

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE ZION CITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 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 Frierson, Holmes, Fischer, McDowell, and Mayor McKinney. A quorum was present.

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

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

AGENDA CHANGES

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

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

PUBLIC HEARING/PROPOSED VACATION/2415 23rd STREET

It was moved by Commissioner Holmes, seconded by Commissioner McDowell to suspend the Regular City Council meeting and proceed to the Public Hearing for the vacation of 2415 23rd Street at 7:02 p.m. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; McDowell, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

Attorney Vasselli stated the action to move forward with this vacation has been previously approved and is related to Item 8(a) later in the agenda. They are operating under the Vacation Act of the Municipal Code, and as such are holding this hearing to allow any parties wanting to be heard with regards to the vacation to be heard. He noted that it will be necessary to obtain 3 out of 4 votes in favor of the vacation for the ordinance to pass. He also noted that the Public Hearing is procedural in nature.

Director Roberts stated that the owners of Benton Lumber are selling the property adjacent to a City alleyway. The alleyway is unused by the City and for the past 30 years has been used by Benton Lumber and they have requested to acquire the property. They City does not currently have any utilities planned for the property but would like to reserve the right for possible easement rights.

Attorney Vasselli asked the City Clerk if there have been any written comments received regarding the possible vacation. The City Clerk replied there have been none. Attorney Vasselli then asked those in attendance if they had any comments with regards to the proposed vacation. He asked that the City Clerk make note that no one commented on the proposed vacation.

It was moved by Commissioner McDowell seconded by Commissioner Holmes to adjourn the Public Hearing and resume the Regular City Council meeting at 7:05 p.m. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; McDowell, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mayor McKinney read the procedures regarding Citizen Comments for City Council meetings.

W.C. Bremner, Zion, presented the Mayor with a newspaper article that he felt was interesting and informative about Dr. Dowie.

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.

Beverly Mull, Zion, invited the Council to attend her "Oktoberfest" event on October 27th at Shiloh Blvd. and Jethro Ave. from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Kathy Champine, Zion, stated at the last Council meeting she feels she was not as clear and concise in her comments. She apologized for her abruptness and hopes that in the future the police department will consider partnering with others for family violence and de-escalation training.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- (a) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** a Regular Meeting held on September 20, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.; approval but not release of Closed Session Minutes of a meeting held September 20, 2022 at 7:35 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 Frierson that the Bills be approved as follows:

- (b) **BILLS:** Vouchers 141578 through 141657 drawn on Huntington National Bank, N.A. Total: \$599,708.87.

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

ALLEY VACATION/2415 23RD STREET

A memo (22-DOC-92) was received from Director Roberts requesting approval of a final Plat of Vacation for 2415 23rd Street. Director Roberts stated that the Council approved a preliminary vacation request from the owner of 2415 23rd Street at the July 19th Council meeting. The final Plat of Vacation vacates the portion of the alley South of 23rd Street and East of Horeb Avenue. The applicant has agreed to pay the vacation fee of \$8,560.00 and all associated recording costs. The vacation fee shall be required prior to signing and recording the plat. Staff requests and recommends approval of the Plat of Vacation. Commissioner Frierson asked if the property obstructs the McClory bike path. Director Roberts confirmed that it would not.

It was moved by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Holmes that an Ordinance (22-O-55) be passed authorizing and approving the Vacation of Certain Real Property in the City of Zion, Illinois, including 2415 23rd Street. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; McDowell, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Ordinances passed.

DCEO STORMWATER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

A memo (22-DOC-93) was received from Director Roberts requesting approval of the Phase I DECO Grant Project Expense Match for a DCEO Grant for the proposed 20th Street Drainage Improvement Project. Director Roberts stated that staff has been working with Burke Engineering and Lake County Stormwater Management Commission (LCSMC) with an application submittal for a DCEO Grant for the proposed 20th Street Project. The 20th Street Drainage Investigation Memorandum was presented to the Council in 2019. The estimated cost for the project is \$5 million. The proposed project is being submitted in two phases. The Grant funding maximum for each phase is \$2,750,000.00. A letter was received from LCSMC informing the City that the Commission has approved Phase I and will submit the application onto DECO for final approval. DECO requires the applicant to approve a Project Expense Match (PEM). The anticipated PEM is \$116,201.00. Additionally, staff is preparing for an application

submittal for Phase II. Staff requests and recommends approval of the Phase 1 of the Expense Match. Commissioner Fischer stated there were 3 options pursued originally asking which option this was. Director Roberts stated this is the second option which was originally \$4.2 million but has now increased to \$5 million. Mayor McKinney noted that the area has had a lot of flooding. Director Roberts stated east of 173 and north and east of the bike path during heavy rains those areas would have to be shut down. Additionally, it runs down 20th Street to Bethesda and can inundate the sanitary system and can flood into basements. He hopes this will reduce all that as this is the first step in addressing the problem. The City is not guaranteed any funding yet but it does look promising. Mayor McKinney stated they are trying to work with the EPA and FEMA to be proactive in disaster areas. He attended a Water Summit to further discuss the problem and to make agencies aware of the problem and noted that the EPA is pledging to help cities. Director Roberts stated noted that the City is at the lowest PEM which would only require \$116,000 for each phase.

