

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
HIGHLAND CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, JUNE 7, 2021**

Mayor Hemann called the Regular Session to order at 7:00pm. Council members Sloan, Frey, and Bellm were present. Councilman Hipskind was absent. Others in attendance were Acting City Manager Speraneo, City Attorney Michael McGinley, Directors Cook, Gillespie, Imming, Korte, Rosen, Coordinator Hubbard, Treasurer Nicolaides, Deputy City Clerks Hediger and Von Hatten, City Clerk Bellm, 2 City Staff, 21 citizens, and 1 member of news media.

MINUTES

Councilman Frey made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2021 Regular Session as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

PUBLIC FORUM

Citizens' Requests and Comments:

Mayor Hemann stated that if you are here to speak regarding on of the items on the agenda, we will give you an opportunity to talk later, so that others here for earlier items on the agenda may leave, if they wish.

VFW Post 5694 Presentation - Kate Broadhurst and Russell Rieke, Sr. were present to recognize former Mayor Joseph R. Michaelis. Ms. Broadhurst stated we wanted to provide a “thank you” to the Joe Michaelis who was a wonderful spokesperson for the VFW and what we stand for, even though he, himself was not a veteran. So, we have this plaque that we would like to present. It states:

'In memory of Mayor Joseph (Joe) R. Michaelis

Joe's many years of unwavering support and honoring our Veterans will never be forgotten. Members of Highland Post 5694 will forever be thankful for his leadership and inspiration that turned his ideas into action then reality. The completion of Veteran's Honor Parkway, The Veterans' Memorial Wall in Rinderer Park, naming peripheral routes honoring fallen veterans.

Mayor Michaelis cultivated an outstanding and lasting relationship between the community and our veterans' organizations.'

Ms. Broadhurst stated this was to be presented to Joe at our anniversary event on May 22. Obviously, things changed. However, we still wanted to recognize and honor him. Mayor Hemann expressed I had the opportunity to attend the anniversary celebration and it was an honor. I then was able to participate in the parade and ceremony on Memorial Day as well.

Relevant Pregnancy Options Center – 5K Life Run/2M Walk4Life – Tricia Blasdel, Representative, stated we are wanting to hold the 5K Life Run/2M Walk for Life, on Saturday, September 25, 2021. We would have the start and finish lines at the corner of Laurel & Main Streets. For the event, we requesting use of the City's electricity, water, sewer, fire hydrants, public restrooms, and Wi-Fi during the event, and to have City crews connect these services as needed, and for police assistance with crossings on Poplar and Broadway, and EMS service during the event. Councilwoman Bellm made a

motion to approve Relevant Pregnancy Options Center's request to host their annual 2M Walk4Life/5K Life Run request on Saturday, September 25, 2021 per their request; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Highland Jaycees – Schweizerfest 2021 – Matthew Stallard, 2021 Chairman of Schweizerfest and Adam Vosholler, 2023 Schweizerfest Chairman were present to request permission to hold Schweizerfest on August 27, 28 & 29 with parade, 5K run, and all other events. We realize this is normally Kirchenfest weekend. We have met with chairmen for Kirchenfest, along with Fr. Pat Jakel and we have received their blessing to hold the event on this particular weekend this year, as there will not be Kirchenfest in 2021.

