

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

MARCH 7, 2022

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

Present: Council Pro Tem Patrick, Councilmember McDonald, Councilmember Bates, Councilmember Armstrong, and Council President Clyburn (5).

Absent: (0).

A quorum being present, Council was declared in session.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Council Pro Tem Patrick
Supported by Councilmember Armstrong

To approve the agenda with the removal of item IX a. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Councilmember Armstrong
Supported by Councilmember McDonald

To approve the minutes of the In-person and Virtual Workshop meeting held February 22, 2022. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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Moved by Councilmember Armstrong
Supported by Council Pro Tem Patrick

To approve the minutes of the In-person and Virtual Regular meeting held February 22, 2022. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

**CITY COUNCIL
03-07-22 V**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION OF A STREET NAME CHANGE FROM MCLEAN STREET TO
'WHEELER WAY' IN CELEBRATION OF NAOMI AND EARL WHEELER**

Moved by Council Pro Tem Patrick
Supported by Councilmember McDonald

WHEREAS, the Highland Park City Council would like to formally recognize the contributions of the entire Wheeler Family to both the City of Highland Park and the School District of Highland Park, and,

WHEREAS, in particular, Naomi and Earl Wheeler were pioneers in creating change for the lives of the African American resident and the African American experience in the City of Highland Park, and,

WHEREAS, through their tireless and relentless efforts, change did occur and advancements were made for the lives of African Americans in the City of Highland Park, and,

WHEREAS, through their service on multiple boards, commissions, committees, organizations and Councils resulted in the improvements for the African American experience in Highland Park, and,

WHEREAS, Naomi and Earl Wheeler committed their adult life to the City and loved the City of Highland Park until their last day, NOW,

THEREFORE, IT RESOLVED, the Highland Park City Council now declares McLean Street shall now and forever be known as 'Wheeler Way' to Honor the many 'Ways' that the Honorable Naomi and Earl Wheeler contributed to the City of Highland Park. Declared on this day, March 7th, 2022 by the Highland Park City Council. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
03-07-22 VI a**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION TO SELL HALF OF THE VACANT RESIDENTIAL SIDE LOT AT 167
PILGRIM TO THE ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNER AT 163 PILGRIM**

Moved by Councilmember Bates
Supported by Councilmember McDonald

WHEREAS, The City of Highland Park holds in its inventory a surplus of City- owned parcels that are not producing a taxable, habitable and general benefit to the City and its residents; and

WHEREAS, it is the goal of the City to decrease the number of city-owned parcels and return

them to productive use; and

WHEREAS, the City of Highland Park is the partial owner of the vacant side lot at 167 Pilgrim, (vacant lot adjacent to resident's home); and

WHEREAS, upon the payment of all remaining fees (all others have been previously paid), and required clearances obtained from the Water Department, Treasurer, City Engineer, CED and Legal Departments are signed off and ready to purchase; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council approves the sale of the vacant lot located in Highland Park, MI at the cost of \$250. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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03-07-22 VI b

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION TO SELL THE VACANT COMMERCIAL LOT AT 259 FORD
TO THE OWNER AT 13847 HAMILTON**

Moved by Council Pro Tem Patrick
Supported by Councilmember Armstrong

WHEREAS, The City of Highland Park holds in its inventory a surplus of City- owned parcels that are not producing a taxable, habitable and general benefit to the City and its residents; and

WHEREAS, it is the goal of the City to decrease the number of city-owned parcels and return them to productive use; and

WHEREAS, the City of Highland Park is the owner of the vacant commercial lot at 259 Ford; and

WHEREAS, the applicant would like to convert the parcel into a parking lot; and

WHEREAS, the City's Assessor has estimated the non-marketed value at the cost of \$2,000; and

WHEREAS, upon the payment of all remaining fees (all others have been previously paid), and required clearances obtained from the Water Department, Treasurer, City Engineer, CED and Legal Departments are signed off and ready to purchase; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council denies the sale of the vacant commercial lot located in Highland Park, MI at the cost of \$2,000. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

**ENGINEERING
03-07-22 VII**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE CONTRACT WITH CENTURY CEMENT FOR
SINKHOLE REPAIRS**

Moved by Councilmember Armstrong
Supported by Councilmember McDonald

WHEREAS, since 2019, 148 sinkholes have been repaired throughout the City at a cost of approximately \$718,000; and

WHEREAS, there remains 109 sinkholes identified by DPW and City Engineering in need of repair; and

WHEREAS, on December 22, 2021 the City approved soliciting bids for the remaining 109 sinkhole repairs to be completed; and

WHEREAS, the City received four bids; and

WHEREAS, after a review by City Engineering, Century Cement was identified as the low bidder; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City approves the contract with Century Cement to repair up to 109 sinkholes at a cost not to exceed \$300,000. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

**FINANCE
03-07-22 VIII**

The monthly financial statement January 31, 2022 was received and filed.

