

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE ZION CITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2023, 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, McDowell, Holmes, Fischer, and Mayor McKinney. A quorum was present.

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

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

AGENDA CHANGES

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

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Brian Dixon, Zion, stated many years ago Zion used to have a roller rink, movie theater and bowling alley. He feels Zion needs fun entertainment like that again.

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. Mayor McKinney thanked Ms. Hiltibran and ESDA for all they continue to do for the City.

Melissa Siegel, Zion, stated it has been 9 months since her son was murdered in the park. She does not feel like this is a concern for others. She does not believe there is transparency and is very concerned. She stated there was a shooting on her street last night and wants to know what they are going to do to protect the streets in Zion so residents can have a safe summer. She would like the City to buy her home so she can leave Zion. She noted that she will come to every meeting until she sees changes.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- (a) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** a Regular Meeting held on March 7, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.; and approval but not release of Closed Session Minutes of a meeting held on March 7, 2023 at 8:06 p.m.

The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, 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 142802 through 142997 drawn on Huntington National Bank, N.A. Total: \$1,854,127.89

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

RESOLUTION/IMPROVEMENTS BY MUNICIPALITY/MFT FUNDS FY18

A memo (23-DOC-17) was received from Director Roberts stating that the City is currently undergoing an IDOT MFT Audit. A resolution is required for the utilization of Motor Fuel Tax Funds for the FY18 general maintenance programs. The expended funds were utilized for:

1. Road Salt Purchase
2. HMA Patching
3. Traffic Signal Maintenance

The expended funds for the General Maintenance Operations is \$255,000.00 and was a budgeted item in the FY18 MFT account.

It was moved by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Holmes that a Resolution (23-R-2) be passed for routine maintenance operations using Motor Fuel Tax Funds in FY18 in the amount of \$255,000.00. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Resolution passed.

RESOLUTION/IMPROVEMENTS BY MUNICIPALITY/MFT FUNDS

A memo (23-DOC-18) was received from Director Roberts stating that the City is required to file a Maintenance Resolution with IDOT for the estimated costs for routine maintenance items using Motor Fuel Tax Funds. Maintenance operations included are:

1. Road Salt Purchase
2. HMA Patching
3. Parkway Tree Removal
4. Street Light Repair
5. Traffic Signal

The estimated cost for the General Maintenance Operations is \$463,000.00 and is a budgeted in the FY24 MFT Fund. Mayor McKinney asked how long the Tree Removal Program will continue. Director Roberts stated it is put in as an annual expense and is set for trees on the parkway that are contracted out that are too large for the Public Works Department to take down.

It was moved by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Frierson that a Resolution (22-R-3) be passed for routine maintenance operations using Motor Fuel Tax Funds in the amount of \$463,000.00. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Resolution passed.

2023/2024 HEALTH/DENTAL/LIFE INSURANCE RENEWAL

A memo (23-DOC-19) was received from Administrator Knabel regarding insurance quotes for the 2032/2024 health, dental and life insurance policies. Administrator Knabel stated the City's insurance brokers, Assurance (Marsh & McLennan) negotiated the renewal for City's current health, dental and life insurance policies which expire on April 30, 2023. The health insurance results came back at a 9.51% increase (\$155,336 annually). The City is self-insured for dental claims but uses Guardian as the underwriter and for processing and administering all claims. Their renewal came back at a 16.13% increase (\$1,032 annually) The life insurance is currently under a 2-year rate guarantee at no increase with Blue Cross, Blue Shield. He also received quotes for adding additional voluntary vision and supplemental life for employees at no cost to the City and recommends Blue cross for both of those products as it gets the City an additional 0.5% off of the medical premiums (\$8,940.00). He recommends renewal of all insurance policies for the year ending April 30, 2024 as presented.

It was moved by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner McDowell, that an Ordinance (23-O-10) be passed authorizing Marsh & McLennan Agency LLC to provide insurance brokerage services and renew certain insurance policies (medical, dental, life and voluntary options) as presented. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION/WORKPLACE VIOLENCE/ INSURANCE RENEWAL

A memo (23-DOC-20) was received from Administrator Knabel requesting approval of the City's workers' compensation and workplace violence insurance renewal. Administrator Knabel stated the brokers at Assurance (Marsh & McLennan), negotiated the City's renewal for the City's workers' compensation insurance as well as the workplace violence policy which are both set to expire on April 30, 2023. He presented the results of the quotes. The workers' compensation renewal is a 1.9% increase (\$15,901 annually) and workplace violence is a 3.5% increase (\$500 annually). He recommended renewal of the workers' compensation policy with IPRF and renewal of the workplace violence policy with McGowan as presented.

It was moved by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Frierson that an Ordinance (23-O-11) be passed Authorizing Assurance, a Marsh & McLennan Agency LLC Company to provide insurance brokerage services and renew certain insurance policies (workers' compensation and workplace violence) as presented. The vote on roll call was Commissioners Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT/FOP PATROL

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner Fischer to table the approval of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Fraternal Order of Police, David M. Parker Memorial Zion Lodge No. 91 and the Illinois FOP Labor Council Patrol and the City of Zion for May 1, 2023 through April 30, 2026 until the next meeting. The vote on roll call was Commissioners Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE/FIRE RECOVER MITIGATION RATES UPDATE

A memo (23-DOC-21) was received from Chief Stried regarding an ordinance for the fire mitigation rates update. Chief Stried stated that at the September 20, 2022 meeting last year, Council approved updated "Fire Recovery Mitigation Rates". At the time, he neglected to request an ordinance along with that item and is requesting a repeat request of the same information in order to obtain an ordinance number for Fire Recovery USA so they may process the changes.

