

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE ZION CITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2009, AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, ZION, ILLINOIS

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Mayor Harrison called the meeting to order.

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

Mayor Harrison led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

AGENDA CHANGES

It was moved by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner DeTienne to accept the Council agenda with amendments as follows:

- Deleting to request authorization to borrow operating funds from Enterprise Funds, item 7.d.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Flammini, seconded by Commissioner Taylor that the Consent Agenda be approved as follows:

- (a) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of a Regular Meeting held on February 17, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. and approval but not release of Closed Session minutes of a meeting held on February 17, 2009 at 7:23 P.M., with all members having previously received copies.
- (b) **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:** City Clerk's Monthly Report, February 2009; Public Works Department Monthly Report, January 2009
- (c) **BILLS:** Vouchers 103989 through 104101 drawn on National City Bank, \$1,018,768.21
- (d) **PROCLAMATION:** Women's History Month – March 2009

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

AMEND PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION/VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS

It was moved by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner DeTienne that a Resolution (09-R-3) be passed amending the Personnel Authorization for various departments. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Flammini, aye; Taylor, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried. Resolution passed.

RESOLUTION PROMOTING LAKEFRONT DEVELOPMENT

Mayor Harrison stated, in order to acknowledge the value of the Lake Michigan lakefront as an asset for encouraging growth, Zion, Winthrop Harbor and Beach Park wish to recognize the communities' efforts for economic development.

It was moved by Commissioner Flammini, seconded by Commissioner Taylor that a Resolution (09-R-4) be passed promoting carefully planned economic development on the Lake Michigan lakefront. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Flammini, aye; Taylor, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried. Resolution passed.

BUSINESS LICENSES

A memo (09-DOC-11) was received from Clerk Mackey, recommending amendments pertaining to business licensing and fees. The majority of the changes are to update the Municipal Code to current practices. Clerk Mackey also recommended the following fee changes and increases effective May 1, 2009:

- increasing the late charge for all licensed businesses,
- increasing the special event application fee for profit businesses from outside of Zion and Benton Townships from \$100 to \$200 for a single day event plus \$50 for each subsequent day, and
- increasing the annual tobacco license fee from \$150 to \$250.

It was moved by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Flammini to approve the amendments pertaining to business licensing and fees with fee increases, as recommended, and for an ordinance to be prepared accordingly. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Flammini, aye; Taylor, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

HEALTH AND LIFE INSURANCE RATES & COVERAGE

The City’s insurance consultant, GCG Financial, recommended changes pertaining to health and life insurance rates and coverage for employees and retirees effective May 1, 2009. Commissioner DeTienne questioned if other insurance companies had been contacted for quotes. The consultant did request quotes from alternative sources, however due to experience and usage and the small number of participants in the group, other companies’ premiums were higher. Recommended changes effective May 1, 2009 are as follows:

Health Insurance

Monthly Payment for COBRA Coverage

Single: \$ 749.06
 Single + One: \$1,323.42
 Family: \$1,929.44

Monthly Payment for Retirees under Age 65

Single: \$ 867.00
 Single + One: \$1,530.00
 Family: \$2,232.00

Monthly Payment for Retirees with Medicare

Single: \$ 587.00
 Single + One: \$1,038.00
 Family: n/a

- Emergency Room visits are currently subject to \$500 deductible and co-insurance. The proposal is for Emergency Room visits to be subject to \$150 co-pay, so that meeting the deductible and co-insurance will no longer be required. Should an Emergency Room visit require admittance, the co-pay will revert to \$0.

Life Insurance

Monthly Payment for eligible retirees
 \$56.00

Life Insurance Benefit for eligible retirees

<u>Retirees under 65</u>	<u>Retirees 65 up to 70</u>	<u>Retirees 70 up to 75</u>	<u>Retirees over 75</u>
\$20,000	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$2,000

Pertaining to the emergency room visits, Commissioner Taylor questioned whether or not this change could be implemented for all covered employees. Clerk Mackey stated this coverage change is still substantially similar to current coverage; therefore the change can be made for all employees. In order to address the issue of high insurance costs, Commissioner Taylor recommended discussing insurance goals with the union groups. Mayor Harrison stated it may be necessary in the future to consider higher insurance deductibles.

It was moved by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Flammini to approve health and life insurance rates and coverage for employees, retirees and COBRA participants effective May 1, 2009, as recommended. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Flammini, aye; Taylor, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

CELLULAR PHONE SERVICE

A memo (09-DOC-12) was received from Chief Lewis, recommending entering into a contract for cellular phone service. Chief Lewis stated Nextel’s phone service coverage has been reduced, also noting problems with reception and signals. Upon comparing phone plans, it is recommended switching service to Verizon, which will save approximately \$2,000 per month for comparable services.

It was moved by Commissioner DeTienne, seconded by Commissioner Flammini to approve entering into a contact with Verizon for cellular phone service. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Flammini, aye; Taylor, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Harrison stated he met with the superintendents of ZBTHS and the Zion and Beach Park grade school districts discussing revenue needs and levies. Next year the forecast for the CPI is 0.1%. This would not only result in lower taxes, but also lower revenue for all taxing bodies, with the exception of new development, which is not subject to the CPI.

- March 8 Daylight Savings Time begins
- March 16 Early Voting starts at City Hall; the last day for Early Voting is April 2
- March 17 Town Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.
- March 17 City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Commissioner Flammini, seconded by Commissioner DeTienne that the Council recess to Closed Session at 7:30 p.m. to discuss personnel, purchase and sale of real estate, and probable and pending litigation. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Flammini, aye; Taylor, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Flammini to reconvene the Regular Council meeting at 9:14 p.m. with same members present. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Flammini, aye; Taylor, 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 Flammini, seconded by Commissioner Taylor and unanimously approved the meeting be adjourned at 9:14 p.m. Motion carried.

City Clerk

Approved March 17, 2009