 as a Sole Source Purchase – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #19-95/Resolution #19-08-2636 waiving Normal & Customary Bidding Procedures and authorizing execution of a contract to purchase content from Indaward Broadcasting, LLC / Bulldog Radio to provide video content for HCS Channel 3 as a sole source purchase as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #19-96/RESOLUTION Approving Amendment to Affiliation Agreement Between City d/b/a Highland Communication Services and Fox Sports Net, LLC – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #19-96/Resolution #19-08-2637 approving amendment to affiliation agreement between City d/b/a Highland Communication Services and Fox Sports Net, LLC as attached; seconded by

Councilwoman Bellm. Councilman Hipskind stated I think this is necessary, as Fox Sports Net Blues and Cardinals games. He questioned I thought Charter was in a fight with Fox. Director Imming agreed they were. These things are very cyclical. While in negotiations, each side puts forward their demands. You may recall seeing on the bottom of the screen that subscribers should contact their provider to demand that they come to agreement or they will no longer be able to see this programming. With Direct TV and Fox ending their agreement, we are picking up customers almost faster than we can handle. Councilman Hipskind pointed out this is a significant amount of money. Is that amount going to be passed along? Director Imming replied not right now. We are looking at trying to reduce costs in house with operations versus raising rates. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #19-97/RESOLUTION Approving the Local Public Agency Agreement for Federal Participation for Broadway Street Resurfacing from Helvetia Drive to Iberg Road – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #19-97/Resolution #19-08-2638 approving the local public agency agreement for federal participation for Broadway Street Resurfacing from Helvetia Drive to Iberg Road as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. City Manager Latham reported, we originally resurfaced Broadway from Swallow Lane to Helvetia, years ago. This portion of roadway has gotten really bad. Federal government funding for this project will be \$375,000, about \$125,000 will come from Madison County, which will leave approximately \$177,000 for the city, with sidewalks and other things along the way in this project. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #19-98/ORDINANCE Declaring Personal Property of the City Surplus and Authorizing Its Sale and/or Disposal, Specifically, Thirty-Five (35) Fire Helmets – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #19-98/Ordinance #2952 declaring personal property of the city surplus and authorizing its sale and/or disposal, specifically, thirty-five (35) fire helmets as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #19-99/ORDINANCE Authorizing the Donation/Gifting of Real Estate To City, from Anna Jo Ann Alberternst, Successor Trustee for William Anthony Alberternst, as Trustee of the William Anthony Alberternst Revocable Trust Dated November 18 1974, as Amended January 26, 1981, and as Amended by First Amended Trust Agreement Dated April 5, 2000, as to an Undivided One-Half Interest, and Anna Jo Ann Alberternst, Trustee of the Anna Jo Ann Alberternst Revocable Trust Dated November 18, 1974, as Amended January 26, 1981, and as Amended by First Amended Trust Agreement Dated April 5, 2000 as to an Undivided One-Half Interest – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #19-99/Ordinance #2953 authorizing the donation/gifting of real estate to city, from Anna Jo Ann Alberternst, Successor Trustee for William Anthony Alberternst, as Trustee of the William Anthony Alberternst Revocable Trust dated November 18 1974, as amended January 26, 1981, and as amended by First Amended Trust Agreement dated April 5, 2000, as to an undivided one-half interest, and Anna Jo Ann Alberternst, Trustee of the Anna Jo Ann Alberternst Revocable Trust dated November 18, 1974, as amended January 26, 1981, and as amended by First Amended Trust Agreement dated April 5, 2000 as to an undivided one-half interest, as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Councilman Frey stated I was unsure about this property, so I drove back there. This is the back part of Woodcrest Plaza. Besides cutting grass, do we have a purpose for it? City Manager Latham reported we could possibly make it into a detention area and take the flow off some other areas. Councilman Frey agreed it is along a creek that does close the street back there. City Manager Latham added we would have to have the engineers look at formation of a detention area, and see if could serve a purpose there. Councilman Frey noted it adjacent to our substation property also. City Manager Latham acknowledged it is; however, there are no plans to expand that. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #19-100/ORDINANCE Repealing and Replacing Ordinance Number 2843, Authorizing Incentives for Construction of New Single Family Residences in Newly Platted Subdivisions within the Corporate Boundaries of the City – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #19-100/Ordinance #2954 repealing and replacing Ordinance Number 2843, authorizing incentives for construction of new single family residences in newly platted subdivisions within the corporate boundaries of the city as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. City Manager Latham reported, a year or two ago, we looked at what to do to increase single-family home developments. We looked at existing areas. What we have found is that the current ordinance did not address the developer developing a new subdivision. Breann Speraneo, Building & Zoning Administrator explained for incentives for new subdivisions, in the ordinance, the way it is defined, the incentive actually goes to the builder versus the developer. The way I understand it, it was intended to incentivize the developer. We want a clear understanding defined within the ordinance. Councilman Hipskind clarified this should be padding the pockets of the developer. If I were a builder, building in Carbay Crest, it would not benefit the homebuyer or me. Administrator Speraneo agreed.

