

**Enrolled Minutes of the Seventeenth Regular Meeting or Special Meeting  
For the Thirtieth Highland Town Council Regular Plenary  
Business Meeting (In person) Monday, September 9, 2024**

The Thirtieth Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana met in its regular plenary session on Monday, September 9, 2024 at 6:30 O'clock P.M. in the regular place, the Highland Municipal Building, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland, Indiana.

\*This meeting was convened as an in person meeting and lived streamed to the Town of Highland Facebook. Facebook permits the public to observe and record the proceedings but allows no interaction between and among the Town Council and members of the public. The public is able to participate in person. Councilor George Georgeff, Councilor Doug Turich, Councilor Alex Robertson, Councilor Tom Black and Councilor Philip Scheeringa all participated in person.

Pursuant to HMC Section 2.05.130(A)(2), the Town Council considered and reviewed the agenda in an informal proceeding in the plenary meeting room before the president called the meeting to order.

The Town Council President Philip Scheeringa presided over the meeting. The Town Clerk-Treasurer, Mark Herak, was present to memorialize the proceedings. The meeting was opened with Councilor Doug Turich reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and offering a prayer.

**Roll Call:** Present on roll call were Councilors George Georgeff, Doug Turich, Alex Robertson, Thomas Black, Philip Scheeringa were present. Clerk-Treasurer, Mark Herak was also present. A quorum was attained.

**Additional Officials Present:** Alex Brown, CPRP, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation; Patrol Commander John Banasiak; Redevelopment Director Maria Becerra; Mike Pipta, Fire Chief; Ed Dabrowski, Director of Information Technology, Kenneth J. Mika, Building Commissioner, Tim Gembala, Public Works Operations Director were present. John Reed, Attorney with Abrahamson, Reed & Bilse, Mark Knesek, Public Works Director and Ralph Potesta, Metropolitan Police Chief were absent.

*Guests:* Theresa Badovich (remotely) and Robin Carlascio (remotely) of the Idea Factory were also present.

**Minutes of the Previous Meetings:** The minutes of the August 26, 2024 Plenary meeting were approved by general consent.

**Special Orders:**

1. **Consideration of Proposed Additional Appropriations:** (controlled and non-controlled funds): Proposed Additional Appropriations in Excess of the 2024 Budget for the Downtown Redevelopment District Allocation Fund in the amount of

\$409,980.00, and in the Community Crossing Matching Grant Fund in the amount of \$853,503.40.

(a) Clerk-Treasurer verification of Proofs of Publication: The TIMES 23 August 2024.



See Proof on Next Page

### AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

Northwest Indiana Times  
601 W. 45th Ave.  
(219) 933-3333

State of Florida, County of Duval, ss:

I, Laquansay Nickson Watkins, of lawful age, being duly sworn upon oath depose and say that I am an agent of Column Software, PBC, duly appointed and authorized agent of the Publisher of Northwest Indiana Times, a publication that is a "legal newspaper" as that phrase is defined for the city of Munster, for the County of Lake, in the state of Indiana, that this affidavit is Page 1 of 2 with the full text of the sworn-to notice set forth on the pages that follow, and that the attachment hereto contains the correct copy of what was published in said legal newspaper in consecutive issues on the following dates:

**Publication Dates:**

- Aug 23, 2024

Notice ID: QzP8SvK531IFXv8IS4GA

Publisher ID: 118891

Notice Name: 9/9, Town Council Meeting Additional app

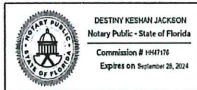
Publication Fee: \$44.57

*Laquansay Nickson Watkins*

Agent

**VERIFICATION**

State of Florida  
County of Duval



Signed or attested before me on this: 08/23/2024

*Destiny K. Jackson*

Notary Public

Notarized remotely online using communication technology via Prodf.

**TOWN OF HIGHLAND**

**NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF PROPOSED ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS**  
Notice is hereby given the taxpayers of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, that the Town Council of said Municipality in said Municipal Building, 3333 Ridge Road, at 6:30 p.m. on the 9th day of September 2024, will consider the following additional appropriations in excess of the budget for the current year in the following funds:

**Downtown Redevelopment District Allocation Fund**

Acct. 4445-0000-35001 Repair Electric Ridge/Highway \$ 13,680.00  
Acct. 4445-0000-31005 Engineering Fence Main Square \$ 16,300.00  
Acct. 4445-0000-35014 Kennedy Avenue Phase 1 Engineering \$ 3,000.00  
**Total 300 Series: \$ 32,980.00**

Acct.4445-0000-43095 Kennedy Avenue Parcels Acquisition \$377,000.00  
**Total 400 Series: \$377,000.00**

**TOTAL for the FUND: \$409,980.00**

**Community Crossing Matching Grant Fund**

Acct. 2405-0000-41027 CCMG Projects - 2024 \$853,503.00  
**Total 400 Series: \$853,503.40**  
**TOTAL for the FUND: \$853,503.40**

Funds to support these additional appropriations in the Community Crossing Matching Grant Fund and the Downtown Redevelopment District Allocation Fund shall be supported by miscellaneous revenue, unreserved unobligated fund balance on deposit to the credit of the fund.

Taxpayers appearing at such meeting shall have a right to be heard thereon. The additional appropriations, as finally made, will be filed with the Department of Local Government Finance, for its review. The Department of Local Government Finance shall make a written determination of the sufficiency of funds within fifteen days of receipt of a certified copy of the action taken.

TOWN COUNCIL of HIGHLAND  
Phillip Scheeringa, President

By: Mark Herak  
Clerk-Treasurer

8/23 - 118891

HSPAXLP

**(b) Public Hearing:**

Larry Kondrat, Highland began by questioning which was the location of the sign that the Town was spending \$13,680 to fix. Is it the sign located at Kennedy and Highway or Ridge Road and Highway? He was advised that it wasn't actually the sign that is being repaired but the conduit that feeds the sign and the street lights on Highway. He said if his memory was correct, didn't the Town already put a lot of money into that sign to repair it? He continued that maybe it is time to change out the sign to a less maintenance type of sign. He was advised again, it wasn't the sign but the electrical. He said he understood but last time it was converted over from bulbs to LED lighting. He then asked about the cost of the proposed fence around Main Square. He was advised that the cost listed in the additional appropriation was strictly for design work. They do not have cost estimates at this time. He then questioned the appropriation for Kennedy Avenue phase one engineering as he thought it rather vague as it only says to spend \$3,000. He was told that was to perform environmental tests on the property the Town was considering buying on north Kennedy Avenue. He said, you're going to do an environmental survey on that property that you're going to use as the dog pound?

