

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE ZION CITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2012, AT 7:03 P.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 Jim Taylor, Flammini, DeTienne, Shantal Taylor and Mayor Harrison.

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

AGENDA CHANGES

Commissioner Shantal Taylor requested an accountability update on the State of Illinois' stadium grant investigation. Mayor Harrison stated that this is not an investigation but a review. Commissioner Jim Taylor stated that he spoke to the State representative earlier in the day and she informed him that the documentation has been in their office since February 29, 2012, but that she has not had an opportunity to review it as there are over 200 municipalities' grants being reviewed at this time.

There were no agenda changes.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Patrick Walsh, 2317 Lydia Avenue, asked if municipal aggregation for electricity would be on the November 6, 2012 ballot as a referendum question. Commissioner Flammini stated that the City is not currently actively pursuing municipal aggregation and that there has been no action since the Council presentation on March 6, 2012. Mayor Harrison stated that, if municipal aggregation will save Zion residents money on their energy bills, then the City should pursue it. Mr. Walsh asked if a questionnaire would be distributed to the public, and Commissioner Flammini stated that is unknown at this time. Commissioner Shantal Taylor stated that she received information from a citizen, who attended a Zion Community Connections forum, who stated that municipal aggregation was not beneficial to low income families or seniors. Mr. Walsh asked if the City has any plans for the empty baseball field at Green Bay Road and Rt. 173. Mayor Harrison stated that the Council could not comment on the stadium property as the field itself is the subject matter of pending litigation. Mr. Walsh stated that an ordinance was recently passed by the Council amending Chapter 74 with regard to recycling. This ordinance references private scavengers. He asked if it referred to waste haulers or the trucks that travel the alleys and pick up items left out for pickup. Mayor Harrison stated that this ordinance is referring to the garbage pickers. Mr. Walsh stated the scavengers offer a good service to the City and it is a great small business. He stated that the fees and the penalties are too high and are burdensome. Commissioner Flammini stated that some scavengers take recyclable items for which the City receives credit from Veolia, which he considers stealing from the City. Mr. Walsh stated that Veolia is not prompt with pickups and the scavengers are. He asked if there was any public input on the recycling ordinance prior to the Council taking action. Commissioner Flammini stated that there was not as this ordinance only contained embellishments. Mr. Walsh stated that there are an increasing number of restrictions, rules and laws imposed on the average citizen.

Denise Rolando, 3329 Sharon Place, asked if it would be possible for proposed ordinances to be posted with the agenda prior to Council meetings so residents could come to the meetings prepared prior to their comments. She asked if other than regular Council meetings could be posted on the internet three days prior to the meetings. Mayor Harrison stated that meeting dates are posted annually at the beginning of the year both on the City website and on the City Hall bulletin board as required by law. Meeting agendas, for both regular and special Council meetings are also posted at both locations no less than 48 hours prior to the meeting in compliance with the Open Meetings Act.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- (a) **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:** Public Works Department Monthly Report, February 2012
- (b) **BILLS:** Vouchers 112740 through 112836 drawn on PNC Bank, Total: \$669,331.70

Commissioner Shantal Taylor stated that an article entitled, "Olin Dispute Turns Into Legal Morass" was distributed to the Council for their review regarding the replacement of the Ancel, Glink law firm by other municipalities. She stated that she was providing this information to the Council with regard to Ancel, Glink's excessive legal fees as a follow-up to a conversation of last year regarding the excessive legal fees. She stated that information would be forthcoming concerning nine other municipalities with the same problem with excessive legal fees.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES/FEBRUARY 21, 2012 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

It was moved by Commissioner Flammini, seconded by Commissioner Jim Taylor, that the minutes of a regular meeting of the City Council held on February 21, 2012 at 7:00 p.m., with all members having previously received copies, be approved.