Councilwoman Bellm asked if it is an existing subdivision platted prior to this, it is not. Administrator Speraneo reported there are fifteen incentives. Carbay Crest is currently the only one eligible at this time. The developer and builder could strike their own private deal. The incentive from the city is \$4,000, which would primarily cover tap-on fees. Councilman Hipskind asked how long has this been going on. Administrator Speraneo reported the tenth incentive was used right before the end of the year. Councilwoman Bellm asked do we still have the first-time homebuyer incentive for original town purchases. Administrator Speraneo stated that ended a few years before I started here. Councilwoman Bellm expressed that was well received. Why did we discontinue that? Councilman Frey agreed, stating he was not sure why it was discontinued. It went over really well. It was for homes within the older areas of town, to encourage homebuyers to purchase and fix up homes. They had to own and live in the home for at least five years. City Manager Latham stated we can re-visit it. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Approve Notice of Municipal Letting, Bid #F-12-19 for Fire Station 1 Remodel – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Notice of Municipal Letting, Bid #F-12-19 for Fire Station 1 Remodel as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Approve Notice of Municipal Letting, Bid #BZ-13-19 for Demolition of 1245 Poplar Drive – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Notice of Municipal Letting, Bid #BZ-13-19 for Demolition of 1245 Poplar Drive as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Councilwoman Bellm stated I did not get by there to look at the property. Is this in pretty bad shape? City Manager Latham replied yes and there are asbestos issues. Administrator Speraneo reported this unit is the size of mobile home, but it is not. It is built on a pad. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Approve Notice of Municipal Letting, Bid #PR-14-19 for Construction of Silver Lake Park Fish Rearing Pond and Wetlands – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Notice of Municipal Letting, Bid #PR-14-19 for Construction of Silver Lake Park Fish Rearing Pond and Wetlands as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Councilwoman Bellm asked what a fish-rearing pond is. Director Rosen reported, we got this idea back in 1990 at Taylorville Lake. It would allow us to put bass into the pond, raise and release into the lake. Fish can be locally grown and this would assist with the sediment issue into the lake. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

REPORT

Approve Warrant #1139 – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Warrant #1139 as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind 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 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21) to discuss approval of executive session minutes and 120/2(c)(2) to discuss collective negotiating matters. Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.

Mayor Michaelis reconvened the Regular Session at 8:05pm. Council members Hipskind, Bellm, Frey and Sloan were present. Others in attendance were City Manager Mark Latham, City Attorney Michael McGinley, Deputy City Clerk Hediger, and City Clerk Bellm.

Mayor Michaelis stated that nothing discussed in Executive Session will be acted upon tonight.

Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Councilman Frey. All council members voted aye, none nay. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:06pm.

Joseph R. Michaelis, Mayor

Barbara Bellm, City Clerk