

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE ZION CITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2012, 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 Flammini, Jim Taylor, Shantal Taylor, DeTienne, and Mayor Harrison.

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

AGENDA CHANGES

There were no agenda changes.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Harrison recognized Miquel Qureshi, an employee of Mobil Gas Station in Zion, who was not present, by reading a "Random Act of Kindness" Certificate commending him for having protected and returned a lost wallet to Zion Resident Tammy Williams. Ms. Williams was present and publicly thanked Mr. Qureshi for his honesty and integrity in returning her wallet which contained her life savings.

PUBLIC HEARING – TAX LEVY

Mayor Harrison opened the public hearing for the 2012, payable in 2013, City of Zion tax levy at 7:05 p.m.

Mayor Harrison stated that the City is freezing the tax levy with no increase for City of Zion government.

Mayor Harrison invited questions and/or comments from the public.

Cheri Neal thanked Finance Director David Knabel for proposing the creation of a committee comprised of members from each of the taxing bodies to address the major concerns of the City as related to taxes and the EAV.

Mayor Harrison called for further comments from the public, and there were none.

Mayor Harrison declared the hearing closed at 7:08 p.m.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

William Bremner, 2525 Elim, complimented the Kringle's Kingdom organization. He stated visitors stay warm and dry, the displays are easier to see and it is very enjoyable. He stated that the City should support the event and do all it can to keep it going next year.

Patricia Axelrod, The People's Advocate, stated that she served as a pollwatcher during the 2012 General Election. She observed Precincts 407, 408, 409 at Lakeview School, Precinct 411 at Hermon Park Center, and Precinct 415 at Shiloh Center. She reported voter suppression and stated her concerns regarding voter inequities. She asked Mayor Harrison if he followed up with County Clerk Willard Helander as she had previously requested. Mayor Harrison stated that he did follow up and that all problems are County related and that if she wanted the County Clerk to pursue the allegations further, she must provide specific documentation for each infraction as the County Clerk has jurisdiction over all election matters.

Mary Hotle, 1665 Green Bay Road (former Lake County Fielders' stadium), stated that she was following up on her concern regarding the recently published Treasurer's Report which reflected a payment to Brown United, Inc. in the amount of \$34,240, rather than nearly \$400,000. Finance Director David Knabel previously informed her that the \$400,000 payment was made via a wire transfer and the software did not capture wire transfers. Mayor Harrison stated that the software recently changed. Ms. Hotle asked if the transaction appeared anywhere on the Treasurer's Report ending April 30, 2011, and Director Knabel stated that it did not. He explained that the dollar amount is included in the total expense amounts but is not identified as a wire transaction. Commissioner Jim Taylor asked Ms. Hotle to contact him directly if she has any concerns regarding the Accounts and Finance Department. He asked her who she was associated with and she stated that she was with Grand Slam Sports/Lake County Fielders.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- (a) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** but not release of a Closed Session meeting held on November 20, 2012 at 7:38 p.m.; a Special Meeting held on November 29, 2012 at 4:02 p.m.; a Regular meeting held December 4, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. and approval but not release of Closed Session Minutes of a meeting held on December 4, 2012 at 7:28 p.m.; a Special Meeting held December 7, 2012 at 9:03 a.m. and approval but not release of Closed Session Minutes of a meeting held on December 7, 2012 at 9:07 a.m.
- (b) **BILLS:** Vouchers 114588 through 114755 drawn on PNC Bank, Total: \$1,094,747.40

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

20 YEARS OF SERVICE EMPLOYEE RECOGNITIONS RESOLUTIONS OF COMMENDATION

It was moved by Commissioner DeTienne, seconded by Commissioner Flammini that Resolutions of Commendation (12-R-20, 12-R-21, 12-R-22, 12-R-23, 12-R-24, 12-R-25, and 12-R-26) be passed recognizing Timothy J. Bartlett, Julie Fragale, Kirk D. Henderson, Sabas "Tito" Mercado (Police Department), Allen W. Town (Fire/Rescue Department), Barbara H. Fitz-Henley (Accounts/Finance Department), and John "Nelu" Turcu (Public Works Department) for 20 years of dedicated service to the City of Zion. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Flammini, aye; Jim Taylor, aye; Shantal Taylor, aye; DeTienne, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried. Resolutions passed.

