

**Enrolled Minutes of the Forty-Eighth Regular or Special Meeting
For the Twenty-Ninth Highland Town Council
Regular Plenary Meeting (Electronic/Hybrid)
Monday, August 23, 2021**

The Twenty-Ninth Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana met in its regular plenary session on Monday, August 23, 2021 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 *electronic and in person meeting*, pursuant to Governor Holcomb's Executive Order 20-04 and 20-09 allowing such meetings pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-3.7 for the duration of the COVID-19 public health emergency, extended by Executive Order No. 21-18. Some persons were participating remotely on a Zoom platform that allowed for real time interaction between and among all the Town Council and supported the public's ability to observe and record the proceedings. People were able to participate in person and remotely. When an agenda item provided for public comment, this was supported as well. All members of the Town Council were present in person.

The Town Council President, Roger Sheeman, presided. The Town Clerk-Treasurer, Michael W. Griffin, was present in person to memorialize the proceedings. The meeting was opened with Councilor Schocke 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 Bernie Zemen, Mark Herak, Mark J. Schocke, Thomas Black and Roger Sheeman. The Clerk-Treasurer, Michael W. Griffin was present to memorialize the proceedings. A quorum was attained. Councilors Zemen, Herak, Schocke, Black, and Sheeman all participated in person.

Additional Officials Present: John Reed, Town Attorney; Mark Knesek, Public Works Director; Peter Hojnicki, Metropolitan Police Chief; William R. Timmer, Jr., CFOD, Fire Chief; Alex M. Brown, CPRP, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation; Kathy DeGuilio-Fox, Redevelopment Director; and Kenneth J. Mika, Building Commissioner, were present. All participated electronically except for the Police chief, the Redevelopment Director and the Building Commissioner, who participated in person.

Also present: Sergeant Shawn Anderson; Officer Anthony Kowal; Police Canine Bane; and Ed Dabrowski IT Director (Contract) and Board of Waterworks Directors were all present in person.

Guests: Greg Bouwer, Attorney representing WSU Properties in person; and Theresa Badovich of the Idea Factory was present remotely.

Minutes of the Previous Meetings:

The minutes of the regular meeting of August 09, 2021, and the Special Meeting of August 16, 2021 were approved by general consent.

Special Orders:

- 1. Plan Commission Docket: Plan Commission Docket No. 2021-01:** Petitioner seeking an amendment to the governing PUD Ordinance involving an existing B-PUD District Plan located at 10404 Indianapolis Boulevard, Highland, currently zoned B-3 General Business Planned Unit Development District, petitioner seeks an Amended B-3 General Business PUD zoning designation. **Petitioner:** WSU Properties, LLC, by its attorney, Greg Bouwer, 425 Joliet Street, Suite 435, Dyer, Indiana 46311. The matter was certified by the Municipal Plan Commission with a **favorable recommendation**, by a vote of six (6) in favor, no opposed at its meeting of July 21, 2021. It is expected

that the enrolled Findings of Fact will be taken up by the Plan Commission at its meeting on September 15, 2021. This is now placed before the Town Council, *pursuant to IC 36-7-4-1505 (c), Chapter 18.70.100(B), and 18.55.050 of the Highland Municipal Code. (Also see IC 36-7-4-608(f) (PUD Ordinances) (Still a map amendment)*

- (a) Certification of Action by the Plan Commission regarding a Proposed Amendment to the Existing B-PUD District Plan. *(The Town Council may adopt the following ordinance, accept the plan commission favorable recommendation or not pass the ordinance and deny the recommendation of the plan commission.90 days tolls on 19 October 2021)*

With leave from the Town Council, Mr. Greg Bouwer, representing the petitioner, WSU Properties LLC, offered to answer questions and advocated for the Town Council's favor on the ordinance.

- (b) Proposed **Ordinance No. 1742**: An Ordinance Amending the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance Passed by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, on the 9th day of October 2017, by Ordinance No. 1659 and Codified as Title 18 of the Municipal Code to be Effective on the date of adoption; and hereinafter reclassifying an area in the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana from a B-3 PUD District to an Amended B-3 PUD District for petitioner WSU Properties, LLC, for a B-3 PUD in Highland.

Further 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.

