

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
HIGHLAND CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 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, Korte and Rosen; Fire/EMS Chief Wilson, Ann Stoecklin, Treasurer Foehner, Deputy City Clerk Hediger, City Clerk Bellm, 40 citizens, and one member of the new media.

MINUTES

Councilman Frey made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 17, 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:

Veterans Day Parade & Square Use Request – Highland Moose Lodge #2479 – Lenny Gall, Ken Kapp, and John Kapp were present to requested permission to hold the Veterans' Day Parade, on Sunday, November 10, 2019. Mr. Gall stated this is being held in conjunction with V.F.W. Post #5694 and American Legion Post #439. The parade will start at 1:30pm, beginning at the intersection of Olive Street and Main Street, then proceeding west on Main Street to the Square. The parade will be followed by a brief ceremony on the Square. We have submitted all the necessary documents to the safety department and they have been approved. Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Moose Lodge #2479 request to sponsor the Veterans' Day Parade and use of the Square for presentations on Sunday, November 10, 2019 as requested; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

2019 EvUCC Box Village Exercise Square Use Request – Terrisa Gehrig, EvUCC Homeless Simulation Coordinator (Youth Director) requested permission for the EvUCC youth group to have a box village home simulation on the Square on Friday night of November 1, 2019, until approximately 6:00am. We anticipate 10-20 kids staying overnight, along with some adults for supervision. We will clean up early on Saturday, November 2, and should be out of there by about 6am. We will need access to the public restrooms. Councilman Frey made a motion to allow the EvUCC Box Village to be held on the Square on Saturday night of November 1-2, 2019 as requested; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Jerome "Blackie" Kuhl, 1420 Cypress, expressed it seems Madison County runs this town. I don't understand why we don't get our town back. Two dogs got loose. I called the police department. They said to let the dogs run loose. I can't believe we don't have anything at the police department to protect them. We got a place at the park. They have a concrete pad and water. Take them out there and leave them. In the meantime, the police department can put the word out they have them. A guy came

from Iowa to get his dog. I mean are we going to let it to Madison County. If so, then let's get brown cars and white cars and have them run the town. I don't think we should allow dogs to run the streets and bite people. There was a dog that ran away and down by the nursing home. Another time they could not find the owner. Do we want our officers running dogs up to Madison County? Let's take our town back and get things straightened out. Anyone want to meet. I will be glad to meet with you. I will be back at next meeting.

Mayor Michaelis, recalled, with being on police department, I was no stranger to stray dogs. We had a kennel down by the old water treatment center. After the Weder family donated land for the Highland Animal Shelter, the facility was built. We took them there for many years. Then they raised the cost to the city. It was extremely unreasonable. I cannot speak for the police department, so I will ask Chief Conrad to speak on this. I do think it is a problem, and I would like to find a place to take a stray dog. I do know the police department uses social media to list dogs found and that has worked for the most part. Mr. Kuhl raises an issue. He had a dog with nowhere to go with it. If we take them to Madison County, there is a chance it will be euthanized. Mr. Kuhl stated he was told the city has a contract with Madison County. Councilwoman Sloan asked how often the dogs are released. Mr. Kuhl stated it does not matter. Don't say one dog is not important. We had a volunteer fire dept., but then we got all new rules and had to be professional. We just need a small place to put a dog. This guy came from Iowa to get this dog. He was surprised we, as citizens, we have to do this. We just have people that think we need to spend tax money on big things. Chief Conrad reported we do pay Madison County Animal Shelter (MCAS) an annual fee. The Department of Agriculture issues licenses based on the length of time allowed to hold animals. I am working with the Dept. of Agriculture. Because of our facilities we are not allowed to hold animals for more then 4-6 hours. If MCAS was not going to be open, outside of that, we had to ask the person that found the animal, if they could hold on to them until the owner is located. We take animals to MCAS 3-4 times per year. Facebook has reunited people with animals really quick. Mr. Kuhl stated we can put our own kennel in. We have a man here that follows regulations. Why do we have to send things to Madison County or State of Illinois? We have thirty lots with fences around them. Let's start using some of them. Get our town back and make regulations for this town. We cannot save one person, but we want to stop a person from being bit.

