

**Enrolled Minutes of the Eighty-Second Regular Meeting or Special Meeting  
For the Twenty-Ninth Highland Town Council  
Regular Plenary Business Meeting (Electronic/In person Hybrid)  
Monday, December 12, 2022**

The Twenty-Ninth Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana met in its regular plenary session on Monday, December 12, 2022 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 both an in person and an electronic meeting. Some persons were participating remotely on a Zoom platform that allowed for real time interaction, and supported the public's ability to observe and record the proceedings. People were able to participate in person and remotely. When the agenda item provided for public comment, this was supported as well. Councilor Zemen, Councilor Toya Smith, Councilor Tom Black, Councilor Schocke, Councilor Roger Sheeman 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 Bernie Zemen presided. The Town Clerk-Treasurer, Mark Herak, was present to memorialize the proceedings. The meeting was opened with Councilor Bernie Zemen 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, Toya Smith, Mark J. Schocke, Thomas Black, Roger Sheeman and Clerk-Treasurer, Mark Herak were present. A quorum was attained.

**Additional Officials Present:** John Reed, Attorney with Abrahamson, Reed & Bilse, Alex Brown, CPRP, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation were remote. Mark Knesek, Public Works Director, Pete Hojnicky, Metropolitan Police Chief; William R. Timmer, Jr., CFOD, Fire Chief; Edward Dabrowski, Director of Information Technology; Kenneth J. Mika, Building Commissioner, Maria Becerra, Redevelopment Director and Terry Krooswyk, Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioner were present.

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

**Minutes of the Previous Meetings:** The minutes of the November 28, 2022 Plenary meeting were approved by general consent.

**Special Orders:**

1. **Administration of Oath of Office** for Police Officer Candidate **Raymond J. Navarro III** was appointed by the Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners at its

meeting of December 9 2022, with the appointment to be effective December 11, 2022, but not earlier than approval by Indiana Public Retirement System (INPRS).

- (a) *Instruction and Administration of Oath.* The Town Clerk-Treasurer offered the outline, rationale and instruction related to the oath of office for the police officer candidate. The clerk-treasurer then administered the oath of office to the officer.
  
- (b) *Presentation of Badge by Metropolitan Police Commission Chair and/or Town Council President or the Metropolitan Police Chief.* The Metropolitan Police Chief Pete Hojnicky and the Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioner Terry Krooswyk presented police badge to Police Officer Navarro.

The Town Council President and members of the Town Council welcomed the new officer, who then introduced members of his friends and family who were in attendance.

Councilor Black moved that the Town Council of Highland hereby determines that the herein named candidate meets the qualifications for such position, as determined by the Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners and as now approved by the Highland Town Council which is the Town Legislative Body on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2022. Councilor Sheeman seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote of the elected officials, there five (5) affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed.

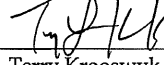
STATE OF INDIANA    )  
                          ) SS:  
COUNTY OF LAKE    )

**CERTIFICATE of APPOINTMENT**

This is to certify that the Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners for the Town of Highland, acting in accordance with applicable law, on the 8th day of December 2022 in the Town of Highland in said County and State, in which it is set forth and declared Raymond J. Navarro III, being of good moral character, was duly appointed to the position of Police Officer, subject to a probationary period, in and for said Town to serve during the probationary or regular appointment if conferred, only during good behavior, subject to the terms and provisions of the Rules, Regulations and Standard Operating Procedures duly adopted and in force for the Highland Metropolitan Police Department and for the citizens of the Town of Highland, all pursuant to I.C. 36-8-9 et seq., with said appointment to be effective, upon its approval, beginning on the 11th day of December, 2022.

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 8th day of December 2022.

**By: Town Board of Metropolitan  
Police Commissioners of Highland**



\_\_\_\_\_  
Terry Krooswyk, Chairman



\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Danko, Secretary

Pursuant to IC 5-4-1-2 (a), the oath which is to be signed by the person taking the oath, and certified to by the officer before whom the oath was taken, may be found attached to this certificate or affixed to its reverse side.

**OATH OF OFFICE**

I, **Raymond J Navarro III**, do solemnly (swear or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Indiana, and that I will faithfully and impartially discharge my duties as Police Officer of the Town of Highland, Indiana, according to law, and to the best of my ability, so help me God.

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Raymond J. Navarro III

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF** as subscribed and sworn/affirmed before me, I hereunto set my hand and Corporate seal of the Town of Highland, Indiana this 12<sup>th</sup> day of DECEMBER, 2022. I certify that I am the duly elected, qualified, acting and serving Clerk-Treasurer for the Town of Highland, and as such empowered pursuant to IC. 33-16-4-1; IC 36-5-6-5 to make acknowledgments.

Authority Expiration: The Director of the Lake County Board of Elections and Registration Certified the Election of November 3, 2015, officially November 18, 2015. I was qualified to office upon my oath administered December 28th, 2015, to serve for a term of four years commencing at noon January 1, 2016 and until a successor is elected and qualified. IC 36-5-6-2(b)

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Mark A. Herak  
Town of Highland Clerk-Treasurer

I.C. 36-8-9-4(a)(c)Highland Municipal Code § 51; I.C. 5-4-1-1

2. **Consideration of Proposed Additional Appropriations: (Controlled funds) Proposed Additional Appropriations in Excess of the 2022 Budget in the Redevelopment Capital Fund in the amount of \$69,422.00.**
  - (a) Attorney verification of Proofs of Publication: The TIMES 28 November 2022. The Town Attorney stated that the proof of publication complied with the requirements of the law.
  - (b) **Public Hearing.** The Town Council President called the public hearing to order.

- (c) Action on **Proposed Appropriation Enactment No. 2022-25**: An Enactment Appropriating Additional Moneys in Excess of the Annual Budget for the **Redevelopment Capital Fund** all pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-18, I.C. 36-5-3-5, et seq.

Councilor Sheeman introduced and moved for the consideration of Enactment No. 2022-25 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Black seconded. Upon a roll call vote, a unanimous vote being necessary, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The enactment could be considered at the same meeting of its introduction.

Councilor Sheeman moved for the passage adoption of Enactment No. 2022-25 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Black seconded. Upon a roll call vote, a two-thirds vote being necessary, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The enactment was passed and adopted upon the signature of the municipal executive at the same meeting of its introduction.

\*\*\* Proof of Publication \*\*\*

State of Indiana )  
) ss:  
Lake County )

Personally appeared before me, a notary public in and for said county and state, the undersigned Nicole Museari who, being duly sworn, says that She/he is Legal Clerk of the Northwest Indiana Times newspaper of general circulation printed and published in the English language in the Town of Munster in state and county afore-said, and that the printed matter attached hereto is a true copy, which was duly published in said paper for 1 time(s), the date(s) of publication being as follows:  
NOV 28, 2022

TOWN OF HIGHLAND, CLERK TREASURER - LEGALS  
CHAD, ACCTS PAYABLE  
3333 RIDGE ROAD  
HIGHLAND IN 46322

ORDER NUMBER 107039

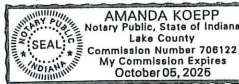
The undersigned further states that the Northwest Indiana Times newspaper maintains an Internet website, which is located at www.nwi.com website and that a copy of the above referenced printed matter was posted on such website on the date(s) of publication set forth above.