For Schweizefest 2021 we are asking to the shutdown of Washington, Laurel and Main at 3pm on Friday and Broadway, from 9am on Friday through 5am on Monday, for the setup and teardown of the amusement rides. Schweizerfest will start at 6pm on Friday night and we will shut down and begin cleanup about 10:00pm on Sunday night. Setup to begin Monday, August 23 and tear down and cleanup to be completed through Monday, August 30, 2021. We are requesting for parades on Saturday and Sunday nights at 5:00pm, and 5K Run on Saturday morning at 8am. We know it has been a difficult year for everyone. We are trying to bring this back and any profits from the event do go back into the community. Councilman Frey made a motion to approve the Jaycees' request for street closures August 27-29, 2021 for Schweizefest and the 5K Run as requested; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Oak Ridge Subdivision Block Party – Dan Perry, Representative, stated that during 2020 our neighbors wanted to have a block party. It did not happen. We are going to make this happen this year. One of the neighbors will allow for set up of live music in their yard, at the corner of Red Oak & Black Oak Drive, so no streets will need to be shut down. We are requesting permission to hold a neighborhood block party on June 26, 2021, from 5pm – 9pm. Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve the request for a neighborhood block party on Saturday, June 26, 2021 as requested. Councilman Frey seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Craig Loyet, representing Highland Optimist Club, requested permission to place the Optimist Pizza Wagon on Kloss Furniture's parking lot on June 11, 12 and 13. We plan to sell pizzas 4pm - 8pm on Friday; 11am – 8pm on Saturday; and, 11am – 7pm on Sunday, unless we sell out. We are asking for power to our pizza wagon and permission to sell. Light & Power Director Dan Cook asked when the trailer will arrive there for electric hook up. Mr. Loyet stated it will be brought up there on Wednesday. Director Cook stated they would do the hook up on Thursday. Councilwoman Sloan and Councilwoman Bellm noted that since it was on Kloss' parking lot, only the permission for hook up is needed from the council. Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to grant permission for electric hook up to the Optimists' wagon for June 11, 12 & 13; seconded by Councilwoman Sloan. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Jerome "Blackie" Kuhl thanked the mayor for allowing him to talk, since he is only a part of the one percent of the town. That one percent would like to have a four-way stop placed at Cypress Street and Lindenthal, since we are not allowed to have golf carts and it is a busy street. Mr. Kuhl stated thank you for getting Four Diamonds fixed. The water has been in that ditch for forty years; it took that long to get it fixed. Why won't the city spend the money for golf carts? Staff has not come to the council on any recommendations on the four-way stop there. It's a traffic hazard for the kids that are walking and riding their bikes to school. Where's the priorities here. Mayor Hemann stated it is not that we are not listening. Things do take time. Mr. Kuhl stated we got new streetlights and sidewalks, but can't afford to do things

that prevent these kids from getting hit and killed. Mayor Hemann responded we do appreciate the concern and will look into it.

Requests & Comments of Council:

Councilwoman Bellm stated I do not know when we last reviewed the land use map. Director Breann Speraneo reported it was last amended in 2017. Councilwoman Bellm suggested asking Planning & Zoning to see if it is time to take a look at it. Director Speraneo reported that was discussed at the last meeting; the Comprehensive Plan is coming up for review. We can look at land use map prior to that.

Councilwoman Bellm noted, with the outdoor pool now open, I would like to get an update on the status for the planning of the new pool.

Staff Reports:

Nothing to report at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Notice of Municipal Letting for Motor Fuel Tax Maintenance Materials (MFT Section 22-00000-00-GM) – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Notice of Municipal Letting for Motor Fuel Tax Maintenance Materials (MFT Section 22-00000-00-GM) as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #21-85/RESOLUTION Authorizing Allocation of Hotel/Motel Tax Funding for Louis Latzer Memorial Public Library Virtual Google Mapping – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #21-85/Resolution #21-06-2830 authorizing allocation of Hotel/Motel Tax Funding for Louis Latzer Memorial Public Library Virtual Google Mapping, in the amount of \$1415.00 as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Councilwoman Bellm asked can anyone tell me what Google Mapping is. Mayor Hemann noted we just did one for Parks & Rec not too long ago; he asked Director Rosen if he could explain. Director Rosen explained this allows for when you Google a place it provides pictures of what is inside the building. It is marketing of the facilities. Councilwoman Bellm noted she read the information provided by Director Kim, which pointed out that many people travel to Highland as part of genealogy research and stay overnight at local hotels. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #21-86/RESOLUTION Rejecting all Bids (PR-03-21) for Purchase of One New Pick Up Truck for Parks and Recreation – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #21-86/Resolution #21-06-2831 rejecting all bids (PR-03-21) for purchase of one new pickup truck for Parks and Recreation as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #21-87/RESOLUTION Approving Change Order Number One, Final and Balancing, for Water Main Improvements, Job Number PW-21-19 – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #21-87/Resolution #21-06-2832 approving Change Order Number One, Final and Balancing, for an additional amount of \$20,854.29, for Water Main Improvements, Job Number PW-21-19 as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #21-88/RESOLUTION Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Proposal for Engineering Services with Oates Associates, Inc. for the Proposed Matter Drive and Executive Drive