Councilor Zemen moved to accept the favorable recommendation and to adoption Ordinance No. 1742. Councilor Schocke seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The favorable recommendation was accepted, the petition was granted, and the ordinance was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 1742
of the
TOWN OF HIGHLAND, INDIANA

An Ordinance Amending the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance Passed by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, on the 9th day of October 2017, by Ordinance No. 1659 and Codified as Title 18 of the Municipal Code to be Effective on the date of adoption; and hereinafter reclassifying an area in the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana from a B-3 PUD District to an Amended B-3 PUD District.

WHEREAS, The Town Council of the Town of Highland, Indiana, did on the 9th day of October 2017, pass a certain replacement zoning ordinance which is now in full force and effect, and which is known as Ordinance No. 1659, together with all amendments thereof and supplements thereto and codified as Title 18 of the Highland Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS, A petition and application for said proposed amendment to an existing B-3 Planned Unit Development District Plan was presented to the Highland Plan Commission by the petitioner and a public hearing was held thereon according to said Ordinance No. 1659, together with all amendments thereof and supplements thereto and codified as Chapter 18.70 of the Highland Municipal Code, and said Plan Commission recommends **favorable approval**; and

WHEREAS, After due consideration and study, the Town Council of the Town of Highland, does believe that the amendment will be advantageous to said Town and will insure the public health, safety, welfare, and morals of the citizens thereof in the area affected,

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

Section 1. That the following described property situated in the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, which is presently designated as being "**B-3 PUD**" **General Business Planned Unit Development District** is hereby rezoned to "**Amended B-PUD**" **General Business Planned Unit Development District**, which area is more particularly described as follows:

Lot 1 in Highland Acres, in the Town of Highland, as per Plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 27, Page 69, in the Office of the Record of Lake County, Indiana.

More commonly known as **10404 Indianapolis Boulevard**, Highland, IN.

Section 2. That the Zoning Map, which accompanies the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance and which is part thereof, shall be amended and changed so as to include the "Amended B-PUD" General Business Planned Unit Development District on the specific parcel of the real estate hereinabove described, all of which was formerly B-PUD" General Business Planned Unit Development District, and henceforth whose regulations and rules governing the "B-PUD" General Business Planned Unit Development District shall apply to the specific parcel of real estate hereinabove described, respectively;

Section 3. That the Town Engineer is hereby ordered to make appropriate map change and that said Ordinance No. 1659 together with all amendments thereof and supplements thereto, codified as Title 18 of the Highland Municipal Code, and the same is hereby further amended accordingly;

Section 4. That an emergency exists for the immediate taking effect of this amendment, and that the same shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and adoption.

Certificate of the Municipal Plan Commission

It is hereby certified that the foregoing proposed rezoning amendment was considered at a regular or special meeting by the Highland Municipal Plan Commission, and said request, having passed by a vote 6 in favor, and 0 opposed, for a **favorable recommendation**, is now duly forwarded with a favorable recommendation, for adoption to the Town Council of the Town of Highland by the Highland Municipal Plan Commission on the 21st day of July 2021, pursuant to IC 36-7-4-605(a)(3).

**TOWN OF HIGHLAND
MUNICIPAL PLAN COMMISSION**

Doug Turich, President

Attest:

Mark Kendra, Secretary

Action by Legislative Body

Having received the forgoing recommendation of the municipal plan commission pursuant to the duty set forth in IC 36-7-4-605(d), and pursuant to the provisions of IC 36-7-4-608(e), and IC 36-7-4-608(f) the Town Council considered the favorable recommendation of the municipal plan commission at its meeting of August 23, 2021 being the first regular meeting or a subsequent meeting within ninety days following the certification of the proposal.

Duly Ordained and Adopted/Rejected, pursuant to the provisions of IC 36-5-2-9.8 (b)(1) by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, this 23rd day of August 2021, having passed by a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

**TOWN COUNCIL of the TOWN of
HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

Roger Sheeman, President (IC 36-5-2-10)

Attest:

Michael W. Griffin, IAMC/MMC/CPFA/ACPFIM/CMO
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-42-4-1; IC 36-5-6-5; IC 36-5-2-10.2)

2. **Commissioning Ceremony:** A ceremony commissioning Metropolitan Police Canine Officer BANE and his assigned officer, Ofc. Anthony Kowal
 - (a) Instruction
 - (b) Institution and Examination
 - (c) Presentation of Badge

The Clerk-Treasurer offered a brief overview of the commissioning ceremony. He posed questions regarding duty and service with the new police canine, to Officer Anthony Kowal, who was assigned to work with Police Canine Bane, to which Officer Kowal answered in the affirmative.