Nicole Museari, Legal Clerk  
By: [Signature]

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 28 day of NOV, 2022

[Signature]  
Notary Public

My commission expires:



Section: Legals  
Category: 198 Legal - Lake County  
PUBLISHED ON: 11/28/2022

TOTAL AD COST: 78.39  
FILED ON: 11/28/2022

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 12th day of December 2022, will consider the following additional appropriations in excess of the budget for the current year in the following funds:  
Redevelopment Capital Fund  
Acct. 4408-0000-34002 Facade Improvement (45th Street) \$ 26,132.00  
Acct. 4408-0000-34002 Facade Improvement (NWI Parkinson) \$ 3,280.00  
Acct. 4408-0000-34002 Facade Improvement (Nephilim) \$ 40,000.00  
Total 400 Series: \$ 69,422.00  
TOTAL for the FUND: \$ 69,422.00  
Funds to support these additional appropriations in the Redevelopment Capital 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. Taxpayers are asked to contact the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer at (219) 638-1080 to provide an email address to allow the Zoom platform information to be provided as the meeting is still being conducted as an Electronic/In Person Hybrid. You may also write to the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer if you have concerns. 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 Bernie Zemen, President  
By: Mark Herak Clerk-Treasurer  
11/28 - 107039 HSPAXLP

Town of Highland  
Appropriation Enactment  
Enactment No. 2022-25

AN ENACTMENT APPROPRIATING ADDITIONAL MONIES IN EXCESS OF THE ANNUAL BUDGET for the REDEVELOPMENT CAPITAL 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 Redevelopment Capital 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 **Local Road and Street Fund** herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

REDEVELOPMENT CAPITAL FUND

Acct. No. 4406-0000-34002 Façade Improvement (45 <sup>th</sup> Street)	\$ 26,132.00
Acct. No. 4406-0000-34002 Façade Improvement (NWI Parkinson)	\$ 3,290.00
Acct. No. 4406-0000-34002 Façade Improvement (Nephilim)	<u>\$40,000.00</u>

Total 300 Series: \$69,422.00

**Fund Total: \$69,422.00**

**Section 2.** 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 3.** 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 12th Day of December 2022. Consideration on the 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 12th Day of December 2022, 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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**Bernie Zemen, 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)**

**3. Public Hearing. Proposed Changes to the Rates and Charges of the Town of Highland Waterworks Utility.**

(a) Verification of Proof of Publication. (TIMES 21 August-2022) The Town Attorney indicated that the proof of publication was in compliance with IC 5-3-1.

(b) Public Hearing. The Town Council President called the public hearing to order. The following persons offered comments:

1. Erik Sprenne, 3118 Wirth Road, sent his comments below and spoke at the meeting. He began by saying he doesn't follow the Town's happening that diligently but noticed the proposed water rate increase in the newspaper. He said he keeps track of his own utilities and created the graph which he emailed to the Council. He said, I guess I find it a little bit surprising that the bump in the proposed water rate is the 100% increase in the base rate which seems a little bit excessive. It seems like there's at least one that goes up every year and over the last 5 years, as we've seen increases of 3.9% in the trash rate in January 2018 and then again an 11.6% in June of 2019. In January 2021, a 50% increase in the sewer and the storm water rates and now we're looking at a 100% increase in the base water rates. I guess to me it just seems it's a little bit excessive especially given that retirees and lower income people keep getting sacked for more and more money. I'm just wondering how much of this increase actually covers the operational cost of buying water from Hammond, as I know they've been asking for more and more money for the water or is it Highland using this means to increase the general fund or for other purposes.

Councilor Schocke responded that he would let our consultant answer his questions but it was his understanding that this is about an \$8 a month increase, so while I appreciate the percentages comparison, when we're talking an actual dollar for dollar number you are looking at roughly a \$100 increase for the year and from my understanding our infrastructure is wanting of some replacement and repair. There's not a week that goes by that I don't get a notice that there's a water main break somewhere in Highland and I think it's important that we put



money back into the system in order to keep a functioning water system. You could easily look at other places like Dixmnoor, Illinois, who just went through a horrible crisis where they basically had to buy their water at the grocery store because they just didn't have the infrastructure and they had pipes bursting everywhere. You could look back to 2014 in Flint, Michigan, where they actually had a crisis such that they had to change their water source from the Detroit Metro to the Flint River and we all know what happened there. Functionally speaking, I'd rather have a water system that works than a system that doesn't work. As for answering your numbers in terms of actual percentage increases, I would defer to our consultants but I ask you, what percent would you propose. Would you suggest that we go to something presumably less but what is the number?

Mr. Sprenne said he doesn't have the background to suggest the rate for you and as I mentioned, I don't follow along with the water board meetings but I try to watch you guys as often as I can and as I was saying, I was looking at the increases over the last couple of years and they seem to be getting bigger and bigger and bigger every time. I'm just wondering if there's any opportunity for moderation for the residents of Highland.

Councilor Schocke responded that we actually looked at 3 separate rates and to be honest, this is actually the highest rate. The factors we considered were the infrastructure replacements which we desperately need. We also considered other factors like increase in employee's wages.. Inflation is going up at a rapid rate and in order to keep good employees, we need to reward them appropriately. This year we're considering a 4% raise for our employees in town, excluding the law enforcement. Material costs keep going up. In fact, there was a recent break over by the Sharp, Athletic Complex where we couldn't even get the pipe and had to be bailed out by a local contractor to complete the work. Costs keep going up but I certainly take your point. I mean as a resident, I pay for water also but I would rather have a functioning water system than a non-functioning water system. We're increasing the rate not to increase the general fund but to invest back in the infrastructure.

Mr. Sprenne said he had no problem with that as he just wanted to express his concern.

Water Utility Engineer, Derek Snyder said the biggest chunk of the money over the next 5 years is for capital and replacement plan. So, over the next 5 years, the capital projects include replacing water mains, maintaining the elevated tank at Ridge Road which is going to be fully repainted inside and out in 2027 and that's roughly a \$380,000 charge. Project wise it is roughly \$6.3M over the next 5 years and roughly \$3.6M over the next 5 years for meter replacements, valves, hydrants, the operation of the utility and that's not including the replacement of vehicles and equipment like back hoes to maintain the system

Bob Reynolds, the Town's financial consultant said that of the increase, 14% is attributed to increase in the purchase of water from Hammond which is why the tracker has been installed. That is a direct pass through from Hammond to the residents of Highland and the capital project attributing about 80%. So roughly, 97% of the increase is from these 2 items. Most of the operating increase is actually offset by the State law which mandated the elimination of the Utility Receipts Tax. So, by removing the tax, it offsets the increase in operating.

Councilor Sheeman said he wanted to clarify for the public that he was part of the negotiations with Hammond that started in 2020. Hammond felt that they could charge whatever they wanted. All the communities that bought from Hammond were at their mercy because there are no State regulations that prohibited Hammond from the raising the rates as they wanted. We negotiated a 10-year agreement with Hammond. Believe me, we spent hundred of thousands of dollars in lawyer fees negotiating the deal and in the end, our water rates still almost doubled. I want to point out that we haven't raised our rates for 8 years prior to us putting in this 10-year agreement with Hammond. The agreement did not prevent the rates from increasing every year but at least we know what the rates will be every year. Last year, rather than passing along the true up costs to the consumers, the Town ate the cost. We only started passing along the increase this September. However, down the line we are

Connie Wachala, Highland said she read in the paper that the Town was going to spend \$70M to reconstruct its sewage collection system. She then asked the Clerk-Treasurer regarding a quote in the newspaper attributed to him that the residents could expect an increase in their sewage rates sometime in 2023. The Clerk-Treasurer acknowledged that the quote was correct. She then wanted to know if the suggested sewage rate increase was included in the proposed water rate increase. She was told no, they were totally different. She said she wanted to point out that we are suffering from those burden of costs because the people in power people long ago, who could have done something about that discharge of raw sewage into our waterways didn't act. The Clean Water Act has been around for over 50 years old. Imagine what Highland would be like if those in charge had done something then to prevent polluting our streams, rivers and Lake Michigan. I hear this question all the time. How does sustainability help Highland? I am asking you to weigh environmental considerations with every decision you make so we stop this kind of environmental and economic catastrophe in the future.

Don Nagnaman, NWI said he was just curious what other sources of water supply was Highland considering. Did Highland consider Gary/Hobart and he was informed they were in worst shape than Hammond. He was advised that Highland could go to the well system like St. John but the residents of St. John don't like the well system after they were used to Lake Michigan water.

Councilor Sheeman added we could build our own treatment plant that would cost millions and millions of dollars. We could run pipelines from the lake to the

treatment plant. We could maybe hook up with East Chicago as they have 2 water treatment plants. We have formed a consortium to examine the various options. We have been meeting regularly, as 2 years of the 10-year agreement has already expired and before you know it, we'll be at the end of the contract.

Terry Steagall, Highland said that the more we keep polluting Lake Michigan, the more it costs to filter the water out of Lake Michigan. So, there's a double whammy, you pollute the water and then you have to pay to purify the water. You need to keep all these things in perspective as you are going to have to deal with sewer and water in the future.

