

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

August 21, 2023

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

Present: Council President Thomas, Council Pro Tem Robinson, Councilwoman Manica, Councilwoman Martin, and Councilman Ash-Shafii (5).

Absent: (0).

A quorum being present, Council was declared in session.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Councilwoman Martin
Supported by Councilman Ash-Shafii

To approve the agenda as presented. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Councilwoman Manica
Supported by Council President Thomas

To approve the minutes of the In-Person and Virtual Regular meeting held August 7, 2023. Yeas (3) Martin, Manica and Thomas, Nays (2) Ash-Shafii and Robinson, Absent (0).

Moved by Councilwoman Manica
Supported by Councilman Ash-Shafii

To take a 5-minute recess. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0). Meeting recessed at 8:07.
Meeting reconvened at 8:14 p.m.

**LEGAL
08-21-23 Va**

Moved by Councilwoman Manica
Supported by Council President Thomas

To recess into Closed Session. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0). Meeting recessed at 8:15 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 8:44

*

08-21-23 Vb

Moved by Councilwoman Manica
Supported by Councilwoman Martin

To approve settlement in the case of Dupuis vs. City of Highland Park and Dupuis II vs. City of Highland Park as recommended by the Legal Department. Yeas (4), Nays (1) Robinson, Absent (0).

ORDINANCE 2nd READING
08-21-23 VI

The following ordinance was submitted for a final reading.

An ordinance to amend the Highland Park Administrative Code, by adding Chapter ___ to prohibit all forms of recreational marihuana establishments within the City of Highland Park.

State Law reference: Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act, MCL 333.27951 et seq.

NOW THEREFORE, The City of Highland Park ordains:

Section 1. Title

This ordinance shall be known and cited as the City of Highland Park Marihuana Establishments Ordinance.

Section 2. Marihuana Establishments

As permitted in section 6.1 of the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act, the City hereby completely prohibits any marihuana establishments as defined in the Act from locating and operating within the boundaries of the City.

Council Pro Tem Robinson stated November 18, 2019, the City of Highland Park did opt in so now they want us to vote to opt out.

Moved by Councilwoman Manica
Supported by Councilman Ash-Shafii

To adopt this ordinance to amend the Highland Park Administrative Code. Yeas (4), Nays (1) Robinson, Absent (0).

TABLED ITEM
08-21-23 VII

The following item was tabled at the August 7, 2023, meeting.

RESOLUTION TO SELL THE VACANT RESIDENTIAL ADJACENT LOT AT 55 AVALON TO THE ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNER AT 51 AVALON

Moved by Councilman Ash-Shafii
Supported by Councilwoman Martin

To bring back from the table. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

There was lengthy discussion regarding this item.

Moved by Councilman Ash-Shafii
Supported by Councilwoman Manica

To table to the September 5, 2023, Regular meeting. Yeas (3), Ash-Shafii, Manica and Thomas, Nays (2) Martin and Robinson, Absent (0).

**ADMINISTRATION
08-21-23 VIII**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

Moved by Councilwoman Manica
Supported by Council President Thomas

**RESOLUTION OF RECONSIDERATION FOR THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF ANNE ZOBEL AND
JEFFREY HARRIS TO THE HISTORIC COMMISSION**

WHEREAS, the City has established an Historic Commission to ensure the preservation of historically and culturally significant areas of the City; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Historic District Ordinance, the Commission is to consist of seven (7) residents of the City of Highland Park; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Historic Commission are appointed by the Mayor and subject to approval by City Council; and

WHEREAS, the term of appointment to the Historic Commission shall be three years, to expire on the last day of June; and

WHEREAS, ANNE ZOBEL and JEFFREY HARRIS's terms on the Historic Commission expired on June 30, 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council approves the following re-appointments to the Historic Commission:

Anne Zobel Term ending June 30, 2026
Jeffrey Harris Term ending June 30, 2026

Yeas (2) Manica and Thomas, Nays (3), Ash-Shafii, Martin, and Robinson, Absent (0).