Councilor Turich responded that the property will have additional uses and not simply a dog pound. He said Mr. Kondrat continually refers to it as a dog pound which is not the sole purpose of the property as there will be additional purposes for the property. He added that using the property as a dog pond would be in addition to the other activities and the requirements of the Town, which is why we purchased that property.

Larry asked if the Council was aware that the Town owns the on the other side of the wall, the property to the north of the wall. He was advised they did. He then said the Town is going to purchase the property and spend money on engineering spending totally roughly \$409,980 out of the Redevelopment Allocation Area Funds. He wanted to know if that was the correct fund for the money? He was advised it was. He asked how much money was in the fund? He thought it was over \$6m. He was advised that since the two (2) funds were combined, combined there is cash of roughly \$7.5m. He continued, if you take \$400,000 to pay for the property acquisition, that leaves roughly \$6.6m. Now, he said he thought the Council had a lot of projects they were going to do. He said it appears the Council wants to put a fence around Main Square. You going to use money to buy property to house an animal control area. He said there was talk earlier in the year about the abandoned Ultra property. The Council has had on-going discussions with a developer regarding the Town theater property. You promised both of these developer's money.

Councilor Scheeringa interrupted Mr. Kondrat and said no money was promised to any developer. He said negotiations are still going on with the developers. He those negotiations will not be discussed.

Mr. Kondrat said with \$6.6m million remaining and all these proposed projects, in particular \$4.6m for condominiums on the site of the Town theater and the proposed grant went to the wayside, with another \$5m for South Kennedy, the Council is running out of funds. He said at the Redevelopment Meeting, it was just discussed about helping out Highland Body Shop with the installation of a new sanitary sewer, even though Highland Body was made aware by the Redevelopment Commission that there were no sanitary sewers in the area and the Town wasn't going to install any which is why the Town sold the property so cheaply. He advised the Council to be careful with their finances.

c) Action on **Appropriation Enactment No. 2024-20**: An Enactment Appropriating Additional Moneys in Excess of the Annual Budget for the **Downtown Redevelopment District Allocation Fund** and in the **Community Crossing Matching Grant Fund**, all pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-18, and I.C. 36-5-3-5

Councilor Robertson introduced and moved for the consideration of Appropriation Enactment No. 2024-20 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Turich seconded. Upon a roll call vote, a unanimous vote being necessary, there were five (5) affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The enactment could be considered at the same meeting of its introduction.

Councilor Robertson moved for the passage adoption of Appropriation Enactment No. 2024-20 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Turich seconded. Upon a roll call vote, a two-thirds vote being necessary, there were five (5) affirmatives and no (0) negatives. The motion passed. The enactment was passed and adopted upon the signature of the municipal executive at the same meeting of its introduction.

**Town of Highland  
Appropriation Enactment  
Enactment No. 2024-20**

**AN ENACTMENT APPROPRIATING ADDITIONAL MONIES IN EXCESS OF THE ANNUAL BUDGET for the COMMUNITY CROSSING MATCHING GRANT FUND AND THE DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICT ALLOCATION FUND ALL PURSUANT TO I.C. 6-1.1-18, and I.C. 36-5-3-5.**

**WHEREAS**, Following a public hearing advertised pursuant to I.C. 5-3-1, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget for the **Community Crossing Matching Grant Fund** and the **Downtown Redevelopment District Allocation Fund**;

**WHEREAS**, It has been determined that such additional appropriations as may be approved by this enactment, will not increase the levies set under I.C. 6-1.1-17, all pursuant to I.C. 36-5-3-5;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED** by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, as follows:

**Section 1.** That for the expenses of said municipality, the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the **Downtown Redevelopment District Allocation Fund** herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICT ALLOCATION FUND

Acct. No. 4445-0000-35001 Repair Electric Ridge/Highway	\$13,680.00
Acct. No. 4445-0000-31005 Engineering Fence Main Square	\$16,300.00
Acct. No. 4445-0000-35014 Kennedy Avenue Phase 1 Engineering	\$ 3,000.00
<i>Total 300 Series:</i>	\$32,980.00
Acct. No. 4445-0000-43095 Kennedy Parcels Acquisition	\$377,000.00
<i>Total 400 Series:</i>	\$377,000.00
<b>Fund Total:</b>	<b>\$409,980.00</b>

**Section 2.** That for the expenses of said municipality, the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the **Community Crossing Grant Fund** herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

COMMUNITY CROSSING GRANT FUND

Acct. No. 2405-0000-41027 CCMG Projects - 2024	\$854,503.40
<i>Total 400 Series:</i>	\$854,503.40
<b>Fund Total:</b>	<b>\$854,503.40</b>

**Section 3.** That the Clerk-Treasurer is hereby authorized and instructed to inform the Department of Local Government Finance of this action and that these monies be made available for expenditure pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-18.

**Section 4.** That in satisfaction and for the purposes of the provisions set out in I.C. 36-5-2-9.6, I.C. 36-5-3-5, I.C. 36-5-4-2, this enactment shall be deemed properly filed and introduced before the Town Council at a regular or special meeting, properly called and convened pursuant to I.C. 5-1.5-14 *et seq.*

Introduced and Filed on 9<sup>th</sup> day of September 2024. Consideration on same day or at same meeting of introduction sustained a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed, pursuant to IC 36-5-2-9.8.

DULY ORDAINED AND ADOPTED this 9<sup>th</sup> Day of September 2024, by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, having been passed by a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

TOWN COUNCIL of the TOWN of  
HIGHLAND, INDIANA

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Philip Scheeringa, President (IC 36-5-2-10)

ATTEST:

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Mark Herak  
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-42-4-1; IC 36-5-6-5)

- 2. Plan Commission Docket No. 2024-01:** Petitioner is seeking an amendment to the *zoning ordinance* involving modifications to section(s) of the Sign Ordinance as requested by the Highland Town Council.

