

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
HIGHLAND CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2020**

Mayor Michaelis called the Regular Session to order at 7:00pm. Due to the city's COVID-19 Response, Mayor Michaelis and Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm, and Hipskind were present via phone. Others present via phone: Directors Conrad, Cook, Gillespie, Imming, Korte, Slover, and Speraneo, Economic Development Coordinator Hubbard, Chief Wilson, Deputy City Clerk Von Hatten, City Clerk Bellm, and a representative of Arcturis. City Manager Latham, City Attorney McGinley, Deputy City Clerk Hediger were present in the Council Chambers.

MINUTES

Councilman Frey made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2020 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:

Deputy City Clerk Lana Hediger that no one called in to speak nor emailed in anything in advance of the meeting.

Requests of Council:

No comments or requests made.

Staff Reports:

Trick-or-Treating 2020 – Chris Conrad, Chief of Police, reported on the guidelines and recommendation for Trick-or-Treating this year. Chief Conrad stated Halloween is always a fun event for everyone and this year it happens to be on a Saturday. We have planned a full day of activities with Parks & Rec planning the Halloween Hustle starting at 7:30am and spaced throughout the day for social distancing; Candy Trail and Pumpkin Carving Contest, 12:00pm-5:00pm; and, city-wide Trick-or-Treat, 5pm-9pm with the following recommendations: Practice social distancing. Trick-or-Treat with family members or members of the same household only. Maintain six-feet between groups. Wear a mask when walking about. Do not share masks or props with others. Avoid using candy bowls and homemade treats. We recommend curbside trick-or-treating to avoid people gathering at doorways. If the council agrees, we will plan to publish this information this week.

City Manager Latham reported, as posted on our website, there would be work performed on the railroad crossings next week. This was not our choice. CSX wants to make improvements to crossings of Poplar, Hemlock, and Zschokke Street. This will close these crossings September 28, 29 and 30. Councilwoman Bellm asked will all three be closed at same time. City Manager Latham replied yes. This leaves Walnut Street, Sycamore Underpass, and Veterans Memorial Parkway available.

City Manager Latham will be back in City Hall for meetings on October 5. We need to address issues with the liquor license and get those worked out.

NEW BUSINESS

Bill #20-122/ORDINANCE Authorizing City to Participate in the Local Cure Program for COVID-19 Response Expenses – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #20-122/Ordinance #3042 authorizing city to participate in the Local Cure Program for COVID-19 response expenses as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Mayor Michaelis reported City Manager Latham and I talked in length about this item. He asked City Manager Latham to explain what these expenses are for. City Manager Latham stated these are federal dollars, which we are eligible for up to \$409,000 based upon capita. Finance Director Kelly Korte reported eligible expenses are anything used in the COVID response, such as personal protective equipment, the barriers set up, items used by Parks & Rec to make thing safer for use of facilities. We also found out, through webinars and research, that health and emergency response personnel can be covered under this as well; so, we will include those salaries. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #20-123/ORDINANCE Declaring One Street Department Truck, Spreader, and Plow to be Surplus and Authorizing Their Sale - Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #20-123/Ordinance #3043 declaring one street department truck, spreader, and plow to be surplus and authorizing their sale as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #20-124/RESOLUTION Authorizing the Sale of City-Owned Surplus Real Estate, Specifically, 1311 Oak Street, to Feldmann Homes, Inc., Pursuant to Contract – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #20-124/Resolution #20-09-2744 authorizing the sale of city-owned surplus real estate, specifically, 1311 Oak Street, to Feldmann Homes, Inc., pursuant to contract as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #20-125/RESOLUTION Approving Motor Vehicle Lease Agreement Between City and Madison County Mass Transit District – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #20-125/Resolution #20-09-2745 approving motor vehicle lease agreement between city and Madison County Mass Transit District as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Councilwoman Bellm asked who is driving this vehicle. Are we? City Manager Latham responded we are hoping to get some volunteer people to drive, or we may have to utilize city staff. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #20-126/RESOLUTION Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Proposal for Architectural Engineering Services with Arcturis for a Proposed Public Park and Entertainment Venue – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #20-126/Resolution #20-09-2746 approving and authorizing the execution of a proposal for architectural engineering services with Arcturis for a proposed public park and entertainment venue as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #20-127/ORDINANCE Approving Lease of Land Between City and Poplar Prospects, LLC – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #20-127/Ordinance #3044 approving lease of land between City and Poplar Prospects, LLC as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Approve a Notice of Municipal Letting, Bid #BZ-11-20 for the Demolition of Structures at 1201 Broadway – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve a Notice of Municipal Letting, Bid #BZ-11-