Mayor Michaelis asked Chief Conrad, is it a possibility to have some type of kennel on our own or do we try to go back to the Highland Animal Shelter. If you walk in there any day of the week, they will tell you they are filled to capacity. What do we need to look at? Director Conrad reported he has been working with the Department of Agriculture to find out what the requirements are. It is a relatively small problem. It becomes an issue when Madison County is closed over weekends or holidays. Mayor Michaelis asked is there any possibility of having foster homes for dogs. Chief Conrad reported, a lot of the time, the people picking them up and bringing them by become just that. We ask them to hang on to them until we locate the owner or the next day. Chief Conrad stated I have only spoke with person from the Department of Agriculture over the phone. Ag person over phone. We have not set up a meeting in person. I think there is a solution.

Mr. Kuhl stated City Manager Latham has the answer, but what if something goes wrong with your answer. He asked City Attorney Michael McGinley if they keep the dog and someone is bit or killed by the dog, then who is liable. Is it the dog owner or the person that has the dog? City Attorney McGinley responded I will have to research it; however, I would initially think that if someone volunteers to watch a dog and care for it, then they are assuming the risk associated with that. Yet, I need to research that. Mr. Kuhl stated it is not that difficult, you just get some pens from Rural King. Councilwoman Sloan reported I took care of a dog, for two nights, that was in our yard. I used social media to try to locate the owners. We made the exchange at police department. The person was from Marine, but the dog made it this far. Councilwoman Bellm stated it would not hurt to talk to Highland Animal Shelter while we speak to the Department of Agriculture. Maybe there could be a couple of kennels at new

public safety facility. Social media seems to be working well. Director Conrad reported, in talking with Department of Ag, there are some regulations with kennels. You have to keep the area tempered. Space for 2-3 animals would be sufficient. We only want holding for a couple of hours, but not be a licensed kennel. Mayor Michaelis asked City Manager Latham to make contact with the Highland Animal Shelter. Their board has almost turned over 100%, since the city ended any contract with them. The cost had doubled to about \$25,000 annually. City Manager Latham recalled we were bringing them over 100 dogs per year at that time. Councilman Frey agreed the Department of Agriculture and Highland Animal Shelter are good places to start.

Jean E. Korte expressed to the council, thank you for your service. She addressed the council regarding the contract related to delivery of electricity, on the agenda this evening. We are asking IMEA to clarify their renewable strategy, as part of that discussion, as well as any possible fuel contracts. Everyone should know where their power comes from. City Manager Latham reported we are not aware of any contract discussions with IMEA. Our contract with IMEA is through 2035. They have not come to us about opening those discussions up. Mrs. Korte stated it is in the June IMEA board meeting minutes. In their power portfolio, we are asking that renewal options be included. While of major importance to us citizens, it will be a minority portion of their whole portfolio.

Requests of Council:

Councilwoman Sloan stated citizens have pointed out that sidewalk in front of Sonic is deteriorating. A couple people contacted me to see if something can be done to repair/replace it. Councilman Frey concurred. A section of the sidewalk has sifted. He suggested maybe it should be roped off. Public Works Director Gillespie reported we are aware of it and were going to repair that. We ended up doing some underground work in that area and have not gotten back to address the sidewalk yet.

Staff Reports:

City Manager Latham announced Highland has been listed as #7, in a list of safest cities in Illinois. Columbia is the only other metro community at #27 on the list.

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Health Insurance Renewal for 11/01/2019 through 10/31/2020 – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve health insurance renewal for 11/01/2019 through 10/31/2020 as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Director of Finance Kelly Korte reported we are continuing with the same carrier. Once we got the renewal numbers back, the committee met. We discussed passing cost along or absorbing the costs within the department budgets. Departments felt we could absorb the cost within. Councilwoman Bellm inquired employees will see no increase in premiums. Director Korte replied they will actually see a decrease overall, because the dental and vision premiums went down. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #19-115/RESOLUTION Authorizing Naming Silver Lake Pavilion Number Four, Roland Harris Pavilion – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #19-115/Resolution #19-10-2646 authorizing naming Silver Lake Pavilion Number Four, Roland Harris Pavilion as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Mayor Michaelis asked Roland and Lorena Harris to come to the podium.