*Petitioner:* Town of Highland, by its counsel, John Reed, Abrahamson, Reed & Bilsse. The Municipal Plan Commission determined a **favorable recommendation**, by a vote of six (6) in favor, none opposed at its meeting August 21, 2024. The Plan Commission's *findings of fact* were memorialized and will be adopted at its meeting of September 28, 2024. *The matter was certified to the Town Council for its consideration and action*, received in the Office of the Town Clerk-Treasurer, September 3, 2024.

IC 36-7-4-608 (e) states that the legislative body **shall** vote on the proposal within 90 days after the plan commission certifies the proposal. Coming with a *favorable recommendation*, IC 36-7-4-608 (f) further provides that at the *first regular meeting of the legislative body after the proposal is certified or at any subsequent meeting within the 90 day period*, the legislative body may either *adopt* or *reject* the proposal.

*Pursuant to IC 36-7-4-608 (f), having received a favorable recommendation, the Town Council may either approve the recommendation and adopt the ordinance or reject the recommendation, and defeat the ordinance. If no action occurs within 90 days, the recommendation of the Plan Commission is adopted. 90 days tolls on November 18, 2024.*

**Note:** As an ordinance to amend the zoning code, IC 36-5-2-9.8 (b)(1) states the usual rules for considering an ordinance on the same night of introduction do **not** apply.

- (A) Certification of Action by the Plan Commission regarding a Proposed Amendment to the existing text of the Zoning Code. The certification transmitted and signed by the Building Commissioner was read and acknowledged.
- (B) **Ordinance No. 1659-1797:** An Ordinance of the Town of Highland, Amending Section 18.85.030, regarding Sign Types and Section 18.85.70, regarding Obsolete and Abandoned Signs of the Zoning Code of the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance. *(As a zoning ordinance, this may be considered at the same meeting without resort to special motion and passes with an affirmative vote of the majority of the Town Council. See IC 36-5-2-9.8(b)(1))*

Councilor Georgeff moved that the recommendation of the Plan Commission be approved after acknowledging the certification transmitted and signed by the Building Commissioner and that Ordinance No. 1659-1797 be passed and adopted. Councilor Black seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five (5) affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The ordinance was adopted.

**ORDINANCE No. 1659-1797**  
of the  
**TOWN of HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

**AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING the HIGHLAND MUNICIPAL ZONING CODE SECTION 18.85.030 ENTITLED SIGN TYPES and SECTION 18.85.70 ENTITLED OBSOLETE AND ABANDONED SIGNS, REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND CONFLICT THEREWITH AND DECLARING an EMERGENCY**

**WHEREAS,** The Highland Plan Commission has conducted an investigation as to the repeal and replacement to the Highland Municipal Zoning Code within the Town of Highland;

**WHEREAS,** The Petition and Application for said proposed repeal and replacement was submitted to the Highland Plan Commission, and a Public Hearing was held thereon according to said Ordinance No. 1659-1797, and said Commission recommends favorable approval; and

**WHEREAS,** The Town Council of the Town of Highland is the municipal legislative body of the unit; and

**WHEREAS,** With the passage of time, various Ordinances, codes and procedures of the Town of Highland must be amended; and

**WHEREAS,** With the passage of time, various practices, policies and procedures must be updated; and



**WHEREAS**, The Town Council is interested in amending Section 18.85.030(B)(1) regarding Sign Types, Permanent Business Signs, Location; and

**WHEREAS**, The Town Council now desires to amend Section 18.85.30(B)(1) regarding Sign Types, Permanent Business Signs, Location and add Section 18.85.30(B)(1)(C) with this current version as set forth below,

**WHEREAS**, The Town Council is interested in repealing Section 18.85.030(B)(3)(A) regarding Sign Types, Permanent, Size; and

**WHEREAS**, The Town Council now desires to repeal in its entirety Section 18.85.30(B)(3)(A) regarding Sign Types, Permanent Business Signs, Size and replace with Section 18.85.30(B)(3)(A) with this current version as set forth below,

**WHEREAS**, The Town Council is interested in amending Section 18.85.070 regarding Obsolete and Abandoned Signs; and

**WHEREAS**, The Town Council now desires to amend Section 18.85.70(A) regarding Obsolete and Abandoned Signs and add Section 18.85.70(A)(1) with this current version as set forth below,

**WHEREAS**, It would be and is in the best interest of the Town of Highland to repeal, replace and add certain sections the Highland Municipal Zoning Code;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED** BY the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, as follows:

**Section 1.** That Chapter 18.85; Section 18.85.30(B)(1) is amended by adding (C) to read as follows:

(c) Businesses in a single-use building are entitled, without the need for a variance or special exception, to a second sign not exceeding the square footage of the required sign (see 18.85.030 (b)(1)(a), above, *and* 18.85.030(B)(2)(a), below) if said business has frontage on more than one vehicular or pedestrian thoroughfare.

**Section 2.** That Chapter 18.85; Section 18.85.30(B)(3)(A) is repealed in its entirety and replaced to read as follows:

(3) Size.

(a) For single-use buildings, permanent business signs shall not exceed 4 feet in height and the width of the single-use building, less 2 feet on either side of said sign.

**Section 3.** That Chapter 18.85; Section 18.85.70(A) is amended by adding (1) to read as follows:

(1) Exception. Unless said sign has been abandoned for more than one (1) calendar year, the updated signage can be of the same general size, character, materials, type, and placement as the abandoned sign.

**Section 4.** That pursuant to IC 36-7-4-601, in adopting this replacement comprehensive zoning ordinance (code), the Town Council hereby pledges, affirms and certifies that it is acting for the following purposes:

- (A) promoting the public health, safety, comfort, morals, convenience, and general welfare; and
- (B) otherwise accomplishing the purposes of IC 36-7-4 et seq.;

**Section 5.** That after adoption of this zoning ordinance, the Municipal Plan Commission shall publish notice of adoption in accordance with IC 5-3-1 and include the necessary information all pursuant to IC 36-7-4-610(a);

**Section 6.** That whereas an emergency exists, this ordinance shall become and be in full force and effect from and after the date of its adoption, passage and publication in the manner prescribed by law and until its subsequent amendment or repeal by proper ordinance.

