

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE ZION CITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2022, AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 2828 SHERIDAN ROAD, ZION, ILLINOIS

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Mayor McKinney called the meeting to order.

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

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

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

Mayor McKinney asked for a moment of silence for those who are struggling with life and are in need of prayer and positive thoughts.

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 Fischer, aye; Holmes, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; and Mayor McKinney aye. Motion carried.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mary Lou Hiltibran, Zion ESDA Director, gave a monthly report of the recent activities that ESDA performs in assistance to the City. She invited those who wish to serve as a volunteer with ESDA to go to the City's website and fill out an application.

Denise Lear, Zion, questioned the City ordinance allowing four dogs to an apartment. She asked what can be done about it. She asked if the City could make an agreement with Section 8 about their tenants. Additionally, she would like to see the landlord/tenant meetings be brought back. She stated the police have been called to her building seven times in the past two weeks. Chief Barden stated that the District Sergeants work closely with the landlords and the Housing Authority and keep a list of all activity. Ms. Lear also commented on the overgrown weeds at 18th Street and 27th. She stated the area looks terrible and residents cannot see around the weeds.

Pamela Drone, Zion, stated she lives next door to Denise Lear. She wonders where the protection is for the kids. She stated that DCFS workers need to come with the police officers when they are called to the buildings.

Linda Brown, Zion, stated she is a Zion homeowner and she feels there is too much garbage left in the street. She would like to see the City garbage men get out of their trucks and pick up the garbage rather than leaving it on the streets. Mayor McKinney stated the garbage men are not City workers. They are employed by GFI. He asked that residents help out the community by picking up garbage around their neighborhood. He and his neighbors often pick up garbage on their block. He stated residents must start taking ownership in the City by helping to keep their neighborhoods clean. He has seen some garbage truck drivers get out of their trucks and pick up garbage off the streets. He also asked that residents be conscience of their dog waste when they walk their dogs.

George Kessler, Winthrop Harbor, VFW Post 7448 stated that they will soon be distributing poppies on September 9-11 and asked that the City adopt a Proclamation in recognition of Buddy Poppies. He stated the proceeds go to disabled veterans, widows and orphans of deceased veterans. Mayor McKinney stated they will adopt a proclamation at the next City Council meeting.

Larry Bailey, Zion, asked for an update on the road situation in Brighton Ponds subdivision. Mayor McKinney stated they have come to an agreement with the subdivision and they have formed a Special Service Area (SSA). This SSA will assist the residents of Brighton Ponds in taking care of their road issues. Later in the meeting they will be adopting an ordinance creating the SSA Commission and a resolution appointing the members to the Commission.

Wendy Driver, Zion, thanked the Council for their support for the ribbon cutting ceremony of the Garden of Eat'n. She invited the Council to attend the Monarch Mania Festival on Sunday. She stated there are fun events planned and the award-winning Razzle Dazzles will also be in attendance.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- (a) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** a Regular Meeting held on July 19, 2022 at 7:00 p.m

The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Fischer, aye; Holmes, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, 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 141075 through 141186 drawn on Huntington National Bank, N.A. Total: \$411,093.78.

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

ORDINANCE/AMENDMENTS/BOARD OF FIRE & POLICE COMMISSION RULES & REGULATIONS

Attorney Vasselli stated the proposed ordinance reflects amendments to the Board of Fire & Police Commissioners Rules and Regulations to clarify certain testing and appointment procedures for police officers.

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner McDowell that an Ordinance (22-O-36) be passed approving certain amendments to the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Fischer, aye; Holmes, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

ORDINANCE/CREATION OF SPECIAL SERVICE AREA COMMISSION

Attorney Vasselli explained the process that was taken to get to the point of a Special Service Area (SSA). Staff engaged in numerous conversations with the residents and ultimately, they decided on the creation of a Special Service Area (SSA). The necessary hearings were held along with the passage of necessary ordinances. The purpose of the ordinance is to approve, authorize and establish an SSA Commission to manage SSA No. 1, which will be designated as the Brighton Ponds Subdivision Special Service Area Commission, and to authorize the Mayor or his designee, to execute all necessary documents and perform all necessary acts within the ordinance including the expenditure of all necessary funds.

