

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE ZION CITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 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, Holmes, Fischer, McDowell, and Mayor McKinney. A quorum was present.

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

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

Mayor McKinney asked for a moment of silence for all First Responders and for the Country as they continue to battle the variant virus. He asked that they all pray for safety.

AGENDA CHANGES

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner Holmes to accept the City Council meeting agenda as presented.

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

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mary Lou Hiltibran, ESDA Director, thanked the Mayor for his support for ESDA and all the work that he does for the City and wished the Council a Merry Christmas. Mayor McKinney thanked ESDA for all that they do for the City and for their commitment to the community.

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Holmes, seconded by Commissioner McDowell that the Minutes be approved with the following correction:

Under Citizen Comments, the streets referred to by Mr. Bremner should read Elim, Elizabeth and Edina.

- (a) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** a Regular Meeting held on December 7, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.; and approval but not release of Closed Session Minutes of a meeting held December 7, 2021 at 8:10 p.m.

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

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

- (b) **BILLS:** Vouchers 139427 through 139507 drawn on Huntington National Bank, N.A. Total: \$989,774.69

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

ORDINANCE/EXTENTION/SPECIAL USE PERMIT/MEDICAL CANNABIS CULTIVATION CENTER IN G1 GENERAL INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT

Administrator Knabel stated the City previously approved a Special Use Permit and a Ground Lease for a Medical Cannabis Cultivation Center for property located at 2809 Damascus Avenue. These are set to expire at the end of December. Although the court ruling for Flat Rock Holdings, LLC (Medponics) did not go in their favor they wish to extend the Special Use Permit and Ground Lease for an additional 6 months to keep the site viable and explore other options.

It was moved by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Holmes that an Ordinance (21-O-85) be passed extending a Special Use Permit for a medical cannabis cultivation center in the G1 (General Industrial) Zoning District for property located east of Deborah Avenue at 2809 Damascus, in Zion, Illinois from December 30, 2021 to June 30, 2022. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; McDowell, aye and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

ORDINANCE/EXTENSION/GROUND LEASE AGREEMENT/2809 DAMASCUS AVENUE

It was moved by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Holmes that an Ordinance (21-O-86) be passed approving an extension of the ground lease agreement between Flat Rock Holdings, LLC and the City of Zion for certain property located at 2809 Damascus Avenue from December 30, 2021 to June 30, 2022. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; McDowell, aye and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

ORDINANCE/CLINTON AUTO AUCTION AGREEMENT

A memo (21-O-125) was received from Chief Barden requesting the renewal of the contract between the City of Zion and Clinton Auto Auction. Chief Barden stated Clinton Auto Auction is the City's chosen vendor for the purpose of the transport, auction and awarding of proceeds from vehicles seized pursuant to asset forfeiture. The Clinton Auto Auction is approved by the State of Illinois to fulfill this role for law enforcement agencies within the State. The City of Zion and Clinton Auto Auction have had a contract for these services for more than ten years. The current contract is set to expire on December 30, 2021. He noted that there has been a slight increase in the transport fee, clean up fee and personal property fee.

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner McDowell that an Ordinance (21-O-87) be passed authorizing the execution of an agreement by and between the City of Zion and Clinton Auto Auction for the purpose of the transport, auction, and awarding of proceeds from vehicles. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; McDowell, aye and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

**ORDINANCE/AGREEMENT/FLOCK GROUP INC/GUNSHOT DETECTION SOFTWARE
INSTALLATION**

A memo (21-DOC-126) was received from Chief Barden requesting approval of an agreement between the City of Zion and Flock Group Inc. for the install of one square mile of the Raven gunshot detection software within the City. Chief Barden stated the City previously partnered with Flock Industries to use License Plate Recognition (LPR) technology to abate crime and criminal activity. Flock Industries recently offered a year free trial of their innovative gunshot detection software. Within this initiative staff has researched innovative ways to assist with crime reduction and methods to assist with active investigations. This technology allows for a real time alert and response for officers. Staff has filtered the vendors and now respectfully requests approval to adopt the agreement between Flock Safety (Flock Group Inc.) and the City of Zion. Commissioner McDowell asked if software will be on all the LPR units or solely at one location. Chief Barden stated the software offers the combination of audible sound and photo which will work in combination with the current cameras but will depend on how much space is available.