The Clerk-Treasurer then posed similar questions of support and duty to the Town Council President, the Police Chief and Police Sergeant Shawn Anderson regarding its support of Officer Kowal and Police canine Bane. They responded in the affirmative.

The Clerk-Treasurer then presented that based upon the ceremony offered and the appropriate responses to the examination that Officer Anthony Kowal with Police Canine Bane be commissioned for service in the Town of Highland for law enforcement, subject to the approving vote of the Town Council.

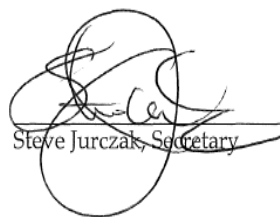
Councilor Herak moved to affirm and approve the commissioning of Police Canine Bane to serve with Officer Anthony Kowal. Councilor Schocke seconded. Upon a vote, *viva voce*, the motion passed. The commissioning was approved.

CERTIFICATE OF ASSIGNMENT AND APPOINTMENT

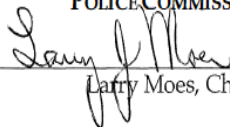
This is to certify that the duly appointed, qualified, acting and serving members of the Highland Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners, acting in accordance with applicable Indiana Statutes, and the Board's Rules and Regulations, on the 25th day of February, 2021 in the Town of Highland in said County and State, in which it is set forth and declared that **BANE**, an appointed **Police Canine officer**, was duly assigned to Police Officer First Class, **Anthony Kowal** and to the Highland Police Department in and for said Town to serve the people of Highland, in the interest of the community, to advance law enforcement purposes, and in support of the Public's Safety.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and send this certification to be made part of the records of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, this 25 day of Feb 2021.

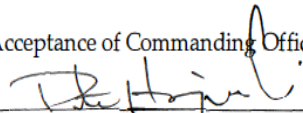
BY: TOWN BOARD OF METROPOLITAN
POLICE COMMISSIONERS



Steve Jurczak, Secretary



Larry Moes, Chairman

Acceptance of Commanding Officer:


Peter T. Hojnicky, Chief of Police

CERTIFIED STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONING

I hereby certify, having given affirmation on my oath, that on the 23rd Day of August 2021 Police Officer First Class Anthony Kaul and Police Canine Officer **BANE**, were Commissioned to serve the Citizens of Highland, Lake County, Indiana to formally affirm and authorize the named team's service to carry-out activities in support of law enforcement.

SUBSCRIBED AND CONFIRMED BEFORE ME, this 23rd day of August, 2021. In witness hereof, I hereunto set my hand and Corporate seal of the Town of Highland, Indiana. I certify that I am the duly elected, qualified and serving Clerk-Treasurer for the Town of Highland, and as such empowered pursuant to IC 33-42-4-1; IC 36-5-6-5 to administer oaths and make acknowledgments.

Authority Expiration: The Director of the Lake County Combined Board Certified the Election of November 5, 2019 officially on November 18th 2019. I was qualified to office upon my oath administered December 27, 2019, to serve for a term of four years commencing at Noon January 1, 2020, concluding before Noon January 1, 2024, and until I am re-elected and qualified, pursuant to IC 36-5-6-2(b).



Michael W. Griffin
Michael W. Griffin, Clerk-Treasurer

Approval by Legislative Body

Having received the forgoing recommendation of the municipal town board of metropolitan police commissioners pursuant IC 36-8-9 et seq, and having received the forgoing certificate, the Highland Town Council did favorably act, affirm and approve the commissioning at its meeting of 23 August 2021.

Duly passed and approved, by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, this 23rd day of August 2021, having passed by a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed.