Larry Kondrat, Highland, said this hearing is about water. The proposed rate increase has nothing to do with sanitation. It has nothing to do with garbage. It has nothing to do with pouring dirty water into the rivers, streams or lakes. Its about drinking water. I believe we were paying Hammond .50 cents per 1,000 gallons of water. Hammond now charges Highland a \$1.10 per 1,000 gallons. The water department works off about a 7% return on investment. The 7% covers the overhead which is separate from what Hammond bills us. When the Town does a project like replacing a street, part of the cost is born by water, another portion by sanitary and another the Board of Works. The water department hasn't had a rate increase in maybe 8-years or maybe 12-years. It's not a 100% increase, it is closer to 65% or 70%. Hammond charges Highland a \$1.10 per 1,000 gallons and we charge consumers \$2.16 per 1,000 gallons. That means we have a \$1.16 to operate the water department. If there is a truck in public works, the water department pays a 1/3 of the cost. It costs money to keep fire hydrants open. This rate increase has to do the rate increase from Hammond and the rise in inflation. The original study completed 4 or 5 years ago called for a 35% increase but it didn't take into consideration the rising cost over the last 2 years.

Councilor Zemen asked if there were any other comments. Hearing none, he closed the public hearing thanking everyone for their comments and brought it back to the Council. He informed the Council that the Ordinance has already been introduced so it does not require consideration on 1<sup>st</sup> reading only a majority vote.

## **Proposed Highland Water Rate Increase (Erik Sprenne)**

### **Summary:**

The proposed water rate increase is a doubling of the base water rate, and will raise the total base utility rate that residents pay by 19.5%. Besides the base rate, the usage rate will also increase by 21% over the next 5 years.

Such an increase is much higher than the rate of inflation, and when considered in conjunction with the other 5 base rate increases over the last three years (since June 2019), will result in a 49.9% increase in the base utility rate for residential customers – which is triple the inflation rate over the same time.

The Waterworks Board has not documented any information about this increase.

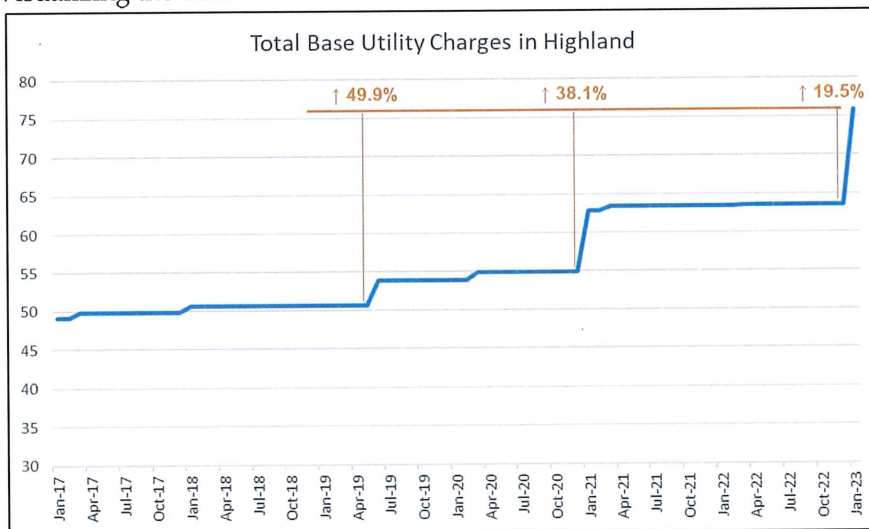
Please consider reducing the size of this increase to no more than the cost increases for water supply.

**Data:**

These are the increases in the base utility rates for Highland residents in the last 5 years – assuming the water rate will take effect:

- **January 2018 – 3.9 % increase in trash base rate**
- **June 2019 – 11.6 % increase in trash base rate**
- **January 2021 – 50.1 % increase in sewer base rate**
- **January 2021 – 50.1 % increase in stormwater base rate**
- **January 2023 - 100.8 % increase in water base rate**
- **January 2023 – 30.0 % increase in hydrant fee**
- **January 2023 – 20.8 % increase in water use rate over next 5 years (each year 4.6, 2.2, 4.3, 4.2, 4.0 %)**

Visualizing the data:



Before this rate is adopted, would like to hear an explanation of how much of these increases go to cover increasing operating costs vs. how much go to increase the general income for the Town. The legal notice for this proposed increase indicates that the Highland Waterworks Board approved a rate increase at its 10/27/22 meeting, but the minutes of that meeting have not been posted as of 12/11/22, and no details about this increase are available to the residents.

According to the US gov't ([https://www.bls.gov/data/inflation\\_calculator.htm](https://www.bls.gov/data/inflation_calculator.htm)), the consumer price index increased by 16% from June 2019 to present, but the Highland base utility rate increased by 49.9% - more than 3 times the CPI.

**Why??**

There being no further comments, the Town Council President closed the hearing, thanking all for their comments.

- (c) **Action on Introduced Ordinance No. 1772:** An Ordinance to Amend Section 12.05.120(B) of the Highland Municipal Code regarding changes to the Rates and Charges of the Highland Water Works Utility, all pursuant to I.C. 36-1-4, IC 36-1-5, IC 8-1.5-3-8.1 and IC 8-1.5-4 et sequitur.

*At its Thursday meeting of October 27, 2022, the Board of Water Works Directors approved these rates and charges contained in the proposed ordinance as reasonable, just, non-discriminatory and transmitted this ordinance for the consideration of the Town Council. Councilor Black introduced and filed the Ordinance at the Town Council meeting of November 14th, 2022. These were determined following a rate and cost of service study. The last general rate increase was approved November 1990. In pertinent part, the governing law reads: "After the hearing, the municipal legislative body shall adopt the ordinance establishing the rates and charges, either as originally introduced or as modified. A copy of the schedule of rates and charges adopted shall be kept on file and available for public inspection in the offices of the board and the municipal clerk." All pursuant to IC 8-1.5-3-8.1(c) and Section § 12.05.120(B) of the Municipal Code.*

Councilor Black moved to adopt (introduced) Ordinance No. 1772. Councilor Sheeman seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. Ordinance No. 1772 passed and adopted upon the signature of the municipal executive. The rates are effective with the first utility bills being issued in January.

\*\*\* Proof of Publication \*\*\*

State of Indiana )  
                          ) ss:  
Lake County )

Personally appeared before me, a notary public in and for said county and state, the undersigned Nicole Muscari who, being duly sworn, says that She/he is Legal Clerk of the Northwest Indiana Times newspaper of general circulation printed and published in the English language in the Town of Munster in state and county afore-said, and that the printed matter attached hereto is a true copy, which was duly published in said paper for 1 time(s), the date(s) of publication being as follows:  
November 21, 2022

TOWN OF HIGHLAND, CLERK TREASURER - LEGALS  
CHAD, ACCTS PAYABLE  
3333 RIDGE ROAD  
HIGHLAND IN 46322

ORDER NUMBER 106524

The undersigned further states that the Northwest Indiana Times newspaper maintains an Internet website, which is located at www.nwi.com website and that a copy of the above referenced printed matter was posted on such website on the date(s) of publication set forth above.

Nicole Muscari, Legal Clerk

By: Christina Palma

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 22 day of  
November, 2022

Amanda Koeppe  
Notary Public

My commission expires:

Section: Legals

Category: 198 Legal - Lake County

PUBLISHED ON: 11/21/2022



TOTAL AD COST: 364.59  
FILED ON: 11/21/2022

\*\*\* Proof of Publication \*\*\*

TOWN OF HIGHLAND, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA TOWN OF HIGHLAND DEPARTMENT OF WATER WORKS NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS, SERVED PROPERTY OWNERS, USERS OF SERVICES AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES OF PROPOSED USER FEES IMPOSITION, MODIFICATION OR INCREASE IN SUPPORT OF COSTS TO THE WATER WORKS DEPARTMENT and WATER UTILITY FOR COLLECTION, TREATMENT, AND OPERATIONS, ADMINISTRATION AND MAINTENANCE, PURSUANT TO IC 8-1.5-3 ET SEQUITUR.

Notice is hereby given the Taxpayers, rate payers and customers of the Waterworks Department and its Water Utility of the Town of Highland, served Property Owners, Users of Services and Other Interested parties that the Board of Waterworks Directors of said Municipality took action at its meeting of October 27, 2022 to recommend changes to certain rates and charges of the Waterworks Utility, and sent to the Town Council a proposed ordinance containing these changes.