**FIRE
03-07-22 IX**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

RESOLUTION TO AUCTION/SELL INOPERABLE FIRE LADDER TRUCK

Moved by Councilmember McDonald
Supported by Council Pro Tem Patrick

WHEREAS, the Highland Park Fire Department owns a 2003 Pierce Manufacturing ladder truck; and

WHEREAS, the ladder truck requires unjustifiable repairs estimated to be up to \$100,000; and

WHEREAS, the fire engine is inoperable and the City wishes to dispose of it; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Management and Budget assists local units of government in the disposal of surplus property through MiDeal contracts; and

WHEREAS, Highland Park will attempt to utilize MiDeal to auction the vehicle; or, if unsuccessful, the City will attempt to sell it to the highest bidder; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City approves auctioning/selling the inoperable 2003 Pierce Manufacturing ladder truck, VIN #4PICTO2F22ACO2737, to the highest bidder. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

RECREATION

03-07-22 X a

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

RESOLUTION TO AMEND CONTRACT WITH KUHN SPECIALTY FLOORING TO INCLUDE MOISTURE MITIGATION PRIOR TO INSTALLATION OF NEW GYM FLOORING

Moved by Councilmember Armstrong
Supported by Councilmember Bates

WHEREAS, on February 7, 2022, the City approved a contract with Kuhn Flooring to remove and replace the gym flooring and bleachers at the Recreation Center damaged by the flood; and

WHEREAS, upon removing the current flooring, relative humidity test probes were installed at four places in the gym's current concrete flooring, as typical with any new installation; and

WHEREAS, the four test panels were forwarded to a lab for analysis; and

WHEREAS, the lab report showed that three of the four test points exceeded the relative humidity specifications for the installation of new flooring on the present concrete slab; and

WHEREAS, this condition requires moisture mitigation of \$25,025 before the new vinyl material can be glued down in order for the flooring to be warrantied, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City approves amending the contract with Kuhn Specialty Flooring to include the installation of a moisture mitigation system prior to installation of the new gym floor at a cost of \$25,025. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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03-07-22 X b

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

RESOLUTION TO SOLICIT BIDS TO UPGRADE CASEY PARK

Moved by Councilmember McDonald
Supported by Councilmember Armstrong

WHEREAS, the City is responsible for the health and welfare of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to provide the citizens with recreational opportunities in open outdoor spaces; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to solicit quotes to upgrade Casey Park in three phases: 1) replace existing basketball court and current fence around the court; 2) install new fence, remove a portion of existing pad and add green space; and 3) install pavilion and new tree plantings; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City approves soliciting quotes to upgrade Casey Park as funding becomes available. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

OUTSIDE COMMUNICATION

03-07-22 XI

The following communication was received from Highland Park Board of Education President Shamayim Harris.

On behalf of the School District of the City of Highland Park, I want to share with you the exciting news of our exploration into creating a new high school for our local families and students. Collective input from our families and community is paramount; so, right now, we are only in the very beginning stages of this initiative.

First, we must determine the feasibility of building and operating a high school. Property options in the city are limited, and any location being considered must be suitable for quality learning and education. *Children First* is more than a district motto; it drives all our decisions for delivering the absolute best education every day to every student.

The Board of Education has created a High School Subcommittee, led by Chair Anthony Askew, to further explore the possibility of a high school. The BOE and this committee are eager and

excited to engage in discussion about this initiative. Listening to a variety of thoughts and ideas will help us all arrive at the best options for local students and families.

Finally, we must also consider the sustainability of a grade 9-12 high school to accommodate scholars from Barber Preparatory Academy and George Washington Carver Academy. Continued enrollment growth at Barber Prep, coupled with Carver's students, AND the continuous strong desire from our families and community to have a high school once again, charges us to take a serious look and research into making this happen. Creating a high school is in alignment with the Board of Education-approved 2018 Strategic Plan to grow our district. We look forward to building with all of you to make the best decision that aligns with putting *Children First*.

We encourage everyone of you to join us on this very exciting, exploratory journey. Join us the fourth Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m. on Zoom to share your thoughts and ideas with the Board of Education High School Subcommittee.

Moved by Councilmember McDonald
Supported by Councilmember Bates

To receive and file the above communication. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Pro Tem Patrick
Supported by Councilmember Armstrong

To adjourn the meeting, motion carried, meeting adjourned at 7:47 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 7th day of March 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