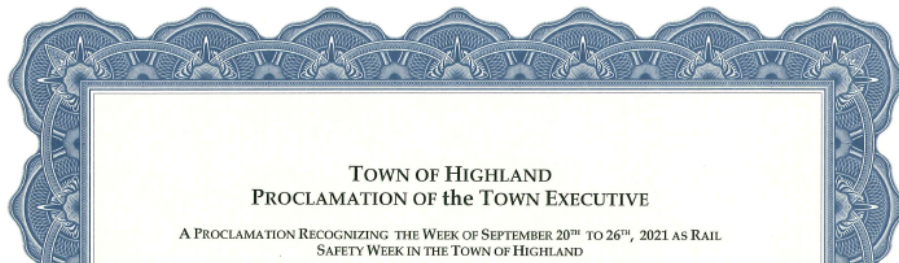
**TOWN COUNCIL of the TOWN of
HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

Roger W. Sheeman
Roger W. Sheeman, President (IC 36-5-2-10)

Attest:
Michael W. Griffin
Michael W. Griffin, IAMC/MMC/CPFA/ACPFIM/CMO
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-42-4-1; IC 36-5-6-5; IC 36-5-2-10.2)

- 3. **Executive Proclamation:** A Proclamation Recognizing Rail Safety Week in the Town of Highland from September 20 through 26th 2021.
 - (a) Reading and Execution of Proclamation.
 - (b) Action by the Town Council President

The Clerk-Treasurer read aloud the enrolled executive proclamation. The Town Council President announced his approval of the proclamation and executed his signature.



**TOWN OF HIGHLAND
PROCLAMATION OF the TOWN EXECUTIVE**

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 20TH TO 26TH, 2021 AS RAIL SAFETY WEEK IN THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND



Comments from Visitors or Residents:

1. Larry Kondrat, Highland, expressed his opposition to the adoption of the proposed ordinance creating the office of Town Manager. He further expressed his opposition to the appointment of an Information Technology Director and for the proposed ordinance fixing the pay.

Mr. Kondrat further expressed his opposition to the creation of the Economic Development Target Area for Webb Hyundai.

Unfinished Business and General Orders:

1. **Introduced Enactment No. 2021-35:** An Enactment Appropriating Additional Monies in Excess of the Annual Budget From Monies Received as a Grant from the State or Federal Government, pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-18-7.5, I.C. 36-5-3-5 et seq. (*At its meeting of August 9, the Town Council acted on the motion to consider the enactment at the same meeting of its introduction. Having not obtained the needed unanimous vote of those present, the enactment is now being considered in the current meeting. Only three affirmative votes are needed for adoption.*)

Councilor Herak moved the passage and adoption of Enactment No. 2021-35. Councilor Schocke seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The enactment was adopted.

TOWN OF HIGHLAND
APPROPRIATION ENACTMENT
ENACTMENT NO. 2021-35

AN ENACTMENT APPROPRIATING ADDITIONAL MONIES IN EXCESS OF THE ANNUAL BUDGET FROM MONIES RECEIVED AS A GRANT FROM THE STATE OR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, PURSUANT TO I.C. 6-1.1-18-7.5, I.C. 36-5-3-5 ET SEQ.

WHEREAS, IC 6-1.1-18-7.5 provides that notwithstanding any other law, the appropriating body of a political subdivision may appropriate any funds received as a grant from the state or the federal government without using the additional appropriation procedures under IC 6-1.1-18-5, if the funds are provided or designated by the state or the federal government as a reimbursement of an expenditure made by the political subdivision;

WHEREAS, The Town Council has been informed of the receipt of funds from a special training grant of the **Indiana Department of Homeland Security** program, particularly represented on Clerk-Treasurer's receipt number 735559 in the amount of \$4,000.00 as reimbursement in support of active shooter protection program;

WHEREAS, The Town Council has been further informed that these funds were provided or designated by the state or the federal government as a reimbursement of an expenditure made by the political subdivision;

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

Section 1. That for the actual expenses of said municipality related to special training funded by **Indiana Department of Homeland Security** to reimburse the municipality for a portion of its actual expenses incurred by the training program and related costs the following additional sums of money, received as a grant from the state or the federal government and designated as a reimbursement of an expenditure made by the political subdivision, are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the funds herein named:

CORPORATION GENERAL FUND

Fire Department

Increase Account:

Acct. 001-0007-23012 Active Shooter PPE Supplies \$ 4,000.00
Total 200 Series: \$ 4,000.00

Total of All Fund Increases: \$ 4,000.88

Section 2. 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 the 9th Day of August 2021. Consideration on the same day or at same meeting of introduction sustained a vote of 4 in favor and 1 opposed, pursuant to IC 36-5-2-9.8 could not be considered at the same meeting of its introduction.

