

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION  
HIGHLAND CITY COUNCIL  
MONDAY, MAY 16, 2022**

Mayor Hemann called the Regular Session to order at 7:00pm. Council members Sloan, Frey, Bellm, and Hipskind were present. Others in attendance were City Manager Conrad, City Attorney Michael McGinley, Directors Cook, Gillespie, Heimbürger, and Ohren, Police Chief Presson, Asst. Police Chief Becherer, Fire Chief Federer, EMS Chief Wilson, Coordinator Hubbard, Treasurer Nicolaidēs, Deputy City Clerk and VonHatten, City Clerk Bellm, and 39 citizens.

**MINUTES**

Councilman Frey made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 2, 2022 Regular Session as attached. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

**PROCLAMATIONS**

Mayor Hemann read a document proclaiming the week of May15 through 21, 2022 as EMS Week and presented to EMS Chief Brian Wilson. Mayor Hemann stated he and City Manager Conrad met with EMS Staff and presented several of them with service awards.

Mayor Hemann read a document proclaiming the month of May 2022 as Motorcycle Awareness Month on behalf of the local A.B.A.T.E. organization.

**SWEAR IN**

Mayor Hemann recognize promotions within the ranks of the Highland Police Department by swearing in Officer Kenneth McCoy as Sergeant and Sergeant Damian Feeny as Lieutenant.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Citizens' Requests and Comments:

*St. Paul Catholic Church – Kirchenfest – Special Event Application and Road Closure Request* – Linda and Keith Hagler, Representatives, were present to request permission to host Kirchenfest, August 26-28, 2022. Councilwoman Bellm asked if the flea market is back. Mr. Hagler replied yes.

Councilwoman Bellm expressed great, because I have a lot of stuff to drop off for it. Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve St. Paul Catholic Church's request to hold Kirchenfest, August 26-28, 2022 per all the requests in the special event application as attached. Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

*Highland Music School and Louis Latzer Library - Learning Concert – Special Event Application* – Due to no one present to speak on this request, the council decided to hold it until the next meeting.

*VFW Post 5694 and American Legion Post 439 – Memorial Day Parade – Special Event*  
*Application* – Kate Broadhurst requested permission to hold the Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 30, 2022. We will be back to doing our normal ceremonies at the various cemeteries that day, starting at St. Joseph’s Cemetery at 9:15am, Highland City Cemetery, 9:45am; and, Grantfork, 10:30am. Parade lineup will be at St. Paul’s Church Parking Lot at 12:30pm with step-off at 1:00pm, and end at VFW Post 5694. To assist with this we are requesting \$200 to offset the cost of the high school band. Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve the VFW Post 5694 and American Legion Post 439 request to hold the Memorial Day Parade, on Monday, May 20, 2022 as attached. Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipkind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Linda Iberg, President of Ladies’ Auxiliary of American Legion Post 439 stated we are here to kick off our annual Poppy Campaign. We distribute the poppies over Memorial Day weekend. If you want to give a donation, you can. The donations made go to support veterans at the local hospitals. She presented the mayor and council with a plaque for support of the poppy campaign over the years.

Mayor Hemann noted he was at the Madison County Recorder’s Office today. They are working to set up a program for discounted services for veterans. He asked if he could call Kate, in a couple of weeks, when he had more information. Ms. Broadhurst replied yes. There are four of us on the veterans’ assistance committee.

Jerome “Blackie” Kuhl expressed we are not smart enough to play the national anthem up on the square. We spend a fortune on police and fire station over here, but we cannot do that. Why don’t we just play it over there? There are people over there at all times of the day. You decided that the city cannot spend money for the 1-2% in Highland, but spend money on the Square. So why not spend money to play it from the fire station? Mayor Hemann responded we discussed it and decided it is not something we choose to do. I understand your request and it is very admirable. However, it is not feasible to take city employees and resources to play it daily. We are very aware of our veterans. Mr. Kuhl pointed out some people died for this town. They did not have a choice. Mayor Hemann stated I know you feel we are not doing what you want. We have to do what is best for all the citizens and focus our services and resources on those things. Mr. Kuhl suggested move it to the fire station. People there all the time. I know you feel I am foolish. I was one of the fortunate ones, because they recognized me. The golf carts I was wanting for people riding around in wheelchairs and strollers. You guys don’t feel that is important. You just don’t want to talk to people. Mayor Hemann contended my door is open to talk. Chris has agreed to meet with you each Monday. While you feel we are not doing things to please you, we are doing things. We made a decision that we are not going to do this. Mr. Kuhl stated well tell people your kid died for nothing.

Requests of Council:

No requests or comments presented.

Staff Report:

City Manager Chris Conrad reviewed the grass and weed control policy, and how we handle it. The first week of each month, on Wednesdays, we split staff in half and tour town. We leave notice to those in violation. Anything not cut after the following Thursday, the city crews cut grass, as this is seven days after notice, and owners are assessed a fine.

*Discussion on Purchasing Policy* - City Manager Conrad reported the city’s purchasing policy was implemented last year. There have been no changes in state statute associated with this. Under \$1500 is at the discretion of the director. \$1,500-\$24,999 requires director and city manager’s approval. Anything over \$25,000 requires council approval. Purchases \$1,500-\$5,000 require three verbal quotes;

\$5,000-\$24,999 requires a written quote and signed purchase order. Examples of sole-serve purchases would be those from government agencies or only obtainable from the manufacturer or designed distributor.

