

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE ZION CITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 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, and Mayor McKinney. Commissioner McDowell was absent. A quorum was present.

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

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

AGENDA CHANGES

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner Fischer to accept the City Council meeting agenda with the following changes:

Table Item 8 (a) Resolution of Commendation – Zion Public Safety Personnel to the next Council meeting

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

PUBLIC HEARING/APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

It was moved by Commissioner Holmes, seconded by Commissioner Frierson to open the Public Hearing for the Appropriation of the City of Zion for Fiscal Year beginning May 1, 2022 and ending April 30, 2023 at 7:02 p.m. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

City Administrator David Knabel stated an Appropriation Ordinance is the City’s legal authority to spend money. The City adopts a budget that is used annually as an internal guideline. Typically, the ordinance is inflated for unknown or emergency expenditures. He stated the Appropriation Ordinance is in the total amount of \$56,430,632. The ordinance has been on file in the Clerk’s Office available for anyone to view.

Mayor McKinney asked for any comments from the Public.

Resident Clyde McLemore asked if there were copies of the Appropriation ordinance available for the public.

Attorney Vasselli stated the City has complied with all laws regarding the Appropriation Ordinance.

Resident William Bremner asked for a confirmation of the final number for the Appropriation Ordinance. Administrator Knabel confirmed the number was \$56,430,632.

It was moved by Commissioner Holmes, seconded by Commissioner Fischer to adjourn the Public Hearing for the Appropriation of the City of Zion for Fiscal Year beginning May 1, 2022 and ending April 30, 2023 at 7:06 p.m. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

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

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mayor McKinney read the procedure regarding Public Comments.

Mary Lou Hiltibran, Director of ESDA, gave a report of the recent activities that ESDA performs in assistance to the City. Ms. Hiltibran invited those interested in becoming part of the ESDA program to fill out an application that is available on the City's website.

Clyde McLemore, Zion, commented that he is tired of the shootings happening in Zion. A recent shooting happened across the street from his house. He called the police and when they arrived at the scene he feels he was treated poorly by the police. Police asked to see his Ring Camera footage which he refused. He also noted his dislike of the involvement of the Lake County Major Crimes Task Force in Zion cases.

James Lear, Zion, commented on a recent shooting that was across from his house. He noted that the house is trouble and has had Riff-Raff around it for the past few years. He worries that his grandkids cannot play in the yard and would like to see what can be done about his block.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- (a) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** of a Special Meeting held October 31, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. of a Regular Meeting held on November 15, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, 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 141957 through 142069 drawn on Huntington National Bank, N.A. Total: \$1,459,673.04

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

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

It was moved by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Holmes that an Ordinance (22-0-61) be passed making appropriations, totaling \$56,430,632 for all funds, for the City of Zion, Illinois for the Fiscal Year beginning May 1, 2022 and ending April 30, 2023. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

ORDINANCE/EMERGENCY SIREN MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

A memo (22-DOC-110) was received from Chief Stried requesting approval of an annual maintenance contract for the City's emergency notification sirens. Fulton Siren Services has been the contracted provider for this item for the past few years. Chief Stried recommends approval of the contract in the amount of \$1,580.80. This is a budgeted ESDA item.

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner Holmes that an Ordinance (22-O-62) be passed authorizing, approving and ratifying an Emergency Siren Maintenance Service Agreement between the City of Zion and Fulton Siren Services to perform maintenance for the City of Zion Outdoor Warning Siren System. The vote on roll call was: The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

ORDINANCE/PURCHASE/CARDIAC MONITOR/DEFIBRILATOR

A memo (22-DOC-111) was received from Chief Stried requesting approval of a quote from Zoll Medical Corporation for an additional cardiac monitor/defibrillator. Chief Stried stated the funding for this equipment was included in the 2022/23 Capital Projects Fund budget. He is requesting approval of the item along with necessary

equipment (CPR pads, electrodes and cables/sensors, etc.) as presented in the total amount of \$37,811.32. This will allow for the equipment to be on all four of the ambulances once the newest is placed in full service later this month. Additionally, he requested that the Council waive the bid process and recognize Zoll Medical as the single-source vendor of this specialized equipment. Commissioner Frierson asked why the vendor is considered a single-source vendor. Chief Stried stated the equipment is so specialized in nature and they have been using this particular model for years. If they chose to go with a different vendor, they would most likely have to buy all brand-new items. He stated that the company is territorial and they do not have any other routes to go. Commissioner Holmes asked if other municipalities use Zoll. Chief Stried stated yes but each municipality has their favorite company that they are used to. Additionally, most of these companies all have similar pricing.

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner Fischer that an Ordinance (22-O-63) be passed authorizing and approving the purchase of a Zoll X-Series cardiac monitor/defibrillator and necessary equipment in the amount of \$37,811.32. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

ORDINANCE/SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT/COM ED

A memo (22-DOC-112) was received from Administrator Knabel requesting approval of a Settlement Agreement between the City of Zion, Azavar Audit Solutions and ComEd. Administrator Knabel stated that the City contracted with Azavar to review all of the past tax collections from various utilities. As a result, they found that there were discrepancies in what was collected and remitted to the City of Zion (and other communities). The City, along with Azavar and legal counsel got Senate and House legislation passed that would require them to pay past due amounts. As a result of the legislation, attorneys have been in settlement negotiations with ComEd and the results of the negotiation, after all related litigation costs and fees, results in \$9,504 of additional funds to the City. He recommends approval of the settlement agreement as presented to settle all outstanding matters related to the issue.