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

ORDINANCE/\$2,500,000 TAXABLE OBLIGATION BONDS

Mayor Harrison introduced Barbara Chevalier, Speer Financial, Inc., who stated that an ordinance entitled, "An Ordinance authorizing and providing for the issue of \$2,500,000 Taxable General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2012, of the City of Zion, Lake County, Illinois, for the purpose of funding various expenditures incurred for ordinary and necessary municipal purposes of the City, prescribing the details of said bonds and providing for the imposition of taxes to pay the same and authorizing the deposit of said taxes levied to pay said bonds directly into a designated escrow account, and for the collection, segregation and application of sales tax receipts and income tax receipts to pay said bonds", has placed on file for public inspection in the City Clerk's office on March 13, 2012. Ms. Chevalier stated that William Blair, Chicago, Illinois, has submitted a bid for the purchase of the bonds being sold by the City of Zion. It is the opinion of Speer Financial that the bid is favorable to the City and should be accepted. Speer Financial therefore recommended that the bonds be awarded to that bidder at a price of \$2,475,000 being at a true interest rate of 6.1818372%.

It was moved by Commissioner Jim Taylor, seconded by Commissioner DeTienne, that an Ordinance (12-O-22) be passed authorizing and providing for the issue of \$2,500,000 Taxable General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2012, of the City of Zion, Lake County, Illinois, for the purpose of funding various expenditures incurred for ordinary and necessary municipal purposes of the City, prescribing the details of said bonds and providing for the imposition of taxes to pay the same and authorizing the deposit of said taxes levied to pay said bonds directly into a designated escrow account, and for the collection, segregation and application of sales tax receipts and income tax receipts to pay said bonds. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Jim Taylor, aye; Flammini, aye; DeTienne, aye; Shantal Taylor, aye; Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

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Commissioner Jim Taylor stated that, due to the sale of the bonds, the issue of the tax anticipation warrants previously approved by the Council, would not be necessary at this time.

PARKING SPACES NEAR HYDRANTS/27TH STREET

A memo (12-DOC-26) was received from Chief Brooks stating that two spaces on 27th street, one east and one west of Sheridan Road, are in front of fire hydrants. Because parking in and around downtown is at a premium, he and Fire Chief Lewis recommended that a sign be posted stating “Momentary Parking – Pick up/Discharge of Passengers Only”. This sign is permitted as an exception under Ordinance Section 90-133 “Stopping, Standing, and Parking Prohibited (a)(2)(b), parking within 15 feet of a fire hydrant. Following discussion, Chief Brooks deleted the parking space on the east side of 27th Street from his request.

It was moved by Commissioner DeTienne, seconded by Commissioner Shantal Taylor, to approve the posting of a sign stating “Momentary Parking – Pick up/Discharge of Passengers Only” for the parking space in front of the fire hydrant on 27th Street west of Sheridan Road only. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Jim Taylor, aye; Flammini, aye; DeTienne, aye; Shantal Taylor, aye; Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

SOFTWARE PURCHASE/FIRE/RESCUE DEPARTMENT

A memo (12-DOC-27) was received from Chief Lewis requesting permission to purchase the electronic version of the 2006 International Fire Code ACS Firehouse Software at a cost of \$1,000. The need for this software is the result of the recent upgrade to the City ordinance regarding fire codes adopted and enforced by the Zion Fire/Rescue Department. The software will allow the individual code to be accessible through the software and entered automatically into the violation reports and letters to the building owner. In anticipation of the ordinance, \$1,000 was budgeted in Line Item 10-14-103-648, Fire Prevention Bureau, to purchase this electronic code set. Mayor Harrison asked it will be necessary to pay again and again in the future for updates. Chief Lewis stated this software parallels the same building code version currently in use and it keeps the code more flexible than using the most up-to-date version. Commissioner Jim Taylor asked if the purchase is absolutely necessary at this time and asked if the purchase could be held over until the next budget to see if funds are available. Chief Lewis stated that, while it would be a hardship and will cause extra work for the staff, he agreed to hold the request over for consideration in the next budget year. No action was taken on this item.