## NEW BUSINESS

Bill #22-67/RESOLUTION Authorizing Allocation of Hotel/Motel Tax Funding for 2022 VFW Memorial Day Ceremony – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #22-67/Resolution #22-05-2932 authorizing allocation of hotel/motel tax funding for 2022 VFW Memorial Day Ceremony, in the amount of \$200 as attached. Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #22-68/RESOLUTION Authorizing Allocation of Hotel/Motel Tax Funding for 2022 4th of July Fireworks Display – Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to approve Bill #22-68/Resolution #22-05-2933 authorizing allocation of hotel/motel tax funding for 2022 4th of July Fireworks Display, in the amount of \$10,000 as attached. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Mayor Hemann asked do we still go out and get additional funding. Director Mark Rosen replied, we do, and we do a pass-the-bucket on the night of the event. The Wall Street Journal closing was a loss, as that was a big fundraiser for us. Councilwoman Sloan reported they have been going around to the different organizations to seek support also. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Approve Request for Proposals for Employee Benefit Broker - Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve request for proposals for employee benefit broker as attached. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Sloan. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Approve Mayor’s Reappointment of Fred Donini to the Police & Fire Commission - Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve the re-appointment of Fred Donini to the Police & Fire Commission for another three-year term, to expire June 2025 as attached. Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Approve Mayor’s Reappointment of Sharon Rusteberg to the Telecommunications Advisory Board - Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to approve the re-appointment of Sharon Rusteberg to the Telecommunication Advisory Board for another three-year term, to expire May 31, 2025 as attached. Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #22-69/ORDINANCE Amending Chapter 6, of the Code, Alcoholic Liquor, to Increase the Number of C Liquor Licenses to Six – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #22-69/Ordinance #3187 amending Chapter 6, of the Code, Alcoholic Liquor, to increase the number of “C” Liquor Licenses to six as attached. Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #22-70/RESOLUTION Issuing a “C” Liquor License for Korte Meat Processors, Inc., Pursuant to Chapter 6, of the Code, Entitled Alcoholic Liquor – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #22-70/Resolution #22-05-2934 issuing a “C” Liquor License for Korte Meat Processors, Inc., pursuant to Chapter 6, of the Code, entitled Alcoholic Liquor as attached. Motion seconded by

Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #22-71/ORDINANCE Amending City Code Sections 18-1-1 and 18-10-2 for Purposes of Updating the Electrical Code to the Most Current Version – Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to approve Bill #22-71/Ordinance #3188 amending City Code Sections 18-1-1 and 18-10-2 for purposes of updating the Electrical Code to the most current version as attached. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #22-72/ORDINANCE Amending City Code Sections 2-261 and 2-262 Pertaining to the Ambulance Service, the Type of Services to be Rendered, the Area to be Served, and the Charges to be Made for the Ambulance Service – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #22-72/Ordinance #3189 amending City Code Sections 2-261 and 2-262 pertaining to the ambulance service, the type of services to be rendered, the area to be served, and the charges to be made for the ambulance service as attached. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #22-73/RESOLUTION Waiving Competitive Bidding Requirement and Authorizing Purchase of Two Lifepak 15 Cardiac Monitor/Defibrillators for EMS Department – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #22-73/Resolution #22-05-2935 waiving competitive bidding requirement and authorizing purchase of two Lifepak 15 Cardiac Monitor/Defibrillators for EMS Department, to Stryker Medical, in the amount of \$56,914.32 as attached. Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. Councilman Frey inquired this keeps everything standard and matching. EMS Chief Brian Wilson replied yes. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #22-74/RESOLUTION Approving and Authorizing the Execution of A Proposal for Preliminary Engineering Services with Oates Associates, Inc., for 6<sup>th</sup> Street Reconstruction, Phase 2 and 3, PW-04-22 – Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to approve Bill #22-74/Resolution #22-05-2936 approving and authorizing the execution of a proposal for preliminary engineering services with Oates Associates, Inc., for 6th Street Reconstruction, Phase 2 and 3, PW-04-22 as attached. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #22-75/ORDINANCE Declaring Personal Property Surplus and Authorizing its Sale and/or Disposal, Specifically Property from the Old Police Station – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #22-75/Ordinance #3190 declaring personal property surplus and authorizing its sale and/or disposal, specifically property from the old police station as attached. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bellm. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #22-76/ORDINANCE Declaring Personal Property Surplus and Authorizing its Sale and/or Disposal, Specifically Two Police Cars – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #22-76/Ordinance #3191 declaring personal property surplus and authorizing its sale and/or disposal, specifically two police cars as attached. Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #22-77/ORDINANCE Approving and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Development Agreement Pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/8-1-2.5, with Warson Development, LLC, and Other Actions Related Thereto - Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to approve Bill #22-77/Ordinance #3192 approving and authorizing the city manager to execute a development agreement pursuant to 65 ILCS

5/8-1-2.5, with Warson Development, LLC, and other actions related thereto as attached. Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

## **REPORT**

Accepting Expenditures Report #1219 for April 30, 2022 through May 13, 2022 – Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to accept Expenditures Report #1219 for April 30, 2022 through May 13, 2022 as attached. Motion 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 the following exemption: 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6) to discuss setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Sloan. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried. Open Meeting temporarily adjourned at 7:49pm.

Mayor Hemann reconvened the Regular Session at 8:00pm. Council members Sloan, Bellm, Frey and Hipskind were present. Others in attendance were City Manager Conrad, City Attorney McGinley, Deputy City Clerk VonHatten, and City Clerk Bellm.

Mayor Hemann stated there would be no action taken on anything that was discussed in the Executive Session.

Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Hipskind voted aye, none nay. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:01pm.

Kevin B. Hemann, Mayor

Barbara Bellm, City Clerk