

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION  
HIGHLAND CITY COUNCIL  
MONDAY, JUNE 5, 2023**

City Clerk Bellm called the Regular Session to order at 7:00pm at the Highland Area Senior Center. Council members Sloan, Frey, Bellm, and Napper were present. Mayor Kevin Hemann was absent. Others in attendance were City Manager Conrad, City Attorney McGinley, Directors Cook, Gillespie, Ohren, Presson, Rosen, Coordinator Hubbard, Fire Chief Straub, Deputy City Clerk Hediger, City Clerk Bellm, and 31 citizens.

**ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEM**

City Clerk Barbara Bellm asked for a motion to elect one councilperson to serve as mayor pro tem during the temporary absence of Mayor Hemann. The mayor pro tem shall perform the duties and possess all the rights and powers of the mayor and shall vote in his/her capacity as councilperson only.

Councilman Napper made a motion to approve Councilwoman Bellm to serve as mayor pro tem during the temporary absence of Mayor Hemann. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Sloan. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Bellm and Napper voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

**MINUTES**

Councilman Frey made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2023 Regular Session as attached. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Sloan. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Napper and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

**RECOGNITION**

Fire Chief Chris Straub recognized Assistant Fire Chief Kerry Federer for his years of service upon his retirement. Chief Straub stated Kerry served a little over 41 years, starting in 1979. Over the years, he answered many calls. He served as Assistant Chief in 2001 until 2020. In December 2021, he came out of retirement until May 1, 2023. He has always made himself available. Thank you to his wife, Tena, for allowing him to do this.

**SWEARING IN**

Daniel Tallman was sworn in as Assistant Chief of the Highland Fire Department. Daniel has been with our department since 2018, and served 15 years with Pana Fire Department, before moving to Highland. He is being promoted from Captain to Assistant Chief.

Zach Spengler was sworn in as Captain of the Highland Fire Department. Zach joined the department in 2014 and is being promoted from Lieutenant to Captain.

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

### Citizens' Requests and Comments:

Jerome "Blackie" Kuhl reported that on May 30, the city was by his house repairing the blacktop. They were cleaning a hole out, so they took the sweeper out and it was blowing dust and dirt everywhere. I stopped them and told them I would have the EPA out there. I went to City Manager to find out if that was allowed, but he was out, so I went to the police chief. I know when you saw concrete you are have to have water used in the process. I am happy to go to the EPA to find out if legal or not. Otherwise, you need to find a new way to clean those holes out. We had to get more medicine for my wife's inhaler, because you did that. I am here to find out if legal or not. If you are not going to give me an answer, I can go to EPA, in Collinsville, to find out tomorrow. I am not always wrong. Start doing it right. You got good trucks, good men, and they know what they can and should not be doing. Councilwoman Bellm stated I am sorry your wife had to get more medicine for her trouble breathing. We will look into it. City Attorney McGinley stated we will look into it. We do not know the facts and what happened; so, we will not say that anything is illegal.

John Kapp stated he went to City Lake this weekend. The flag out there is getting old and looks tattered. Need a new one.

Dennis Foehner, 230 Coventry Way, stated he is here to provide a couple "shout-outs" on behalf of the Lions Club. We had another successful biathlon event. Special thanks to Chief Wilson, Chief Presson, City Manager Conrad, and the City of Highland for their support. On a personal note, we went to the city cemetery on Memorial Day weekend. It is beautifully groomed and very well taken care of. "Shout-out" to Director Rosen, Supervisor Brad Koehnemann, and the staff.

*St. Paul Kirchenfest – Special Event Application – St. Paul Catholic Church - Andrew Abendroth, Kirchenfest Chairman requested permission for this year's event. We are having the bike race back again this year. Otherwise, everything else will be the same as past years. We appreciate everything the City of Highland does for Kirchenfest. Councilman Frey made a motion to approve St. Paul's Catholic Church request for the St. Paul Kirchenfest to be held August 25, 26 & 27, 2023 as requested per the Special Event Application as attached. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Sloan. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Napper and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.*

### Requests of Council:

No requests or comments.

