

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE ZION CITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, JULY 16, 2024 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 Holmes, Fischer, Frierson, McDowell, and Mayor McKinney. A quorum was present.

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

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

AGENDA CHANGES

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

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

CITIZEN COMMENTS

William Bremner, Zion, thanked Director Roberts and the Public Works crew for taking down a tree in front of his house and removing the stump. Additionally, he presented the Council with a newspaper editorial regarding the piping plovers. The article mentioned how the birds need to consider nesting at the Illinois Beach State Park with 4,000-plus acres to lay their eggs.

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 July 2, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

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 Fischer, seconded by Commissioner McDowell that the Bills be approved as follows:

- (b) **BILLS:** Vouchers 146380 through 146463 drawn on Huntington National Bank, N.A. Total: \$1,029,377.69.

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

DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS PROPERTY/PUBLIC WORKS

A memo (24-DOC-75) was received from Director Roberts requesting that vehicles and equipment in the Public Works Department be declared as surplus property. Director Roberts stated that the Fleet Maintenance Department has inspected and deemed the list of vehicles and equipment too costly to repair and no longer safe for operation. Staff requests and recommends that vehicles and equipment be declared surplus and scheduled to be auctioned. All vehicles and equipment are to be sold "as is" and minimum bid prices will be determined by Staff and the City Administrator.

It was moved by Commissioner Holmes, seconded by Commissioner McDowell that an Ordinance (24-O-64) be passed authorizing and approving the disposal of surplus vehicles and/or equipment in the Public Works Department. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; and Mayor McKinney aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

APPROVAL/GRANT ACCESS & ELECTRIC EASEMENT/ZPD SOLAR LLC

A memo (24-DOC-76) was received from Director Roberts regarding approval to grant access and an electric easement to ZPD Solar LLC (Cenergy Power). Director Roberts stated that Cenergy Power is requesting an access and electric easement located at the closed 17th Street City of Zion landfill site. The easement will allow the construction, installation, maintenance and removal of Solar Collection Facilities, and for pedestrian, vehicular and equipment access necessary for ingress and egress to the solar-powered electric generating facility. Staff requests and recommends approval of the access and the electric easement to Cenergy Power. Commissioner Fischer noted that this is one step closer to getting the project done.

It was moved by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Holmes that an Ordinance (24-O-65) be passed authorizing and approving the grant of an access and electric easement to ZPD Solar LLC. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; and Mayor McKinney aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

AIA AGREEMENT/FGM ARCHITECTS INC.

Administrator Knabel stated that this is the second part of the rebuilding of Fire Station No. 2. A few meetings ago, they approved the Construction Manager for the project. He noted that they were able to negotiate down \$40,000 from the original proposal. Additionally, he noted that there are still a few changes that need to be made within the agreement but the Construction Manager has reviewed them and is agreeable to the changes.

It was moved by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Holmes that an Ordinance (24-O-66) be passed authorizing and approving an AIA Agreement between FGM Architects Inc. and the City of Zion for architectural services for Fire Station No. 2. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Holmes, aye; Fischer, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; and Mayor McKinney aye. Motion carried. Ordinance passed.

DEPARTMENTAL COMMENTARY

Director Ianson reminded residents that with the recent storms there have been excessive amounts of branches. He directed residents to set them out with their garbage. He shared the landscape and yard waste collection policy and noted that the information is available on the City of Zion website.

Director Roberts shared the following:

- He gave an update on the lead line pipe inventory. He noted that they are about 1200 residents left to complete and with 95% of the City complete, they have only found 40 lines so far in need of replacement on the program. Originally, they thought the cost would be about \$5 million but will most likely be able to reduce that to \$2 million.
- Lake County Stormwater Management Commission (LCSMC) will be hosting an HOA workshop on September 12, 2024 from 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The event is for associations and property owners who are responsible for maintaining detention ponds, wetlands and natural areas. Registration is available on the LCSMC website and can be done in-person or on Zoom. Mayor McKinney asked if the information could be sent to the HOAs within Zion.
- Commissioner Frierson asked for an update on information regarding home house filters. Director Roberts stated he would get to information to him.
- Commissioner McDowell asked for an update regarding the City signs and District 126. Director Roberts stated he received an email from the teacher in charge of working with the kids. He stated that the second sign will be placed at South Sheridan Road. The brackets are up, the sign has been seal-coated and will be installed next month. He will be talking with him about a schedule for the completion of the remaining signs.

Chief Stried thanked ESDA for their countless volunteer hours. He noted that they are always there when there are bad storms, fires and holidays. Mayor McKinney noted that they did a great job with the Nostalgia Days clean-up.

Chief Barden shared the following:

- They applied for a grant to address careless and reckless driving. Officers are issuing citations for speeding and urged the public to drive cautiously. The campaign will be going on for a few weeks.
- He reminded residents not to drive in places where the streets are flooded as it takes away police resources from more serious business

- Commissioner Frierson asked if there has been any feedback regarding the officers on the bicycles. Chief Barden stated they patrolled the Laser Light Show at the Park District and have had positive feedback from the community. Mayor McKinney noted that it was an active 4th of July. The non-emergency lines were inundated. He asked how many tickets were written. Chief Barden stated they were dealing with two shootings and were not able to deal with as many of the fireworks calls as they would have liked. He reminded the public that Fireworks are illegal in Illinois unless they are put on by a licensed group such as the ones who put on the Park District show.

Administrator Knabel shared the following:

- He had a good turnout for his Dollars and Sense presentation on his explanation of taxes and tax levies. He urged residents to stay tuned to Facebook for future notifications. He noted that he is open to suggestions for topics.
- He urged residents to keep an eye on their water bills. They have a new company preparing and sending out the bills. He noted that the bill does look different and urged residents to read the flyer included in the bills explaining the changes.
- He thanked ESDA and the Public Works crew for the hard works during the storms. He noted residents can help by making sure the grates on their streets are cleaned off. It only takes a few minutes and is a huge service to the City. Mayor McKinney noted that landscapers blow the grass into the streets or at the curbs close to the grates causing the grass to clog the drains.

Commissioner Frierson commended Administrator Knabel on the great job on the Dollars and Sense presentation. Assessor Davis will be also be doing a presentation along with Representative Mason on taxes and exemptions. Additionally, he shared details of the Four R Youth Golf Outing. The event provides funding for the Coalition's many health, wellness and social issue programs. Mayor McKinney also reminded the public that calling 211 can help provide resources to anyone in a mental health crisis.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

August 3	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon	Zion Clean-Up Days 28 th Street & Galilee Ave.
August 6	7:00 p.m.	Zion City Council Meeting
August 9	2:00 p.m.	Four R Youth Golf Outing Shepherd's Crook Golf Course
August 17 & 18	1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Zinnia & Monarch Festival Zion Park District Band Shell
August 20	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 7:32 p.m. Motion carried.

City Clerk