

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE ZION CITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2019, AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 2828 SHERIDAN ROAD, ZION, ILLINOIS

.....

Mayor McKinney called the meeting to order.

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

Also present: Police Chief Kirk Henderson, Fire/Rescue Chief John Lewis, Public Works Director Ray Roberts, Building & Zoning Director Richard Ianson and City Attorney James Vasselli. City Administrator David Knabel was absent.

Mr. William Bremner led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor McKinney asked for a moment of silence for all First Responders, Military Personnel and the passing of former Commissioner Lloyd DeTienne.

AGENDA CHANGES

It was moved by Commissioner Holmes, seconded by Commissioner Fischer to accept the City Council meeting agenda as presented. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners McDowell, aye, Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

LeNette Van Haverbeke, stated she is a business owner in the City of Zion. She is co-founder and administrator of the "We Heart Zion" Facebook page. Last year a discussion occurred on the page of the things that Zion no longer has including Santa. An idea was born why not bring Santa back to Zion. Together with the help of the Historical Society and a one day event was created. The idea was to see what the community's reception would be to the event. The event was planned in two weeks with about 30 people showing up that night to see Santa and tour the Shiloh House. They also discussed bringing the Santa House back too. With the help of Sonolito Bronson from the City of Zion, the Santa House was located in the back of the City Yard. Ms. Van Haverbeke asked if the City was willing to let her bring the Santa House back to Zion. She then mapped out a plan and presented the idea to the Historical Society Board. The idea was to bring the Santa House out to Shiloh House twice a year; once for Easter and once for Christmas. Board member Mike Ruchti suggested building a permanent concrete pad to keep the House in the back of the Shiloh House. The house would then be referred to as "Shiloh Cottage". They still were in need of money to accomplish this goal. The Kiwanis Club of Zion Benton offered a donation of \$6,500 to sponsor the Shiloh Cottage. The Cottage was put in this year's Jubilee Days parade to let everyone know Santa's House was coming back. She stated a lot of people in the community came together to make this happen.

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Fischer seconded by Commissioner Holmes that the Minutes be approved as follows:

- (a) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** a Regular Meeting held on August 20, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.; and approval but not release of Closed Session Minutes of a meeting held August 20, 2019 at 8:22 p.m.

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

It was moved by Commissioner Fischer seconded by Commissioner Frierson that the Bills be approved as follows:

- (a) **BILLS:** Vouchers 132795 through 132920 drawn on Huntington National Bank, N.A. Total : \$400,430.00

Commissioner Holmes questioned the expense for Macon County Law Enforcement under the Public Health and Safety Fund. Chief Henderson stated the expense was related to the Police Training Academy. A Zion recruit will soon be graduating from the Police Training Academy.

The vote on roll call was: Commissioners McDowell, aye; Frierson, aye; Holmes abstain; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION/INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT/BEACH PARK/ZION/WINTHROP
HARBOR/NORTH CHICAGO/WAUKEGAN/CMAP STUDY/LAKEFRONT TRAIL**

A memo (19-DOC-50) was received from the Economic Development Department regarding an Intergovernmental Agreement with Beach Park, Zion, Winthrop Harbor, North Chicago and the City of Waukegan. A request has been made to enter into an agreement by and between the City of Zion, Village of Beach Park, the Village of Winthrop Harbor, the City of North Chicago and the City of Waukegan to fund a CMAP study for a proposed Lakefront Trail to improve walking and bicycling connections between and among the five northern Lake Shore communities. The goal of the Northern Lakeshore Trail Connectivity Plan is to improve the mobility network by providing bicycle and pedestrian connectivity throughout the study area and to key destinations within and near the area, including Illinois Beach State Park and other recreational open spaces along the Lake Michigan shoreline, diverse neighborhoods, business districts, schools, and a variety of institutions and government facilities. The CMAP grant funding the study is a 90/10 grant, and the other municipalities have agreed in principle to share the 10% local match in equal shares in an amount not to exceed \$3,252.71 per community. Approval of the agreement will address the implementation goals of improving access to existing parks by ensuring that sidewalks and trails can connect neighborhood residents to nearby parks and expanding local bikeways and enhancing existing bike paths found in the City's Comprehensive Plan.

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner Fischer that a Resolution (19-R-20) be passed authorizing participation in an Intergovernmental Agreement by, between and among the municipalities of Beach Park, Winthrop Harbor, North Chicago, Waukegan and the City of Zion for funding the local share of the CMAP grant for a lakeshore trail study for an amount not to exceed \$3,252.71. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners McDowell, aye; Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Resolution passed.