Public Hearing  
The Highland Town Council will sit in said Municipal Building, 3333 Ridge Road, at 6:30 p.m. on Monday the 12th day of December 2022, at which time it will consider the following ordinance of the Town of Highland, which was introduced and filed at its regular meeting of Monday, November 14, 2022, proposing to amend certain user fee rates and charges for services of the Water Works Utility and conduct a public hearing regarding the proposed rate changes:

A PROPOSED ORDINANCE of the TOWN of HIGHLAND, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA REGARDING WATER RATES AND CHARGES ORDINANCE No. 1772

of the TOWN OF HIGHLAND, INDIANA AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION §12.05.120(B) OF THE HIGHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING CHANGES TO THE RATES AND CHARGES OF THE WATER WORKS UTILITY, ALL PURSUANT TO I.C. 36-1-4, IC 36-1-5, IC 8-1.5-3-8.1 AND IC 8-1.5-4 ET SEQ.

Whereas, IC 36-1-3-2 confers upon all local units the powers that they need for the effective operation of government as to local affairs; and Whereas, IC 36-1-3-6, (b)(1) prescribes that any such exercise of power shall be authorized through enactment of an ordinance passed by the legislative body; and

Whereas, The Town of Highland, is a Municipal Government which may pass and codify ordinances for the operation of the government, all pursuant to IC 36-1-4 and IC 36-1-5; and

Whereas, The Town of Highland, is a municipality located in Lake County, which operates a water utility, which has been governed by the provisions of IC 8-1.5-4; and

Whereas, The Town Council as Legislative Body of the Municipality passed an Ordinance adopting the provisions of IC 8-1.5-4 establishing a Department of Water Works controlled by a Board of Directors; and

Whereas, The Board of Water Works Directors has passed and adopted Water Works Board Resolution No. 2022-11 approving and recommending certain changes to recurrent rates and charges of the utility for adoption by the Town Council, all pursuant to IC 8-1.5-3-8.1 and Section § 12.05.080 of the Municipal Code; and

Whereas, The Town of Highland, through its Town Council now wishes to further perfect its own organization as well as that of the water utility and make modifications to the provisions of the municipal code establishing and governing the Department of Water Works, as approved and recommended by the Board of Water

Works Directors, all pursuant to IC 8-1.5-4, IC 8-1.5-3-8.1 and Section § 12.05.080 (I) of the Highland Municipal Code;

Now, Therefore, Be it Hereby Ordained by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, as follows:

Section 1. The Highland Town Council, as the municipal fiscal and legislative body, makes the following findings and determinations:

(A) That the Board of Directors of the Highland Department of Water Works, at its regular meeting of October 27, 2022, did pass and adopt Water Works Board Resolution No. 2022-11 in which the Board approved changes to recurrent rates and charges and recommended its adoption by the Town Council as desirable, and urging the Town legislative body to take steps necessary to execute this recommendation; and

(B) That the recommendation for certain changes to rates and charges of the municipal water utility as approved by the Board of Water Works Directors in the form of this ordinance, was transmitted to and filed with the Clerk-Treasurer as clerk of the legislative body; and

(C) That the rates and charges as recommended are found and determined to be non-discriminatory, reasonable and just for services to the patrons of the water utility;

Section 2. The Highland Town Council accepts the recommendation of the Water Works Board of Directors and hereby adopts the changes to the recurrent rates and charges of the utility as described in Water Works Board Resolution No. 2022-11;

Section 3. Section §12.05.120(B) of the Highland Municipal Code is hereby amended by deleting existing Section §12.05.120(B) in its entirety, including all subsections, and adopting its replacement with a successor subdivision to be numbered as Section §12.05.120(B), which shall read as follows:

(B) For the use of and the service rendered by the water utility of the Town of Highland, Indiana, the following rates and charges are established based upon the amount of water supplied by said water utility. Recurrent monthly charges for metered connections shall include a fixed charge, a consumption charge and a hydrant maintenance fee. For users with private fire protection systems, a separate charge based on the fire sprinkler connection size shall be billed monthly. For users purchasing bulk water from the Town's bulk water fill station, located at the south parking lot of 8001 Kennedy Avenue, monthly charges shall include a consumption charge.

(1) Monthly Charges for Metered Users  
(a) Fixed Charge. Each user shall pay a monthly fixed charge in accordance with the following applicable size of meter installed:

Size of Meter	Monthly Fixed Charge
---------------	----------------------

**\*\*\* Proof of Publication \*\*\***

3/8"	\$ 2.26
1"	48.32
1-1/4"	70.19
1-1/2"	90.37
2"	140.83
3"	258.57
4"	426.77
6"	847.27
8"	1,351.87

(b) Consumption Charge. Each user shall pay the following metered rates for water consumption, which includes a Cost of Supply Tracker Charge:

Consumption Charge	Cost of Supply Tracker
Charge	(Per 1,000 Gallons)
Year	(Per 1,000 Gallons)
2023	\$ 2.26
2024	2.31
2025	2.41
2026	2.51
2027	2.61

\* The Cost of Supply Tracker Charge is included in the listed Consumption Charge as a direct pass-through of wholesale purchased water supply costs. The Cost of Supply Tracker Charge may be adjusted to reflect the change in cost of supply upon notice of one billing cycle and without additional procedures.

(c) Hydrant Maintenance Fee. Each user shall pay a hydrant maintenance fee, except as otherwise provided in IC 8-1.5-4-14(b), in accordance with the following applicable size of meter installed:

Size of Meter	Hydrant Maintenance Fee*
5/8"	\$ 3.43
1"	8.58
1-1/4"	13.03
1-1/2"	17.15
2"	27.44
3"	51.45
4"	85.75
6"	171.50
8"	274.40

\* Non-metered users shall pay a hydrant maintenance fee equivalent to that of a 5/8" size meter as listed in the above rate table.

(2) Monthly Charges for Private Fire Protection Systems

(a) Private fire protection systems shall be billed the following monthly charge in accordance with the following applicable size of the connection:

Size of Connection Private	Fire Protection Charge
< =2"	\$ 5.84
4"	23.40
6"	52.73
8"	70.37
10"	105.47
12"	175.65

(3) Monthly Charges for Bulk Water Fill Station Usage

(a) Consumption Charge. Each bulk water user shall pay the following metered rates for water consumption, which includes a Cost of Supply Tracker Charge:

Consumption Charge	Cost of Supply Tracker
Charge	(Per 1,000 Gallons)
Year	(Per 1,000 Gallons)
2023	\$ 10.20
2024	10.25
2025	10.35
2026	10.45
2027	10.55

\* The Cost of Supply Tracker Charge is included in the listed Consumption Charge as a direct pass-through of wholesale purchased water supply costs. The Cost of Supply Tracker Charge may be adjusted to reflect the change in cost of supply upon notice of one billing cycle and without additional procedures.

Section 4. Schedule of Implementation. The provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be in full force and effect on the first day of the month first following from and after the date of its passage and adoption upon the signature by the executive in the manner prescribed by IC 36-5-2-10(a).

Introduced and Filed on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of November 2022. Consideration on same day or at same meeting of introduction was not permitted, pursuant to the terms of IC 8-1.5-3-8.1 and Section § 12.05.080 (l).

The public hearing may be adjourned from time to time. Following the public hearing, the Town Council shall adopt the ordinance either as originally introduced or as modified. Taxpayers, served property owners, users of services and other interested parties may be heard regarding the proposed user fees and charges.

Users of services to property located outside the municipality's corporate boundaries, following adoption of the ordinance, may be entitled to petition the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission under IC 8-1.5-3-8.3 to review and adjust the rates and charges imposed on the users if a petition under I.C. 8-1.5-3-8.2 (or under IC 36-9-23-26.1) with respect to the same rate ordinance has not been filed.



Prescribed by State Board of Accounts

General Form No. 99P (Rev. 2009A)

ATTACH COPY OF ADVERTISEMENT HERE

Town of Highland, Clerk  
 (Governmental Unit)  
 Treasurer  
 Lake County, Indiana

To: The Times Media Company  
 601-45th Avenue, Munster, IN 46321

**PUBLISHER'S CLAIM**

LINE COUNT

Display Master (Must not exceed two actual lines, neither of which shall total more than four solid lines of the type in which the body of the advertisement is set) - number of equivalent lines

Head -- number of lines .....  
 Body -- number of lines .....  
 Tail -- number of lines .....  
 Total number of lines in notice .....