#### Certificate of the Municipal Plan Commission

It is hereby certified that the foregoing proposed zoning amendment was considered at a regular or special meeting by the Highland Municipal Plan Commission, having sustained a vote of six (6) in favor and zero (0) opposed, was duly forwarded with a **favorable recommendation** for adoption to the Town Council of Highland by the Highland Municipal Plan Commission on the 21st day of August, 2024.

TOWN OF HIGHLAND PLAN COMMISSION

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Kisse, President

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Morgan Wright, Secretary

**Action by Legislative Body**

**Duly Ordained and Adopted** pursuant to the provisions of IC 36-5-2-9.8(b)(1), the recommendation of the Plan Commission is noted and the Ordinance is hereby (adopted/defeated/adopted as modified) by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, this 9th day of September 2024, having sustained by a vote of five (5) in favor and 0 opposed in support of the (adoption/~~defeat~~/~~adoption & modification~~) herein described.

**TOWN COUNCIL OF THE  
TOWN OF HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

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Philip Scheeringa, Town Council President

Attest:

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Mark Herak  
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-42-4-1; IC36-5-6-5)

3. **Executive Proclamation:** A Proclamation Proclaiming the September 17 to 23, 2024 as United States Constitution Week in the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana.

- (a) Reading and Execution of Proclamation.
- (b) Action by the Town Council President

The Town Council President approved the proclamation by his signature:

TOWN OF HIGHLAND  
PROCLAMATION OF the TOWN EXECUTIVE

A PROCLAMATION IN RECOGNITION OF U.S. CONSTITUTION WEEK  
SEPTEMBER 17-23, 2024

Whereas, September 17, 2024 marks the two hundred thirty-seventh anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the United States of America by the 1787 Constitutional Convention, led by George Washington, James Madison and Benjamin Franklin, brilliant men who created a new of government that became the standard for self-government to the world;

Whereas, It the privilege and duty of the American people to commemorate the anniversary of the drafting of this magnificent document, the guardian of our liberties; and,

Whereas, Public Law 915 guarantees the issuing of a proclamation each year by the President of the United States, designating September 17 through 23 as Constitution Week.

Now, Therefore, I, Philip Scheeringa by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, now hereby proclaim the week September 17 through 23, as U.S. *Constitution Week* in the Town of Highland;

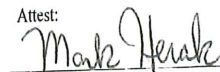
Be it Further Proclaimed, That the citizens of Highland are hereby urged to reaffirm the ideals the Framers of the Constitution possessed in 1787 by reflecting on the privilege of being an American with all the rights and responsibilities which that privilege involves.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Corporate Seal to be affixed at the Highland Municipal Building this 9<sup>th</sup> day of September in the year of the common era, two thousand twenty-four, the incorporation of the Town of Highland, the one hundred-fourteenth and the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred forty-eighth.

TOWN of HIGHLAND, INDIANA  
BY ITS TOWN COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Philip Scheeringa

Attest:



Mark Herak  
Clerk-Treasurer

(Print optimized at 78%)



Comments from the Public or Visitors: None

**Staff Reports:** The following staff reports were received and filed.

Building Report August, 2024

PERMIT TYPE	#	Res.	Comm.	Est. Cost	Fee Collected
Commercial Buildings	1		1	\$ 15,000,000.00	\$ 248,130.00
Comm. Additions/Remodel	2		2	\$ 12,046.00	\$ 289.50
Signs	3		3	\$ 11,459.00	\$ 757.50
Single Family	0			\$ -	\$ -
Duplex/Condo	0			\$ -	\$ -
Residential Additions	0			\$ -	\$ -
Residential Remodeling	65	65		\$ 861,422.00	\$ 19,734.00
Concrete/Asphalt/Flatwork	11	11		\$ 82,172.00	\$ 2,209.50
Garages	0			\$ -	\$ -
Sheds	5	5		\$ 20,581.00	\$ 1,234.50
Decks & Porches	12	12		\$ 92,196.00	\$ 3,742.50
Fences	11	11		\$ 32,231.00	\$ 1,633.50
Above/In ground pools	1	1		\$ -	\$ 54.00
Drain Tile/Waterproofing	4	4		\$ 36,051.00	\$ 993.00
Misc: Cell Twr.(1); Demo (2); Rd. Cut (2)	5	5		\$ 25,000.00	\$ 1,080.50
<b>Total Building Permits</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>\$ 16,173,158.00</b>	<b>\$ 279,858.50</b>

<b>Electrical Permits</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 5,829.00</b>
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<b>Mechanical Permits</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 2,073.00</b>
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Plumbing Permits	15	12	3	\$ -	\$ 2,615.90
Water Meters	1		1	\$ -	\$ 937.90
Water taps	0			\$ -	\$ -
Sewer/Storm Taps	1	1		\$ -	\$ 300.00
<b>Total Plumbing Permits</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 3,853.80</b>

August 2024 Code Enforcement: 52 Investigations, 25 Warnings & 4 Citations were issued. Inspections done for the month of August 2024 were as follows: 49 Building Inspections, 16 Plumbing Inspections, 10 HVAC and 25 Electrical Inspections. There were 3 Electrical Exams given.

Submitted By:



Kenneth J. Mika

**2024**  
 TOWN OF HIGHLAND INJURIES FOR THE MONTH  
**AUGUST**

CASE	DATE	DEPARTMENT	DESCRIPTION	Record Only	OSHA	Not OSHA	Filed with
				No Med Treatment	Recordable	Recordable	WC Insurance
			No Injuries for the month				

RO = Record Only

DEPT	2024		2023	2024			
	INJURIES	YEAR TO		RESTRICTED	LOST DAYS	RESTRICTED	LOST DAYS
	THIS MONTH	DATE		DAYS THIS YEAR	THIS YEAR	DAYS 2023	2023
PARK & REC		1		4	56	8	219
FIRE			1				
POLICE		2	6			80	66
STREET		1					
WATER		1	1				
SEWER							
MAINTENANCE							
REDV		1					
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>285</b>

Effective January 1, 2002 OSHA changed the recordkeeping guidelines. We now count the number of days lost from the day after the injury until the employee returns to work. Weekends, holidays, vacation days or other days scheduled off are included in the lost days count to a maximum of 180 days