Mr. Roland Harris stated a big, big, big thank you to the City of Highland. This happens to be my great-great grandfather's farm before 1830s, when the Swiss arrived, and was known as the east area of Little Swiss Creek. The 130 acres extended over from the park to down by Scott Credit Union. He introduced his wife of seventy-two years, Lorena Harris. Lorena lived most of her life on 12th Street.

That #4 unit is where my wife and I go to with dinners and lunches, when we get something to picnic. He also introduced his son, John Harris, Luke (Amber) Harris, and Mariah, Eli and grandson Shane, and Theresa Kennedy. Mayor Michaelis read a short list of accolades about Mr. Roland Harris, Highland Historian, started Highland Historical Society, led renovations of the Latzer Homestead, family cemetery and library. Mr. Harris' passion for history has ensured the history of community will be preserved and available for future generations. Mr. Harris was born July 2, 1925 and married his wife, Lorena, on June 17, 1947. Councilwoman Bellm expressed this is a well-deserved honor. Mayor Michaelis what you have done for Highland is immeasurable. Mr. Harris stated the museum now has well over 6,000 items and over 3,000 columns that I have written for the Highland News Leader. They have now given us additional footage. I will have in hanging file folders in tubs, for access at Highland Home Museum. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried. Mr. Harris expressed it is a pleasure and privilege to be living in Highland.

Bill #19-116/RESOLUTION Authorizing Naming Silver Lake Pavilion Number Five, L. G. "Gerry" Beard Pavilion – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #19-116/Resolution #19-10-2647 authorizing naming Silver Lake Pavilion Number Five, L. G. "Gerry" Beard Pavilion as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Mayor Michaelis asked all relatives of former mayor L.G. "Gerry" Beard to come forward. L.G. Beard was responsible for planting the seed for the 557-acre lake, which was called by some Beard's Folly. Mayor Michaelis noted there are several projects around Highland that people thought were crazy visions. I think about several other projects that have had tremendous opposition, such as roundabout, Glik Park, and the Korte Rec Center. With the ten-million gallon storage tank drying up, the city secured a \$400,000 bond issue. After four years and a \$1,981,000 cost to build, the lake held 3.4 billion gallons of water. Bonnie McGinley, daughter of L.G. Beard, introduced the family of L.G. Beard: Barbara (Bob) Hinytzke, daughter; Tim McGinley, son-in-law; and two of her three children, Michael (Julie) McGinley and Kevin McGinley, and Michael's sons, Patrick and Sean, in attendance. Mrs. McGinley expressed it was a wonderful thing our father did. He was a very young man, selling cars and tractors. He had to ask some of those customers that he sold to, to give up their land for this lake to be constructed. Barbara stated we have always loved coming home, to Highland. Our children wanted to move to Highland. They cried all the way back home to California, when we visited. We just are very grateful and overwhelming for the accolades you are given our father. Councilwoman Bellm stated, I remember as a kid, my dad was on the lake commission when this was going on. I remember my dad talking about how important this project was and that Mayor Beard was really sticking his neck out for this. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #19-117/RESOLUTION Approving Engineering Agreement with Crawford, Murphy, & Tilly, Inc. (CMT) for the Sanitary Sewer Trunk Main Rehabilitation Project – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #19-117/Resolution #19-10-2648 approving Engineering Agreement with Crawford, Murphy, & Tilly, Inc. (CMT), in the amount of \$53,000, for the Sanitary Sewer Trunk Main Rehabilitation Project as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #19-118/RESOLUTION Waiving Normal and Customary Bidding Procedures and Authorizing Purchase of One Fire Truck From Troy Fire Protection District – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #19-118/Resolution #19-10-2649 waiving Normal and Customary Bidding Procedures and authorizing purchase of one fire truck, a 1998 Pierce Saber; VIN #4P1CT02U9WA000383 from Troy Fire Protection District, for the amount of \$45,000.00 as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Mayor Michaelis noted as we discussed at last council meeting there is always concern with waiving bidding procedure. Chief Brian Wilson stated, if we were buying a new fire truck, it would be a whole different issue. New fire trucks are built to spec. There is no used fire truck service/dealerships. You find them by word of mouth. We found out that Troy Fire Department has this