COMPUTATION OF CHARGES

372 lines, 2 columns wide equals 744 equivalent lines at .4907 cents per line ..... \$ 364.59  
 Additional charges for notices containing rule or tabular work (50 per cent of above amount) .....  
 Charge for extra proofs of publication (\$1.00 for each proof in excess of two) .....  
 TOTAL AMOUNT OF CLAIM ..... \$ 364.59

DATA FOR COMPUTING COST

Width of single column in picas 9p4 ..... Size of type 7.0 point. 106524  
 Number of insertions 1

Pursuant to the provisions and penalties of IC 5-11-10-1, I hereby certify that the foregoing account is just and correct, that the amount claimed is legally due, after allowing all just credits, and that no part of the same has been paid.

I also certify that the printed matter attached hereto is a true copy, of the same column width and type size, which was duly published in said paper (1) times. The dates of publication being as follows:

November 21, 2022

Additionally, the statement checked below is true and correct:

- ..... Newspaper does not have a Web site.
- .X. Newspaper has a Web site and this public notice was posted on the same day as it was published in the newspaper.
- ..... Newspaper has a Web site, but due to technical problem or error, public notice was posted on .....
- ..... Newspaper has a Web site but refuses to post the public notice.

Date November 22, 2022

Nicole L. Muscaro  
 Title: Legal Clerk

By: Christina Palmer

ORDINANCE No. 1772  
of the  
TOWN of HIGHLAND, INDIANA

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION §12.05.120(B) OF THE HIGHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING CHANGES TO THE RATES AND CHARGES OF THE WATER WORKS UTILITY, ALL PURSUANT TO I.C. 36-1-4, IC 36-1-5, IC 8-1.5-3-8.1 AND IC 8-1.5-4 ET SEQ.

**Whereas**, IC 36-1-3-2 confers upon all local units the powers that they need for the effective operation of government as to local affairs; and

**Whereas**, IC 36-1-3-6 (b)(1) prescribes that any such exercise of power shall be authorized through enactment of an ordinance passed by the legislative body; and

**Whereas**, The Town of Highland, is a Municipal Government which may pass and codify ordinances for the operation of the government, all pursuant to IC 36-1-4 and IC 36-1-5; and

**Whereas**, The Town of Highland, is a municipality located in Lake County, which operates a water utility, which has been governed by the provisions of IC 8-1.5-4; and

**Whereas**, The Town Council as Legislative Body of the Municipality passed an Ordinance adopting the provisions of IC 8-1.5-4 establishing a Department of Water Works controlled by a Board of Directors; and

**Whereas**, The Board of Water Works Directors has passed and adopted Water Works Board Resolution No. 2022-11 approving and recommending certain changes to recurrent rates and charges of the utility for adoption by the Town Council, all pursuant to IC 8-1.5-3-8.1 and Section § 12.05.080 of the Municipal Code; and

**Whereas**, The Town of Highland, through its Town Council now wishes to further perfect its own organization as well as that of the water utility and make modifications to the provisions of the municipal code establishing and governing the Department of Water Works, as approved and recommended by the Board of Water Works Directors, all pursuant to IC 8-1.5-4, IC 8-1.5-3-8.1 and Section § 12.05.080 (I) of the Highland Municipal Code;

**Now, Therefore, Be it Hereby Ordained** by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, as follows:

**Section 1.** The Highland Town Council, as the municipal fiscal and legislative body, makes the following findings and determinations:

(A) That the Board of Directors of the Highland Department of Water Works, at its regular meeting of October 27, 2022, did pass and adopt Water Works Board Resolution No. 2022-11 in which the Board approved changes to recurrent rates and charges and recommended its adoption by the Town Council as desirable, and urging the Town legislative body to take steps necessary to execute this recommendation; and

(B) That the recommendation for certain changes to rates and charges of the municipal water utility as approved by the Board of Water Works Directors in the form of this ordinance, was transmitted to and filed with the Clerk-Treasurer as clerk of the legislative body; and

(C) That the rates and charges as recommended are found and determined to be non-discriminatory, reasonable and just for services to the patrons of the water utility;

**Section 2.** The Highland Town Council accepts the recommendation of the Water Works Board of Directors and hereby adopts the changes to the recurrent rates and charges of the utility as described in Water Works Board Resolution No. 2022-11;

**Section 3.** Section §12.05.120(B) of the Highland Municipal Code is hereby amended by deleting existing Section §12.05.120(B) in its entirety, including all subsections, and adopting its replacement with a successor subdivision to be numbered as Section §12.05.120(B), which shall read as follows:

(B) Schedule of recurrent usage rates and charges. For the use of and the service rendered by the water utility of the Town of Highland, Indiana, the following rates and charges are established based upon the amount of water supplied by said water utility. Recurrent monthly charges for metered connections shall include a fixed charge, a consumption charge and a hydrant maintenance fee. For users with private fire protection systems, a separate charge based on the fire sprinkler connection size shall be billed monthly. For users purchasing bulk water from the Town's bulk water fill station, located at the south parking lot of 8001 Kennedy Avenue, monthly charges shall include a consumption charge.

(1) Monthly Charges for Metered Users

- (a) **Fixed Charge.** Each user shall pay a monthly fixed charge in accordance with the following applicable size of meter installed:

<u>Size of Meter</u>	<u>Monthly Fixed Charge</u>
5/8"	\$ 23.09
1"	48.32
1-1/4"	70.19
1-1/2"	90.37
2"	140.83
3"	258.57
4"	426.77
6"	847.27
8"	1,351.87

- (b) **Consumption Charge.** Each user shall pay the following metered rates for water consumption, which includes a Cost of Supply Tracker Charge:

<i>Charge</i>	<i>Consumption Charge Cost of Supply Tracker</i>		
	<u>Year</u>	<u>(Per 1,000 Gallons)</u>	<u>(Per 1,000 Gallons)</u>
	2023	\$ 2.26	\$ 1.10*
	2024	2.31	1.15*
	2025	2.41	1.25*
	2026	2.51	1.35*
	2027	2.61	1.45*

\* The Cost of Supply Tracker Charge is included in the listed Consumption Charge as a direct pass-through of wholesale purchased water supply costs. The Cost of Supply Tracker Charge may be adjusted to reflect the change in cost of supply upon notice of one billing cycle and without additional procedures.

- (c) **Hydrant Maintenance Fee.** Each user shall pay a hydrant maintenance fee, except as otherwise provided in IC 8-1.5-4-14(b), in accordance with the following applicable size of meter installed:

<u>Size of Meter</u>	<u>Hydrant Maintenance Fee*</u>
5/8"	\$ 3.43
1"	8.58

1-1/4"	13.03
1-1/2"	17.15
2"	27.44
3"	51.45
4"	85.75
6"	171.50
8"	274.40

\* Non-metered users shall pay a hydrant maintenance fee equivalent to that of a 5/8" size meter as listed in the above rate table.

(2) **Monthly Charges for Private Fire Protection Systems**

- (a) Private fire protection systems shall be billed the following monthly charge in accordance with the following applicable size of the connection:

<u>Size of Connection</u>	<u>Private Fire Protection Charge</u>
<=2"	\$ 5.84
4"	23.40
6"	52.73
8"	70.37
10"	105.47
12"	175.65

(3) **Monthly Charges for Bulk Water Fill Station Usage**

- (a) **Consumption Charge.** Each bulk water user shall pay the following metered rates for water consumption, which includes a Cost of Supply Tracker Charge:

	<u>Consumption Charge</u> <i>Cost of Supply Tracker</i>	
<i>Charge</i>	<u>(Per 1,000 Gallons)</u>	<u>(Per 1,000 Gallons)</u>
Year		
2023	\$ 10.20	\$ 1.10*
2024	10.25	1.15*
2025	10.35	1.25*
2026	10.45	1.35*
2027	10.55	1.45*

\* The Cost of Supply Tracker Charge is included in the listed Consumption Charge as a direct pass-through of wholesale

purchased water supply costs. The Cost of Supply Tracker Charge may be adjusted to reflect the change in cost of supply upon notice of one billing cycle and without additional procedures.