**Mark Herak**

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**From:** Denise Beck  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 3, 2024 12:53 PM  
**To:** Mark Herak; Chad Kinley  
**Cc:** Chief Michael Pipta  
**Subject:** August Fire Department Stats

Good Morning,

Aug 2024 Stats

Types of Calls:	2024	YTD
General Alarms	11	109
Paid Still Alarms	29	295
Totals	40	404

*Denise Beck*  
Highland Fire Department  
2901 Highway Ave.  
Highland, IN 46322  
(219)-923-9876



**Communications:** Vendor Market every Thursday at the Downtown Municipal Lot  
Backyard BBQ Fest – Main Square – September 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>  
The Big Restaurant Crawl – September 24<sup>th</sup>  
Main Street Bureau Maker’s Market – October 5<sup>th</sup>  
Fire Department Open House – Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup> 11:00 to 3:00 pm.  
Fall Clean Up – Tuesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>

**Appointments:**

• **Statutory Boards and Commissions**

*Executive Appointments (May be made in meeting or at another time)*

Regional Statutory Commissions or Boards

1. **Waterworks Board of Directors:** (1) appointment to be made by Town Council President. *(Note: Formerly held by Curt Schroeder (D), term ending 1<sup>st</sup> Monday January 2025). Current composition of the board is two Republicans and two Democrats. No more than three of any one party under state law.*

The Town Council President announced the appointment of Peggy Phillips, 2848 38<sup>th</sup> Street, Highland to fill the unexpired term of **Curt Schroeder**, 8100 Johnston Street, Highland to the Board of Waterworks Directors. Her term expires the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of 2025. The Clerk-Treasurer noted he would prepare the required certification of appointment as required

**Home Rule Boards and Commissions**

2. **Shared Ethics Advisory Commission.** (1) appointment to be made by Town Council President. *(Note: Fill vacancy made by resignation of Rev. Tim Huizenga.) (Made pursuant to Article 5, Subdivision (A) of the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement Establishing the Shared Ethics Entity. Qualifications are to be persons who live work or hold property in the county. Further persons appointed must be of good character and not hold any positions within the local government.)*

*Legislative Appointments*

Regional Statutory Commissions or Boards

**Home Rule Commissions**

1. **Main Street Bureau Board:** (17) appointments to be made by the Town Council. Term: Two years ending 1 Jan 2025. *There are currently 13 of the 17 in place and serving. Currently serving are Rhonda Bloch, Teri Yovkovich, Renee Reinhart, Alex*

*Robertson, Diane Barr-Roumbus, James Roumbus Sandy McKnight, Al Simmons, Ben Reinhart, Sandy Ray, Kathy Smailis, Ben Tomera and Laura Pilewski.*

- 2. Community Events Commission Multi-year positions: (4) appointments to be made by the Town Council. Term: 4 years. (Note: Currently vacant)**

*Single year positions: (9) appointments to be made by the Town Council. Term: 1 year. There are currently 6 of the 9 in place and serving. (Note: Currently serving, Jack Rowe, Linda Carter, Rachael Carter, Kathy Burke, Olga Briseno and Kelly Bridges )*

Councilor Robertson moved the appointment of Kelly Bridges, 2939 Strong Street, Highland to the Highland Community Events Commission. Councilor Turich seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were four (4) affirmatives and one (1) negative, with Councilors Georgeff, Turich, Robertson and Scheeringa voting in the affirmative and Councilor Black voting in the negative. The motion passed. Kelly Bridges was appointed to the Highland Community Events Commission. The Clerk-Treasurer noted he would prepare the required certification of appointment as required

**General Orders and Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:**

- 1. Approval of Medical & Life Plans:** Authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to renew Aim Medical and Life Insurance Plans, effective January 1, 2025. Renewal of Group Medical Plan. Pursuant to HMC Section 3.05.040 (D), the Town Council is the exclusive purchasing authority for all insurance.

If acceptable, the motion should read to instruct the Clerk-Treasurer to affix his signature to enroll in Plan 2(\$750 PPO) and Plan 7 which the Town currently offers their employees and to increase the Town's contribution to the Employee's health savings plan as: Employee from \$1,081 to \$1,181, Employee and Spouse from \$2,096 to \$2,196, Employee and Child remains the same at \$2,196 and Employee and Family from \$3,092 to \$3,192.

Councilor Turich moved to approve the renewal of the group medical and life plans as presented. Councilor Georgeff seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five (5) affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The group medical & life plans as presented were renewed.

- 2. Authorizing the proper officer to publish legal notice of a public hearing:** A Public Hearing to consider additional appropriations in the amount of \$855,000.00 in the Community Crossing Matching Grant Fund and \$500.00 in MCCD Fund and \$15,000 in the Special Events Fund. If approved, the public hearing will be held on September 23, 2024, at 6:30 P.M. O'clock in the Municipal Building, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland.

Councilor Black moved to authorize the proper officer to publish legal notice for a public hearing to consider proposed additional appropriations as indicated. Councilor Robertson seconded, Upon a roll call vote, there were five (5) affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The publication was authorized.

TOWN OF HIGHLAND  
NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF PROPOSED  
ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

Notice is hereby given the taxpayers of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, that the Town Council of said Municipality in said Municipal Building, 3333 Ridge Road, at 6:30 p.m. on the 23rd day of September 2024, will consider the following additional appropriations in excess of the budget for the current year in the following funds:

MCCD Fund

Acct. 4402-0000-11133	Rehabilitation Labor	\$450.00
Acct. 4402-0000-11201	General FICA & Medicare	\$50.00

TOTAL for the FUND: \$500.00

Community Crossing Matching Grant Fund

Acct. 2405-0000-41027	CCMG Projects - 2024	\$855,000
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Total 400 Series: \$855,000

TOTAL for the FUND: \$855,000

Special Events Fund

Acct. 2505-0000-33012	Printing & Promotion	\$1,000.00
Acct. 2505-0000-34017	Event Insurance	\$ 5,000.00
Acct. 2505-0000-38006	Sanitation	\$ 500.00
Acct. 2505-0000-38601	Sales Tax/CEC Rentals	\$4,000.00
Acct. 2505-0000-38608	Parades	\$1,500.00
Acct. 2505-0000-39003	PR Donations	\$3,000.00

Total 300 Series: \$15,000.00

Funds to support these additional appropriations in the Community Crossing Matching Grant Fund, the MCCD Fund and the Special Events Fund shall be supported by miscellaneous revenue, unreserved unobligated fund balance on deposit to the credit of the fund.