It was moved by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Holmes that an Ordinance (22-O-64) be passed authorizing and approving a Settlement Agreement with Commonwealth Edison, Azavar Audit Solutions, Inc. and the City of Zion. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

ORDINANCE/CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY

Administrator Knabel stated the proposed ordinance is in regards to an interested developer, Presidio Storage, LLC who is interested in obtaining property in Trumpet Park. Currently the City has an option contract with North Shore Sanitary District to purchase property in Trumpet Park. Presidio has offered \$700,000 for the purchase of the property. The agreement will allow Presidio to begin the due diligence on the property. Included in the agreement is a clause that states if the City does not close on the purchase of the property with North Shore Sanitary District both parties are relieved of the obligation under the terms of the Agreement. Commissioner Fischer asked if the City was looking at receiving any revenue from the project. Administrator Knabel stated this business would not be a sales tax generator but rather jobs and property tax driven. The Assessor will still have to assess the property but he believes it should generate about \$150,000 a year in property taxes.

It was moved by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Holmes that an Ordinance (21-O-65) be passed authorizing the conveyance or disposition of certain real property located within a Redevelopment Project Area for the City of Zion. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

SERGEANT VACANCY/POLICE DEPARTMENT

A memo (22-DOC-113) was received from Chief Barden requesting approval to fill one Sergeant vacancy and request the name of the next candidate from the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners Sergeant Eligibility List. He stated with the recent retirement of Lieutenant Anthony Velardi it created two vacancies within the supervisory Police ranks. The vacant Lieutenant position has been previously filled but due to staffing shortages the Sergeant position has been unable to be filled until now.

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

EMERGENCY SIREN REPAIR/REPLACEMENT

A memo (22-DOC-114) was received from Chief Stried requesting approval of a quote for the replacement of the emergency notification siren located near 9th Street and Green Bay Road. Chief Stried stated that the funding for the equipment was included in the 2022/23 Capital Projects Fund budget. The siren has not been working properly for multiple months in a row, and the siren service provider has determined that it now needs to be replaced. This upgraded warning siren will be a technology upgrade to what they currently have. They will also be looking to upgrade the other sirens around the City in next years' budget. The equipment comes with a one-year warranty on electrical components and a five-year warranty on the main motor. The total cost of the project, including installation is \$19,950. Additionally, he requested the Council waive the bid process and recognize Fulton Siren Services as the single-source vendor of the specialized equipment as the company has been approved for maintenance and support of the system. Commissioner Frierson asked what the life of the units were. Chief Stried stated the current equipment is very old which could be an indication. The new equipment has newer technology with a battery back-up. Commissioner Frierson asked if the company offers longer than a one-year warranty. Chief Stried stated he will check into it.

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner Holmes to approve the quote from Fulton Siren Services and waive the bid process and recognize the company as the single-source vendor of the specialized equipment for a total cost of \$19,950. The vote on roll call was Commissioners Frierson, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENTAL COMMENTARY

Director Ianson stated he received the environmental results for the property at 2771 Galilee and everything looks good.

Director Roberts noted that Lake County Department of Transportation will be holding a public meeting for the Phase 1 study for the intersection of Wadsworth Road between Lewis Avenue and Sheridan Road and Lewis Avenue in the Village of Beach Park and the City of Waukegan. The meeting will take place on December 14, 2022 from 5 pm to 7 pm at the Beach Park Village Hall. The will be presenting the project's preferred alternative and schedule and seek public input and comments regarding the preferred alternative. Additionally, he asked that residents refrain from parking on the streets at night as they may need to salt the streets even if it's just rain.

Chief Stried stated at the last meeting he mentioned the new smoke alarm law effective January 1, 2023. They will be putting details on the website. The program called "Be Alarmed" will supply alarms to residents at no cost and includes the installation by the Fire Department. Mayor McKinney asked if the program includes apartment buildings also. Chief Stried stated per the State Fire Marshall this program is specially for homeowners. There is currently a law requiring landlords to provide the alarms for all tenants.

Chief Barden commented on the following:

- They onboarded four new police officers who will be attending the Police Academy.
- Last Saturday they participated in "Shop with a Cop". They helped out 50 families, which is the largest to date. He thanked Walmart, ComEd, Northshore Gas and others. The program served students from Zion Elementary Schools.
- He addressed the involvement of the Lake Country Major Crimes Task Force in Zion cases.
- He noted that they were working with Lake County Housing to address the house on the block near Mr. Lear.

Administrator Knabel commented on the following:

- He also addressed the involvement of Lake County Major Crimes Task Force in Zion. He stated they have additional resources to assist Zion and other communities based on each community’s need and are basically utilized as “Mutual Aide”.
- He reminded residents that the “We Heart Zion” Facebook page is not a City page. People respond on this page without knowing true facts. He asked that residents not use social media for questions and answers. He noted that City staff is available to answer questions by email for phone.

Commissioner Fischer reminded the public that December 7th is Pearl Harbor Day.

Mayor McKinney commented on the following:

- He thanked Mary Lou Hiltibran for her accurate information posted on social media. Additionally, he thanked ESDA for all that they do to provide assistance to Zion’s First Responders.
- He stated the members of the Task Force work with members of the community to try to get to the bottom of the violence with the children. He questioned parent’s roles in the children’s lives. The police recently took 8 weapons off the street from children. The recent incident involving a shooting was a 17-year-old shot by a 15-year-old. He believes often times parents are not being held accountable.
- He noted that several years ago they went to referendum to be Home Rule in order to be able to create Crime Free Housing but it was defeated. They have implemented rental housing inspections and have tried implementing policies to prevent things from happening. He stated they have conversations every day on how to deal with these problems in the community and knows there is a lot of work to be done but part of the solution starts at home.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 20	6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Zion Township Board Meeting Zion City Council Meeting
December 23, 26, 30		City Offices Closed for the Holidays

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, it was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner Holmes, and unanimously approved the meeting be adjourned at 7:48 p.m. Motion carried.

City Clerk