

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

OCTOBER 18, 2021

Council convened at 7:01 p.m. with Council President Clyburn presiding.

Present: Council Pro Tem Patrick remotely from Highland Park, MI; Councilmember Jackson remotely from Highland Park, MI; Councilmember Bates remotely from Highland Park, MI; Councilmember Armstrong remotely from Highland Park, MI and Council President Clyburn remotely from Highland Park, MI (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 addition of two resolutions from the Police Department and to remove items d & e from Community Development. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Council Pro Tem Patrick
Supported by Councilmember Armstrong

To approve the minutes of the Virtual Regular Meeting held October 4, 2021. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

**MAYOR
10-18-21 V**

The following item was submitted for approval.

RESOLUTION TO EXTEND TERMS OF HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Moved by Council Pro Tem Patrick
Supported by Councilmember Jackson

WHEREAS, three Historic District Commissioner’s terms have expired, and;

WHEREAS, the Historic District Commission wishes to extend the terms of Malika Pryor, residing at 95 Eason, Arthur Williams, residing at 45 Eason and Debbie Morrison residing at 195 Massachusetts, for additional three year terms in accordance with Section 1310.06 of the Historic District Ordinance, and;

WHEREAS, the aforementioned Commissioners all reside within the City limits of Highland Park, also in accordance with Section 1310.06 of the Historic District Ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby appoints Malika Pryor, Arthur Williams and Debbie Morrison to additional terms of three years to serve on the Historic District Commission. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

**CITY CLERK
10-18-21 VI**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

Moved by Council Pro Tem Patrick
Supported by Councilmember Armstrong

BE IT RESOLVED that District 1 encompasses two (2) precincts. Precinct 1- Downes Manor, 13725 John R and Precinct 2 Blackwell Municipal Complex 12050 Woodward Ave. Only voters registered in these precincts will be eligible to vote in this election;

BE IT RESOLVED, that all election inspectors serving for the General Election to be held on Tuesday, November 2, 2021 shall be paid on a fee basis; and the fee to be paid for Chairperson shall be the sum of \$175.00 and the fee to be paid for Inspector shall be the sum of \$150.00 each which includes \$10for attending the training session prior to the election.

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

PRECINCT	LOCATION	ADDRESS
1	Downes Manor	13725 John R
2	Blackwell Municipal Complex	12050 Woodward Ave.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pay for all election inspectors and the establishment of polling places and (1) A.V. Counting Board for all precincts for the General Election be approved. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

**CITY COUNCIL
10-18-21 VII a**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT STRATEGIC ALLIANCE COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION'S (SACDC) 100 FAMILIES 100 HOMES:
HIGHLAND PARK'S ROUTE TO A SMART CITY INITIATIVE**

Moved by Council Pro Tem Patrick
Supported by Councilmember Bates

WHEREAS, the digital divide is an access gap for technological services, such as internet and communication, impacting minority based, impoverished communities, which widens educational gaps, decreases access to employment opportunities, and increases digital illiteracy, and,

WHEREAS, SACDC is a community development organization, whose "Route to a Smart City" initiative intends to address economic and social inequality, as well as leverage resources and spread information through a range of courses and training, such as Financial Literacy, Workforce Development, Homeownership Education and Fiber Optic Broadband Networking to empower the community, with the benefits of attracting new businesses, creating new livable wage jobs, and community growth opportunities, and,

WHEREAS, Fiber Optic Broadband is the new foundation for economic growth, IT careers, global competitiveness and a better quality of life, as well as leveling the playing field in the urban communities in how the community educates its children, provide healthcare for seniors, and provide public safety for its residents and businesses, and,

WHEREAS, the benefits of a "Smart City" will increase access to broadband technology, provide affordable housing & small business developments, provide access to telehealth & increased community safety, enhance engineering for public transportation, access to mobile banking financial services, provide skilled workforce development & training, and provide jobs with living wage salaries, and,

WHEREAS, the City of Highland Park has faced economic disparities for many years and this initiative will help the City of Highland Park develop economic sustainability and create a workforce that can acquire existing jobs and the jobs that are on the way, NOW,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Highland Park City Council adopt the resolution to support SACDC's 100 Families 100 Homes: Highland Park's Route to a Smart City initiative. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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10-18-21 VII b

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

RESOLUTION REQUESTING COMMUNITY INPUT TO CONSIDER THE QUESTION OF A FEASIBILITY STUDY REGARDING A PUBLIC POWER UTILITY

Moved by Council Pro Tem Patrick
Supported by Councilmember Armstrong

WHEREAS, the City of Highland Park was the first City in the State of Michigan to adopt through a Resolution the 'Green New Deal' authored by our Congresswoman Rashida Talib, and

