

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION  
HIGHLAND CITY COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2021**

Mayor Michaelis called the Regular Session to order at 7:00pm. Due to the city's COVID-19 Response, Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind were present via phone. Mayor Michaelis and Interim City Manager Conrad were present via phone in City Hall. Deputy City Clerk Hediger was present via phone in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Others present via phone were City Attorney McGinley, Directors Cook, Gillespie, Imming, Korte, Rosen, Slover, and Speraneo, Coordinator Hubbard, Deputy City Clerk VonHatten, and City Clerk Bellm.

**MINUTES**

Councilman Frey made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 4, 2021 Regular Session as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

**PROCLAMATION**

Mayor Michaelis read a document proclaiming January 24<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>, 2021, as School Choice Week.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Citizens' Requests and Comments:

*Highland Masonic Lodge #583 2021 Sausage Supper Traffic Alteration Request* – Councilwoman Bellm stated she thought Chris Ebl would be present on the phone; however, Don Carnally is present to answer any questions. Mr. Carnally explained they want to close 9<sup>th</sup> Street to one-way traffic only, from Pestalozzi Street to Walnut Street. This is so traffic would turn off Walnut Street, onto 9<sup>th</sup> Street, our parking lot and then into the alley, exiting back onto Walnut Street for the Sausage Supper drive-thru. Councilman Frey made a motion to approve the request of the Masonic Lodge for 2021 traffic alteration request, to close 9<sup>th</sup> Street to one-way traffic only from 10:30am – 4:00pm on Sunday, February 14, 2020 as requested; seconded by Councilwoman Sloan. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Mayor Michaelis asked Deputy City Clerk Hediger if there is anyone on the phone wishing to speak or if anyone had called in or emailed in comments to present to the council. Deputy City Clerk responded there were no phone calls or emails received.

Requests of Council:

Councilwoman Bellm noted we have had the Volkswalk held here, in the years past. The Lebanon Cedar Cruisers used to host it. They are now the Illinois Trekkers, and they called to inquire about having it here in Highland on May 8, 2021. Bill Molina, who used to come, representing the Lebanon Cedar Cruisers is somewhat incapacitated, so another person could come to make the request; however, they would need to drive in from Belleville, to make the request to the council. Mayor

Michaelis pointed out they would not need to drive over, as she could call in. Councilwoman Bellm stated she would relay that information to her for the first meeting coming up.

Councilwoman Sloan stated she had a few businesses in town reach out about the \$500 grant. Some have been denied, as it was setup towards promoting online ordering. They want to know if it could be re-worded, as they do not have the staff to do online ordering. Can they use it for new menus or for sanitizing products, so we are not turning businesses away? Coordinator Mallord Hubbard stated he would have no objection to that; however, it is something the IDC set up and it would need to go before them. Director Angela Imming asked is this for the ecommerce grant. If so, the idea was to stimulate businesses to allow for remote ordering, in a safe environment. I am not sure that sanitizing products fits into ecommerce. Councilwoman Sloan reported, specifically, Railshake, applied for the grant, but has been denied. City Attorney McGinley explained the ecommerce grant was set up with a limited amount of funding and grants created. It came out of IDC for specific purpose of creating ecommerce. It was very specific. What you are talking about is just \$500 for businesses. Councilwoman Sloan asked is there any option for businesses that cannot do online ordering. Director Speraneo stated Attorney McGinley is correct; IDC did approve this specifically for ecommerce. They do not need to pay online, but their presence does have to have the ability to place orders online. Coordinator Hubbard reported Railshake is still eligible for the grant; they just need to deploy the program. Director Imming agreed they were approved, but have not sent documentation of completing the ecommerce program. Director Speraneo stated she might have misspoken, a few minutes ago, the grant requirements may require completing the transaction online. I will have to look at the wording.