DULY ORDAINED AND ADOPTED this 23rd Day of August 2021, 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

/s/ Roger Sheeman, President (IC 36-5-2-10)

Attest:

/s/ Michael W. Griffin, IAMC/MMC/CPFA/ACPFIM/CMO
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-42-4-1;IC 36-5-6-5)

- 2. Proposed Ordinance No. 1740:** An Ordinance Designating An Economic Development Target Area Within The Boundary Of An Economic Revitalization Area Established By Resolution 2012-10 Adopted January 30, 2021 That Is Located At 9236 Indianapolis Boulevard To Enable Property Tax Abatement For Retail Uses. (At its meeting of August 16, 2021, the Economic Development Commission considered the approval of the Economic Development Target Area, pursuant to IC 6-1.1-12.1-7. The Economic Development Commission favorably recommended the establishment by the Town Council of an EDTA for 9236 Indianapolis Boulevard. A letter reporting this is included.)

Councilor Herak introduced and filed the proposed Ordinance No. 1740. Councilor Herak further gave **notice** of his intention to move for its adoption at the special meeting of Monday, August 30, 2021.

3. **Proposed Ordinance No. 1741:** An Ordinance to Amend the Highland Municipal Code by Adding a New Chapter 2.17 Establishing the new position of Town Manager all pursuant to IC 36-1-5 and IC 36-5-5 et sequitur.

Councilor Black introduced and moved the consideration of Ordinance No. 1741 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Herak seconded. Upon a roll call vote, a unanimous vote being necessary, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The ordinance could be considered at the same meeting of its introduction.

Councilor Schocke moved to not adopt introduced Ordinance No. 1741 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Black seconded. Upon a roll call vote, the needed vote for its adoption at the same meeting of its introduction being two-thirds, there were four affirmatives on the motion to not adopt at the same meeting of introduction and one negative. With Councilors Zemen, Herak, Black and Schocke voting in the affirmative not to adopt at the same meeting of its introduction, and Councilor Sheeman voting in the negative, the motion passed. The motion to **not** adopt the Ordinance at the same meeting of its introduction was approved, having not attained the needed two thirds in support of its adoption at the same meeting of introduction.

4. **Proposed Ordinance No. 1743:** An Ordinance To Authorize And Approve Certain Additional Payments To Employees Of The Town Of Highland, Indiana To Acknowledge And Express Appreciation For Services During The Period Of The Novel Corona Virus Pandemic And To Affirm Or Incent Vaccination Against The Virus.

Councilor Herak introduced and moved for the consideration at the same meeting of introduction of Ordinance No. 1743. Councilor Zemen seconded. *Upon a roll call vote*, a unanimous vote being necessary, there were four affirmatives and one negative. With Councilors Zemen, Herak, Schocke and Black voting in the affirmative and Councilor Sheeman voting in the negative, the motion did not pass. The ordinance could not be considered at the same meeting of its introduction.

Prior to the vote there was a colloquy in which Councilors Herak and Schocke expressed support for the ordinance. The Town Council President expressed his reservations and opposition to the purposes of the ordinance. The colloquy included an exploration of the merits of granting such stipends, and considering the possible alternative uses of the General Fund surplus such as using it for other public works applications.

It was noted that the ordinance could be taken up at a future meeting and would only require a vote of three or more in the affirmative to pass it.

5. **Action to approve appointment or employment of full-time employee, pursuant to Section §3.03 of the Compensation and Benefits Ordinance.**

(A) The hiring of the identified candidate, to the full-time position of Director of Information Technology in Information Communication Technology Department at a rate of pay to be fixed by amendment to the wage and salary ordinance.

Councilor Herak moved to postpone this matter until October 25, 2021. The motion did not obtain a second and therefore was not placed before the Town Council for action.

With leave from the Town Council, there was a colloquy between the Town Council President, Councilor Schocke and Councilor Herak regarding the readiness to appoint a person to the post, the manner of publishing the notice of the available position, the number of other candidates, and an inquiry into the process that brought the matter to the agenda and the Town Council for its consideration.

With leave from the Town Council, the colloquy included a discussion regarding concerns about the amount of the proposed salary in the ordinance, which was to be the next item of business. It was noted that the matter of hiring was distinct from the matter of the wage and salary ordinance amendment that would fix the bi-weekly pay for the IT Director position.