ORDINANCE/SPECIAL USE PERMIT/2809 DAMASCUS

It was moved by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Holmes that an Ordinance (19-O-29) be passed granting a Special Use Permit to erect a 65x60 clear span cold storage building at 2809 Damascus Avenue to BC Automotive, Inc. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners McDowell, aye; Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

ORDINANCE/VARIANCE/FOUNDATION/2809 DAMASCUS

It was moved by Commissioner Holmes, seconded by Commissioner Frierson that an Ordinance (19-O-30) be passed granting a variance from Section 102-159(b)(4) of the Zion Municipal Code to the foundation requirements for BC Automotive, Inc. at 2809 Damascus Avenue. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners McDowell, aye; Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

VARIANCE/SPRINKLER REQUIREMENT/2809 DAMASCUS

It was moved by Commissioner Holmes, seconded by Commissioner Frierson that an Ordinance (19-O-31) be passed granting a variance from Section 903.2 of the Zion Municipal Code to the sprinkler requirements for BC Automotive at 2809 Damascus Avenue. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners McDowell, aye; Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

VARIANCE/FIRE ALARM/2809 DAMASCUS

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner Fischer that an Ordinance (19-O-32) be passed granting a variance from Section 907.2 of the Zion Municipal Code to the fire alarm requirement for BC Automotive at 2809 Damascus Avenue. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners McDowell, aye; Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

ORDINANCE/CORRECTION/SCRIVENER'S ERROR

A memo (19-DOC-51) was received from the Economic Development Department requesting approval of an Ordinance to correct a Scrivener's Error in Ordinances 17-O-36, 17-O-37 and 17-O-38. Attorney Vasselli stated the attached Ordinance pertains to the Sheridan Road/Route 173 Redevelopment Project Area (RPA). Every TIF District is required to have an RPA along with a map and legal description. The map of the RPA that was Exhibit C to the Ordinances has a minor inaccuracy that did not conform to the legal description for the RPA that was fully bounded and correct. It was recommended to adopt the Ordinance to correct Exhibit C in Ordinances 17-O-36, 17-O-37 and 17-O-38 to ensure that the RPA is accurately reflected in all public records.

It was moved by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Frierson that an Ordinance (19-O-33) be passed correcting the Scrivener's error in Ordinances 17-O-36, 17-O-37 and 17-O-38 (Sheridan Road /Route 173 RPA). The vote on roll call was: Commissioners McDowell, aye; Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; McDowell, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

It was moved by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner McDowell that the Ordinance be corrected to reflect the proper spelling of Commissioner Holmes name. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners McDowell, aye; Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; McDowell, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE/SURPLUS VEHICLES/POLICE DEPARTMENT

A memo (19-DOC-52) was received from Chief Henderson requesting that a vehicle in the police department be declared surplus property and liquidated through Clinton Auto Auction which is the City's approved process for auctioning surplus vehicles. The vehicle was previously used as the department's Animal Control vehicle. The vehicle has 120,102 miles on it and the body is in rough shape. The vehicle is no longer being used since the Animal Control Program was discontinued. Animal complaints are now handled by Community Service Officers and two other vehicles are used for this purpose.

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner McDowell that an Ordinance (19-O-34) be passed declaring a 2011 Ford E-350 Van, Vin #1FT553EL7BDA36092 as surplus property and liquidated through Clinton Auto Auction. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners McDowell, aye; Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

ORDINANCE/AUTHORIZING SALE OF KRINGLE'S KINGDOM DISPLAYS

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner Fischer that an Ordinance (19-O-35) be passed authorizing the donation of personal property deemed surplus and identified as Festival of Lights Santa House and decorations to Zion Historical Society. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners McDowell, aye; Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

ALLEY VACATION REQUEST/2715/2717 EMMAUS AVENUE

A memo (19-DOC-53) was received from Director Roberts, regarding the vacation of an improved alleyway between 2715 and 2717 Emmaus Avenue. Director Roberts stated the application request is from the owner of 2715 and 2717 Emmaus Avenue to vacate the portion of the improved alley between the two residences. The area in question is at the end portion of the alley run between Emmaus Avenue and Caledonia Blvd. The intended use would be for a private drive and parking for the two residences. Both homes are situated very close to the paved surface of the alley and it is primarily used as a cut through for many motorists. If vacated a full utility easement would be required and ingress/egress rights would be needed for both properties since there is a driveway access on the alley. No permanent structures could be erected due to various underground utilities. The estimated cost for legal and recording fees is not to exceed \$750.00. Additionally, a cost per square foot based from the current assessed land value of abutting properties. The estimated R.O.W. cost is \$5,718.60 for a total estimated cost of \$6,468.60. The item is strictly for preliminary approval. If approved by Council, staff will contact the applicant to determine if they still wish to proceed with the application and the costs.

