MINUTES OF A BUDGET WORKSHOP/SPECIAL MEETING OF THE ZION CITY COUNCIL HELD ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2008, AT 9:12 A.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, ZION, ILLINOIS

Mayor Harrison called the meeting to order.

On call of the roll the following answered present: Commissioners Taylor, Flammini, DeTienne, Bennett and Mayor Harrison.

TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR’S OFFICES

Commissioner Flammini stated he has checked into the rent for the Township Assessor’s offices, researching comparable office rents in Lake County. The Assessor currently pays the City $4,848 per year for their office rent. Per comparable offices, the rent would range from $8,360 to $13,376 per year, including costs for services such as utilities, janitor, maintenance, and insurance, however, many of these services would not be part of the Assessor’s costs, since they are included with City services. Since the current Assessor’s rent is included with the Township Supervisor’s budget. Supervisor Ditzig has requested that any rent increase not take effect until the next budget year. Commissioner Flammini recommended increasing the rent for the Assessor’s offices to $8,360 effective May 1, 2009.

It was moved by Commissioner Flammini, seconded by Commissioner Bennett to approve increasing the rent for the Township Assessor’s Offices to $8,360 per year effective May 1, 2009. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Taylor, aye; Flammini, aye; DeTienne, aye; Bennett, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Commissioner DeTienne, seconded by Commissioner Flammini that the Council recess to Closed Session at 9:18 a.m. to discuss personnel. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Taylor, aye; Flammini, aye; DeTienne, aye; Bennett, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Bennett, seconded by Commissioner Taylor to reconvene the Special Council meeting at 11:35 a.m. with all members present. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Taylor, aye; Flammini, aye; DeTienne, aye; Bennett, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

PURCHASE OF SQUAD CARS/POLICE DEPT.

The Council agreed to table this item until further notice.
BUDGET AMENDMENT/RETIREMENT INCENTIVES

Mayor Harrison stated the Council discussed various proposals for employee retirement incentives.

It was moved by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Flammini to approve the following retirement incentive package for non-union, full-time employees:

- The employee would receive a lump-sum payment in the amount of one-week salary for each full year of City employment (1 week salary x years of employment).

- The employee must provide written notice to his/her Commissioner no later than November 24, 2008 of his/her intention to accept this offer. This non-revocable notification will be submitted to the City Council for formal approval at the December 2, 2008 Council meeting.

- The employee must agree to retire/terminate employment no later than December 31, 2008.

- Payment of the retirement incentive would be paid in 2009, in order to lessen the employee’s tax concerns.

- Upon monthly payment of the full amount for City health insurance, said insurance coverage would continue. In accepting this retirement incentive, it would eliminate the current benefit reduction. The retiree would pay the same monthly amount that the City pays for the coverage. If at any time the retiree stops payment for the City’s insurance, his/her health insurance coverage would terminate.

The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Taylor, aye; Flammini, aye; DeTienne, aye; Bennett, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, it was moved by Commissioner Bennett, seconded by Commissioner Taylor and unanimously approved the meeting be adjourned at 12:45 p.m. Motion carried.

Judy Z. Mackey
City Clerk