

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE ZION CITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, JULY 5, 2016, AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 2828 SHERIDAN ROAD, ZION, ILLINOIS

Mayor Hill's granddaughters, Elaine and Avery Gottesman, called the meeting to order.

On call of the roll the following answered present: Commissioners Frierson, McDowell, McKinney, DeTienne, and Mayor Hill. A quorum was present.

Also present: Deputy Police Chief Kirk Henderson, Fire/Rescue Chief John Lewis, Public Works Director Ron Colangelo, Accounts/Finance Director David Knabel, Building & Zoning Director Richard Ianson and City Attorney Paula Randall. Police Chief Steve Dumyahn was absent.

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

AGENDA CHANGES

It was moved by Commissioner McKinney, seconded by Commissioner Frierson to accept the City Council meeting agenda with the following change:

- (a) Table Item 9(b) – Amending Chapter 56 of the Zion Municipal Code pertaining to the Liquor Control Ordinance – Limitation on number of Class K licenses per Mayor Hill

The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; McKinney, aye; DeTienne, aye; and Mayor Hill, aye. Motion carried.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Gary Leff, CEO, Laredo Hospitality, asked the Council to table Agenda Item 9(b), under which the Council would consider the reduction of the number of Class K Liquor Licenses from five to four, to allow him an opportunity to make a second presentation to the Liquor Control Commission. He stated that he sent a letter to the Council earlier in the day explaining the action which took place at the June 23, 2016 Liquor Control Commission meeting. He stated that he believes that Laredo Hospitality was treated unfairly and he would appreciate the opportunity to address the Commission at their next meeting in hopes of seeing a fair process and being treated fairly. Mayor Hill stated that currently no Liquor Control Commission meetings have been scheduled. Attorney Randall advised Mr. Leff to contact the local Liquor Control Commission and request that a meeting be scheduled.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Tracey Johnson, Zion, stated that he had out of town guests over the July 4th weekend. He stated that he heard the discharge of firearms, both small and large caliber. He stated that Police were called and responded. They patrolled the area and found all to be quiet. Mr. Johnson thanked the Police Department for their timely response.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- (a) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** a Regular Meeting held on June 21, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.; and approval but not release of Closed Session Minutes of a meeting held on June 21, 2016 at 8:20 p.m.
- (b) **BILLS:** Vouchers 123878 through 123977 drawn on First Merit Bank, Total: \$525,204.05

Approved by omnibus vote as follows: Commissioners Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; McKinney, aye; DeTienne, aye; and Mayor Hill, aye. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION/ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT FUND PARTICIPATION
BY ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Mayor Hill stated that a letter (16-DOC-58) was received from the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) regarding IMRF participation by elected officials. The letter stated that IMRF received the City's resolution, 16-R-5, adopted April 5, 2016, which stated that the position of City Commissioner is IMRF qualifying. The letter stated that in order to be IMRF-qualifying, a City of Zion position must require service of at least 1,000 hours in a year. The letter stated that it is IMRF's experience that part-time elected officials would not perform 1,000 hours of service in a year except under unusual circumstances, and therefore, they could not accept Resolution 16-R-5 without documentation that the Commissioners work at least 20 hours per week for 50 weeks per year. The letter stated that without documentation, IMRF would require an amended resolution finding that the position of Mayor only is IMRF-qualifying, assuming that the position required work for 20 hours per week for 50 weeks in the year. Mayor Hill stated that, at present, no Council member is participating in IMRF. He stated that the Mayor's position does qualify and would be eligible to participate and that documentation must be available should it be requested by IMRF. Mayor Hill stated that, to be clear, he is not now nor will he ever participate in IMRF. He stated that this proposed resolution would cover future mayors if they are eligible.

It was moved by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner McKinney that a Resolution (16-R-11) be passed adopting the annual 1,000 hour standard for Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) participation for the Mayor only. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; McKinney, aye; DeTienne, aye; and Mayor Hill, aye. Motion carried. Resolution passed.

