

**MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON
REGULAR MEETING OF THE HIGHLAND PARK CITY COUNCIL**

October 3, 2022

Council convened at 7:00 p.m. with Council President Clyburn presiding.

Present: Councilmember McDonald, Councilmember Bates, Councilmember Armstrong, and Council President Clyburn (4).

Absent: Council Pro Tem Patrick (1).

A quorum being present, Council was declared in session.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Councilmember Bates
Supported by Councilmember Armstrong

To approve the agenda with the following changes: remove items VIII a, b & c from Community Development and item X from Water; add a resolution from Council and two items from Legal; place items IX a & c under Recreation. Yeas (4), Nays (0), Absent (1) Patrick.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Councilmember Armstrong
Supported by Councilmember McDonald

To approve the minutes of the In-Person and Virtual Workshop meeting held September 19, 2022. Yeas (4), Nays (0), Absent (1) Patrick.

*

Moved by Councilmember McDonald
Supported by Councilmember Armstrong

To approve the minutes of the In-Person and Virtual Regular meeting held September 19, 2022. Yeas (4), Nays (0), Absent (1) Patrick.

**BID OPENING
10-03-22 V**

The Clerk stated this was the place and time to open bids for the 2022 Highland Park Drinking Water Asset Management Grant Inventory Project.

Two (2) bids were received.

D'Angelo Brothers, Inc.
30836 W. 8 Mile Rd.
Farmington Hills, MI 48336
Bid amount: \$217,750

Bricco Excavating Co., LLC
21201 Meyers Rd.
Oak Park, MI 48237
Bid amount: \$268,000

Moved by Councilmember McDonald
Supported by Councilmember Bates

To refer to the Water Department for a recommendation. Yeas (4), Nays (0), Absent (1) Patrick.

CITY CLERK
10-03-22 VI

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

Moved by Councilmember McDonald
Supported by Councilmember Bates

BE IT RESOLVED, that all election workers serving for the General Election to be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2022 shall be paid \$275 for Chairperson and \$250 for Inspector which includes attending election training session prior to the election.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following places are hereby designated as polling places within the City of Highland Park for this election:

<u>Precincts & Districts</u>		<u>Location</u>
1 – District 1	Downes Manor	13725 John R
2 – District 1	Blackwell Municipal Complex	12050 Woodward Ave.
3 & 4 – District 2	Ernest T. Ford Fieldhouse	10 Pitkin
5 – District 3	Faith Tabernacle Church	16548 Hamilton
6 – District 3	Healing Spring Church	12647 Hamilton

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pay for all election workers and the establishment of polling places, (3) A.V Counting Boards for all precincts for the General Election be approved. Yeas (4), Nays (0), Absent (1) Patrick.

CITY COUNCIL
10-3-22 VII a

The following Proclamation was submitted for approval.

PROCLAMATION
ENERGY EFFICIENCY DAY

Moved by Councilmember McDonald
Supported by Councilmember Bates

WHEREAS, energy efficiency is the cheapest, quickest, and cleanest way to meet the City of Highland Park, MI energy needs, avoid dangerous pollution, and reduce utility bills for residents and businesses in our community; and

WHEREAS, implementing energy efficiency and other clean energy policies and programs can help boost economic opportunities and job creation while continuing to move the City of Highland Park, MI toward a sustainable future; and

WHEREAS, smarter energy use reduces the amount of electricity needed to power our lives, which helps avoid power plant emissions that can harm our health, pollute our air, and warm our climate; and

WHEREAS, energy efficiency makes our homes and workspaces healthier, safer, and more comfortable; and

WHEREAS, the Highland Park City Council supported Congresswomen Rashida Tlaib and the Environmental Justice Working Group on the creation of the “Green New Deal” on March 4, 2019; and

WHEREAS, for municipalities like ours that are working to tackle harmful pollution, energy efficiency can get us about halfway toward our emissions reduction goals outlined in the Green New Deal; and

WHEREAS, together we can continue to contribute to our sustainability efforts by learning more about energy efficiency and practicing smarter energy use in our daily lives; and

WHEREAS, a nationwide network of energy efficiency groups and partners has designated the first Wednesday in October as national annual Energy Efficiency Day; NOW

THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, the Highland Park City Council now Declares the first Wednesday in October as “ENERGY EFFICIENCY DAY” in the great City of Highland Park, MI, and urge citizens to join us in supporting our clean energy goals and moving toward more energy efficiency now and in the future on this 3rd Day of October, 2022. Yeas (4), Nays (0), Absent (1) Patrick.

