

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE HIGHLAND PARK CITY COUNCIL**

JULY 1, 2019

Council convened at 7:07 p.m. with Council President Patrick presiding.

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

Absent: (0).

A quorum being present, Council was declared in session.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Councilmember Lewis
Supported by Councilmember Woodard

To approve the agenda with the removal of item VIa from Administration *Resolution To Re-appoint Kimberly McDade to the Zoning Board of Appeals*. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Councilmember Lewis
Supported by Council Pro Tem McDonald

To approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held June 10, 2019. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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Moved by Council Pro Tem McDonald
Supported by Councilmember Lewis

To approve the minutes of the Workshop and Regular meetings held June 17, 2019. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

**PUBLIC HEARINGS
07-01-19 V**

The Clerk stated this was the place and time to hear comments on proposed Water Department Budget & Rates and City Engineering Department Budget and Schedule of Fees for Fiscal Year 2020.

Moved by Councilmember Lewis
Supported by Councilmember Woodard

To open the Public Hearings. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0). Public Hearings opened at 7:30 p.m.

Director Damon Garrett gave a brief overview of the proposed fees, rates and budgets for the Water and Engineering Departments. Questions and comments were heard from City Council and citizens: Brian Donovan, Temeko Manica, Enel Littles and Khursheed Ash-ShaFii.

Moved by Council Pro Tem McDonald
Supported by Councilmember Woodard

To close the Public Hearings. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0). Public Hearings closed at 8:06 p.m.

ADMINISTRATION
07-01-19 VI a

The following resolutions were submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTIONS TO APPOINT TAESSIA BURSEY AND BEVERLY JORDAN
TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION**

Moved by Councilmember Woodard
Supported by Councilmember Bates

WHEREAS, The Planning Commission currently has five (5) members;

WHEREAS, According to Highland Park City Charter 1220.02 (a) The Planning Commission may have up to nine (9) members;

WHEREAS, Taessia Bursey and Beverly Jordan have applied and been interviewed by Mayor Hubert Yopp and have been recommended by the Mayor;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Taessia Bursey and Beverly Jordan be appointed to the Highland Park Planning Commission on July 1, 2019.

After a lengthy discussion Councilmember Bates withdrew his support and Councilmember Woodard withdrew his motion.

Moved by Councilmember Lewis
Supported by Council Pro Tem McDonald

To table the appointments of Taessia Bursey and Beverly Jordan to the Planning Commission. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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07-01-19 VI b

The following resolutions were submitted for approval.

RESOLUTIONS TO RE-APPOINT SAMUEL BILLINGTON, JEFF GLOTTA, PAUL MOTLEY, CLEOPHUS PYE AND BARBARA WILLIS TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION

Moved by Councilmember Woodard
Supported by Councilmember Lewis

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 1220.02 (2) The term of appointment to the Planning Commission shall be three years, to expire on the last day of June;

WHEREAS, Samuel Billington, Jeff Glotta, Paul Motley, Cleophus Pye and Barbara Willis’ seats on the Planning Commission expires on June 30,2019.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council re-appoints Samuel Billington, Jeff Glotta, Paul Motley, Cleophus Pye and Barbara Willis to the Planning Commission.

After a lengthy discussion Councilmember Lewis withdrew her support and Councilmember Woodard withdrew his motion.

Moved by Councilmember Bates
Supported by Councilmember Lewis

To table the re-appointments of Samuel Billington, Jeff Glotta, Paul Motley, Cleophus Pye and Barbara Willis to the Planning Commission. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
07-01-19 VII 1**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

RESOLUTION TO SELL THE RESIDENTIAL SIDE LOT AT 111 HILL TO CONSTANCE SEAY

Moved by Council Pro Tem McDonald
Supported by Councilmember Bates

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 3-1 of the City of Highland Park, "the City shall have power to manage and control the finances, rights, interests, buildings and property" of the City; and

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 side lot at 111 Hill (vacant lot adjacent to resident's home); and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, Highland Park resident Constance Seay, who lives at 107 Hill, submitted an application to purchase the vacant side lot at 111 Hill, adjacent to his/her residence; and

WHEREAS, Constance Seay paid the \$25 (twenty-five) fee prior to March 4, 2019, she shall be permitted to purchase said lot for \$250 (two hundred fifty); and

WHEREAS, The Community and Economic Development Department recognizes that Constance Seay meets all requirements for purchasing property in the City of Highland Park;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council authorizes the Department of Community and Economic Development to: 1) grandfather the sales price at \$250, 2) to sell the city-owned property at 111 Hill to Constance Seay. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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07-01-19 VII 2

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

RESOLUTION TO SELL THE RESIDENTIAL SIDE LOT AT 202 PASADENA TO FRANKLIN JACKSON, SR.