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner Fischer that an Ordinance (21-O-88) be passed authorizing and approving an agreement between the City of Zion and Flock Group Inc for the installation of one square mile of Raven gunshot detection software within the City. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners McDowell, aye; Fischer, aye; Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

TABULATION OF BIDS/HVAC ANNUAL MAINTENANCE SERVICES

A Tabulation of Bids (21-DOC-127) was received from Director Ianson regarding the 2022 HVAC Annual Maintenance for City Hall, Police Administration, Public Works and Fire Station I & II. A bid opening was held on December 14, 2021 for the HVAC Annual Maintenance Service for City Hall, Police Administration, Public Works and Fire Station I & II with the following results:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Northern Weathermakers, Inc. | \$17,302.00 |
| 2. Helm Service | \$33,819.00 |

Staff recommends awarding this project to the lowest responsible bidder, Northern Weathermakers, Inc., Northbrook IL in the amount of \$17,302.00.

It was moved by Commissioner Holmes and seconded by Commissioner McDowell that an Ordinance (21-O-89) be passed authorizing and approving a Service Agreement between the City of Zion and Northern Weathermakers, Inc., for HVAC Annual Maintenance Service for City Hall, Police Administration, Public Works and Fire Station I & II in the amount of \$17,302.00. The vote on the roll: Commissioners Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; McDowell, aye and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE/SPECIAL USE PERMIT/3020 29th STREET

A memo (21-DOC-128) was received from Director Ianson requesting a Special Use Permit for property located at 3020 29th Street. Director Ianson stated North Shore Sign Company is requesting a Special Use Permit, Zoning Docket 20-Z-15, to install a digital sign on behalf of Berean Fundamental Baptist Church located at 3020 29th Street. At the December 2, 2021 Planning and Zoning Commission meeting, they recommended approval of the Special Use Permit.

It was moved by Commissioner Holmes, seconded by Commissioner McDowell that an Ordinance (21-O-90) be passed granting a Special Use Permit to install a digital sign at the Berean Fundamental Baptist Church located at 3020 29th Street. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; McDowell, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

SERGEANT VACANCY/POLICE DEPARTMENT

A memo (21-DOC-129) was received from Chief Barden requesting approval to fill one Sergeant vacancy and request the next candidate from the Police and Fire Commission Sergeant Eligibility List. He stated Sergeant Grinhaus will be retiring on January 3, 2022, creating a Sergeant vacancy. The department's rank of Sergeant will be fully staffed with eight (8) Sergeants upon the promotion of the next qualified candidate. The Board of Fire and Police Commissioners recently completed the promotional testing process for Sergeants and is aware of the action being taken by the City Council.

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner Holmes to approve filling one Sergeant vacancy and request the next candidate from the Police and Fire Commission Sergeant Eligibility List. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; McDowell, aye Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

ANNUAL CALENDAR

Clerk Spooner presented the City of Zion Annual Calendar for 2022 annual meetings and holidays as required by State Statute.

It was moved by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Holmes to approve the City of Zion Annual Calendar for meetings and holidays for 2022 as presented. The vote on roll call was: Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; McDowell, aye and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENTAL COMMENTARY

Director Ianson wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe New Year.

Chief Stried wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. He asked that people keep an eye on their Christmas trees as they can be a fire hazard.

Chief Barden wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and encouraged all to celebrate safely and not to drink and drive.

Administrator Knabel thanked City staff for all they do throughout the year. Staff takes on a lot and continues to do things for the betterment of the City. He knows there are a lot of challenging residents but is happy to see there are residents that attend the Council meetings to stay informed. He also appreciates the citizens that defend the City. Additionally, he wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Commissioner McDowell wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Commissioner Frierson wished everyone Happy Holidays and a safe New Year. He echoed the sentiments of Administrator Knabel and feels that there has been a lot of effort and a lot of growth in the work that has been done this year. There have been a lot of changes and appreciates the way they have taken it in stride. He looks forward to continued growth in the next year.

Commissioner Fischer encouraged citizens to schedule their booster shots as the Omicron variant is spreading rapidly. Additionally, he asked that they be safe and wear their masks.

Commissioner Holmes wished everyone a safe Christmas Holiday and New Year.

Mayor McKinney stated his wish for the country is to get to a place where they can replace racism, hate and bigotry and become a nicer, gentler society. He asked that citizens be helpful and kind to one another. Additionally, he thanked City employees and Commissioners for all the support they have shown him. He hopes that the nay-sayers will feel the same pride and respect for the City as he does. He feels everyone at the City is committed to making the City better. He wished everyone safe, Happy Holidays and to enjoy time with family. He asked them to focus on the positive things in front of them and to be thankful for all that they have.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 23,24, 30,31		City Offices Closed for the Holidays
January 4	7:00 p.m.	Zion City Council Meeting Cancelled
January 17		City Offices Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 18	6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Zion Township Board Meeting 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 7:30 p.m. Motion carried.

City Clerk