It was moved by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Holmes that an Ordinance (22-O-37) be passed creating the Brighton Ponds Subdivision Special Service Area Commission. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Fischer, aye; Holmes, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

PURCHASE/USED VEHICLES/POLICE DEPARTMENT

A memo (22-DOC-72) was received from Chief Barden requesting to purchase used vehicles in Police Department. Chief Barden stated that Staff continuously reviews and evaluates the status of equipment and resources, in the case, the squad cars they use. Due to several cars forced into retirement due to both mechanical failures and vehicle crashes. They have identified a shortcoming in available equipment for both the patrol and detective functions. Preemptively, they are looking at and planning for proper resource allocation for vehicles and equipment based on the current supply chain delays. Staff has researched and explored many avenues for procurement of additional fleet vehicles in a fiscally responsible manner. Staff suggests purchasing used fleet vehicles that are readily available now. Staff has also researched and convened with Public Works Mechanic and Fleet Manager, Jeff Penich, as well

as the City Administrator to ensure that this is the best option available. While he understands that purchasing used fleet vehicles may not be the best option, they have located a dealership that specializes in the resale of low mileage, good quality vehicles. Although, earlier this afternoon, he received notification and confirmation that there are five (5) vehicles available for purchase from a different entity for less money than the four originally offered by the dealership. Staff requests an amount not to exceed \$115,000 to purchase and outfit five (5) used vehicles. The vehicles would be made with the assistance of the Fleet Manager Jeff Penich. Attorney Vasselli noted that if this item passed with at least a 4 to 5 vote, it will constitute a waiver of procurement allowing Chief Barden to move forward with the purchase of the vehicles. An Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) will be drafted once the terms are finalized. Commissioner Frierson asked if the IGA will be brought back before the Council. Attorney Vasselli stated the IGA will be brought back before the Council to ratify the agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner McDowell to approve the purchase and outfit of five (5) used vehicles in the police department not to exceed \$115,000. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Fischer, aye; Holmes, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL/AGREEMENT/I/O SOLUTIONS

A memo (22-DOC-73) was received from Chief Stried requesting approval of a contract with I/O Solutions (IOS) to manage and administer the job application and examination process for the firefighter/paramedic hiring process. Chief Stried stated the proposed agreement outlines the details of the upcoming proposed entrance exam to establish the eligibility list for any future full-time hiring needs. They currently have no immediate sworn openings, but do need to establish and maintain a current eligibility list. The Board of Fire & Police Commissioners has approved moving forward with the exam and approval is recommended.

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner McDowell to approve the agreement between the City of Zion and I/O Solutions to manage and administer the job application and examination process for the firefighter/paramedic hiring process. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Fischer, aye; Holmes, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION/APPOINTMENT OF BRIGHTON PONDS SPECIAL SERVICE AREA COMMISSION

Mayor McKinney presented the names of the Special Service Area Commission for appointment. He stated that Saida Bardales, Veronica Martinez, Larry Bailey and Alex Surles are appointed as voting members of the Commission and Sonolto Bronson is appointed as a non-voting member of the Commission. The members of the Commission shall serve without compensation. The appointment shall take effect on the 2nd day of August, 2022, and shall continue for a period of five (5) years or until a successor is appointed or until the termination of the time period for which the levy of the SSA No. 1 tax is authorized. In the event there is a vacancy on the Commission due to resignation, death, inability to serve or removal of a member, the City Council will appoint a successor to serve for the remaining term for which he or she was appointed.

It was moved by Commissioner Holmes, seconded by Commissioner McDowell that a Resolution (22-R-6) be passed appointing certain members to the Brighton Ponds Subdivision Special Service Area Commission. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Fischer, aye; Holmes, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Resolution passed.