Reconstruction – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #21-88/Resolution #21-06-2833 approving and authorizing the execution of a proposal for engineering services with Oates Associates, Inc. for the proposed Matter Drive and Executive Drive Reconstruction, for an amount not to exceed \$113,606.00 as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #21-89/RESOLUTION Waiving Competitive Bidding Requirement and Authorizing Purchase of Fitness Equipment for the Public Safety Building – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #21-89/Resolution #21-06-2834 waiving competitive bidding requirement and authorizing purchase of fitness equipment award to Foremost Fitness Group, in the amount of \$47,049.00, for the Public Safety Building as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Mayor Hemann voted aye. Motion carried.

Bill #21-90/RESOLUTION Approving Owner Change Order Number Seven for Public Safety Building, to Provide Various Equipment and Material Upgrades as Part of the Owner Contingency – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #21-90/Resolution #21-06-2835 approving Owner Change Order Number Seven for Public Safety Building, to provide various equipment and material upgrades as part of the owner contingency for an addition of \$20,941.98 including the items in Change Order Number Eight, as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #21-91/RESOLUTION Approving Owner Change Order Number Eight, Submitted by S.M. Wilson & Company, for the Highland Public Safety Building, Regarding Changes to Equipment and Materials – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #21-91/Resolution #21-06-2836 approving Owner Change Order Number Eight, submitted by S.M. Wilson & Company, for the Highland Public Safety Building, regarding changes to equipment and materials, for an addition of \$20,941.98 including the items in Change Order Number Seven, as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #21-92/RESOLUTION Authorizing Sole Source Purchase of Services from Tantalus Systems, Inc. for Annual Maintenance and Technical Support – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #21-92/Resolution #21-06-2837 authorizing sole source purchase of services from Tantalus Systems, Inc., in the amount of \$45,459.46, for annual maintenance and technical support as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Mayor Hemann voted aye. Motion carried.

Bill #21-93/ORDINANCE Declaring Personal Property Surplus and Authorizing Its Sale and/or Disposal, Including Damaged and Outdated Christmas Lights, Holiday Decorations, and a Reel Trailer – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #21-93/Ordinance #3111 declaring personal property surplus and authorizing its sale and/or disposal, including damaged and outdated Christmas lights, holiday decorations, and a reel trailer as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Councilwoman Bellm asked do you think we are going to get anything for this stuff. Director Cook reported these lights are incandescent lights that have been around since long before I was here. The tinsel is also falling off them. However, we have heard that smaller towns are in the market for some of these lights. Councilwoman Bellm asked what a reel trailer is. Director Cook explained it is used to pull wire. The reel trailer is approximately a 1979 model and considered an OSHA hazard. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Award Bid #E-01-21, For Purchase of LED Street Light Fixtures – Councilman Frey made a motion to table the award Bid #E-01-21; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Item tabled.

Bill #21-94/RESOLUTION Approving Agreement with Willow Creek Estates Homeowners Association – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #21-94/Resolution #21-06-2838 approving agreement with Willow Creek Estates Homeowners Association as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to bring back to take it for table, Item K, Award Bid #01-21, for Purchase of LED Street Light Fixtures; seconded by Councilwoman Sloan. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Award Bid #E-01-21, For Purchase of LED Street Light Fixtures – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to award Bid #E-01-21 to Frost Electric, of Collinsville, IL, in the amount of \$42,435.00 for purchase of LED Street Light Fixtures as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Councilman Frey asked do we need to note the city’s portion of the purchase price when done, after the agreement with Willow Creek Homeowners. Mayor Hemann stated that is actually related to the previous item, with the agreement with the homeowners’ association. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #21-95/ORDINANCE Approving Real Estate Rezoning for 140 Woodcrest, from “C-3” Highway Business District to “I” Industrial – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #21-95/Ordinance #3112 approving real estate rezoning for 140 Woodcrest, from “C-3” Highway Business District to “I” Industrial as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Director Breann Speraneo read into the record sixteen emails providing comments to Building & Zoning regarding the proposed rezoning:

