

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE ZION CITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2023 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 2828 SHERIDAN ROAD, ZION, ILLINOIS**

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Mayor Pro-Tem Fischer called the meeting to order.

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

Also present: Police Chief Eric Barden, Fire/Rescue Chief Justin Stried, City Administrator David Knabel, Building & Zoning Director Richard Ianson, Public Works Director Ray Roberts, Finance Director Kris Conway 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 Holmes to accept the City Council meeting agenda as presented.

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

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

William Bremner, Zion, presented the Council with an article from the Chicago Tribune regarding rental inspections in the City of Chicago. He recalled a City of Zion ordinance that was passed requiring the inspection of rental units for the life safety of tenants. The article stated that Chicago should not follow Zion's lead as they have been sued to stop the inspections unless requested by the resident. Additionally, he noted that Inspectors entering resident's homes without permission is a violation of the fourth amendment.

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.

Krystal Encarnacion, Zion, stated she spoke with Director Ianson asking that the trash in the back of the stores on Route 173 be picked up.

Douglas Ower, Zion, commented on an MOU between the Lake County Forest Preserve and the Waukegan Airport to allow for the expansion of the runway. He stated this will affect Zion with the low flying planes and larger jets producing more noise. He questioned whether the forest preserve came to Zion to do a presentation as they did in Wadsworth who voted against the expansion. The airport will need to acquire 52 acres of forest preserve land, other properties, businesses and vacant land. He asked that the City of Zion look into it.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- (a) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** of a Regular Meeting held on December 20, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

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

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

- (b) **BILLS:** Vouchers 142238 through 142352 drawn on Huntington National Bank, N.A. Total: \$1,465,142.72.

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

**ORDINANCE/INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT/MABAS**

A memo (23-DOC-1) was received from Chief Stried requesting approval of a MABAS Master Agreement. Chief Stried stated the agreement for emergency organizations was recently updated to address emergency response updates, certifications, and liability tort immunity protection. These are especially critical when resources are sent outside of the State of Illinois or received from surrounding states. The revisions also align the agreement with the National Incident Management System and Interstate Mutual Aid laws and provides for third party recovery under spiller pays, technical rescue recovery and patient billing. The agreement also streamlines the process for individual states to participate in the MABAS system through a network of divisions within a state chapter. All Fire/EMS agencies in the State of Illinois have been asked to review and approve the agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner Holmes, that an Ordinance (23-O-1) be passed authorizing an Intergovernmental Agreement for participation in the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS). The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Holmes, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; and Mayor Pro-Tem Fischer, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

**ORDINANCE/SURPLUS PROPERTY/POLICE DEPARTMENT**

A memo (23-DOC-2) was received from Chief Barden requesting that vehicles in the Police Department be declared as surplus property. Chief Barden stated the vehicles are in a state of disrepair or cost prohibitive to maintain operational value. They will be auctioned through Clinton Auto Auction.

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner McDowell, that an Ordinance (23-O-2) be passed declaring various vehicles in the police department as surplus property. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Holmes, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; and Mayor Pro-Tem Fischer, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

**ORDINANCE/CLINTON AUTO AUCTION AGREEMENT**

A memo (23-DOC-3) 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. He noted that there have been a few changes; the clean up fee decreased from \$35 to \$30 and the contract term from a 1-year to a 3-year. Commissioner Frierson also noted changes in the Personal property fee.

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner McDowell that an Ordinance (23-O-3) 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 Holmes, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye and Mayor Pro-Tem Fischer, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

**SPECIAL USE PERMIT EXTENSION/TRUCK PARKING & MAINTENANCE FACILITY/IOV ASSOCIATES**

A memo (23-DOC-4) was received from Director Ianson requesting an extension to the Special Use Permit to operate a truck parking and maintenance facility at 200 Green Bay Road. Director Ianson stated Industrial Outdoor Ventures (IOV) has submitted civil drawings for review but is requesting a 180-day extension as they are still working on the building drawings and will not meet the 6-month deadline for permitting.