**Section 4.** Schedule of Implementation. The provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be in full force and effect on the first day of the month first following from and after the date of its passage and adoption upon the signature by the executive in the manner prescribed by IC 36-5-2-10(a).

Introduced and Filed on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of November 2022. Consideration on same day or at same meeting of introduction was not permitted, pursuant to the terms of IC 8-1.5-3-8.1 and Section § 12.05.080 (I).

**Duly Ordained and Adopted** this 12<sup>th</sup> Day of December 2022 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**

---

Bernie Zemen, President

*Attest:*

---

Mark Herak, Clerk-Treasurer

**Comments from the Public or Visitors:**

Terry Steagall, Highland, asked the Council which redistricting map did they choose? Was it map 1 or map 2? He was advised it was map 2. Terry said that map 2 doesn't really help the Town as far as fair representation to the people. Map 1 is a better representation of the people. If you're looking to pigeon wards into small pockets which map 2 does, that's not a good scenario because you guys are elected to represent the whole town here and your duties as Council people. I think you need to reconsider that and in fact you should probably have a number 3 where you stretch all of the works north and south unless we are gerrymandering using the Schocke/Kondrat map. I think you need to take another look at this and maybe redraw it stretching them all north to south.

Councilor Sheeman addressed Terry's questions by saying when you redistrict, the law says it has to be contiguous and compact. The old map adopted in 2010 is not compact. It stretched all the way from Griffith to River Drive. All of the wards within the new maps are all within 10% of each other. It doesn't make a difference about the area, its about the population and both of these maps comply with the law. We actually made the wards

more compact by altering ward 3. We complied with the law and feel map 2 is more representative.

Larry Kondrat wanted to respond to Terry's claim about the Schocke/Kondrat map by asking the Council President if he had been invited to any of the redistricting meetings and the answer was no. He asked if he was permitted to vote on the map selection. He was told no. He asked if he had a hand in writing any part of the map. Again, he was told no. He then said, why is this guy bringing up my name into this? I didn't gerrymander anything. Its slanderous even to bring my name into the map discussions. The map is the map. I don't know the first thing about redistricting. I believe we paid a consultant, who went meticulously through each census and came up with maps 1 & 2. I would appreciate Mr. Zemen that when somebody brings up my name again, you jump on them, as you have no problem jumping on me.

Councilor Schocke told Terry he was confused by Terry's comments because it seems like you want it north to south but literally the only district that was north to south was mine. All the other districts were not so as my ward touched basically the border of Hammond and the southern border, the border of Griffith which I think was a bit odd. I could use the same argument gerrymandered. I tend to agree with you that since we are all elected at large, all 5 seats should be at large. The school board is elected at large and I don't see why we can't do the same. I think the ward system is outdated. I have suggested it several time but not everyone agrees with me. We've got 2 choices and I think map 2 puts my ward more compactly representing the southeast section of Town instead of this weirdly drawn one to the south.

Brandon Dothager, Highland, said he wanted to address the redistricting as well, since democracy only works when voter choose their representatives not the other way around. The appearance of impropriety in our elections leads to less participation in our democracy and also threatens loss of confidence in the Republic itself, which we see all around America today. But gerrymandering is a 210-year old problem with a modern solution and that is automated redistricting. And I'm not talking about hiring consultants. Brian Olson is a software engineer who studied computer science at Carnegie Mellon and he works on redistricting software for over a decade. He's produced an efficient system that can solve for compact, impartial, non-gerrymandered districts on a home computer. It's an entirely open source project code and the underlying data is freely accessible via his website at [bdistricting.com](http://bdistricting.com). In Brian's own words, part of the point of all this is to increase openness and participation in government, so nothing is hidden. The tools and the data are all out there. His districts have been optimized for equal population and compactness only. No demographics, no economic status, no party data. It removes partisan power plays from our system. He's given engineering elections without bias on Youtube. I encourage everybody who's involved in government to check it out. To end on a hopeful note, I think it would be really cool for the Town of Highland to be the first in the nation to mandate automated redistricting in 2032.

Scott Houldieson, Highland, said he too wanted to speak about redistricting. It seems to me that each of you we're duly elected with the maps that already exist and I think the maps that already exist should continue in force. Since they were used last time, they are

not illegal. If they were illegal I think the issue would have been raised at the time they were made. I think the election process in our town has been working quite well and I think we should continue with the maps that we already have.

Councilman Schocke responded that at the time those maps were drawn, in 2010, the maps were legal but the population has change, it has shifted and the maps need to be changed to adjust for the shift in population. Each ward has to be within 10% of each other.

Councilor Sheeman asked Derek Snyder of Nies Engineering, whose firm was hired to design the maps, did we say anything political to you about how the map should be drawn in anyway to which Mr. Snyder responded no. Did we tell you the law that the map had to be contiguous and compact to which Mr. Snyder answered yes. Did anyone on this Council influence you on how draw the maps which Mr. Snyder answered in the negative. I want to make it clear that there were no requests for gerrymandering or any special requests. Mr. Snyder is our Town Engineer and he's a great guy. His maps are within the 10% required by law.

Derek explained the process he used. We took basically all the new populations from the census blocks using the existing map, the way it is currently drawn. Several of the wards were outside the 10% threshold so we started there looking at new boundaries. We started back in October going through various options and came up with these 2 options. Its worth noting that there is less than 10% variance between wards and closer to 2%. I've added the precincts because in your ordinance it references precincts in the description of the wards

Councilor Zemen asked if there were any other comments. Hearing none, he closed comments from the public and began reading communications.

**Communications:**

1. The December 26, 2022 Highland Town Council Standing Plenary Meeting was cancelled in observance of the Christmas Holiday and rescheduled to December 28, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

**Staff Reports:**

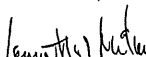


Building Report November, 2022

PERMIT TYPE	#	Res.	Comm.	Est. Cost	Fee Collected
Commercial Buildings	0	0	0	\$ -	\$ -
Comm. Additions/Remodel	2	0	2	\$ 58,747.00	\$ 1,048.50
Signs	4	0	4	\$ 18,253.00	\$ 1,518.00
Single Family	3	3	0	\$ 1,144,900.00	\$ 19,923.00
Duplex/Condo	0	0	0	\$ -	\$ -
Residential Additions	2	2	0	\$ 567,224.00	\$ 9,951.00
Residential Remodeling	53	53	0	\$ 654,791.00	\$ 15,015.00
Garages	1	1	0	\$ 35,956.00	\$ 883.50
Sheds	1	1	0	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 214.50
Decks & Porches	2	2	0	\$ 27,282.00	\$ 933.00
Fences	9	9	0	\$ 57,712.00	\$ 1,830.00
Above/In ground pools	0	0	0	\$ -	\$ -
Drain Tile/Waterproofing	2	2	0	\$ 14,325.00	\$ 430.50
Misc: Concrete (5); Demo (2); Road Cuts (2)	5	4	1	\$ 33,232.00	\$ 1,575.50
<b>Total Building Permits</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>\$ 2,613,922.00</b>	<b>\$ 53,322.50</b>
<b>Electrical Permits</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,712.00</b>
					<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Mechanical Permits</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 2,569.00</b>
Plumbing Permits	5	5	0	\$ -	\$ 1,373.00
Water Meters	0	0	0	\$ -	\$ -
Water taps	1	0	1	\$ -	\$ 330.00
Sewer/Storm Taps	0	0	0	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Plumbing Permits</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,703.00</b>

November 2022 Code Enforcement: 71 Investigations, 2 Citations were issued & 5 Warnings were given. Inspections done for the month of November 2022 were as follows: 42 Building Inspections, 22 Plumbing Inspections, 12 HVAC and 36 Electrical Inspections. There were 3 Electrical Exams given.