Email #1

To whom this may concern,

I am sending this email in regards to the pending property for Double JJ’s. Jason and Jessica have a wonderful business that has grown over the past 6 years. Their pet care facility was exactly what this community needed. The residents of Highland can travel in peace knowing their dogs are properly cared for. Not to mention their doggie daycare allows daily care and exercise for dogs whose owners work all day and can’t go home to let them out midday. Their grooming services are top notch and very popular too as I know many people that use their services. Overall, the growth of their business has proven they are what this community needed and continues to need. The pet care industry is rapidly growing, so why not give a local business the opportunity to grow. The potential location would allow room to expand as needed and is centrally located which is convenient for their current clients and potential clients. Please give these awesome people a chance to expand and grow in this community!

Kind regards,
Nicki Alexander

Email #2

Jason and Jessica are great people. They will make that property look great.
Thank you!

Email #3

Upon hearing the wonderful news that Double J is seeking to expand their business and take on the property at 140 Woodcrest, which is in significant disrepair, I feel strongly inclined to lend my support. This company is an excellent example of Highland pride and community. Their continued work and support of our community as well as being an outstanding business bringing in clients from all surrounding areas, I am confident they can brighten this portion of our town and provide it with its much needed facelift. I strongly encourage the zoning board to support this business' efforts to improve our town and help keep Highland great!

Courtney Taylor

Highland citizen, 60 Rosin Dr

Email #4

Good morning! I just wanted to take a moment to let you know how much we love trust and appreciate Double J!! We are excited to hear that there is a potential for them to expand their facilities. Our dogs absolutely love it there and we know when we drop them off that they are going to get the best care possible whether it is for grooming, boarding or daycare!! In my opinion they have proven themselves over the years and their reputation speaks for itself - amazing! Please allow them this opportunity to expand their rapidly growing facility you will not regret it!! Thanks.

Tracee & Scot Lauth

Email #5

We support the Double J and their efforts to revitalize the old putt-putt place. It's a prime location that needs help and the Double J can do it. They're an awesome business with a much-needed service in town. Quality owners who run their business honestly and fairly. Exactly what we need in Highland. Please do everything you can to help them continue their success!

Angie Neske

Email #6

Good morning!

It would be amazing to let our community go for Double Js! We have been taking our dog to them for years and he has been treated with amazing care! Please approve the decision to expand Double J's.

Thank you Citizen of Highland Illinois

Email #7

Hello,

My name is Liz Emig. I am a resident of Highland, IL. I am emailing you to show support for Double Js zoning hearing next week. We are huge supporters of Double Js. Our dog Stella loves it there! We have tried other boarding and daycare centers for dogs and nothing compares to Double Js. I would love to see them be able to expand in Highland, IL.

Thank you!

Liz Emig, CPA

Email #8

Hi, my name is Jennifer Douglas and I have 2 children. When Double J opened we had 2 dogs, Tigger and Chipper. Tigger was

much older, had joint issues and a much loved fur baby. Chipper was a crabby old man as a puppy! We would not be where we are today without Double J. They were so helpful with supplements for Tigger's joints and training tips for the crabby puppy. Before Double J came to town we didn't board our dogs. We have used Double J for boarding, nail trims and even daycare! They are crowded and outgrowing their current space. I know so many friends who take their pets to Double J, that I often go in there and recognize a friend's pet. Please allow a special industrial zoning. With specific rules you can prevent the businesses you don't want from moving in. I would really hate to see Double J have to leave town. Many people would lose the best boarder and groomer. I pray that you see the support they are receiving and help them stay in Highland. The area where they want to move has been an eyesore for many years. Double J would make that eyesore a beautiful place!
Thank you for your time,
Jennifer Douglas

Email #9

Good morning,

I am sending this email regarding the doggy daycare Double J and their new property. I have been their customer for six years now.

I work in Highland but do not live here. I have been their customer for six years now. The property they have a contract on is right behind my office on Mercantile Drive. I understand in order to move their daycare and grooming portion of the business the site must be zoned Industrial. They are such an asset to the Highland community!! The property currently is an eyesore. Having them there would be such an improvement to the neighborhood.