APPOINTMENT/TIF BOARD

Mayor McKinney stated that with the retirement of Marilyn Krieger from the Park District, it is necessary to appoint new Park District Executive Director, Eric Bradley has her TIF Board replacement.

It was moved by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Holmes that Eric Bradley be appointed to the TIF Board replacing Marilyn Krieger. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Fischer, aye; Holmes, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; and Mayor McKinney,

DEPARTMENTAL COMMENTARY

Director Roberts shared the following:

- IDOT is resurfacing Route 173 from east of I-94 to Green Bay Road until October 31
- There will be an IDOT project from Stearns School Road to I-94 US41 until November 30
- Lake County DOT will be resurfacing 9th Street to Lewis Avenue through September
- Lake County DOT will be closing 21st Street to through traffic to replace a culvert on 21st Street starting August 15th until September 19
- The City Alley & Road Program is almost complete
- The Water Main Project will be completed in 3 weeks
- The Joppa Alley Project is underway
- The FAU project with IDOT for 27th Street will begin on August 8 and will go until September or October

He noted that there will be a lot of construction going on and encouraged citizens to be aware of the crews out there and to slow down.

Chief Stried reminded residents that they offer certified CPR training. For convenience, part of the training can be taken at home online. Additionally, he is currently reviewing the fire prevention code and will be working with neighboring communities. Mayor McKinney asked how residents can register for CPR training. Chief Stried stated residents can visit the City website to register. Once the online portion is completed they can contact the Fire Department to set up a time for the skills portion.

Chief Barden noted that he will follow up on the dog issue in the apartments. Additionally, he congratulated the new recruits to the Police Department. He also noted that fines are increased in for speeding in construction zones. Mayor McKinney stated they talk with the Lake County Housing Authority on a regular basis. If tenants violate conditions of their vouchers they can lose them. He and the Chief address issues as they come up and continue to monitor the “hot spots” for public safety issues.

Commissioner McDowell stated that school will soon begin and on behalf of the ZBMA invited all to attend a Prayer Meeting at the South Commons in ZBTHS Main Campus on Saturday, August 13th at 9:00 a.m. to pray for the ZBTHS faculty, staff and students. Additionally, he invited all to the 52nd Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast on September 5, 2022 at 8:00 a.m. He also noted that there are a group of residents that are interested in refurbishing Ester’s Well and encouraged residents to stop by the site for more information.

Commissioner Holmes asked that residents respect their neighbors. Additionally, she thanked the Zion Police Department for addressing the loud music in her neighborhood.

Commissioner Fischer noted that tonight’s meeting will not be recorded as Gibbie is under the weather. Additionally, he encouraged those who are not registered to vote to do so and apply for mail-in ballots.

Mayor McKinney congratulated the Razzle Dazzles on winning Gold at the World Baton Twirling Championships in the Netherlands. They will be returning on Thursday and will be escorted home from Gurnee by the Zion Police Department and Fire Department. Additionally, he wanted to confirm that there will be no Labor Day Parade this year. A new Special Events Committee was formed just last year and it takes a lot of time to prepare for the event. They look forward to a great event in 2023.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

August 5-7

Zion Together Days

August 6

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

City of Zion Electronics & Tire
Drop Off -2771 Galilee Ave
Shredding Event at the Old City
Hall Fire Station

August 8	11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.	Senior Citizen Ice Cream Social for 55 and over
August 12	2:00 p.m.	Coalition for Healthy Communities Fore R Youth Golf Outing Shepherd's Crook Golf Course
August 16	6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Zion Township Board Meeting Zion City Council Meeting
September 5		City Offices Closed for the Holiday
September 6	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 7:50 p.m., Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 "Open Meetings", for the discussion of filed, pending and/or probable or imminent litigation, sale or purchase of real estate, collective bargaining, legal counsel and personnel. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Holmes to reconvene the Regular Council meeting at 8:05 p.m. with all members present. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, 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 McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Fischer and unanimously approved the meeting be adjourned at 8:06 p.m. Motion carried.

City Clerk