Taxpayers appearing at such meeting shall have a right to be heard thereon. The additional appropriations, as finally made, will be filed with the Department of Local Government Finance, for its review. The Department of Local Government Finance shall make a written determination of the sufficiency of funds within fifteen days of receipt of a certified copy of the action taken.

TOWN COUNCIL of HIGHLAND  
Phillip Scheeringa, President

By: Mark Herak  
Clerk-Treasurer

3. Action of the Town Council President as appointing authority to consider approval of an **Annual Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement** filed by **Christine Cash**, who is a Hotel Manager in Lake County. Ms. Cash is also Highland's appointment to the Lake County Convention and Visitors' Bureau Board of Directors dba South Shore Convention & Visitor Authority. This filing is pursuant to IC 35-44-1-3.
  - (a) Action of the Town Council President as Municipal Executive.
  - (b) Town Council as the governing body of the governing entity to act to accept the disclosure form, if desired.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement. Action of the Town Council President as appointing authority to consider approval of an Annual Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement filed by Christine Cash. who, is a Hotel Manager in Lake County. Ms. Cash is also Highland's appointment to the Lake County Convention and Visitors' Bureau Board of Directors dba South Shore Convention & Visitor Authority. This filing is pursuant to IC 35-44-1-3.

*Action of the Town Council President as Municipal Executive or the appointing authority.* The Town Council President announced his approval of the conflict disclosure statement.

The conflict form is on file with Office of the Clerk-Treasurer and filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court as well as the State Board of Accounts.



**UNIFORM CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
State Form 64266 (R2 / 6-15) / Form 238  
STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS

**Indiana Code 35-44.1-1-4**

A public servant who knowingly or intentionally has a pecuniary interest in or derives a profit from a contract or purchase connected with an action by the governmental entity served by the public servant commits conflict of interest, a Class D Felony. A public servant has a pecuniary interest in a contract or purchase if the contract or purchase will result or is intended to result in an ascertainable increase in the income or net worth of the public servant or a dependent of the public servant. "Dependent" means any of the following: the spouse of a public servant; a child, stepchild, or adoptee (as defined in IC 31-9-2-2) of a public servant who is unemancipated and less than eighteen (18) years of age; and any individual more than one-half (1/2) of whose support is provided during a year by the public servant.

The foregoing consists only of excerpts from IC 35-44.1-1-4. Care should be taken to review IC 35-44.1-1-4 in its entirety.

1. **Name and Address of Public Servant Submitting Statement:** Christine Cash  
9515 Kennedy Avenue, Highland, IN 46322
2. **Title or Position With Governmental Entity:** Member, Board of Directors
3. a. **Governmental Entity:** LCCVB dba South Shore Convention & Visitors Authority  
b. **County:** Lake
4. **This statement is submitted (check one):**  
a.  as a "single transaction" disclosure statement, as to my financial interest in a specific contract or purchase connected with the governmental entity which I serve, proposed to be made by the governmental entity with or from a particular contractor or vendor; or  
b.  as an "annual" disclosure statement, as to my financial interest connected with any contracts or purchases of the governmental entity which I serve, which are made on an ongoing basis with or from particular contractors or vendors.
5. **Name(s) of Contractor(s) or Vendor(s):** Ramada by Wyndham Hammond  
4141 Calumet Avenue, Hammond, IN 46320-1132
6. **Description(s) of Contract(s) or Purchase(s)** (Describe the kind of contract involved, and the effective date and term of the contract or purchase if reasonably determinable. Dates required if 4(a) is selected above. If "dependent" is involved, provide dependent's name and relationship.):  
The South Shore CVA promotes tourism and lodging in Lake County, Indiana  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. **Description of My Financial Interest** *(Describe in what manner the public servant or "dependent" expects to derive a profit or financial benefit from, or otherwise has a pecuniary interest in, the above contract(s) or purchase(s); if reasonably determinable, state the approximate dollar value of such profit or benefit.)*

*Managing the hotel described in Line 5*

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*(Attach extra pages if additional space is needed.)*

8. **Approval of Appointing Officer or Body** *(To be completed if the public servant was appointed by an elected public servant or the board of trustees of a state-supported college or university.)*

I (We) being the \_\_\_\_\_ of  
*(Title of Officer or Name of Governing Body)*

\_\_\_\_\_ and having the power to appoint  
*(Name of Governmental Entity)*

the above named public servant to the public position to which he or she holds, hereby approve the participation to the appointed disclosing public servant in the above described contract(s) or purchase(s) in which said public servant has a conflict of interest as defined in Indiana Code 35-44.1-1-4; however, this approval does not waive any objection to any conflict prohibited by statute, rule, or regulation and is not to be construed as a consent to any illegal act.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
Elected Official	Office

9. **Effective Dates** *(Conflict of interest statements must be submitted to the governmental entity prior to final action on the contract or purchase.)*

\_\_\_\_\_ Date Submitted *(month, day, year)*

\_\_\_\_\_ Date of Action on Contract or Purchase *(month, day, year)*

10. **Affirmation of Public Servant:** This disclosure was submitted to the governmental entity and accepted by the governmental entity in a public meeting of the governmental entity prior to final action on the contract or purchase. I affirm, under penalty of perjury, the truth and completeness of the statements made above, and that I am the above named public servant.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Public Servant)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(month, day, year)

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print legibly.)

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Within fifteen (15) days after final action on the contract or purchase, copies of this statement must be filed with the State Board of Accounts by uploading it here [https://gateway.ifionline.org/sboa\\_col](https://gateway.ifionline.org/sboa_col) which is the preferred method of filing, or by mailing it to the State Board of Accounts, Indiana Government Center South, 302 West Washington Street, Room E418, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204-2765 and the Clerk of the Circuit Court of the county where the governmental entity took final action on the contract or purchase.