**ORDINANCE/AMENDING MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 2 "ADMINISTRATION"/
ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMPENSATION**

It was moved by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner McKinney that an Ordinance (16-0-25) be passed amending Zion Municipal Code Chapter 2 "Administration", Section 2-183 "Compensation" to provide for the Mayor's participation in the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) if eligible. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; McKinney, aye; DeTienne, aye; and Mayor Hill, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

UNIMPROVED CALEDONIA AVENUE RIGHT-OF-WAY LEASE REQUEST

A memo (16-DOC-59) was received from Director Ianson regarding a request from Ramiro Aranda, property owner of 1007 29th Street, to lease a portion of the unimproved Caledonia Avenue right-of-way for additional parking and location of a dumpster enclosure totaling 1,953 square feet. He stated that, based on past right-of-way leases granted by the City, he recommends an annual rent of \$300.00.

It was moved by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner McKinney to approve Ramiro Aranda's request to lease a portion of the unimproved Caledonia Avenue right-of-way, totaling 1,953 square feet, in order to provide for additional parking and the location of a dumpster enclosure at 1007 29th Street.

Commissioner McDowell asked if other City-owned leased properties were leased at the same price. Director Ianson stated that a Sheridan Road business was leased at the same price. Mayor Hill stated that he would vote against granting the lease as boulevards are a part of Zion's history being a part of the original design that models the Union Jack flag. He stated that, while he was employed by the Zion Park District, the Park Board agreed to sell a portion of the boulevards for the development of Aldi's and Walgreens. He stated that the Park District has received requests to use the boulevards but they refused. Mayor Hill urged the Council to vote against leasing a portion of Caledonia Boulevard. Commissioner McKinney asked what would happen when the lease expires. Director Ianson stated that if the lease is not renewed, the tenant would be required to remove the parking lot surface and dumpster enclosure and restore the property to its original condition. Mayor Hill asked if there is any liability on the City's part if the lease is granted and then expires. Attorney Randall stated that there is no liability on the City's part as the City would never lose title but just be a party in a year-to-year lease.

The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, nay; McDowell, nay; McKinney, nay; DeTienne, nay; and Mayor Hill, nay. Motion lost.

DEPARTMENTAL COMMENTARY

Director Colangelo stated that he recently required the services of the Zion Fire/Rescue paramedics for himself during working hours. He thanked Battalion Chief Eric Troy and the responding paramedics for their very reassuring and professional treatment.

Mayor Hill stated that government operates slowly because it is spending someone else’s money. He stated that recently he was expressing his frustration to the City Clerk regarding the City’s progress in the thirteen months that he has served as Mayor. He stated that he reviewed the priority list he created shortly after taking office which lists his priorities ranked in their order of importance. He stated that priorities that have been successfully addressed to date include:

- Rental Inspections
- Nuisance Abatement Program
- City Hall hours of operation (Building and Accounts/Finance offices open between 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m.)
- ESDA re-organization and customer service training
- Any FOIA requests received by City Clerk or Police Department are being provided to the Mayor with copies of documents provided if they could be controversial in nature and impact the City Council
- Revisit video gaming issue
- Review liquor ordinance – how it would relate to video gaming
- Monthly department head written, narrative (not statistical) reports to include, for example, past months’ activity, upcoming months’ activity, and long range plans
- Investigate diversity among City staff
- Review and revise fee schedules for all City departments
- City Staffing - investigating need for Personnel/Human Relations Director & Economic Development director
- Working on updating Policies & Procedures Manual
- Evaluate IT firm’s performance
- Budget discussions resulting in cutting \$1.6 million from the 2016/2017 budget
- Creation of a joint taxing body group to work on ways to keep taxes down
- Creation of a nuclear waste storage compensation initiative

Mayor Hill thanked the department heads, the City Council and staff for their dedication and hard work in accomplishing these goals. He stated that he, the Council and Zion citizens are very appreciative.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

July 19	6:30 p.m.	Town Board Meeting and Appropriation Ordinance Public Hearing
	7:00 p.m.	Zion City Council Meeting and Appropriation Ordinance Public Hearing
August 2	7:00 p.m.	Zion City Council Meeting

CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner McKinney that the Council recess to Closed Session at 8:32 p.m., pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 “Open Meetings”, for the discussion of pending litigation. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; McKinney, aye; DeTienne, aye; and Mayor Hill, aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Frierson to reconvene the Regular Council meeting at 8:10 p.m. with all members present. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; McKinney, aye; DeTienne, aye; and Mayor Hill, aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, it was moved by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner McKinney and unanimously approved the meeting be adjourned at 8:11 p.m. Motion carried.

City Clerk