Moved by Council Pro Tem McDonald
Supported by Councilmember Bates

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 3-1 of the City of Highland Park, "the City shall have power to manage and control the finances, rights, interests, buildings and property" of the City; and

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 side lot at 202 Pasadena (vacant lot adjacent to resident's home); and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, Highland Park resident Franklin Jackson, Sr. who lives at 214 Pasadena, submitted an application to purchase the vacant side lot at 202 Pasadena, adjacent to his/her residence; and

WHEREAS, Franklin Jackson, Sr. paid the \$25 (twenty-five) fee prior to March 4, 2019, he shall be permitted to purchase said lot for \$250 (two hundred fifty); and

WHEREAS, The Community and Economic Development Department recognizes that Franklin Jackson, Sr. meets all requirements for purchasing property in the City of Highland Park;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council authorizes the Department of Community and Economic Development to: 1) grandfather the sales price at \$250, 2) to sell the city-owned property at 202 Pasadena to Franklin Jackson, Sr. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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07-01-19 VII 3

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

RESOLUTION TO SELL THE RESIDENTIAL SIDE LOT AT 206 PASADENA TO FRANKLIN JACKSON, SR.

Moved by Council Pro Tem McDonald
Supported by Councilmember Bates

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 3-1 of the City of Highland Park, "the City shall have power to manage and control the finances, rights, interests, buildings and property" of the City; and

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 side lot at 206 Pasadena (vacant lot adjacent to resident's home); and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, Highland Park resident Franklin Jackson, Sr. who lives at 214 Pasadena, submitted an application to purchase the vacant side lot at 206 Pasadena, adjacent to his/her residence; and

WHEREAS, Franklin Jackson, Sr. paid the \$25 (twenty-five) fee prior to March 4, 2019, he shall be permitted to purchase said lot for \$250 (two hundred fifty); and

WHEREAS, The Community and Economic Development Department recognizes that Franklin Jackson, Sr. meets all requirements for purchasing property in the City of Highland Park;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council authorizes the Department of Community and Economic Development to: 1) grandfather the sales price at \$250, 2) to sell the city-owned property at 206 Pasadena to Franklin Jackson, Sr. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

07-01-19 VII 4

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION TO SELL THE RESIDENTIAL SIDE LOT AT 204 PILGRIM TO
VERBALEE WELCH-GRAHAM**

Moved by Council Pro Tem McDonald
Supported by Councilmember Bates

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 3-1 of the City of Highland Park, "the City shall have power to manage and control the finances, rights, interests, buildings and property" of the City; and

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 side lot at 204 Pilgrim (vacant lot adjacent to resident's home); and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, Highland Park resident Verbalee Welch-Graham, who lives at 210 Pilgrim, submitted an application to purchase the vacant side lot at 204 Pilgrim, adjacent to his/her residence; and

WHEREAS, Verbalee Welch-Graham paid the \$25 (twenty-five) fee prior to March 4, 2019, he shall be permitted to purchase said lot for \$250 (two hundred fifty); and

WHEREAS, The Community and Economic Development Department recognizes that Verbalee Graham-Welch meets all requirements for purchasing property in the City of Highland Park;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council authorizes the Department of Community and Economic Development to: 1) grandfather the sales price at \$250, 2) to sell the city-owned property at 204 Pilgrim to Verbalee Welch-Graham. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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07-01-19 VII 5

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION TO SELL THE RESIDENTIAL SIDE LOT AT 246 TYLER TO
RUTH HOLMES**

Moved by Council Pro Tem McDonald
Supported by Councilmember Bates

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 3-1 of the City of Highland Park, "the City shall have power to manage and control the finances, rights, interests, buildings and property" of the City; and

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 side lot at 246 Tyler (vacant lot adjacent to resident's home); and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, Highland Park resident Ruth Holmes at 250 Tyler, submitted an application to purchase the vacant side lot at 246 Tyler, adjacent to his/her residence; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Holmes paid the \$25 (twenty-five) fee prior to March 4, 2019, he shall be permitted to purchase said lot for \$250 (two hundred fifty); and

WHEREAS, The Community and Economic Development Department recognizes that Ruth Holmes meets all requirements for purchasing property in the City of Highland Park;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council authorizes the Department of Community and Economic Development to: 1) grandfather the sales price at \$250, 2) to sell the city-owned property at 246 Tyler to Ruth Holmes. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