**Comments from the Town Council:**  
(Good of the order)

- **Councilor George Georgeff:** Chamber of Commerce; • Liaison to the Board of Water Works • Co-Chair Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commission • Redevelopment Commission Member

Councilor Georgeff acknowledged Patrol Commander John Banasiak who was filling in for Metropolitan Police Chief Ralph Potesta. Patrol Commander Banasiak then went over the last two (2) weeks crime statistics:

73 Junk vehicles Tagged  
74 S.I.'s

89 stops in school zone

1 Junk vehicle Tow

19 cases/complaints

49 Follow ups on Junk vehicles  
cases updated

9 school visits recess

1 Day lost (9-3) due to no internet

August 2024

	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	YTD
Total Hours Worked						0
Net OT Hours booked						0
Net OT Hours used						0
Miles Traveled / Dept Veh						0
Total Incidents Handled	1,020					6,690
Homicide	0					0
Kidnapping/Abduction	0					2
Forcible Sex Offenses	0					3
Robbery	0					5
Assaults	12					65
Arson	0					0
Burglary Residential	2					4
Burglary Non-Residential	0					5
Thefts	46					219
Vehicles Stolen	2					13
Fraud	26					146
Vandalism	6					61
Drug Offenses	5					34
Weapons Offenses	0					4
Dollar Amount Stolen	170,474					1,713,338
Dollar Amount Recovered	28,375					302,058
Arrest Total	47					390
Citations	405					3,429
Warnings	446					3,698
Crashes Handled	91					696
Persons Injured in Crashes	15					87
Persons Killed in Crashes	0					0
Vehicles Towed	60					474

1 - Veh. theft - Enterprise - Not Returned Rental

0 - Burglaries

0 - Robbery

8 - DUI's

Shoplifting - Kohls - Several cases pending with  
CID follow-up.

~~File~~

Councilor Georgeff then acknowledged Redevelopment Director Maria Becerra who gave the following report:

Safe Streets for All - We Want to Hear From You!



The Town of Highland has partnered with American Structurepoint to study roadway and intersection safety needs across our community as part of the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) discretionary planning grant. This study will lead to the completion of a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan. Your input is essential in shaping effective safety strategies. Together, we can identify behaviors and attitudes that impact road safety, identify mobility challenges, and develop community-supported improvements to enhance safety for all road users.

We want to hear from you! Please share your insights on the current road safety in Highland. You can participate in two ways:

- ✓ **ONLINE:** Take our survey! Contribute to our public survey by clicking this link or use the QR code above.
- ✓ **IN PERSON:** Stop by our booth and share your thoughts from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. October 12 at the Craft and Vendor Show at Lincoln Community Center.

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**Commercial Grants**

**NWI Parkinsons** 2927 Jewett Check Presentation was last week 9-4. The lift was blessed and dedicated to one of their clients that passed away recently.

**The Counter** 2933 Highway has opened at their new location it was a big hit the day of the Big Crawl last month.

**Grindhouse Café** 3805 Ridge Road have their new Sign up at, should be opening soon.

**9501 Indianapolis** will begin the exterior painting soon.

**2907 Jewett** Is planning on having their exterior improvement done by year end.

Ongoing Developments

**7944-50 Kennedy Acquisition**

Agreement executed, Phase I ordered.

**8113, 8119, 8200 Indianapolis Disposition**

Legal posting for offerings soon

**Downtown Decorative String Lighting Proposals**

3 proposal received and under consideration.

**2825 Jewett** - Repair of the Mural that is in disrepair

Proposals to received

• **Councilor Doug Turich:** *Park and Recreation Board Liaison • Liaison and Plan Commission Member • Advisory Board of Zoning Appeals Liaison • Redevelopment Commission Member*

Councilor Turich began by asking the Clerk-Treasurer if he had arranged a tour of the police station? The Clerk-Treasurer said he had spoken with Metropolitan Police Chief regarding a tour of the station and the Chief responded that he is open to any date, just advised him in advance and he'll accommodate everyone.

Councilor Turich then acknowledged Building Commissioner Ken Mika who said the Plan Commission met with the contractor representing Traditions. He said everyone present were impressed by the drawings. He said the owner will be on the public meeting agenda in two (2) weeks to request a public hearing as the property is in a downtown overlay district. He said the BZA will be cancelling their meeting as they have nothing on the agenda. He said from the Building Department, Cardinal Campus is moving along as he recently did a foundation inspection for the Boutique Hotel. He said passerby's should begin seeing framework going up in a few weeks. The Osborne storage facility is ongoing with the main building being pretty much up and they're starting to work on the mechanicals. He said he talked with the contractor and they are in fact running into problems with the soil. This was predicted through boring samples. They have not been able to conduct compaction tests. Engineers are developing proposals. The engineers are leaning toward using helical piers in place of regular foundations. He said he issued permits to the developer of Dunkin Donuts on Kennedy Avenue and they have already started interior demolition. He updated the Council on the home at 3116 Lincoln Place. He said the property has been sold and the new owner has been advised that after cleaning out any junk left by the prior owner, the Town will need to get in there to evaluate the building.

Councilor Turich asked Mr. Mika if he had any updates on the house in the 3900 block of Jewett as he and Tom have received several emails from the neighbors.

Mr. Mika said citations were written and are on the Courts Docket. He said Attorney Reed was advised of the situation and to proceed to make the property owner clean up the property and not simply pay a fine and not fix the problem. One of the solutions Mr. Mika suggested was to change the current ordinance, not letting someone pay the fine unless the violation or go directly to court.

Councilor Turich asked that this item be put on a study session to discuss how this situation could have been resolved earlier or handled differently as this has been going on for a long time and the backyard is a real jungle. He also wanted to know why the Town just couldn't go onto the property and cut the grass. It was his impression that the neighbor is dealing with a lot of stress

Councilor Turich then acknowledged Park Superintendent Alex Brown, who said the pickleball courts at meadows and the tennis courts at Brantwood are about 60% complete.