*

10-3-22 VII b

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

RESOLUTION FROM THE HIGHLAND PARK CITY COUNCIL IN ITS OFFICIAL CAPACITY REQUESTING THE MICHIGAN SECRETARY OF STATE JOCELYN BENSON AND THE MICHIGAN STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL DANA NESSAL PROVIDE OFFICIAL STATE MONITORS TO OVERSEE, MONITOR AND INTERVENE, WHEN NEEDED, THE MOVEMENTS AND DECISIONS MADE BY THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK ELECTION COMMISSION PRIOR TO, DURING AND POST ELECTION CYCLE FOR THE UPCOMING NOVEMBER 8TH, 2022 GENERAL ELECTION

Moved by Councilmember Bates

Supported by Councilmember Armstrong

WHEREAS, the residents of the City of Highland Park will participate in the Legal Voting Process for municipal, county and statewide elected positions/proposals and the WILL of the people (residents) of the City of Highland Park must be respected and accepted, and,

WHEREAS, the Highland Park City Attorney Terry Ford attending a City Council meeting in May of 2021, threaten Warrants for the Arrest of every City Councilmember after the City Council denied his request for a Contract Renewal based on a ‘Vote of No Confidence’, and,

WHEREAS, the Highland Park City Attorney Terry Ford has displayed a posture of ‘Retribution’ towards the Highland Park City Council since that Contract Renewal was denied and its Vote of No Confidence, and,

WHEREAS, this Retribution has included (1) hiding contractual information from the Highland Park City Council (2) not providing litigation updates to the Highland Park City Council (3) not providing explanations of expenditures from the Department of Law in excess of six-figures and most recently (4) denying City Councilman/Candidate Ken Bates from being placed on the November 8th, 2022 General Election ballot, even though his case mirrored a very recent case in which the Court determine a local candidate can remain on the ballot for the exact same affidavit language as Ken Bates, (Please note* by City Charter, the City Attorney is the Chairman of the Highland Park Election Commission) and,

WHEREAS, the integrity, impartialness and objectivity of the Highland Park Election Commission has been compromised by the unprofessional behavior of the Highland Park City Attorney and other Election Commissioners and,

WHEREAS, a Highland Park Election Commissioner/Employee of the City has been identified through attached evidence of supporting, endorsing and campaigning for a candidate vying for the position of Mayor of Highland Park, which is prohibited by both the Election Commission and Chapter 12 Elections, Section 12-12 Political Activities Prohibited of the Highland Park City Charter, and,

WHEREAS, the Highland Park City Council has NO CONFIDENCE in the ability of City Attorney/Election Commission Chairman Terry Ford to oversee, without personal intervention, a fair and impartial municipal election for the voting residents of the City of Highland Park during the November 8th, 2022 General Election,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Highland Park City Council formally and officially requests that the Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson and Michigan State Attorney General Dana Nessel provide monitors to oversee, monitor and intervene (when needed) the movements and decisions made by the City of Highland Park Election Commission prior to, during and postelection cycle for the upcoming November 8th, 2022 General Election and a copy of this Resolution be sent to our State Representative, our State Senator and the Governor’s Office. Yeas (4), Nays (0), Absent (1) Patrick.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
10-03-22 VIII**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**A RESOLUTION SUBMIT APPLICATION FOR NEIGHBORHOOD ENHANCEMENT
PROGRAM (NEP) GRANT**

Moved by Councilmember Armstrong
Supported by Councilmember McDonald

WHEREAS, MSHDA announced Round 8 of the Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) that will provide up to Two Million Dollars in MSHDA funding statewide for activities directly tied to stabilization and enhancement of Michigan's rural communities and urban neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the program's intent is to fund tangible housing-oriented activities that are: implementation ready; highly visible; impactful to the area and resident's quality of life; and where there is buy-in and demonstrated support within the area and where people are engaged and facilitating change; and

WHEREAS, cities may request up to \$75,000 with at least 50% going towards exterior renovations in a selected neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to apply for funding in line with its goal to create a livable and sustainable community by providing a high quality of life for all citizens. while retaining the city's historic character and creating opportunities for new investment; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City approves applying for Round Eight of the Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP). Yeas (4), Nays (0), Absent (1) Patrick.