Councilor Black moved to postpone (table) the consideration of the matter to the next plenary (regular) meeting. Councilor Herak seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were three affirmatives and two negatives. With Councilors Herak, Schocke and Black voting in the affirmative and Councilors Zemen and Sheeman voting in the negative, the motion passed. The matter would be delayed until the next plenary (regular) meeting.

Scriveners note: Following this vote, which scheduled the matter of hiring for consideration at the plenary meeting of September 13, 2021, there was an informal inquiry posed to the Town Council President, which asked about considering this at the next study session. It is further noted that the Town Council President suggested he would place it on the next study session. It is noted that next standing study session before the next plenary meeting is scheduled for September 6, 2021, which is Labor Day. It is customary to cancel the meetings that would occur on this holiday.

- 6. Proposed Ordinance No. 1744.1726-D:** An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance No. 1726 to Establish the Wage And Salary Rates Of The Elected Officers, The Non-Elected Officers, And The Employees Of The Town Of Highland, Indiana Particularly Amending To Authorize Changes To The Compensation Associated with the Newly Created Information Communications And Technology Department.

The Town Council President invited action on the proposed ordinance. No motion was made regarding the disposition of this ordinance.

- 7. Commendation Letter for Day Off and Signature Authorization.** Action to approve a Letter of Commendation for *Exemplary Public service* leading to the award of a single paid day off for several workers in the Metropolitan Police Department. Pursuant to Section 4.13 of the Compensation and Benefits Ordinance, for the day off to be effective requires the approval of the board of jurisdiction and the Town Council. The Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners has granted preliminary approval to a special letter of commendation regarding an officer who exhibited extraordinary compassion in bringing meals to a person recovering from COVID 19.

- Action should include approval for the members of the Town Council to sign the letters of commendation.

The Police Chief and the Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners are asking for approval of a letter of commendation for actions described in the letter of commendation for the following:

Sergeant Glenn Cox

Councilor Herak's motion captured both commendations and is memorialized following item 8.

8. **Commendation Letter for Day Off and Signature Authorization.** Action to approve Letters of Commendation for Exemplary Public service leading to the award of a single paid day off for several workers in the **Metropolitan Police Department**. Pursuant to **Section 4.13** of the Compensation and Benefits Ordinance, for the day off to be effective requires the approval of the board of jurisdiction and the Town Council. The Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners has granted preliminary approval to several letters of commendation regarding several employees who have worked six months without calling off sick and without experiencing an "at fault accident".
- Action should include approval for the members of the Town Council to sign the letters of commendation.

The Police Chief and the Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners are asking for approval of a letter of commendation for six months of work without calling off and not having an at-fault accident for the following:

*Assistant Chief Pat Vassar
Commander Ralph Potesta
Commander John Banasiak
Sergeant Glenn Cox
Lance Corporal Greg Palmer
Officer Richard Hoffman*

*Officer Daniel Matusik
Corporal Brian Stanley
Corporal Michael Yonkman
Officer Frank Peckler
Officer Darren Conley
Officer James Mullins
Officer Ken Norsweather*

Councilor Herak moved to authorize and approve the letters of commendation for Sergeant Glen Cox and for the officers listed in the second letter of commendation, including Chief Peter Hojnicky, whose name was listed by redacted by the Chief based upon initials, and to authorize the members of the Town Council to sign the letters individually. Councilor Schocke seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The letters of commendation authoring the signatures of the individual councilors to be added, were authorized and approved.

9. **Authorizing the proper officer to publish legal notice of a public hearing:** Public Hearing to consider additional appropriations in the amount of \$51,623 in the **General Improvement Fund**, in the amount of \$ 791,160 in the **Works Board Department of the General Fund**, and in the amount of \$146,458 in the **Community Crossings Grant Fund**.

Councilor Schocke moved to authorize the proper officer to public legal notice as indicated. Councilor Herak seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The proper officer was authorized to public the legal notices of the public hearings as indicated.

Remarks from the Town Council:
(For the Good of the Order)

- **Councilor Bernie Zemen:** *Park and Recreation Board Liaison • Fire Department, Liaison.*

Councilor Zemen noted the recent death of Tyler Scheidt, a 21 year-old Highland resident, who worked part time at the Parks and Recreation Department and was to be a Junior at Wabash College. He was killed by a car colliding with him.

Councilor Zemen congratulated the Police Chief on his daughter's recent delivery of twins, noting that the Police Chief was now a grandparent.