Submitted By:

  
 Kenneth J. Mika

**Mark Herak**

---

**From:** Denise Beck  
**Sent:** Friday, December 9, 2022 4:03 PM  
**To:** Mark Herak; Chad Kinley  
**Subject:** November Fire Department Stats

Good Afternoon Mark and Chad,

Types of Calls	Nov 2022	YTD
General Alarms	13	135
Paid Still Alarms	37	318
Still Alarms	1	30
Mutual aid given 2		
Total calls in 2022	51	483

*Denise Beck*

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

**2022**  
 TOWN OF HIGHLAND INJURIES FOR THE MONTH  
**NOVEMBER**

CASE	DATE	DEPARTMENT	DESCRIPTION	Record Only	OSHA	Not OSHA	Filed with
	OF INJURY			No Med Treatment	Recordable	Recordable	
			NO INJURIES FOR THE MONTH				

RO = Record Only

DEPT	2022		TOTAL	2022			
	INJURIES	YEAR TO		RESTRICTED	LOST DAYS	RESTRICTED	LOST DAYS
	THIS MONTH	DATE		2021	DAYS THIS YEAR	THIS YEAR	DAYS 2021
PARK & REC		3					
FIRE			1				
POLICE		7	4		67		10
STREET		1			44		
WATER		1	2			32	
SEWER							
MAINTENANCE		5	2		77		
OTHER							
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>10</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

**Appointments: None**

**General Orders and Unfinished Business: None**

**New Business:**

1. **WORKS BOARD ORDER NO. 2022-39: AN ORDER AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING AN EXTENSION OF THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE IDEA FACTORY AND THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND TO PERFORM PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES FOR THE MUNICIPALITY FOR A TERM OF TWO MONTHS, WITH AN OPTION TO RENEW AND EXTEND.**

Councilor Schocke moved the passage and adoption of Works Board No. 2022-39. Councilor Smith seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. Works Board Order No. 2022-39 was adopted.

**The Town of Highland  
Board of Works**

**Order of the Works Board No. 2022-39**

**AN ORDER AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE IDEA FACTORY AND THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND TO PERFORM PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES FOR THE MUNICIPALITY FOR A TERM OF TWO MONTHS, WITH OPTION TO RENEW AND EXTEND**

**Whereas,** The Town of Highland, through its Town Council, which is the Works Board of the Municipality has heretofore determined that a need exists to provide greater information to the public regarding the operations and services of the municipality;

**Whereas,** The Town has heretofore determined that a need exists to engage professional communications and media design and development services to assist and support the provision of greater information to the public regarding the operations and services of the municipality;

**Whereas,** Robin A. Carlascio and Theresa K. Badovich, d.b.a. *The Idea Factory*, a media development and design, communication consulting alliance, has proposed to provide professional editorial services to assist and support the provision of greater information to the public regarding the operations and services of the municipality through the development and promulgation of a municipal newsletter;

**Whereas,** As purchasing agency, the Town Council may purchase services using any procedure it considers appropriate, pursuant to IC 5-22-6-1; and

**Whereas,** The Highland Municipal Code provides that, the Town Council may make all contracts for professional services on the basis of competence and qualifications

for the type of services to be performed, and negotiate compensation that the public agency determines to be reasonable, pursuant to Section 3.05.090; and

**Whereas,** There are now or will soon be sufficient and available appropriations balances on hand to support the payments for these services under the agreement, pursuant to IC 5-22-17-3(e); and

**Whereas,** The Town of Highland, through its Town Council acting as the Works Board now desires to accept and approve the agreement for services as herein described.

**Now Therefore be it Ordered** by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana;

**Section 1.** That the agreement (incorporated by reference and made a part of this Order) between **Robin A. Carlascio** and **Theresa K. Badovich** doing business as the **Idea Factory**, and the Town of Highland, provide professional editorial services to assist and support the provision of greater information to the public regarding the operations and services of the municipality through the development and promulgation of a municipal newsletter for the period beginning *1 January 2023 through to 28 February 2023* as described herein is hereby approved, adopted and ratified in each and every respect;

**Section 2.** That the charges under the agreement for the services, in the amount of *\$1,969.46 per issue*, or *\$492.36* per page, which include publishing and coordinating a monthly newsletter to be distributed as an insert in the monthly utility invoice and other related services; stock images or illustrations at *\$52* per image or illustration, custom photography or graphics at *\$104* per image or graphic, and website maintenance/updates and services in the amount of *\$140.78 per week*, Web hosting in the amount of *\$25.99 per month* and Web security in the amount of *\$130 per month* are found to be reasonable and fair, all pursuant to IC 5-22-6-1 and Section 3.05.090 of the municipal code;

**Section 3.** That the charges under the terms of the agreement for all the services, will be paid to **The Idea Factory**, after presentation of an invoice for services, following their delivery;

**Section 4.** That the Town Council President be authorized to execute this agreement under the terms of this order with his signature as attested thereto by the Clerk-Treasurer;

**Section 5.** That the Town Council President must approve a preliminary edition of the newsletter at least two weeks prior to publication.

**Be it so Ordered.**

**DULY, PASSED, ADOPTED and ORDERED** by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, acting as the Works Board, this 12th day of December 2022 having passed by a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

**WORKS BOARD of the TOWN of  
HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bernie Zemen, President (IC 36-5-2-10)

Attest:

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

**AGREEMENT**

This Transitional Agreement made and entered into this 12th day of December 2022, by and between the **TOWN OF HIGHLAND, BY AND THROUGH ITS TOWN COUNCIL** (hereinafter referred to as the "Town"), and **ROBIN CARLASCIO and THERESA BADOVICH d/b/a THE IDEA FACTORY** (hereinafter referred to as "Idea Factory").

**WITNESSETH THAT:**

**WHEREAS**, The Town is interested engaging the services of Idea Factory for publishing and coordinating a monthly newsletter (Gazebo Express) to be distributed throughout the Town; and

**WHEREAS**, Idea Factory is interested in entering into such an agreement and engaging its services to publish and coordinate a monthly newsletter within the Town; and

**WHEREAS**, The parties wish to reduce their agreement to writing;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants contained herein, it is agreed as follows:

1. Idea Factory agrees to publish and coordinate a monthly newsletter (Gazebo Express) to be distributed in the Town of Highland.

2. The term of this Agreement shall be for two (2) months beginning **January 1, 2023**, through **February 28, 2023**. This Agreement may be extended or renewed by the Town of Highland from month to month or for a longer term based upon approval of the renewal term by the Town.

3. Idea Factory shall be paid for its services rendered pursuant to this Agreement, the sum of ~~\$1,946.46~~ per issue or ~~\$492.36~~ per page stock images or illustrations at ~~\$52~~ per image or illustration, custom photography or graphics at ~~\$104~~ per image or graphic, as well as the website maintenance/update fees of ~~\$140.78~~ per week, Web hosting fees of ~~\$25.99~~ per month, Web security fees of ~~\$130.00~~ per month. The weekly and monthly fees shall be payable to The Idea Factory at its business address, **1 Courthouse Square, Suite 207, Crown Point, Indiana 46307.**

4. This Agreement may be cancelled by either party upon such party providing the other party thirty (30) days written notice.

5. In the event the Town's appropriations are insufficient to pay the expenses of this Agreement, and upon thirty (30) days written notice being given by the Town to Idea Factory, this Agreement shall become null and void.

6. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Indiana and shall be binding upon the parties' heirs, legal representatives, successors, and assigns.

7. That the Town Council President must approve a preliminary edition of the newsletter at least two weeks prior to publication.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, this Agreement has been entered into between the parties this 12th day December 2022.

**TOWN OF HIGHLAND**

**THE IDEA FACTORY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bernie Zemen, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robin Carlascio

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Herak  
Clerk-Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Theresa Badovich

This instrument prepared by: Rhett L. Tauber, Esq.  
Tauber Westland & Bennett P.C.