unit for sale for \$45,000. It was purchased new in 1998 for \$247,000. It will serve Highland for a number of years to come. It is in great condition. I got all the maintenance records for the unit as well. I think it is a good deal. Councilwoman Bellm inquired this will replace an existing unit. Chief Wilson replied yes. We are trying to sell three units. All the cabs on fire trucks are required to have the area where firefighters ride be totally enclosed. With this unit, we will be close to standardizing all of our units, so personnel knows where things are at, regardless of the unit. It is built very similar to the other two units we recently purchased. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #19-119/RESOLUTION Authorizing Execution of All Requisite Documents Required by the Illinois Commerce Commission for the Joint Petition for Approval of One Residential Customer, Stipulated for a Paper Hearing, and All Documents Between Ameren Illinois Company and City Regarding Electric Service for Wuebbels – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #19-119/Resolution #19-10-2650 authorizing execution of all requisite documents required by the Illinois Commerce Commission for the joint petition for approval of one residential customer, stipulated for a paper hearing, and all documents between Ameren Illinois Company and City regarding electric service for Wuebbels as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #19-120/RESOLUTION Authorizing Execution of All Requisite Documents Required by the Illinois Commerce Commission for the Joint Petition for Approval of One Residential Customer, Stipulated for a Paper Hearing, and All Documents Between Ameren Illinois Company and City Regarding Electric Service for Mintert – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #19-120/Resolution #19-10-2651 authorizing execution of all requisite documents required by the Illinois Commerce Commission for the joint petition for approval of one residential customer, stipulated for a paper hearing, and all documents between Ameren Illinois Company and City regarding electric service for Mintert as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #19-121/ORDINANCE Authorizing Issuance of \$9,915,000 of Electric System Refunding Revenue Bonds Series 2019 – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #19-121/Ordinance #2962 authorizing issuance of \$9,915,000 of Electric System Refunding Revenue Bonds Series 2019 as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Joy Howard, with WM Financial Strategies, reported that several months ago, we recommended refinancing the bonding, for an estimated savings of \$346,000, at that time. Proposals came in, with best private placement by Sterns & Bros., by Regions, for an estimated \$668,000 savings. Interest rates continue to decrease, so we are now looking at a savings of approximately \$960,000. If you have any question on documents, Sean Gilmore, with Gilmore Bell, legal counsel, is here to answer questions. Councilman Hipskind exclaimed now we can get a new pool! Ms. Howard warned you are not going to get it all at one time. Councilman Hipskind responded we can wait. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #19-122/ORDINANCE Establishing the City of Highland Historical Commission – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #19-122/Ordinance #2963 establishing the City of Highland Historical Commission as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Councilwoman Bellm expressed I am delighted. Councilman Frey stated it sounds good; however, do we not have a historical society already. Mayor Michaelis explained this will be a five-member commission. They will go out and speak to businesses and residents. They have more authority than Highland Historical Society. They will share ideas with the Highland Historical Society. For example, a resident, who lives at the end of Cypress Street, near 6th Street, approached us. There is a brick section of sidewalk. There are a few areas of town where these exist. One neighbor wants the bricks removed and another does not want the