PUBLIC WORKS
07-01-19 VIII a

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF TAP PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Moved by Council Pro Tem McDonald
Supported by Councilmember Lewis

WHEREAS, The City of Highland Park has discussed the feasibility of our project to make improvements to Hamilton Avenue that will benefit our community, including:

- Converting Hamilton Avenue from 5 vehicle lanes to 3 lanes, which should reduce speeding and make it safer for pedestrians to cross the road,
- Removing traffic signals at Davison, and Cortland since they are no longer warranted and cost money to maintain,
- Adding protected bike lanes,
- Improving pedestrian crosswalks,
- Preserving on-street parking; and

WHEREAS, The City of Highland Park has worked with the engineering firm of Giffels-Webster to design and provide cost estimates for the project; and

WHEREAS, The City of Highland Park supports the acceptance of a \$336,029 Transportation Alternative Grant Allocation from the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) to assist with partial funding of the project; and

WHEREAS, The City of Highland Park certifies that \$84,000 of Act 51 Gas Tax Road Funding (*Representing our Cities 20% match*) is secured, available and committed for use in constructing the aforementioned project; and

WHEREAS, The City of Highland Park authorizes Highland Park Employee, DPW Director Willie L. Faison to act as the City's agent during project development and to sign a project agreement on the City's behalf upon receipt of a funding award for the project; and

WHEREAS, The City of Highland Park commits to owning, operating, and implementing a maintenance program over the design life of the facilities constructed with TAP funds for the project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council for the City of Highland Park, Michigan, hereby supports the Hamilton Avenue Improvements project and actions required for Transportation Alternative Program implementation. Yeas (3) Council Pro Tem McDonald, Councilmember Bates and Council President Patrick, Nays (2) Councilmember Woodard and Councilmember Lewis, Absent (0).

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07-01-19 VIII b

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

RESOLUTION TO ALLOW DPW TO PURCHASE A 2007 CHEVROLET PICKUP

Moved by Councilmember Bates
Supported by Council Pro Tem McDonald

WHEREAS, the mission of the Public Works Department (DPW) is to maintain a safe, healthy, and clean environment in the City of Highland Park; and

WHEREAS, the DPW also has general responsibility for maintenance of parks and public grounds (including vacant lots); and

WHEREAS, the DPW requires two pickup trucks that can pull a trailer to move landscaping equipment throughout the City; and

WHEREAS, one truck, a 2002 pickup currently owned by the City, requires a new transmission and other mechanical parts that would cost approximately \$4,000; and

WHEREAS, the DPW received a quote from Great Lakes Auto Sales for a used 2007 Chevrolet Silverado utility truck with a set-up that will accommodate pulling a trailer for \$7500; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Highland Park that the DPW Director be allowed to purchase a 2007 Chevrolet Silverado pickup truck from Great Lakes Auto Sales, 138 Manchester Street, Highland Park, MI 48203 for an amount not exceeding \$7,500. Yeas (3) Council Pro Tem McDonald, Councilmember Bates and Council President Patrick, Nays (2) Councilmember Woodard and Councilmember Lewis, Absent (0).

**OUTSIDE COMMUNICATION
07-01-19 IX**

The following communication was received from Alpha Omega International Outreach Non-Profit Organization.

Dear City Council,

Hello my Name is Pamela Burton I would like to introduce myself I am the CEO and founder of Alpha and Omega International Outreach Nonprofit Organization. We started in November 15th of last year we give to five cities Detroit, Highland Park, Hamtramck and Hazel Park, Pontiac.

We just gave to Renaissance Academy 10 Bikes and we also gave 10 Easter Baskets. Our organization gives year around, non-stop; just to show love, kindness, unity, togetherness. We gave 10 bikes to 10 phenomena students for their grades, citizenship and attendance. We like to show our appreciation, it's not always the people inside that notice but people on the outside notice as well.

I come here today to ask if it's any way possible that we could use a building so we can store up all the donations that we have for Highland Park. We are asking every city to participate by giving us a building space so we can have the honor to be able to give to your community.

Moved by Councilmember Woodard
Supported by Councilmember Lewis

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

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councilmember Lewis
Supported by Councilmember Bates

To adjourn the meeting, motion carried, meeting adjourned at 10:09 p.m.

CERTIFICATE

I, hereby certify that the attached is a copy of the minutes of the Regular Meeting held the 1st day of July, 2019 and that said minutes are available for public inspection at the address designated on the posted public notice.



Cidia Wicker-Brown, Deputy City Clerk