It was moved by Commissioner Holmes and seconded by Commissioner McDowell that an Ordinance (23-O-4) be passed extending the Special Use Permit for Industrial Outdoor Ventures to operate a truck parking and maintenance facility at 200 Green Bay Road. The vote on the roll: Commissioners Holmes, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; and Mayor Pro-Tem Fischer, aye. Motion carried.

**SPECIAL USE PERMIT/4242 ROUTE 173**

A memo (23-DOC-5) was received from Director Ianson requesting a Special Use Permit to continue the use of the living quarters for property located at 4242 IL Route 173, petitioner VWSS Zion, LLC c/o ClearHome Self Storage, Zoning Docket 23-Z-3. Director Ianson stated the original SUP for the living quarters becomes null and void when there is a change of ownership, as in this case. At the January 5, 2023 Planning & Zoning Commission meeting, they recommended to approve the request with the condition that the use conforms to the original Special Use Permit.

It was moved by Commissioner Holmes and seconded by Commissioner McDowell that an Ordinance (23-O-5) be passed granting a Special Use Permit to VWSS Zion, LLC to continue the use of the living quarters located at 4242 IL Route 173. The vote on the roll: Commissioners Holmes, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; and Mayor Pro-Tem Fischer, aye. Motion carried.

**VEHICLE PURCHASE/POLICE DEPARTMENT**

A memo (23-DOC-6) was received from Chief Barden requesting approval to purchase a vehicle in the police department. Chief Barden stated that the vehicle will replace an aging unmarked police squad car as well as squads that were recently involved in total loss accidents. The request is to utilize the funds received from the insurance company payout for a replacement vehicle in the amount not to exceed \$28,410.00. He stated that they are trying to make best use of the funds available as it is imperative that they replace the vehicles involved in the accidents. This will come at no additional cost to the City.

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson and seconded by Commissioner McDowell to approve the purchase of a vehicle in the police department. The vote on the roll: Commissioners Holmes, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; and Mayor Pro-Tem Fischer, aye. Motion carried.

**ENGINEERING SERVICES/2023 WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

A memo (23-DOC-7) was received from Director Roberts requesting approval of a proposal from Christopher Burke Engineering Services for engineering services for the 2023 Water Main Replacement Project. Director Roberts stated the proposal is providing the engineering design and preparation of bidding documents for the replacement of approximately 4,000 linear feet of existing water mains installed in 1928. He noted that they have had 7 main breaks in this area. Bid documents will include a base bid and three alternate bids. Staff requests and recommends approving the proposal for engineering services from Christopher Burke Engineering for a cost of \$112,700.00 and to advertise for bids. Funding for the services are a budgeted item in the FY 23 Water Fund.

It was moved by Commissioner McDowell and seconded by Commissioner Holmes to accept the proposal from Christopher Burke Engineering to provide the engineering services for the 2023 Water Main Replacement Project in the amount of \$112,700. The vote on the roll: Commissioners Holmes, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; and Mayor Pro-Tem Fischer, aye. Motion carried.

**ENGINEERING SERVICES/2023 ROAD AND ALLEY PROGRAM**

A memo (23-DOC-8) was received from Director Roberts requesting approval of a proposal from Christopher Burke Engineering Services for engineering services for the 2023 Road and Alley Program. Director Roberts stated the proposal is providing the engineering design and preparation of bidding documents for the resurfacing and or construction of approximately 11 blocks of City streets and 3 alleys. Bid documents will include a base bid and three alternate bids. Staff requests and recommends approving the proposal for engineering services from Christopher Burke Engineering for a cost of \$45,100.00 and to advertise for bids. Funding for the services are a budgeted item in the FY 23 MFT Fund. Commissioner McDowell thanked Director Roberts for planning ahead to be able to start work once the weather gets warm.