history taken away. This commission will look at those things. I was approached Jacob Rose, a young man, who came up with this idea. I would like City Attorney McGinley to comment on this. City Attorney McGinley reported Mayor Michaelis is correct about the scope of the commission. They will meet quarterly and can be called on by the council to provide input on topics. They do not want oversight of any property or area. Some towns have historical commissions that oversee renovations and redevelopment of areas to maintain historical preservation; however, this commission does not want to do that and will not have any overreach into that. Mayor Michaelis added this group will go and lead the way of naming structures and areas of town. They have a real passion for history of the community. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #19-123/ORDINANCE Declaring Personal Property of the City Surplus and Authorizing Its Sale and/or Disposal – 21 Refuse Dumpsters – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #19-123/Ordinance #2964 declaring personal property of the City surplus and authorizing its sale and/or disposal – 21 Refuse Dumpsters as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Councilman Frey asked are we just getting rid of these or replacing them. Director Korte reported these are in addition to the 22 that needed to be replaced, which were previously declared surplus. We did quotes to replace the first 22 or rehabilitate them. It was cheaper to replace them. The new ones will actually have a coating in the inside to help protect them and hopefully make them last longer. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #19-124/ORDINANCE Declaring Personal Property of the City Surplus and Authorizing Its Sale and/or Disposal – Parks & Recreation Service Equipment – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #19-124/Ordinance #2965 declaring personal property of the City surplus and authorizing its sale and/or disposal – Parks & Recreation Service Equipment as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #19-125/ORDINANCE Approving and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Development Agreement for a Project in Business District Number One with Powers Advisory Group, and Other Actions Related Thereto – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #19-125/Ordinance #2966 approving and authorizing the City Manager to execute a development agreement for a project in Business District Number One with Powers Advisory Group, and other actions related thereto as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. City Manager Latham stated we are excited that the Powers Group is going to take over the old Travel One location and spending a huge amount of money to upgrade the property. Matt Powers, President, introduced Rick Ringwald, business partner. He reported we have been in the financial advisory business and Powers Financial has been in Highland for ten years. We are a growing business, adding employees, and came up with the idea of going in and upgrading the property. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Award Bid #PR-14-19 To Construct a Fish Rearing Pond and Wetlands – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to award Bid #PR-14-19 to construct a fish rearing pond and wetlands to Ron Hunsche Excavating, Inc., in the amount of \$63,173.00 as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Mayor Michaelis asked Mark Rosen to explain what this is. Director Rosen reported, first and foremost, this will help with siltation control in the lake. It will allow us to raise and release fish into the lake and increase the sport of fishing. Mayor Michaelis inquired I would assume a larger fish for release is what is desired for survival into the lake. How will this help the silting? Director Rosen explained the pond will be constructed first in the first valley. There is a lot of vegetation there. The next one is the valley from the east area, in the area off the archery range, near the trailhead. As part of this construction, a new entrance to the trail will be constructed. Councilwoman Bellm expressed I really appreciated going out to the lake and touring. It really has changed. You pointed out some things that need attention. City Manager Latham pointed out this project is being paid for by 319 Funding. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Award Bid #BZ-13-19 for Demolition of Structure at 1245 Poplar Drive – Councilman Frey made a motion to award Bid #BZ-13-19 for demolition of structure at 1245 Poplar Drive to Mettler Development LLC, in the amount of \$4,490 as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Mayor Michaelis asked, after this structure is raised and torn down, who will own this lot. City Manager Latham reported the City will. I know there is someone that lives next to it that has expressed interest in purchasing. We will have to get it appraised. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

REPORT

Approve Warrants #1143 & #1144 – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Warrants #1143 & #1144 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)(2) to discuss collective negotiating matters and 120/2(c)(23) contracts relating to the delivery of electricity. Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:22pm.

Mayor Michaelis reconvened the Regular Session at 8:56pm. Council members Hipskind, Bellm, Frey and Sloan were present. Others in attendance were City Manager Mark Latham, City Attorney Michael McGinley, Director Cook Deputy City Clerk Hediger, and City Clerk Bellm.

Bill #19-126/RESOLUTION Authorizing City Manager to Negotiate Terms and Execute Documents Associated with a Memorandum of Understanding in Connection with Relocated and New 138kV Delivery Points for Redundant Electricity Feed - Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #19-126/Resolution #19-10-2652 authorizing City Manager to negotiate terms and execute documents associated with a Memorandum of Understanding in connection with relocated and new 138kV delivery points for redundant electricity feed as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Councilman Frey. All council members voted aye, none nay. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:58pm.

Joseph R. Michaelis, Mayor

Barbara Bellm, City Clerk