TAX LEVY – CORPORATE PURPOSES

It was moved by Commissioner Jim Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Flammini that an Ordinance (12-0-53) be passed providing for the levy of taxes for corporate purposes in the total amount of \$6,343,556 for the tax levy year 2012 to be collected in the year beginning January 1, 2013 and ending December 31, 2013 for the City of Zion, Lake County, Illinois. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Flammini, aye; Jim Taylor, aye; Shantal Taylor, aye; DeTienne, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

ORDINANCE/AMENDING ORDINANCE 12-O-51/PART TIME POLICE OFFICERS

A memo (12-DOC-110) was received from Chief Brooks requesting an amendment to Ordinance 12-O-51, passed on December 4, 2012, which amended Zion Municipal Code Chapter 50, Article II, "Auxiliary Police" renaming the article "Part-time Police Officers" and establishing sections regarding the employment, duties, hiring standards and discipline of part time police officers. Chief Brooks noted that, in Ordinance 12-O-51, the psychological exam requirement was omitted in Section 50-38 Hiring Standards. He requested amending the ordinance by adding this exam to Section 50-38.

It was moved by Commissioner DeTienne, seconded by Commissioner Flammini that an Ordinance (12-0-54) be passed amending Ordinance 12-O-51, passed on December 4, 2012, which amended Zion Municipal Code Chapter 50, Article II, "Auxiliary Police" renaming the article "Part-time Police Officers" and establishing sections regarding the employment, duties, hiring standards and discipline of part time police officers, by adding the psychological exam requirement to Section 50-38 Hiring Standards. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Flammini, aye; Jim Taylor, aye; Shantal Taylor, aye; DeTienne, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

FOP/PATROL OFFICERS CONTRACT AGREEMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Jim Taylor, seconded by Commissioner DeTienne to approve the contract agreement with Fraternal Order of Police, David M. Parker Memorial Lodge No. 91 and the Illinois FOP Labor Council, for May 1, 2012 through April 30, 2015. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Flammini, aye; Jim Taylor, aye; Shantal Taylor, aye; DeTienne, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE/AUTHORIZING 2013 CITY TOWING CONTRACT

A memo (12-DOC-111) was received from Chief Brooks regarding renewal of the City towing contract. He stated there were two proposed changes to the city towing services agreement with Roger's Towing Service:

- 1) Storage charges would commence twelve (12) hours after towing instead of twenty-four (24) hours
- 2) Adding a one-time fuel surcharge fee per tow of \$10.00 for a light tow and \$15.00 for a heavy tow

Commissioner Shantal Taylor asked if these changes benefited the City or just the towing company. Chief Brooks stated that the towing company tows City vehicles at no charge, but there is no other financial benefit to the City. Commissioner Shantal Taylor stated that the change in the commencement of storage charges from 24 hours to 12 hours would not be fair as residents may not have the opportunity to retrieve their vehicles in just 12 hours. Chief Brooks stated that space restrictions prompted the storage fee changes. Commissioner Shantal Taylor asked when City towing services would be bid again. Chief Brooks stated that, according to the City's Purchasing Policy, towing services are not subject to the bidding process. Mayor Harrison stated that the City should define if the 12 hours constitutes a day when applying fees. He recommended leaving the definition of a storage day at 24 hours instead of 12 hours.

It was moved by Commissioner DeTienne, seconded by Commissioner Flammini that an Ordinance (12-O-55) be passed authorizing execution of the 2013 City towing contract with Roger's Towing Services maintaining the commencement of storage charges at twenty four (24) hours after towing and adding a one-time fuel surcharge fee per town of \$10.00 for a light tow and \$15.00 for a heavy tow. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Flammini, aye; Jim Taylor, aye; Shantal Taylor, aye; DeTienne, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

MUNICIPAL ELECTRICAL AGGREGATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

A memo (12-DOC-112) was received from the members of the Municipal Electrical Aggregation Citizen Committee recommending that the City Council approve the placement of the municipal electrical aggregation public question on the April 9, 2013 Consolidated Election ballot for consideration by the residents of Zion.

It was moved by Commissioner Jim Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Flammini to place the municipal electrical aggregation public question on the April 9, 2013 Consolidated Election ballot for consideration by the residents of Zion, based on the recommendation of the Municipal Electrical Aggregation Citizen Committee, and to authorize the City Clerk to take any action necessary to have it placed on the ballot.

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

DEPARTMENTAL COMMENTARY

Finance Director David Knabel thanked all the Department Heads for their help and cooperation in preparation of the tax levy and their budget control efforts.

Chief Lewis thanked all who participated in the blood drive hosted by the Fire/Rescue Department on December 17, 2012. He stated that 28 units of blood were collected.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 24, 25, 31 and January 1, 2013		City Offices Closed for Holidays
January 2	7:00 p.m.	Zion City Council Meeting
January 5	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon	Electronic Recycling at the Public Works Facility, 3220 27 th St.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, it was moved by Commissioner Jim Taylor, seconded by Commissioner DeTienne and unanimously approved the meeting be adjourned at 7:45 p.m. Motion carried.

City Clerk

Approved January 2, 2013