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
08-21-23 IX**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT MI-HOPE ROUND THREE GRANT

Moved by Councilman Ash-Shafii
Supported by Council Pro Tem Robinson

WHEREAS, on June 5, 2023, the City approved a resolution to submit an application for the MI HOPE Grant- Round 3; and

WHEREAS, the City has been awarded \$300,000 from MSHDA for the MI-HOPE Round Three Grant; and

WHEREAS, the MI -HOPE program, an extension of MSHDA's Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP), aids communities throughout Michigan by providing funds to local governments and non-profit organizations to engage in energy-efficiency housing projects; and

WHEREAS, MI -HOPE seeks to provide energy-efficiency assistance to eligible households having income equal to or less than 300% of the federal poverty level as outlined in United States Department of Treasury Guidance; and

WHEREAS, MI -HOPE assisted activities are limited to: roofs; storm doors/exterior doors; windows; modification/efficiency or replacement of heating (furnaces or boilers), cooling (full only), ventilation systems, and water heater upgrades (including on demand retrofitting); and up- to-date exterior security lighting; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City accepts the \$300,000 MI- HOPE Round 3 Grant from MSHDA. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

ENGINEERING
08-21-23 X

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

A RESOLUTION FOR THE ACCEPTNCE OF THE FY2022 SAFE STREETS AND ROADS FOR ALL GRANT PROGRAM TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (USDOT) AND THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION (FHWA) BY THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

Moved by Council Pro Tem Robinson
Supported by Councilman Ash-Shafii

WHEREAS, the Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant was developed by the U.S. Department of Transportation to support planning, infrastructure, behavioral, and operational initiatives to prevent death and serious injury on roads and streets involving all roadway users, including pedestrians; bicyclists; public transportation, personal conveyance, and micromobility users; motorists; and commercial vehicle operators; and

WHEREAS, the grant will assist Highland Park with the development and implementation of short-term road infrastructure plans, specifically though the development of an official Safety Action Plan identifying projects for improving transportation safety on city roads; and

WHEREAS, the creation of an official Action Plan will enable the City Engineering Department to qualify for future Implementation Grants through the DOT to fund projects from the Action Plan that will assist with rehabilitation and replacement of city roads; and

WHEREAS, a component of the Action Plan may require that an official public commitment (e.g., resolution, policy, ordinance, etc.) by a high-ranking official and/or governing body (e.g., Mayor, City Council, etc.) to an eventual goal of zero roadway fatalities and serious injuries. The commitment must include a goal and timeline for eliminating roadway fatalities and serious injuries achieved through either the target date for achieving zero roadway fatalities and serious injuries or an ambitious percentage reduction of roadway fatalities and serious injuries by a specific date with an eventual goal of eliminating roadway fatalities and serious injuries; and

WHEREAS, another component of the Action Plan may require that a committee, task force, implementation group, or similar body be created and charged with oversight of the Action Plan development, implementation, and monitoring; and

WHEREAS, the City of Highland Park was awarded \$200,000 for this grant on the effective agreement date of July 11, 2023, and the City will be required to provide a 20% match of the awarded grant amount, where 20% equates to \$50,000; and

WHEREAS, the Engineering Department shall utilize grant funds to develop an official Action Plan for the City of Highland Park; and

BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Highland Park City Council approves the acceptance of the FY2022 Safe Street and Roads for All Grant Program for a total of \$200,000 to the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

FINANCE
08-21-23 XI

Moved by Councilman Ash-Shafii
Supported by Councilwoman Manica

To receive and file the Monthly Statement July 2023. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

Council Pro Tem Robinson stated since January 4 she's been trying to put some teeth in the Blight Ordinance.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councilman Ash-Shafii
Supported by Councilwoman Manica

To adjourn the meeting, motion carried, meeting adjourned at 10:53 p.m.

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the attached is a copy of the proposed minutes of the In-Person and Virtual Regular Meeting held the 21st day of August 2023 and that said minutes are available for public inspection at the address designated on the posted public notice.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cidia Wicker-Brown', with a decorative flourish at the end.

Cidia Wicker-Brown, Deputy City Clerk