DIVE EQUIPMENT ANNUAL MAINTENANCE INVOICE/FIRE/RESCUE DEPARTMENT

A memo (12-DOC-28) was received from Chief Lewis requesting permission to submit an invoice for annual maintenance and servicing of dive equipment from Froggman Industries, the preferred vendor, in the amount of \$854.00. This service covers tanks, regulators, masks and dry suits utilized by the Zion Fire/Rescue Department members associated with the Lake and McHenry County Fire Chief’s dive rescue team. This is a budgeted item under Line Item 10-14-00-1-04-760, Other Equipment. Commissioner Jim Taylor stated that he could support this request as this maintenance is an employee safety issue.

It was moved by Commissioner DeTienne, seconded by Commissioner Jim Taylor, to approve payment of an invoice for annual maintenance and servicing of dive equipment from Froggman Industries in the amount of \$854.00. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Jim Taylor, aye; Flammini, aye; DeTienne, aye; Shantal Taylor, aye; Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

CELL TOWER LEASES

Rich Ianson recommended tabling the discussion regarding the sale of cell tower leases.

It was moved by Commissioner Flammini, seconded by Commissioner Jim Taylor, to table the discussion regarding the sale of cell tower leases until the next City Council meeting. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Jim Taylor, aye; Flammini, aye; DeTienne, aye; Shantal Taylor, aye; Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

GCG FINANCIAL CONSULTANTS/HEALTH INSURANCE

The Plan Consultant and Accounting Administration Agreement renewal was received from GCG Financial, Inc. for the period of May 1, 2012 through April 30, 2013. GCG Financial provides services as the Plan Consultant for the City's health and life insurance plans. This renewal includes a one-time fee of \$1,000 plus \$2,908.69 per month, which reflects no cost increase.

It was moved by Commissioner Jim Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Flammini to approve the renewal of the Plan Consultant and Accounting Administration Agreement with GCG Financial, Inc. for the City's health and life insurance for the period of May 1, 2012 through April 30, 2013, authorizing a one-time fee of \$1,000 plus monthly payments in the amount of \$2,908.69. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Jim Taylor, aye; Flammini, aye; DeTienne, aye; Shantal Taylor, aye; Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

HEALTH AND LIFE INSURANCE RATES

It was moved by Commissioner Jim Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Shantal Taylor to approve monthly health and life insurance rates for retirees and COBRA participants effective May 1, 2012, as follows:

COBRA

	<u>May 1, 2012</u> (no dental or life) (medical premium plus 2%)
Single	\$837.42
Single + One	\$1,479.00
Family	\$2,156.28

Retirees under 65 – for Standard Deductible Plan (\$500 Deductible)

	<u>May 1, 2012</u> (no dental)
Single	\$910
Single + One	\$1,607
Family	\$2,344
Life Insurance*	\$56.00

Retirees under 65 – for High Deductible Plan (\$2,500 Deductible)

	<u>May 1, 2012</u> (no dental)
Single	\$696
Single + One	\$1,232
Family	\$1,795

Retirees under 65 – for Health Plan (\$2,500 Deductible)

	<u>May 1, 2012</u> (no dental)
Single	\$667
Single + One	\$1,181
Family	\$1,721

Medicare Retirees – Medicare Supplement

	<u>May 1, 2012</u> (no dental)
Single	\$616
Single + One	\$1,121
Family	n/a
Life Insurance*	\$56.00

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

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PART TIME CLERK TYPIST/BUILDING DEPARTMENT

A memo (12-DOC-29) was received from Commissioner Flammini requesting permission to create a part time clerk typist position in the Building Department. This position would be responsible for maintaining Administrative Adjudication records, supporting the summer mowing program, and processing code compliance letters. This part time position would be a union position and would not exceed 20 hours per week. Commissioner Flammini stated that the State requires that a letter be sent to the property owner prior to writing a ticket and, if code violation letters are not sent, there is no enforcement. Liens are placed on properties, however, sufficient staff is not available to complete the legal process. Much revenue is being lost as there is no follow up on the liens. Under the current system, there is approximately \$83,000 in outstanding mowing bills but only \$11,000 was collected. Commissioner Shantal Taylor stated that the Council was warned in 2008 of the \$1.4 million personnel shortfall and the possibility of staff reductions due to the City's financial situation. Commissioner Jim Taylor stated that this subject would be readdressed during the upcoming budget discussions.