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner McDowell that an Ordinance (23-O-12) be passed establishing and implementing a program to charge mitigation rates for the development of emergency and non-emergency services by the fire department for services provided/rendered by/for the City of Zion Fire and Rescue. The vote on roll call was Commissioners Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

PROPOSAL/ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING SERVICES/CLOSED LANDFILLS

A memo (23-DOC-22) was received from Director Roberts regarding a proposal for engineering services from the City's environmental consultant, Deigan and Associates, for the City's closed landfills. Director Roberts stated the services will include groundwater monitoring and reporting, landfill inspections and quarterly reporting to the IEPA which is required as part of city's post closure permit. Staff requests and recommends approval of the proposal for the environmental services from Deigan and Associates of Libertyville, IL in the amount of \$28,842.00. The proposed contract is for the FY24 and will be a budgeted item within the Waste Fund.

It was moved by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Holmes to accept the proposal from Deigan and Associates of Libertyville, Illinois for engineering services related to Zion's closed landfills in the amount of \$28,842.00. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

BLACKBOARD CONNECT/EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SERVICES RENEWAL

A memo (23-DOC-23) was received from Chief Stried regarding the renewal of the City's BlackBoard Connect coverage. Chief Stried stated the City's coverage for BlackBoard Connect ended 3/25/23. Staff is recommending approval of the renewal effective 3/26/23 in the amount of \$12,090. Per previous agreements, the City will pay the

invoice and half of the amount (\$6,045) will be reimbursed from the Joint Dispatch Board (JETS), and the other half is a budgeted line item from the ESDA Emergency Notification. Additionally, he urged all residents of Zion to register with BlackBoard Connect to receive the noteworthy messages from City staff. Easy instructions can be found on the homepage of the City's website. Mayor McKinney asked how BlackBoard Connect is utilized in the City. Chief Stried stated residents can elect to receive notices such as weather events, evacuations or important messages from the City by text, email or phone calls.

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner McDowell to approve the renewal agreement between the City of Zion and BlackBoard Connect for Emergency Notification Services. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye and Mayor McKinney, aye. Motion carried.

GARBAGE CONTRACT DISCUSSION

Administrator Knabel stated the current 5-year contract with Waste Management contains a clause stating the contract can be re-negotiated if sent proper notice. Waste Management has reached out to the City to discuss items in the contract. Due to inflation, lack of staffing and new equipment Waste Management wants to streamline how they do garbage pick-ups. Currently garbage is picked up in alleys manually. They will be switching to an automated fleet that they can do with half the staff in half the time. They are making it mandatory that the garbage be picked up in the front as it is for recycling. They have agreed to delay implementation of this until September 4th. They have looked at alternatives to this but if they wanted to delay implementation for a year it would be an increase of 38%. He realizes they will need to do some public education on this. Waste Management will also work with the City to communicate the changes to the residents. Other significant changes include: recycling pick-up moved to every other week. Waste Management will be offering free upgrades on containers for a period of time. Additionally, the leaf vacuuming program will continue for one more year. Due to the equipment costs and risks to employees they will no longer be offering the program but leaf bagging will still be part of the program. The new contract will be a 5-year contract increasing 5% every year. The first year will be \$27 a month and the years after that will be reduced to \$26.25. The topic is for discussion only tonight but the agreement will be brought to Council for approval at the next meeting. They will be getting information out to the public by ways of postcards in the water bills, the Z-B Quarterly and social media. Mayor McKinney stated one of the concerns with automation is will they be able to contain the trash. Administrator Knabel stated currently there are individuals that leave their cans out in the alley all week long. This will not be allowed to happen in the front on the streets. In the winter they will also have to deal with plowing issues. Additionally, they may have to consider getting another street sweeper. The sweeper often gets filled with leaves but with the end of the leaf vacuuming it may be able to clean up the streets better. Mayor McKinney noted it should improve the conditions of the alleys with the weight of the trucks not going down them. Commissioner McDowell asked when the City will act on this. Commissioner Frierson asked where the yard waste pick-up will be. Administrator Knabel stated he will double check with the company but he believes curbside will be required. He will be asking if they could do the yard waste in the back if possible. Commissioner Fischer noted that Waste Management will be taking over full administration of the cart program and residents will deal directly with Waste Management regarding any cart issues.

DEPARTMENTAL COMMENTARY

Director Roberts stated the Spring leaf program starts April 24th and runs through May 6th.

Chief Stried wanted to recognize Chicago Firefighter Germaine Pelt who recently died in a house fire. He reminded citizens that First Responders face a lot of danger when going into a fire.

Director Conway noted that Kat Jenkins is the new Administrative Assistant in the Accounts and Finance Department. Additionally, she reminded residents that City Stickers are currently on sale.

Administrator Knabel noted the next Community Forum event is on April 12th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at ZBTHS. Food will be provided from 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. They have been trying to rotate times for convenience for those who cannot make Saturday mornings. Discussions will include summer events, a community wellness study and nuclear funding. In order to receive the nuclear funding, they must hold a shareholder meeting to have input from the community on how to use the funds.

Commissioner Holmes stated she hoped residents exercised their right to vote in today's election. She noted that the attendance of voters in Zion was low for the municipal elections.

Commissioner Fischer thanked those who came out to vote.

Mayor McKinney asked the community to keep the First Responders and those who have lost their homes to recent tornados in their prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 7		City Offices Closed for the Holiday
April 11	6:00 p.m.	Zion Township Annual Town Meeting
April 12	6:00 p.m.	Zion Community Leaders Forum ZBTH Performing Arts Center
April 18	6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Zion Township Board Meeting Zion City Council Meeting
May 2	7:00 p.m.	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 7:47 p.m. Motion carried.

City Clerk