I respectfully request that you listen to their needs. Highland is such a nice community and wish I could live here too as well as work here.

Sincerely,
Lisa Schumacher
Double J customer.

Email #10

To whom it may concern,

I fully support allowing the zoning for Double J to move to the new location. What a great effort this is and the fact that they are willing at a company to buy a distress piece of property and revamp it is a true statement to their comment to Highland and its residents. They work so hard to bring in new business to the community and also support efforts in the community. To not allow them to press forward with this effort would be truly undeserving of the community as a whole.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this effort.
Susan Wellen, Luke Wellen, Sydney Wellen

Email #11

To whom it may concern:

I am writing you to ask that you please allow Jason and Jessica Prichard the zoning that they need to proceed with the purchase of the property located at 140 Woodcrest. They run an amazing business today, by treating everyone's fur babies as if they were their own with love and excellent care. They provide a needed service to our community. They fact that they want to grow their business in the City of Highland is a good thing.

Thank You,
Dana Brindley

Email #12

Hello, My name is Tiann Beard and my Fiance Micheal Plumlee have lived in highland for over 20 years. We recently moved about 25 minutes away. We bring our dog Cas to double J doggy day care every weekend Friday and Sat to get some safe play time with other dogs and because the staff and Double J is outstanding. The location they would like zoned has been vacant for a long time and has been an eye sore for some time and I can guarantee they will make this spot beautiful again. Please allow them to zone this area as Industrial and give our fur babies a great spot to expand and enjoy the fresh air. Thank you for your time.
Tiann Beard

Email #13

As someone who grew up in Highland, the property at 140 Woodcrest has been an eyesore for many, many years. Double J Doggie Play n Stay are a valuable asset to the community with a plan to greatly improve this property. Please approve their zoning request to convert this property to industrial. It's wonderful to see a small business succeeding and growing after so many businesses have been forced to close. They work hard to provide quality care for so many pets and deserve the ability to continue growing their business.

Sincerely,
Alyssa Guthrie

Email #14

I want this to remain anonymous. Please don't approve the zoning for Double J.

Email #15

Today I want to express my feelings on the rezoning of the corner lot of 140 Woodcrest drive, down from my building.

First, I am not against of anyone following their dreams and being a small business owner. For almost 10 years, I have raised 2 boys put in 12 hours or more a day putting forth a lot of time, sweat and tears to create a successful business.

Hearing that they want to take a commercial district and add in an industrial zone is overly concerning. With the economy the way it is who is to say where they will be in 5 year, they close door and as the property is labeled as an industry the door is wide open. The corner sells being as an industrial lot, leaves anything to move in, example a junk yard move in on the bringing values of all property around. This area has come a long way with the Wick Organ Company, SOGA buildings,

Senior Center, PALS Preschool and Daycare, Ki-do Karate, Bradford National Bank, and the strip mall all building up.

Huge concerns are the environment factors, with run off moving in the creek. Dog feces and urine run off top contaminate to water. Children can get sick from bacteria in dog feces. This creek area runs through town. Dog feces are a high protein product that attracts rats as well. With children around at the Ki-do Karate as well as PALS Preschool and Daycare that is state licensed, has 3- 4 health department visits and local requirements that must follow. Health issues are concerning. Chemicals used to professionally clean is also a concern to the environment.

This creek floods with any heavy rain. This creek backs up to the daycare playground, they have outdoor classroom, and a play area. Noise concerns of barking dogs all day. Children hear dogs barking that are afraid can cause stress of children, the noise from a barking dog will play a role in the outdoor classroom and activities. Every time that they are outside playing, scream and having fun do will bark. The daycare children walk past to go to the park as well as exploring and walks they dogs will be stressed every time they hear these children.

Know that this was a possibility of dealing with noise levels of barking dogs that children could be afraid of, health issues, and commercial district change to industrial area would have made me rethink my decision. With an industrial zone in the mist of all commercials buildings where does this leave property values. As a business owner, zoned commercial I understand I will interact with the public that their business is a great part of town, and the property values will maintain itself. This area is growing and cleaning up, helping the town as well as property values, once decides to let industry in who know what the future will bring for my business as well as any of the businesses in this area.