WHEREAS, the City of Highland Park would like to continue the aforementioned path by identifying energy efficient initiatives that help the City and its residents, and

WHEREAS, the Highland Park City Council recognizes the value of receiving a fully informed, researched and well-reasoned recommendation from the community, and

WHEREAS, the Highland Park City Council would like to empower its residents to organize, develop a plan of work, and identify both the advantages and disadvantages of a Public Power Utility, NOW,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Highland Park City Council requests a Community-based recommendation be submitted to the Highland Park City Council no later than December 31, 2021 as to whether or not the Community believes the City should undertake a feasibility study to understand options related to creating a municipal utility, including traditional and non-traditional energy efficiency initiatives. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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10-18-21 VII c

Moved by Councilmember Armstrong
Supported by Council Pro Tem Patrick

To cancel the virtual Workshop and Regular November 1, 2021 meetings of the Highland Park City Council. (Yeas), Nays (0), Absent (0).

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

10-18-21 VIII a

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

RESOLUTION TO PURCHASE USED VEHICLE FOR ORDINANCE OFFICER

Moved by Councilmember Bates
Supported by Councilmember Jackson

WHEREAS, the Highland Park Ordinance Officer requires a vehicle to perform his duties; and

WHEREAS, in the past, a police vehicle has been made available to the officer for travel within the City; however, at the present time, all police vehicles are needed for daily patrols and there is no vehicle available to the Ordinance Officer; and

WHEREAS, the Ordinance Officer found three used vehicles from the same source as the vehicle recently purchased for the Fire Chief that would suffice in providing adequate transportation; and

WHEREAS, the vehicle that was found in Auburn Hills had the lowest mileage and most reasonable cost of \$7,875; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Highland Park approves the purchase of a used vehicle from Auburn Hills for use by the Ordinance Officer for a price not to exceed \$7,875. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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10-18-21 VIII b

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

RESOLUTION TO SELL THE VACANT RESIDENTIAL SIDE LOT AT 120 FARRAND PARK TO THE ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNER AT 116 FARRAND PARK

Moved by Councilmember Bates
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 side lot at 120 Farrand Park, (vacant lot adjacent to resident's home); and

WHEREAS, if all fees have been previously paid, and required clearances obtained from (Water, Treasury, Engineers and CED) are signed off and ready to purchase; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council approve the sale of the vacant lot located in Highland Park, MI at the cost of \$500. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).
The following resolution was submitted for approval.

10-18-21 VIII c

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION TO SELL THE VACANT RESIDENTIAL SIDE LOT AT 112 GENEVA
TO THE ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNER AT 116 GENEVA**

Moved by Councilmember Bates
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 side lot at 112 Geneva, (vacant lot adjacent to resident's home); and

WHEREAS, if all fees have been previously paid, and required clearances obtained from (Water, Treasury, Engineers and CED) are signed off and ready to purchase; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council approve the sale of the vacant lot located in Highland Park, MI at the cost of \$500. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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10-18-21 VIII d

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION TO SELL THE VACANT RESIDENTIAL SIDE LOT AT 372 PILGRIM
TO THE ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNER AT 370 PILGRIM**

Moved by Councilmember Bates
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 side lot at 372 Pilgrim, (vacant lot adjacent to resident's home); and

WHEREAS, if all fees have been previously paid, and required clearances obtained from (Water, Treasury, Engineers and CED) are signed off and ready to purchase; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council approve the sale of the vacant lot located in Highland Park, MI at the cost of \$500. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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10-18-21 VIII e

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

RESOLUTION TO SELL THE VACANT RESIDENTIAL SIDE LOT AT 161 WAVERLY TO THE ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNER AT 163 WAVERLY

Moved by Councilmember Bates
Supported by Council Pro Tem Patrick

To postpone the above item. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

**FINANCE
10-18-21 IX**

Moved by Council Pro Tem Patrick
Supported by Councilmember Jackson

To receive and file the Monthly Financial Statement for month ending September30, 2021. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

**FIRE
10-18-21 X**

Moved by Council Pro Tem Patrick
Supported by Councilmember

To receive and file the monthly Run Total Report from the Fire Department. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

**POLICE
10-18-21 XI a**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF
15 NEW OR 15 RECONDITIONED MOTOROLA HANDHELD RADIOS**

Moved by Councilmember Armstrong
Supported by Councilmember Jackson

WHEREAS, the City of Highland Park Police Department is in need of new or reconditioned handheld radios to provide emergency communication capabilities to all emergency personnel while on duty; and