It was moved by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Fischer to approve the applicant moving forward with the process of the vacation of the improved alleyway between 2715 and 2717 Emmaus Avenue. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners McDowell, aye; Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

REQUEST TO FILL VACANCIES/FIRE/RESCUE DEPARTMENT

A memo (19-DOC-54) was received from Chief Lewis requesting approval to fill three firefighter/paramedic positions and request the name of the next three candidates on the current Firefighter/Paramedic Eligibility list from the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners. Chief Lewis stated earlier in the year ZPFA Local 1999 agreed to a reduction of three personnel through fiscal year 2020 to meet budget constraints. Included in the agreement was the option to hire Paid on Premise personnel to support the fulltime staff in meeting the requirement for seven personnel on duty each day. Applications were made available July 3 and to date, only two have applied. Under the SAFER grant received in July 2017, they maintained nine personnel per shift with a minimum daily staffing of seven. The SAFER positions have not been filled since the last member hired under the grant left in September 2018 and the three grant eligible positions have remained vacant. Additionally one employee is off on a workers compensation injury for an extended period of time as well as one employee off on leave for an indefinite period. This has resulted in an abundance of overtime to meet staffing needs. In Fiscal Year 2019, \$130,000 was budgeted for overtime and finished the year at \$444,000. In Fiscal Year 2020 \$175,000 was budgeted due to the expectation that the Paid on Premise Program would fill the gap. As of the August 18, 2019 payroll, \$199,000 has been spent in overtime this Fiscal Year. The stress is being placed on current members to work repeated shifts of overtime, often times being forced in to staff the apparatus for immediate response. A meeting was held with members of the ZPFA Local 1999 Executive Board, their negotiating team, Commissioner Frierson, City Administrator Knabel and Chief Lewis to determine the options to reduce the overtime impact. After much discussion, the group agreed that the most cost effective way to quickly reduce overtime is to hire one person immediately off the current New Hire Eligibility List and then research the feasibility of moving forward within the next month or two of hiring two additional personnel under the SAFER grant with a 65% cost share to the City. Once the grant is released in February 2020 they would apply for a SAFER Retention Grant. Administrator Knabel confirmed that this would have the most potential to reduce the amount of funds being spent to maintain staffing. Commissioner Frierson stated they have been spending \$1,200 per day in overtime. This solution would cut the overtime in half. Chief Lewis stated they are up 175-200 calls from last year. Ambulance calls make up about 80% of the call volume. Mayor McKinney asked if they could identify call information. Commissioner Frierson stated he has asked Chief Lewis to compile a list for the Council.

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner Fischer to approve filling three Firefighter/Paramedic vacancies and requesting the name of the next three candidates on the current Firefighter/Paramedic Eligibility List from the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners McDowell, aye; Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT/TIF REVIEW BOARD

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner McDowell to appoint Dr. Matthew Wilkinson to the TIF Review Board as a replacement to Audrey Liddle. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners McDowell, aye; Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT/PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner McDowell to appoint Kathy Champine to the Planning & Zoning Commission. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners McDowell, aye; Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENTAL COMMENTARY

HR Director Karin Graves stated the City had a successful summer grass cutting program and half of the employees have gone back to College. Ms. Graves stated the City currently has a Service Technician position available in the Public Works Department. The job description and application is available in the HR Department and will be posted on the City's website.

Director Ianson reminded citizens that there is no longer a Chipping program through the City of Zion. Advanced Disposal will continue to pick up branches through the yard waste program. Branches must not be more than 2 inches in diameter per branch, bundled and tied with biodegradable string or twine and not more than 18 inches in diameter per bundle. They will be picked up with normal garbage pickup. Information is posted on the City's website.

Director Roberts stated he met with the contractor for the Sidewalk Program and the start date is October 1st. Residents may call Public Works to see if they are located in area that will be done. Pink paint will be marking the sidewalks that will be done.

Director Roberts stated Fire Hydrant Flushing will begin on September 16th. The schedule is posted on the City's website. Mayor McKinney asked what citizens could do to help Public Works. Director Roberts stated citizens can help by trying to keep the leaves out of the gutters.

Chief Lewis recognized ESDA Field Director Mary Lou Hiltibran for ESDA's hard work at the Jubilee Day Parade and fireworks. He also thanked them for the assistance with the blocking off of streets for the incident that took place with the car that struck a house.

Chief Henderson Zion Police Department will be represented at the Law Enforcement Expo at Gurnee Mills on Saturday September 7th from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm and Sunday September 8th from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm. He invited residents to stop by and meet the officers.

Chief Henderson reminded citizens of the 6th Annual Community of Character Walk on September 12th at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor McKinney offered prayers to the victims of the shooting in Odessa TX. He stated the amount of gun violence happening should be a concern to everyone.

Mr. Bremner asked when leaf pick-up would begin. Director Roberts stated Advance Disposal has not contacted him as of yet. He stated it usually begins the 3rd week of October. He should know the dates by the next Council meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

September 12	6:00 p.m.	6 th Annual Community of Character Walk
September 13	5:00 p.m. -7:30 p.m.	Coalition for Healthy Communities Health is Wealth Free Screening for Hypertension and Diabetes at ZBTHS – Main Campus
September 17	6:15 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Zion Township Board Meeting Zion City Council Meeting
October 1	7:00 p.m.	Zion City Council Meeting

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, it was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner Fischer, and unanimously approved the meeting be adjourned at 7:50 p.m. Motion carried.

City Clerk