Jessica Driemeyer

Email #16

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to ask that Jason and Jessica Prichard receive the zoning permit needed to relocate their business to 140 Woodcrest. They have successfully run Double J in Highland for six years and keep the property clean and inviting. Their location in Greenville is also very clean and professionally run. The property on Woodcrest has been vacant for many years and was run down long before the Put Put golf closed. The Prichard's would clean up the location and undoubtedly continue to provide excellent service to the many citizens of Highland that enjoy their services.

Thank you for your time,
Chris Brindley'

Mayor Hemann explained we read these emails to get them into the record. At this time, anyone wishing to speak on this matter may come forward.

Jennifer Ostrander, 60 Barracuda, owner of The Olde Wick's Factory, stated this property borders our venue property. This is not what we had envisioned for neighboring our property. We were here four years ago to change our property from Industrial to Commercial. If you said we were going to have Industrial use or dog kenneling next to us, we would not have invested \$85,000 on the patio property. Changing this property to Industrial will be detrimental to our business. In 2019, 42 weddings were hosted on the patio. That does not include bridal showers, baby showers, and other small events. During 2020, we were forced to closed, as we were considered non-essential. I felt a little punch to the gut when I received the notice about the proposed rezoning of the neighboring property. With 22 weddings scheduled on the patio for this year, I cannot image what it will be like with the sound of dogs barking in the background. While the plan is not to have outdoor kenneling, the acreages lends it to that use. This is spot zoning with Commercial all around it. In this area, there is a karate business, bank and daycare. Once you go commercial, you should never go back.

I give a minimum of 5-7 tours to potential customers per week. Occasionally, I can hear the kids screaming across the creek; however, I can assure the couples that the kids will not be out there on the weekends. We generate business for the local hotel, local restaurants, shops, and photographers. Pre-COVID there was a study to determine if Highland could accommodate another hotel. Many believe it can, as wedding guests are having to go to Edwardsville, Troy, and Greenville for hotel reservations. However, I can assure you, if they heard barking dogs on our patio they would not be utilizing our facilities. Per zoning application the decision is to be made based upon whether the proposed will promote the health, safety, quality of life, comfort and general welfare of the city and the extent to which the zoning map amendment may detrimentally affect nearby properties. If any council members are not sure on how to vote, I would suggest tabling to take a tour of our properties and see what the impact would be. Any zoning change would detrimental.

Jason and Jessica Prichard, owners of Double J Play & Stay, came forward to speak. Jason Prichard asked does anyone have an idea of what was spent on dog daycare. \$103.6 billion spent last year on dog daycare. I believe that what people have that is most important is a name and a legacy. I was emotional by the emails submitted. Dogs are my business. I breed dogs that sell for thousands of dollars. I can assure you that I will be build a facility that I would take my dogs in. We operate here currently Monday through Friday, here and in Greenville. The City of Greenville is offering incentives to expand. Double J is buying the property, because it is a good investment. I will purchase the property with right of first refusal to Bradford National Bank and Ki Do Karate.

Jessica Prichard pointed out that, currently, we can move our kennels there. I understand the neighbors' concerns. If you walk by my current facility, at any given time, I will guarantee you that is clean all around – inside and outside. If it is not approved tonight, we would like to ask for a way to move our daycare and grooming. We are not looking to move our kennels. We have another facility in Greenville, and we are booked for the whole month there. We want to find a way to make it work for everyone with all of our services. We will have a privacy fence. The kids walk by our current facilities now. We just ask that the city continue to work with us.