It was moved by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner McDowell to approve Phase 1 of the DECO Grant Project Match in the amount of \$116,201.00. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; McDowell, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

COMPUTER EQUIPMENT PURCHASE/POLICE DEPARTMENT

A memo (22-DOC-94) was received from Chief Barden requesting to waive the bid process and approve the quote for computer equipment in the Police Department. Chief Barden stated that the Police Department applied for and was awarded a microgrant originating from the Bureau of Justice Assistance for the Grant Award Cooperative Agreement in the amount of \$12,633.04. The grant award is specific in its use allowing the Police Department to update a number of old and failing computers and monitors. By using the National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance, they have been quoted \$12,649.88 to purchase thirteen (13) Dell Desktops and five (5) Dell monitors. He requests waiving the bid process as they are operating under the Cooperative Purchasing Alliance as done so in the past, and to approve the quote as presented. He also noted that being part of the National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance has saved them \$4,200.00 on the purchase.

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner McDowell to approve the waiving of bids and to accept the quote from Dell Technologies for computer equipment in the Police Department in the amount of \$12,69.88. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; McDowell, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENTAL COMMENTARY

Director Ianson reminded residents to check their sump pump lines to be sure they are not running onto a neighbor's property or onto City property.

Director Roberts stated there are still projects going on in the City and thanked the residents for their patience with some of the hiccups as it has been tough scheduling contractors for the jobs. The Joppa Alley project should be finished by Friday this week. There have been some delays in the Sidewalk Program but should be finished by Wednesday or Thursday of next week. Additionally, he is meeting with Waste Management regarding leaf pick up. The program will begin on October 31 with four pickups ending on November 26th. Information will be posted once confirmed. The last day for bag pickup is November 30th.

Chief Stried reminded the public of the Open House on Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. He noted there will be lots of activities and demonstrations. This coincides with Fire Prevention Week October 9-15. The Fire Department will be visiting the schools at a later date.

Chief Barden commented on the following:

- He thanked the community members who came out for the Community of Character Walk.
- He referenced the opening of the Mosque on 27th Street & Lewis Avenue, an event that they have been working on the event for several months. He noted that thousands came from all different countries. All went well without any problems and he thanked his staff for the great job. He commended the Ahmadiyya Community for a great job with the dedication.
- The Police Department is currently working on a number of things; one being virtual reality training. He thanked the Council for allowing them to obtain training equipment. They will be one of 50 agencies in the Country that will receive the Axon headsets for training.

- He asked for the public’s help with a recent homicide and for those who see something to say something. They need information on the case. They have received some new evidence but need more help.

Commissioner Holmes stated that she attended the Ahmadiyya Community event and thanked the Zion Police Officers for their representation of the City.

Commissioner Fischer stated that he also attended the Ahmadiyya event and noted it was very well run. He met a lot of people from all around the world.

Mayor McKinney note the following:

- He spoke with the Ahmadiyya National Security of Public Affairs and they commented on the Zion PD’s friendliness and helpfulness. They also commented on how clean the City looked which he credits the residents on their help with making things look good. The event was broadcast to four different countries. The Ahmadiyya community was also impressed on the diversity and friendless of the City and spoke of leaving the past in the past and working together to move forward. He stated that they showed people around the world who we are as a City.
- He spoke about stakeholders participating in the PD virtual training. He previously went to the training and feels it paints a good picture of the training the police receive as it prepares them for every scenario.
- He shared the many things happening in the month of October.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 18	6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Zion Township Board Meeting Zion City Council Meeting
October 28	4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Trail of Treats at Shiloh Park
October 30	2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Zion Trick or Treating
October 31 – November 5	9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. M-F 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Saturday	Early Voting at Zion City Hall
November 1		City Council Meeting Cancelled Due to Early Voting

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, it was moved by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Holmes, and unanimously approved the meeting be adjourned at 7:40 p.m. Motion carried.

City Clerk