It was moved by Commissioner McDowell and seconded by Commissioner Holmes to accept the proposal from Christopher Burke Engineering to provide the engineering services for the 2023 Road and Alley Program in the amount of \$45,100. The vote on the roll: Commissioners Holmes, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; and Mayor Pro-Tem Fischer, aye. Motion carried.

### NEW PHONE SYSTEM

Administrator Knabel stated that the City's current telephone system is antiquated and the phones are no longer being supported. The Clerk and Department Heads have been working with Cindy Kolek, a representative from Sandler Partners to obtain quotes for a new Cloud based system. Two proposals were presented, one from FirstComm and one from S-Net. He stated in comparing the two companies after demonstrations and discussions with Department Heads and staff, he recommends approval of the proposal from FirstComm. He noted that although the initial costs for FirstComm are slightly higher than S-Net, they offer more capabilities and features and, the monthly costs are lower. Commissioner McDowell asked about some of the features of the system. Mayor Pro-Tem Fischer asked what the contingency plan was if they lose the Cloud and how it would affect emergencies. Administrator Knabel stated this will not affect the emergency dispatch system which is located in Gurnee. If there were issues with the system, they still have City cellphones for emergencies if necessary. Chief Barden noted that things will be redirected within the system. He also noted that all City cellphone numbers have prioritized lines through Verizon which are required to maintain the highest level of security. Ms. Kolek stated for each direct dial number there can be a disaster cellphone number set up that will be pre-programmed. If the internet is out and can't be reached, the Cloud will re-route to the cellphone numbers. Additionally, she noted that AT&T will no longer support the current T-1 lines.

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson and seconded by Commissioner McDowell to accept the proposal from FirstComm to provide a Cloud based Telephone System for the City of Zion. The vote on the roll: Commissioners Holmes, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; and Mayor Pro-Tem Fischer, aye. Motion carried.

### DEPARTMENTAL COMMENTARY

Director Ianson shared the Holiday Schedule for Waste Management. Weekday holidays will delay collection by one day for the remainder of the week.

- Memorial Day
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Day

Director Roberts stated Lake County Department of Transportation is currently holding open enrollment for the "Adopt A Highway" program for Spring until January 31, 2023. Adopt A Highway is a public service program for environmentally conscious citizen's groups to make a personal contribution to a cleaner environment by volunteering to pick up litter along Lake County's highway system. If there are any residents interested in helping out they should visit the Lake County website.

Chief Stried stated that to date they have only installed 9 smoke alarms. He invited residents to call the Fire Department or visit the City website or Facebook page for more information on the program.

Chief Barden commented on the following;

- The Safety Act Bill is currently paused and will give an update when available
- Weapons Ban Laws are in effect. If you have a weapon you do not wish to own, they can be turned into the police department for relinquishment. If they are found in your house they will be disposed of.
- He encouraged those who see something to say something by calling Crime Stoppers at 847-662-2222. The police department can receive useful information from the anonymous tips.

Administrator Knabel noted information was posted on Facebook regarding an error in the due date for the most recent water bills. The meter read dated shows December 2, 2022 but the due date is actually January 23, 2023. This happened to be the same cycle as the shut offs for the November, 2022 bills. Residents may or may not have noticed this on their bills. No late charges will be assessed if bills are paid by that date. Disregard the December 2, 2022 due date on those bills. He apologized for the inconvenience and thanked the residents for their understanding.

Mayor Pro-Tem Fischer welcomed the City’s new Finance Director Kris Conway. Additionally, he noted that Mayor McKinney was in Washington D.C. as part of the Great Lakes Water Equity Commission. They will be meeting with White House staff to discuss infrastructure and lead line replacement.

Commissioner McDowell wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Commissioner Frierson reminded residents of the Community Forum on January 28, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at the South Commons at Zion Benton High School.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

January 28	10:00 a.m.	Zion Community Forum ZBTHS South Commons
February 7	7:00 p.m.	Zion City Council Meeting
February 21	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 Holmes and unanimously approved the meeting be adjourned at 7:46 p.m. Motion carried.

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City Clerk