Jason Prichard continued, we have done due diligence. Industrial properties are \$400,000 and up and they are not developed. We do not have the pocket book to make that additional investment. At our current location, we found this inexpensive property and improved what was there, including taking down a house that was an eyesore. Our business needs to expand. We will continue to do that with this property. We have neighbors all around us right now. Our build out only requires about half the property that is there. I can change from a boarding to a daycare center. I would like to continue dialogue to work with the neighbors to address what they feel are issues. Councilman Frey pointed out our only problem is the zoning. I would encourage you to go back to Planning & Zoning and explore what is allowed in the current zoning. Jason Prichard acknowledge by stating I understand that. Councilman Frey continued

there are a lot of little issues that need to be worked out with the zoning and the neighbors. Councilwoman Bellm expressed you are a well-respected business and we want to keep you in Highland. The area has changed so much and I am hesitant to change it back. I value the opinion of Planning & Zoning, so I will not be voting against their recommendation. Hopefully, with some help from the city, I hope you another location. Councilwoman Sloan stated I absolutely love you guys. I wish we could redo what is allowed in Industrial. My dogs are my babies. This Industrial Zoning and dog care seems to always be an issue, when kenneling is not an issue. Jason Prichard stated I am willing to donate some time to give some perspective in a non-bias way. Councilwoman Sloan asked are there not any areas that are zoned for this that are available. Director Breann Speraneo reported there are a few tracks of land. I sent a few advertisements. Commerce Place and some spot areas uptown. Another option is to allow a special use permit; however, we do not like to do that to change land use. Pet care and pet-related services are only allowed in Industrial. Commercial kenneling indoor is allowed in Commercial areas. Mayor Hemann addressed Jason and Jessica Prichard by stating, like the council said, we really want you in town. Planning & Zoning members have a very thankless task. They do read and study the laws. It is not your business that is the issue. It is changing of the zoning, which allows for other less desired things, that. We all agree that property needs to be improved. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey and Bellm voted nay, none aye. Motion failed.

Bill #21-96/RESOLUTION Accepting Grant from the Illinois Housing Development Authority's Abandoned Residential Property Municipal Relief Program - Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #21-96/Resolution #21-06-2839 accepting grant from the Illinois Housing Development Authority's Abandoned Residential Property Municipal Relief Program as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Councilwoman Bellm asked why would we not. Director Speraneo reported the actual contract is not attached, as we need to provide a letter for the intent of the grant. This reimburses us for some of the costs for demolition of properties. Councilwoman Bellm asked how much. Director Speraneo responded \$45,000. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #21-97/ORDINANCE Approving and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Economic Development Agreement Pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/8-1-2.5, with Furniture Rewards d/b/a Kloss Furniture – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #21-97/Ordinance #3112 approving and authorizing the city manager to execute an economic development agreement pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/8-1-2.5, with Furniture Rewards d/b/a Kloss Furniture as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #21-98/RESOLUTION Approving an Application Submitted by Ron Moss, on Behalf of Dairy Queen, and Awarding Certain Financial Incentives Under the Façade Improvement Program - Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #21-98/Resolution #21-06-2840 approving an application submitted by Ron Moss, on behalf of Dairy Queen, and awarding certain financial incentives under the façade improvement program as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #21-99/ORDINANCE Declaring Personal Property of the City Surplus and Authorizing Its Sale and/or Disposal, Including Vehicles from the Police Department – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #21-99/Ordinance #3113 declaring personal property of the city surplus and authorizing its sale and/or disposal, including vehicles from the police department as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #21-100/ORDINANCE Amending Chapter 6, of the Code, Alcoholic Liquor, to Increase the Number of A1 Liquor Licenses to 5 - Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #21-

100/Ordinance #3114 amending Chapter 6, of the Code, Alcoholic Liquor, to increase the number of A1 Liquor Licenses to five, as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #21-101/RESOLUTION Issuing an “A1” Liquor License to Highland Arts and Crafts LLC, Pursuant to Chapter 6, of the Code, Entitled Alcoholic Liquor – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #21-101/Resolution #21-06-2841 issuing an “A1” Liquor License to Highland Arts and Crafts LLC, pursuant to Chapter 6, of the Code, entitled Alcoholic Liquor as attached; seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Councilman Frey expressed I think maybe we should explain what A1 Liquor License is. City Attorney McGinley reported an A1 Liquor License is a tavern license without gaming. Councilman Frey stated it is my understanding it is their intent to sell wine at arts and crafts events. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

REPORT

Accepting Expenditures Report #1196 for May 8, 2021 through June 4, 2021 – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to accept Expenditures Report #1196 for May 8, 2021 through June 4, 2021 as attached; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:26pm.

Kevin B. Hemann, Mayor

Barbara Bellm, City Clerk