Councilor Zemen acknowledged the Building Commissioner, who reported on matters before the Plan Commission.

Councilor Zemen acknowledged the Fire Chief who reported (remotely) on fire department matters and the accident involving the late Mr. Scheidt.

Councilor Zemen acknowledged the Parks and Recreation Superintendent, (remotely) who offered a survey of programs and events under the aegis of the parks and recreation department. He also noted the loss of Mr. Scheidt, who worked in the parks and recreation department recently as a summer worker.

- **Councilor Mark Herak:** •*Budget and Finance Chair* • *Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners, Liaison* • *Public Works Liaison* • *Economic Development Commission Liaison* • *Board of Sanitary Commissioners Liaison and* • *Liaison to the Advisory Board of Zoning Appeals.*

Councilor Herak congratulated the Police Chief on his new status as a grandparent.

Councilor Herak acknowledged the Building Commissioner who reported on matters before the Advisory Board of Zoning Appeals.

Councilor Herak acknowledged the Public Works Director, who reported (remotely) on projects under the aegis of the Public Works Department (agency).

Councilor Herak commented on a recent public discussion at the Study Session of Monday, August 16, in which there was open discussion regarding organizing to seek alternative sources for potable water during the period of the new wholesale agreement. Councilor Herak expressed concern regarding the prudence of being too open prior to all the agreements being approved and the settlement agreement with Hammond still outstanding.

Councilor Herak also expressed condolences to the family of Tyler Scheidt.

- **Councilor Mark Schocke:** *Liaison to the Tree Board* • *Liaison to the Community Events Commission (resigned)*

Councilor Schocke also expressed condolences to the family of Tyler Scheidt. Councilor Schocke requested that the Town Council President consider taking a lawful measure as the municipal executive to express condolences to the family of Tyler Scheidt.

Councilor Schocke welcomed Police Canine Bane and commended his addition to the Highland Police Department.

Councilor Tom Black: *Liaison to the Board of Waterworks Directors.*

Councilor Black expressed condolences to the family of Tyler Scheidt.

Councilor Black commended the process that located funding for the awarding of the COVID stipends and wondered whether the current contracted IT Director could be included in the proposed measure.

- **Council President Roger Sheeman:** *Town Executive • Chair of the Board of Police Pension Trustees • Chamber of Commerce Liaison • Information Technology Liaison • Redevelopment Commission Liaison.*

The Town Council President also expressed affirming wishes and sympathy to the Scheidt family.

The Town Council President acknowledged the Redevelopment Director who reported on the redevelopment commission actions and related matters of redevelopment.

Comments from Visitors or Residents

1. Larry Kondrat, Highland, expressed concerns about a lunch meeting taking place between the Town Council President and a person from Webb Hyundai at which the reconsideration of the requested tax abatement was discussed.
2. Lydia Schott, Highland, (Via Zoom) expressed her opposition to the appointment of a town manager.

Payment of Accounts Payable Vouchers. There being no further comments from the public, Councilor Zemen moved to allow the vendors accounts payable vouchers as filed on the pending accounts payable docket, covering the period August 10, 2021, through August 23, 2021. Councilor Schocke seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives, no negatives. The motion passed. The accounts payable vouchers for the vendor docket were allowed, payments allowed in advance were ratified, and for all remaining invoices, the Clerk-Treasurer was authorized to make payment.

Vendors Accounts Payable Docket:

General Fund, \$235,445.74; Motor Vehicle Highway and Street (MVH) Fund, \$12,107.36; Local Road and Street Fund, \$12,696.22; Law Enforcement Continuing Education and Training and Supply Fund, \$739.43; Information Communications Technology Fund, \$3,741.70; Special Events Non Reverting Fund, \$13,894.42; Municipal Cumulative Capital Development Fund, \$2,535.00; Traffic Violations and Law Enforcement Agency Fund, \$500.00; Public Safety Local Income Tax Fund, \$7,511.93; Total: \$289,171.80.

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, August 23, 2021, adjourned at 8:04 O'clock p.m.

Michael W. Griffin, IAMC/MMC/CPFA/ACPFIM/CMO
Clerk-Treasurer

Approved by the Town Council at its meeting of _____, 2021.

Michael W. Griffin, IAMC/MMC/CPFA/ACPFIM/CMO
Clerk-Treasurer