They did a flood test on them last week to make sure there wasn't any standing water on them. That test went well. The surface still needs a couple of weeks to cure before they can put the final surface on. They should be usable by early October. He said they had a bid opening two (2) weeks ago to make the concession stands ADA accessible. He said they receive 4 bids. Unfortunately, the bids were \$315,000 higher than the engineer's estimate. The Park Board will have to decide whether to accept the lowest bid or reject all of the bids. He felt that rebidding wouldn't help in getting a lower price. He said modifying the concessions stands is part of the Town's ADA Transition Plan. He said Housing and Urban development are paying \$95,000 of the price. He said he and Public Work Director Mark Knesek spent quite a few hours last week going through construction proposals for construction engineering for the Hawk signal at Kennedy Avenue and the bike trail. Because this is a Federal Highway Project, you have to jump hoops. You have to solicit engineering firms to do construction engineering, grade them all and send the results back to the State for their approval. He added that the project letting has been delayed four (4) months because of environmental concerns. The concern is the proximity to Dunhill Cleaners. Bid letting will now be in March 2025. He said the fall brochure came out a few weeks ago and the signups for those programs are going really well. He said the park crews are gearing up for this weeks BBQ Festival. It will be a little tougher than the 4<sup>th</sup> of July was because all of the college kids have returned to school. He said the Indiana Parks and Recreation Association, which is the parks professional associations is doing a large public awareness campaign. He said the survey will appear on the Park's Facebook page and on their website. It will have a QR code. Residents can go to those sites, scan the QR code and answer the questions about their experience with parks and recreation. It is hoped that after compiling the answers, the State will make more money available to parks. Indiana is one of the lowest when it comes to quality of life. He thought Indiana ranked 48<sup>th</sup>.

- **Councilor Alex Robertson:** *Sanitary Board Liaison • Redevelopment Commission Member*
- *Council of Community Events Commission Liaison • Public Works Liaison • Liaison to Main Street Bureau • Liaison to the Tree Board • Liaison to the Highland Neighbor for Sustainability.*

Council Robertson acknowledged Tim Gembala who was filling in for Public Works Director Mark Knesek. He advised the Council that everything is going fairly well on the SSO Project. He said Grimmer Construction is moving right along and that the recently installed water mains passed the chlorination test. He said there is one (1) more connection to be completed and that is at 81<sup>st</sup> Street.

Councilor Robertson commented on the upcoming BBQ Fest and was hoping the rain stays away till after the fest He said originally, they forecasted a 40% chance of rain on Friday and Saturday but that has been removed from the forecast and only a 40% chance of rain for Sunday.

- **Councilor Tom Black:** *Redevelopment Commission Liaison and Member • Member of the Lake County Solid Waste Management District Board • Member of the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIPRC) • Shared Ethics Representative • Liaison Traffic Safety*

Councilor Black commented that NIRPC has an upcoming meeting next Thursday and he'll have a report to give to the Council after that meeting.

• **Town Council President Philip Scheeringa:** *Town Executive (I.C. 36-1-2-5-(4); I.C. 36-5-2-2; I.C. 36-5-2-7); • Board of Trustees of the Police Pension Fund, Chair (By Law) • Budget Committee Chairman • Redevelopment Commission Member • Co-Chair Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commission • Fire Department Liaison • Information Communications and Technology Department Liaison • Building and Inspection Department Liaison.*

Prior to acknowledging Fire Chief Mike Pipta, Chief Pipta was called to an accident scene. Councilor Scheeringa asked Councilor Turich to give the Fire Department update. Councilor Turich said there were 37 fire calls in the month of August. There was one (1) structure fire and the Department responded to two (2) mutual aid calls with one as far as Cedar Lake. He said both Engine 8 and the safety trailers have been delivered to their new homes.

Councilor Scheeringa then acknowledged IT Director Ed Dabrowski who said he is putting the meetings on the Town's website. He said he is trying to get ahead of the new law that takes effect in 2025. He said the Town has been in state compliance as the Council meetings are live streamed on Facebook. He said he is trying to make it that those who don't have Facebook will be able to view the meetings via the Town's website. He added that the language in the 2025 is ambiguous and is waiting on John Reed to provide clarity.

That concluded comments from the Council and President Scheeringa then turned it over to comments from visitor's or residents, reminding them to limit it to 2 minutes.

#### **Comments from Visitors or Residents:**

Marco Guerrero, Highland, a senior at Purdue, Northwest and is studying construction engineering and management technology is conducting a senior project survey. He's in the process of developing proposals to choose one to do as his senior project. Being a Highland grad, he would like to do something for Highland. He was thinking of projects that would generate revenue for Highland. He sited the failed attempt at the recent Lincoln Center expansion or the school referendum. He said he was aware that the Town was considering expanding the Central Fire Station or building a new Town Hall. He also mentioned the abandoned Ultra Foods building and what could go into that building.

Councilor Scheeringa asked if there were any other comments. Hearing none, he closed comments from the public and brought it back to the Council. He then asked for a motion to pay claims.

Payment of Accounts Payable Vouchers. There being no further comments from visitors or residents, Councilor Robertson moved to allow the vendors accounts payable vouchers

as filed on the pending accounts payable docket, covering the period August 28, 2024 through September 10, 2024. Councilor Turich seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five (5) affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The accounts payable vouchers for the vendor docket were allowed, payments allowed in advance were ratified, the payroll dockets listed were ratified and for all remaining invoices, the Clerk-Treasurer was authorized to make payment.

Accounts payable vouchers August 28, 2024- September 10, 2024 in the amount of **\$713,109.88**

**General Fund, \$377,819.79; MVH Fund, \$11,250.25; LR&S, \$39,723.49; LAW Enforcement Continuing Education Training and Supply Fund, \$706.99; Public Safety Income Tax, \$2,365.20; Donation, \$2,072.00; Special Events, \$ 950; MCCD, \$14,869.59; Municipal Cumulative Street Fund, \$261.90; Information and Communications Technology Fund, \$13,835.92; Gasoline Fund, \$26,567.91 Insurance Premium, \$222,686.84**

Payroll Docket for payday of September 6, 2024 by fund:

General, \$331,496.35

Payroll Docket for payday of September 6, 2024;

Office of Clerk-Treasurer, \$15,404.56; Building and Inspection Department, \$9,422.70; Metropolitan Police Department, \$166,005.30; Public Works Department (Agency), \$82,258.78; Fire Department, \$1,933.52 and Information and Technology Department, \$4,205.45;

Total Payroll: \$279,230.33.

Adjournment of Plenary Meeting. There being no further business on the agenda, the Town Council President declared the regular plenary meeting of the Town Council of Monday, September 9, 2024, adjourned at 7:40 o'clock p.m.

Mark Herak  
Clerk-Treasurer

Approved by the Town Council at its meeting of September 23, 2024.