20 for the demolition of structures at 1201 Broadway as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Award Bid #PD-05-20 for General Construction of Combined Public Safety Facility –

Councilman Frey made a motion to award Bid #PD-05-20 for General Construction of Combined Public Safety Facility to S.M. Wilson, in the amount of \$4,635,000 as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. City Manager Latham asked Director Conrad to clarify the actual base bid. Director Conrad stated before we get too far, in this, the low base bid was \$4,635,000. We have chosen to add Alternates 1, 2 and 3, but rejecting Alternate 4. With general construction, bids received would have been the same regardless of how we bid those bids. Director Conrad added we had a lot of employees involved in making this happen, including those that toured various facilities outside of their work hours. This building is almost half the size of the 2011 plan. The difference is we do not need all the storage spaces that did back then, because everything is now digital. The financials and low bidders were listed in the packet and memo to the council.

Councilwoman Bellm expressed disappointment that for a \$23,000 difference a local bidder was not awarded this. City Attorney Mike McGinley explained if a project is funded or financed using taxpayer dollars, Illinois Municipal Code, requires that projects are to be let to lowest responsive bidder or waive all bidders and award to just one person that we want to give this to. If bidder, we have found, does reputable work, after a thorough check, we are required to take that bid. These ordinances are put into place to make sure that we are the best shepherds of the taxpayer dollars. Councilwoman Bellm asked are we comfortable with this contractor, S.M. Wilson. Chief Conrad replied yes, I took the diligence of checking on them myself. Maplewood, MO Fire Department, Frontenac, MO Public Services building, and Mascoutah, IL High School. I spoke with representatives with Frontenac and Mascoutah schools, checking the scope and scale of those projects. Mascoutah High School was an \$8-9M project; Frontenac's project was a very complex construction project as houses the fire, EMS and city staff. Director Conrad gave special recognition to Detective Shaun Bland, who had taken some architectural classes when going to school, and we took advantage of his talents and knowledge. Detective Bland worked on this a lot on his own time. Director Conrad also noted the tightness of all the bids that were received. Eleven bidders submitted of twelve packets taken out. From highest to lowest, the bids received were within \$300,000.

Councilman Frey amended the motion to award Bid #PD-05-20 for General Construction of Combined Public Safety Facility to S.M. Wilson, in the amount \$4,919,724, which includes Alternates 1, 2 and 3 and rejects Alternate 4. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried. Roll Call Vote on motion as amended: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Award Bid #PD-06-20 for Mechanical Elements of Combined Public Safety Facility –

Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to award Bid #PD-06-20 for Mechanical Elements of Combined Public Safety Facility to Langhauser Sheet Metal, in the amount of \$539,440.00 as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Award Bid #PD-07-20 for Plumbing Elements of Combined Public Safety Facility –

Councilman Frey made a motion to award Bid #PD-07-20 for plumbing elements of Combined Public Safety Facility, to Bergman Roscow Plumbing of Belleville, in the amount of \$229,680.00 as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Award Bid #PD-08-20 for Electrical Elements of Combined Public Safety Facility – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to award Bid #PD-08-20 for electrical elements of Combined Public Safety Facility to MC Electric of Red Bud, in the amount of \$624,800.00 as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Award Bid #PD-09-20 for Sprinkler/Fire Suppression System Elements of Combined Public Safety Facility – Councilman Frey made a motion to award Bid #PD-09-20 for sprinkler/fire suppression system elements of Combined Public Safety Facility to Kane Fire Protection of East Alton, IL, in the amount of \$84,500.00 as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

REPORT

Approve Warrant #1178 – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Warrant #1178 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 temporarily adjourn this regular session to enter into executive session under the Illinois Open Meetings Act under 65 ILCS 120/2(c)(21) to discuss the approval of executive session minutes. Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried. Meeting temporarily adjourned at 7:38pm.

Mayor Michaelis reconvened the Regular Session at 7:45pm. Due to the city's COVID-19 Response, Mayor Michaelis, Councilmembers Hipskind, Frey, Bellm, and Sloan and City Clerk Bellm were present via phone. City Manager Latham, City Attorney Michael McGinley and Deputy City Clerk Hediger was present in the Council Chambers.

Mayor Michaelis stated nothing discussed in Executive Session will not 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 7:46pm.

Joseph R. Michaelis, Mayor

Barbara Bellm, City Clerk