#### Staff Reports:

Interim City Manager Chris Conrad reported there has been a lot of questions about when we are going to get back into regular meetings. We will be evaluating that every two weeks. I will keep the council informed through weekly updates.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Bill #21-06/ORDINANCE Declaring items of Personal Property Surplus and Authorizing their Sale or Disposal – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #21-06/Ordinance #3080 declaring items of personal property surplus and authorizing their sale or disposal as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #21-07/RESOLUTION Authorizing the Execution of a Contract for Cooperative Purchasing Between the City and CXT Inc. – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #21-07/Resolution #21-01-2788 authorizing the execution of a contract for cooperative purchasing between the City and CXT Inc. as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Interim City Manager Conrad reported we have used this company in the past. The restrooms and comfort stations you see at Rinderer Park, Silver Lake Park, and Glik Park have been purchased through this company. They are a sole service vendor, because of government participation. While they were not the lowest bid, they do come in and set the unit into place, so we would incur that as an additional cost, otherwise. These units can be used as storm shelters once set into place. Councilwoman Bellm inquired I am just wondering if they are going to similar to restrooms behind the Chamber building, now. Interim City Manager Conrad responded this would be nicer with four family-style restrooms. The park offers us a little more space to offer citizens nicer amenities. Councilwoman Bellm inquired any idea of when these would be in place. The Volkswalk organizers were asking about use of bathrooms. Interim City Manager Conrad reported we would not know a timetable

until we place an order. We will not complete the purchase until we close on the property. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #21-08/ORDINANCE Approving Rezoning of Property at 1210 Zschokke Street from “R-1-D” Single-Family Residential District to “C-2” Central Business District – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #21-08/Ordinance #3081 approving rezoning of property at 1210 Zschokke Street from “R-1-D” Single-Family Residential District to “C-2” Central Business District as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Councilwoman Bellm noted this went through review by Planning & Zoning Commission and they approved it. Director Speraneo acknowledged yes. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #21-09/RESOLUTION Waiving Normal and Customary Bidding Procedures and Approving Purchase of One Bucket Truck as a Sole Source Purchase – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #21-09/Resolution #21-01-2789 waiving normal and customary bidding procedures and approving purchase of one bucket truck as a sole source purchase as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #21-10/ORDINANCE Declaring Personal Property of the City Surplus and Authorizing its Sale and/or Disposal, Including 26 Lights, 18 Lighting Poles, and All Associated Wiring and Materials Located at Chevron Commercial – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #21-10/Ordinance #3082 declaring personal property of the city surplus and authorizing its sale and/or disposal, including 26 lights, 18 lighting poles, and all associated wiring and materials located at Chevron Commercial as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #21-11/RESOLUTION Approving Agreement for Lighting with Chevron Commercial, Inc. – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #21-11/Resolution #21-01-2790 approving agreement for lighting with Chevron Commercial, Inc. as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #21-12/RESOLUTION Approving Affiliation Agreement Between City of Highland d/b/a Highland Communication Services; AXS TV, LLC; and, HDNet Movies, LLC – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #21-12/Resolution #21-01-2791 approving affiliation agreement between City of Highland d/b/a Highland Communication Services; AXS TV, LLC; and, HDNet Movies, LLC as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #21-13/RESOLUTION Approving Retransmission Consent Agreement, Binding Term Sheet, and WGNA Distribution Agreement Between the City d/b/a Highland Communication Services and Nexstar, Inc. – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #21-13/Resolution #21-01-2792 approving retransmission consent agreement, binding term sheet, and WGNA Distribution agreement between the City d/b/a Highland Communication Services and Nexstar, Inc. as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

## **REPORT**

Approve Warrant #1187 – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Warrant #1187 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 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) to discuss litigation that has been deemed “probable or imminent.” Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried. Open Meeting temporarily adjourned at 7:30pm.

Mayor Michaelis called the Regular Session to order at 8:18pm. Due to the city’s COVID-19 Response, Councilmembers Hipskind, Bellm, Frey and Sloan were present via phone. Mayor Michaelis, Interim City Manager Conrad and Deputy City Clerk Hediger were present via phones in City Hall. Others present via phone were City Attorney McGinley and City Clerk Bellm.

Mayor Michaelis stated nothing discussed in Executive Session would be acted upon in Open Session this evening.

Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:19pm.

Joseph R. Michaelis, Mayor

Barbara Bellm, City Clerk