WHEREAS, Command Communications has new APX4000 radios at MIDEAL state pricing of \$2,978.95, plus a state programming fee of \$250.00 for a total of \$3,228.95 each, with a 3-year warranty; and

WHEREAS, Command Communications also has reconditioned APX4000 radios priced at \$2,295.95, plus a state programming fee of \$250.00 for a total of \$2,545.95 each, with a 3-year warranty.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that City Council approves the purchase of 15 new Motorola APX4000 radios for a total of \$48,434.25, or 15 reconditioned Motorola APX4000 radios for a total of \$38,189.25. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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10-18-21 XI b

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

RESOLUTION TO PURCHASE TWO NEW PATROL VEHICLES FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Moved by Councilmember Jackson
Supported by Councilmember Bates

WHEREAS, the City of Highland Park Police Department is in need of two new vehicles for Department use; and,

WHEREAS, the vehicles currently in use are in need of major repairs that exceed their value; and

WHEREAS, the Police Department is requesting authorization to purchase two new 2021 Dodge Durango police vehicles, due to arrive by the end of October, from John Jones Police Pursuit Vehicles in Salem, Indiana, for a quoted price of \$40,751.00 each, which is the State of Michigan state contract price. and

WHEREAS, the Police Department must make a commitment now or wait until 2022 production begins because the stock is limited, and the vehicles will be difficult to acquire later due to the current microchip shortage.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that City Council authorizes the Police Department to purchase two new vehicles, at \$40,751.00 each, from John Jones Police Pursuit Vehicles. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

**PUBLIC WORKS
10-18-21 XII a**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION TO ADDRESS FLOOD DAMAGE AT HIGHLAND PARK
RECREATION CENTER AND CITY HALL**

Moved by Councilmember Armstrong
Supported by Councilmember Bates

WHEREAS, Highland Park experienced a significant flood event on June 25th & 26th causing extensive damage to the Recreation Center and City Hall; and

WHEREAS, the Recreation Center and City Hall provide essential services to Highland Park residents; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to:

- 1) Issue RFQs to replace the floor in the gymnasium and other common areas of the Recreation Center and for a generator for the Recreation Center; and
- 2) Solicit services to restore electronic equipment, replace business personal property, clean and sanitize where necessary, and make plumbing repairs and/or install of sump pump in City Hall; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City approves issuing RFQs and soliciting services as outlined in 1) and 2) above to address flood damages at Highland Park Recreation Center and City Hall. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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10-18-21 XII b

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE NEW CONTRACTOR TO REPLACE SIDEWALK
IN FRONT OF CITY HALL FROM CALIFORNIA TO CONNECTICUT**

Moved by Councilmember Armstrong
Supported by Councilmember Bates

WHEREAS, on September 7, 2021, the City approved the contract with Century Cement to

replace the sidewalk in front of Highland Park City Hall from California to Connecticut with the condition that a performance bond be required from the contractor; and

WHEREAS, Century Cement was requested to sign the contract, have a witness from his office sign the contract, and return the signed contract with a performance bond to Highland Park; and

WHEREAS, the contract was sent to Century Cement on September 9th and returned on October 4th, without a performance bond; and

WHEREAS, in the interim, the City solicited two additional bids: Hayes Land Corporation at \$47,832 and Carlette Construction & Consulting, Inc. at \$35,000 (see attached); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Highland Park approves the contract with Carlette Construction & Consulting, Inc. to replace the sidewalk in front of Highland Park City Hall from California to Connecticut for a price not to exceed \$35,000. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

OUTSIDE COMMUNICATION 10-18-21 XIII

The following communication was received from Camille Mathis.

My name is Camille Mathis, and I would like to submit a request to have a street named after Ms. Juanita Parnell. It is my understanding that Ms. Parnell has been a resident of Highland Park for over 50 years (103 years to be exact). She has been a pillar of the community for many years. She is a founding member of the Sorority Tau Gamma Delta Sorority, Inc. from the Historic Lewis College of Business. She also worked as an Executive Assistant for Mayor Robert Blackwell, Mayor Martha Scott, Emergency Manager Arthur Blackwell, and Mayor Hubert Yopp. Ms. Juanita is a member of the NAACP and most recently received the City of Highland Park Proclamation. I ask that you take these acclamations into consideration when making you decision to this request for such a devoted, caring and deserving person.

Moved by Council Pro Tem Patrick
Supported by Councilmember Bates

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

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Armstrong
Supported by Councilmember Bates

To adjourn the meeting, motion carried, meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the attached is a copy of the minutes of the Virtual Regular Meeting held the 18th day of October 2021 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