**PUBLIC WORKS
10-03-22 IX**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

EMERGENCY RESOLUTION TO REPAIR PLUMBING AT 13233 HAMILTON

Moved by Councilmember McDonald
Supported by Councilmember Bates

WHEREAS, the city-owned building at 13233 Hamilton is in need of emergency plumbing repairs; and

WHEREAS, water is pouring into the building whenever it rains; and

WHEREAS, the City has been working on a long-range plan to bring the building into operation and has been securing pricing for various items from contractors who are currently working with the City to understand the scope of the project; and

WHEREAS, the City received a quote from John Greene Company for \$10,500 to fix the water leaks caused by plumbing issues; and

WHEREAS, the water leak issue from the plumbing/roof must be fixed before it causes more damage; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City approves hiring the John Greene Company to make emergency plumbing repairs at 13233 Hamilton at a cost not to exceed \$10,500. Yeas (4), Nays (0), Absent (1) Patrick.

**RECREATION
10-03-22 X a**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT TWO BIKE FIXING STATIONS FROM THE NORTHEND
WOODWARD COMMUNITY COALITION**

Moved by Councilmember Armstrong
Supported by Councilmember Bates

WHEREAS, the Northend Woodward Community Coalition would like to partner with the City of Highland Park in providing two (2) bike fixing stations for the community; and

WHEREAS, the two target locations are Casey Park & the Ernest T. Ford Field House; and

WHEREAS, the stations are being donated, along with the installation by the organization; and

WHEREAS, the station is free to cyclists who need to make minor repairs while they are riding; and

WHEREAS, the organization will provide a small sign acknowledging their donation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City gratefully accepts the two donated bike fixing stations from the Northend Woodward Community Coalition. Yeas (4), Nays (0), Absent (1) Patrick.

*

10-03-22 X b

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE GIFT OF TREES VALUED AT \$48,000 FROM THE GREENING OF DETROIT

Moved by Councilmember McDonald
Supported by Councilmember Armstrong

WHEREAS, The Greening of Detroit, 13000 McNichols, Detroit, MI 48235 has offered to purchase and install up to 60 shade and ornamental trees (1.5" caliper balled and burlap); and

WHEREAS, the trees will be planted in Glendale Park, 51 Glendale Avenue and at the Ford Recreation Center/Ives Field, 10 Pitkin Street; and

WHEREAS, the easement at Perchman Park, 13099 John R, will be considered as time allows, and is included in the total number of trees above; and

WHEREAS, the cost, approximately \$48,000, is being borne by The Greening of Detroit; and

WHEREAS, planting of these 60 shades and ornamental trees will take place during the Fall 2022 planting season; and

WHEREAS, the Greening of Detroit will provide a 3-year maintenance plan that includes 2 years irrigation, and the first structural pruning of these trees; and

WHEREAS, no warranty is provided, but any trees that have died within the first two years can be removed (flush cut) at the request of the Parks and Recreation Department, and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City gratefully accepts the donation of 60 trees, plus 3-year maintenance from The Greening of Detroit. Yeas (4), Nays (0), Absent (1) Patrick.

LEGAL
10-03-22 XI a

Moved by Councilmember Bates
Supported by Councilmember Armstrong

To recess to go into closed session. Yeas (4), Nays (0), Absent (1) Patrick. Meeting recessed at 7:22 p.m.

*

Moved by Councilmember McDonald
Supported by Councilmember Bates

To reconvene Regular meeting. Yeas (4), Nays (0), Absent (1) Patrick. Regular meeting reconvened at 7:56 p.m.

10-03-22 XI b

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE SETTLEMENT OF THE LAWSUIT MENGE V CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK, ET AL

Moved by Councilmember Armstrong
Supported by Councilmember McDonald

WHEREAS, the Brian Menge has filed civil action Case No.21-cv-10152 in the US District Court alleging Civil Violations by the City of Highland Park; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Highland Park's insurance carrier has conducted its review and desires to settle this case without any admissions of liability; and,

WHEREAS, settlement is in the best interest of the City

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Highland Park Approves the settlement of this matter under the terms and conditions set forth in the US District Court records. Yeas (3) McDonald, Bates and Armstrong, Nays (1) Clyburn, Absent (1) Patrick.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councilmember McDonald
Supported by Councilmember Armstrong

To adjourn the meeting, motion carried, meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the attached is a copy of the minutes of the In-Person and Virtual Regular Meeting held the 3rd of October 2022 and that said minutes are available for public inspection at the address designated on the posted public notice.



Cidia Wicker-Brown, Deputy City Clerk