### Staff Reports:

Nothing to report.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Bill #23-54/RESOLUTION Rejecting All Bids Submitted for Bid #PW-14-17, for the Old Reservoir Dam Spillway Project – Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to approve Bill #23-54/Resolution #23-06-3033 rejecting all bids submitted for Bid #PW-14-17, for the Old Reservoir Dam Spillway Project as attached. Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. Councilwoman Sloan asked are we going to go out for bids. It is my understanding that this is something that needs to be repaired. City Manager Conrad stated we will find some more money and then go out for bid again. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Napper and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #23-55/RESOLUTION Determining the Intent of the City of Highland, Illinois to Reimburse itself for Certain Capital Expenditures –Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #23-55/Resolution #23-06-3034 determining the intent of the City of Highland, Illinois to reimburse itself for certain capital expenditures as attached. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Sloan. Councilwoman Bellm asked for clarification on this. City Manager Conrad explained this one goes in line with Items C & D on the agenda. This is for anything prior to the day of financing with the financing options we establish. This allows for us to reimburse for any expenditures related to that, which we pay for prior to the financing put into place. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Napper and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #23-56/RESOLUTION Engaging the Services of WM Financial Strategies, as Financial Advisor, and Gilmore & Bell, P.C., as Bond Counsel, in Connection with the Issuance of Certain Debt Certificates – Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to approve Bill #23-56/Resolution #23-06-3035 engaging the services of WM Financial Strategies, as financial advisor, and Gilmore & Bell, P.C., as bond counsel, in connection with the issuance of certain debt certificates as attached. Motion seconded by Councilman Napper. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Napper and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Award Bid #G-02-23, for Renovations and Alterations to the Existing Highland City Hall Building – Councilman Frey made a motion to award Bid #G-02-23, for renovations and alterations to the existing Highland City Hall Building to Korte & Luitjohan Contractors, Inc., of Highland, in the amount of \$1,331,000 as attached. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Sloan. Councilwoman Bellm stated I think we need to move ahead on this project. I do not see anything coming in lower. It will be about 300 days until this project is finished, once they get started, and staff is pretty cramped out there in the Public Safety Building. Councilman Frey expressed concern about putting the cart before the horse. City Manager Conrad stated we already made some changes in staffing processes, which will affect the renovations. The design to engineering is similar to what we did with Fire Station #1. We also are going to do some upkeep items that were planned for years down the road. However, since we are out of there, this gives us the opportunity to do a complete top to bottom renovation. City Attorney McGinley explained we have to select the low bid before we can make changes and negotiate the project down. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Napper and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #23-57/ORDINANCE Declaring Personal Property of the City Surplus and Authorizing its Sale and/or Disposal, Including Personal Property from the EMS Department, Police Department, and Light and Power Department – Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to approve Bill #23-57/Ordinance #3275 declaring personal property of the city surplus and authorizing its sale and/or disposal, including personal property from the EMS Department, Police Department, and Light and Power Department as attached. Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Napper and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Bill #23-58/RESOLUTION Waiving Competitive Bidding Requirement and Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Purchase Agreement to Purchase a Dell Server through the State of Illinois Joint Purchasing Program as a Sole Source Purchase – Councilman Frey made a motion to approve Bill #23-58/Resolution #23-06-3036 waiving competitive bidding requirement and approving and authorizing the execution of a purchase agreement to purchase a Dell Server through the State of Illinois Joint Purchasing Program as a sole source purchase, in the amount of \$43,110, as attached. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Sloan. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Napper and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

## REPORT

Accepting Expenditures Report #1243 for May 13, 2023 through June 2, 2023 – Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to accept Expenditures Report #1243 for May 13, 2023 through June 2, 2023 as attached. Motion seconded by Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, Napper and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Sloan made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Councilman Napper. All aye, none nay. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Peggy Bellm, Mayor Pro Tem

Barbara Bellm, City Clerk