

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE ZION CITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2021, 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 Frierson, McDowell, Holmes; Fischer and Mayor McKinney. A quorum was present.

Also present: Fire/Rescue Chief Justin Stried, Police Chief Eric Barden, Building & Zoning Director Richard Ianson City Administrator David Knabel, Public Works Director Ray Roberts and City Attorney James Vasselli.

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

**AGENDA CHANGES**

It was moved by Commissioner McDowell seconded by Commissioner Holmes 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**

Deborah Jones, Zion, stated the police have been called on them because their music is too loud, but she can hear loud music down the street yet nothing happens. She asked why it is not enforced elsewhere. Additionally, she asked why there are no street lights in the 3100 block of Elim. Mayor McKinney stated Com Ed is continuing to put LED bulbs in the streetlights to make them brighter. He suggested Ms. Jones sit down with Chief Barden to discuss the newly passed noise ordinance.

Gloria Hill stated she lives in Zion at 2820 31<sup>st</sup> Street. She voiced her frustrations with her current landlord, Bill Brady.

Pamela Jones stated she lives at 2824 31<sup>st</sup> Street and also rents from Bill Brady. She too voiced her frustrations with the landlord. Mayor McKinney stated unless the issues tenants have are of a life-safety matter, it is a civil matter between the tenant and the landlord. The City has a rental inspection program in place to insure landlords keep up their buildings.

Michelle Hassan, ZBTHS, invited the Council to attend the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual ZB Bash on Wednesday, August 11<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Mary Lou Hiltibran, Zion, shared a post from Facebook regarding COVID and mask wearing.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- (a) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** a Regular Meeting held on July 20, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

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

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

- (b) **BILLS:** Vouchers 137880 through 138010 drawn on Huntington National Bank, N.A.  
Total: \$644,226.01.

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

**ORDINANCE/AUTHORIZING TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR TO PRESIDE OVER MEETINGS**

Administrator Knabel stated the Township Code requires the City Council approve authority of the Township Supervisor to preside over the meetings when the Township is conducting business. Because they are a coterminous Township and City, by Code, the City Commissioners are also the Township Trustees. He stated because of the overlap they must distinguish when there are Township Board meetings vs City Council meetings and must give authority to the Township Supervisor to conduct the Township meetings. This ordinance must be put on record to give authority to the Township Supervisor to conduct the Township meetings and other Township business.

It was moved by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Holmes, that an Ordinance (21-O-50) be passed authorizing the Township Supervisor of the Township of Zion, Lake County, Illinois, to preside over meetings of the City Council when exercising the powers of the Township Board of said Township. The vote on the roll: Commissioners McDowell, aye; Holmes, aye; Frierson, aye; Fischer, aye and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

**REQUEST TO FILL VACANCIES/FIRE/RESCUE DEPARTMENT**

A memo (21-DOC-69) was received from Chief Stried requesting approval to fill two (2) firefighter/paramedic positions and request the names of the next two candidates on the current Firefighter/Paramedic Eligibility list from the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners. Chief Stried stated the department currently has three full-time Firefighter/Paramedic vacancies due to a recent retirement, termination and resignation. One opening has previously been approved to be filled by Council; however, the hiring list had been exhausted prior to filling that position. The new Eligibility List is set to be finalized and posted in early August. He is requesting official approval of the additional two replacement hires (three in total) upon posting of the final eligibility list, and subsequent release of the three names by the Fire & Police Commission.

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner McDowell to approve filling two (2) Firefighter/Paramedic vacancies and request the names of the next two (2) candidates on the current Firefighter/Paramedic Eligibility List from the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

**APPOINTMENT/CHAIRMAN/PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION**

It was moved by Commissioner Holmes, seconded by Commissioner Fischer to approve the appointment of Ernie Isley as Chairman of the Planning & Zoning Commission. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

### DEPARTMENTAL COMMENTARY

Director Ianson reminded residents of the Electronics & Tire Drop-Off Event on Saturday, August 7<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at 28<sup>th</sup> and Galilee. Residents must present a valid Zion driver's license or have a Zion City Sticker. The maximum tire drop-off per resident is 8 tires.

Director Roberts gave updates on various projects around the City. The State project on Sheridan Road will continue for a few more weeks. He reminded citizens to pay attention to the crews that are out there working. Zion crews continue to patch City roads and once completed, they will move on to the alleys. Mayor McKinney asked when the State project on Sheridan Road will be completed. Director Roberts stated it is contracted to be completed by November. He stated the Sheridan Road Project is State run and the City has no input on how the project is run including who is hired for the job.

HR Department – Karin Graves stated the City has started their recruitment for police officers. Applications may be obtained and submitted by going to [applytoserve.com](http://applytoserve.com). Applications must be submitted by September 13, 2021.

Administrator Knabel stated they are still on track to reinstate water shutoffs at the end of August. There has been a stay on shut-offs and late fee penalties since March of 2020. Notices have been sent out to those who are behind and would be eligible for shut-offs. He encouraged residents to pay as much as they can now to be caught up by the time the late fees and shut-offs are implemented. He also encouraged residents that are having trouble paying their bill to contact Zion Township or call 211. Additionally, current City stickers expired on April 30<sup>th</sup> and residents are encouraged to purchase their stickers to avoid receiving a ticket.

Chief Barden stated the police department has been conducting a speed study on Sheridan Road and discovered a lot of speeding going on. He asked that citizens slow down and watch out for the construction crews working on the road. He reminded residents that districting maps and Sergeant's contact information is available online and here at City Hall. Additionally, they continue to push for law enforcement candidates and asked the public to share out the information.

Chief Stried reminded residents of the dry conditions and to be careful with grills and fires. He asked that residents follow the parameters of the ordinance when having a recreational fire.

Commissioner Frierson shared the following Coalition of Healthy Communities events:

Movie in the Park – Friday, August 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

Fore R Youth Golf Outing – Friday, August 13<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.

Commissioner Fischer stated Lake County announced that all County buildings will require masks. He stated a notice was sent out recently from the City that states they will follow the same policy. Mayor McKinney stated they will put the information on the City pages to keep residents updated. The hope is to keep the community open and active.

Commissioner Holmes stated Congressman Schneider will be hosting a Town Hall meeting on Tuesday, August 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the Zion Band Shell. Mayor McKinney stated they continue to work with State Officials on getting money back to Zion for the spent fuel rods. He stated things continue to happen behind the scenes that citizens may not be aware of.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

August 17	6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Zion Township Board Meeting Zion City Council Meeting
September 6		City Offices Closed for the Holiday
September 7	7:00 p.m.	Zion City Council Meeting

**CLOSED SESSION**

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner Fischer that the Council recess to Closed Session at 8:46 p.m., pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 "Open Meetings", for the discussion of filed, pending and/or probable or imminent litigation, personnel, collective bargaining and/or sale of real estate. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Fischer to reconvene the Regular Council meeting at 9:00 p.m. with all members present. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, it was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner McDowell and unanimously approved the meeting be adjourned at 9:01 p.m. Motion carried.

---

City Clerk