It was moved by Commissioner Flammini, seconded by Commissioner DeTienne, to create the part time clerk typist position in the Building Department, to pass a Resolution (12-R-7) amending the Personnel Authorization accordingly, and to grant permission to post the position for 5 days as required. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Jim Taylor, aye; Flammini, aye; DeTienne, aye; Shantal Taylor, nay; Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried. Resolution passed.

SUMMER MOWING PROGRAM

A memo (12-DOC-30) was received from Commissioner Flammini requesting approval of the 2012 Summer Mowing Program. He recommended that the program be transferred from the Public Works Department to the Building Department. The total proposed program labor budget is \$61,262. He recommended that the program begin April 15, 2012 and end November 15, 2012. He recommended a staff of one supervisor and six grass cutters with a reduced pay scale. He recommended taking advantage of the 19th Judicial Circuit Court Juvenile Probation & Detention Services summer labor program whereby the City can provide employment for 16 to 20 year old offenders (clients), who would be paid and covered by Worker Compensation by the County, for a period of up to 9 months. These clients are allowed to perform work on private property unlike the participants in the City's Public Service Program. This program has been in place since 2006 and the Lake County Public Works Department employs some of these clients. The County has \$80,000 in grant money to pay the clients who participate in this program countywide. Commissioner Flammini stated that he prefers to employ 2 to 3 clients so as not to take the chance that the County funds would be depleted prior to the end of the program in November. He stated that, if implemented, it is estimated that this program will save the City approximately \$28,000 in labor costs over the 2012 mowing season. Commissioner Shantal Taylor asked if one of these clients could fill the part time clerk typist position in the Building Department. Commissioner Flammini stated that the position is a permanent part time position not a temporary part time position so the client would not be available long enough. Plus the County has limited funding and probably could not provide the salary. Commissioner DeTienne stated that he would be uncomfortable with a probationary client working in City Hall. Ron Colangelo stated that the County has already placed two employees elsewhere which will draw from the \$80,000 pool of available funds. He also stated that clients are placed in the region in which they live so the City of Zion would most likely be assigned Zion and Waukegan offenders. It was his opinion that the County funds most likely would not support 3 clients being assigned to the City of Zion for the duration of the mowing program. Commissioner Flammini stated that the City Attorney has reviewed the Juvenile Employment Program Agreement and has expressed no concerns.

It was moved by Commissioner Jim Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Flammini to approve the 2012 Summer Mowing Program as presented. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Jim Taylor, aye; Flammini, aye; DeTienne, aye; Shantal Taylor, aye; Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 3

7:00 p.m.

Zion City Council Meeting

April 6		City Offices Closed for Holiday
April 7	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon	Electronic Recycling at the Public Works Facility 3220 27 th St.
April 10	6:00 p.m.	Annual Zion Township Meeting
April 14	4:00 p.m.	Zion Community Connections at Zion Police Administration Building Training Room
April 17	6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Zion Township Public Hearing – Township Budget Zion Township Board Meeting Zion City Council Meeting
April 21	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon	Electronic Recycling at the Public Works Facility 3220 27 th St

Commissioner Flammini stated that the normal yard waste pick up by Veolia begins on April 2nd. Chipper service begins April 16th.

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

A special meeting of the Zion City Council was set for Thursday, April 5, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Zion City Hall for the purpose of considering approval of the 2011 budget, discussing the cell tower lease sales, and receiving a presentation regarding a Trumpet Park business proposal. Commissioner Jim Taylor stated that the 2011 budget should be finalized at the April 5, 2012 meeting and the goal is to have the 2012 budget completed by May 15, 2012.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, it was moved by Commissioner Shantal Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Jim Taylor and unanimously approved the meeting be adjourned at 8:42 p.m. Motion carried.

City Clerk

Approved April 3, 2012