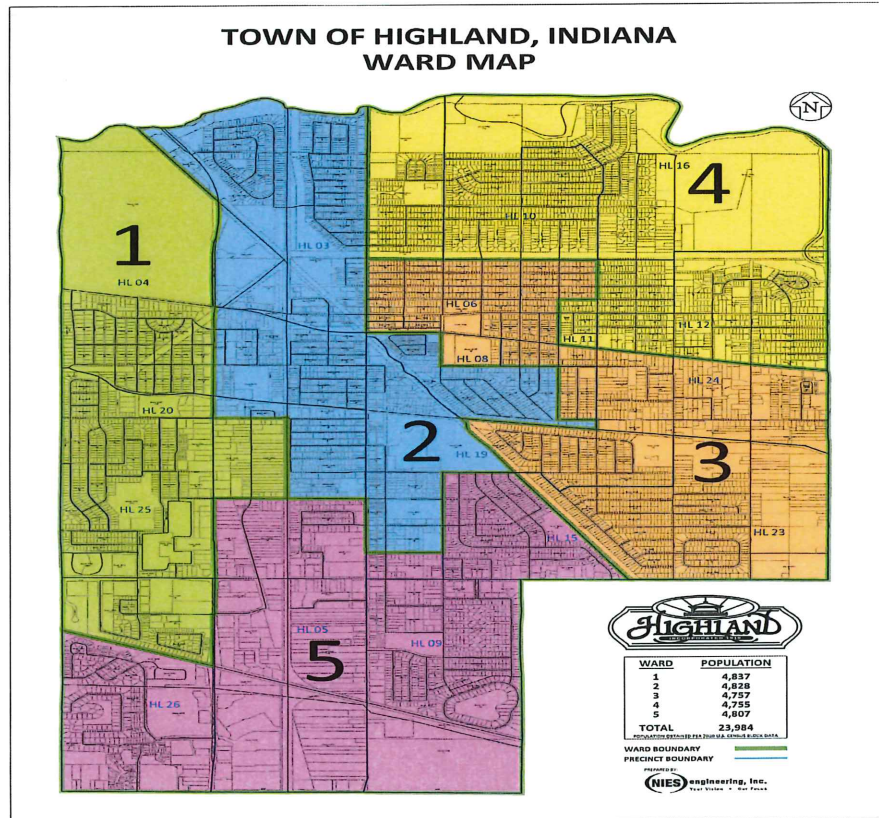
1415 Eagle Ridge Drive  
Schererville, Indiana 46375  
(219) 865-8400

2. **Proposed Ordinance No. 1773:** An Ordinance Amending the Highland Municipal Code Section 2.05.050(I) of the Dividing the Town into Districts for the Purpose of Conducting Elections of Town Council Members, pursuant to IC 36-5-2-4.1(g)(1), Repealing All Ordinances in Conflict.

Councilor Black introduced and moved for the consideration of Proposed Ordinance No. 1773 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Schocke 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 Black moved for the passage adoption of Ordinance No. 1773 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Schocke seconded. Upon a roll call vote, a two-thirds vote being necessary, there were four affirmatives and one negatives, Councilors Smith, Schocke, Black and Sheeman voting in the affirmative and Councilor Zemen voting in the negative. The motion passed. Ordinance 1773 was passed and adopted upon the signature of the municipal executive at the same meeting of its introduction.





**ORDINANCE No. 1773  
of the  
TOWN OF HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION §2.05.050(I) OF THE HIGHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE DIVIDING THE TOWN INTO DISTRICTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING ELECTIONS OF TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS, PURSUANT TO IC 36-5-2-4.1(G)(1)

**Whereas**, I.C. 36-5-2-4.1 is the statutory authority for Council Members, by ordinance, to divide the Town into districts for the purpose of conducting elections of Town Council members; and

**Whereas**, IC 36-5-2-4.1 (g)(1), provides that the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Indiana is required in 2022 to perform a reapportionment of its legislative districts, based upon the 2020 Decennial Census; and

**Whereas**, The Town Council now desires to comply with the provisions of I.C. 36-5-2-4.1 and act to adopt new election districts based upon the 2020 Decennial Census;

**Now, Therefore, Be it Hereby Ordained** by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, as follows:

**Section 1.** Section §2.05.050(I) of the Highland Municipal Code is hereby amended by deleting Section §2.05.050(I) in its entirety, including all subsections, and adopting its replacement with a successor subdivision to be numbered as Section §2.05.050(I), which shall read as follows:

(I) Town Council Election Districts Described. Pursuant to Section §2.05.050(E) and (F) of the Highland Municipal Code, the five election districts of the Town Council of the Town of Highland are more particularly described and hereby fixed as follows:

**(1) District (Ward) 1. Town Council District 1 shall be comprised of the following precincts and/or parts of precincts, as represented by U.S. census block boundaries with populations determined by the United States Census Bureau in the 2020 Decennial Census:**

Election District 1 – Population Total: 4,837

Precincts 20 and 25:

Precinct	Population
HL 20	983
HL 25	2200

and the portion of Precinct 4 consisting of the following census blocks:

HL 04	Population
180890406001007	0
180890406001009	56
180890406001010	75
180890406001011	57
180890406004000	33
180890406004001	46
180890406004002	37
180890406004003	34
180890406004004	50
180890406004005	48
180890406004006	23
180890406004007	38
180890406004008	27
180890406004009	18

180890406004010	14
180890406004011	14
180890406004012	31
180890406004013	18
180890406004014	7
180890406004015	53
180890406004016	30
180890406004017	41
180890406004018	38
180890406004019	45

and the portion of Precinct 5 consisting of the following census blocks:

HL 05	Population
180890405012005	83
180890405012006	126

and the portion of Precinct 26 consisting of the following census blocks:

HL 26	Population
180890405022000	0
180890405022001	18
180890405022002	351
180890405022003	132
180890405022004	84
180890405022015	27

- (2) **District (Ward) 2. Town Council District 2 shall be comprised of the following precincts and/or parts of precincts, represented by U.S. census blocks with populations determined by the United States Census Bureau in the 2020 Decennial Census:**

Election District 2 – Population Total: 4,828

Precinct 3:

Precinct	Population
HL 03	1499

and the portion of Precinct 4 consisting of the following census blocks:

HL 04	Population
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180890406003003	119
180890406003004	221
180890406003005	44
180890406003006	56
180890406003009	7
180890406003010	60
180890406003011	37
180890406003012	51
180890406003013	49
180890406003014	75
180890406003015	57
180890406003016	29
180890406003017	69
180890406003018	74
180890406003019	0
180890406003023	20

and the portion of Precinct 5 consisting of the following census blocks:

HL 05	Population
180890405012000	90
180890405012001	151
180890405012002	119
180890405012003	138
180890405012004	111
180890406003020	31
180890406003021	55
180890406003022	15

and the portion of Precinct 8 consisting of the following census blocks:

HL 08	Population
180890408012002	245
180890408012003	202
180890408012004	72
180890408012006	74
180890408012007	72
180890408012008	58
180890408012009	81
180890408012010	47

and the portion of Precinct 19 consisting of the following census blocks:

HL 19	Population
180890408012005	174
180890408012011	51
180890408023001	146
180890408023002	75
180890408023003	63
180890408023004	35
180890408023005	58
180890408023006	55
180890408024006	48
180890408024007	95

- (3) **District (Ward) 3. Town Council District 3 shall be comprised of the following precincts and/or parts of precincts, represented by U.S. census blocks with populations determined by the United States Census Bureau in the 2020 Decennial Census:**

Election District 3 – Population Total: 4,757

Precincts 23 and 24:

Precinct	Population
HL 23	1520
HL 24	954

and the portion of Precinct 6 consisting of the following census blocks:

HL 06	Population
180890407003007	54
180890407003008	49
180890407003009	42
180890407003010	34
180890407003011	37
180890407003012	47
180890407003013	63
180890407003014	0
180890407004010	57
180890407004011	54
180890407004012	49
180890407004013	48
180890407004014	54
180890407004015	42
180890407004016	31
180890407004017	50
180890408013004	71
180890408013005	32
180890408013006	56
180890408013007	18
180890408013008	0
180890408013009	13
180890408013010	15
180890408013011	14
180890408013012	8
180890408013013	0

and the portion of Precinct 8 consisting of the following census blocks:

HL 08	Population
180890408012000	71
180890408012001	103
180890408013023	32

and the portion of Precinct 11 consisting of the following census blocks:

HL 11	Population
180890407002008	69
180890407002009	50
180890407002010	50
180890407002011	53
180890407002012	47
180890407002013	50
180890407002015	47

and the portion of Precinct 19 consisting of the following census blocks:

HL 19	Population
180890408021000	107
180890408021001	70
180890408024000	48
180890408024001	73
180890408024002	54
180890408024003	121
180890408024004	40
180890408024005	45
180890408024008	65
180890408024009	57
180890408024010	93

- (4) **District (Ward) 4. Town Council District 4 shall be comprised of the following precincts and/or parts of precincts, represented by U.S. census blocks with populations determined by the United States Census Bureau in the 2020 Decennial Census:**

Election District 4 – Population Total: 4,755

Precincts 10, 12 and 16:

Precinct	Population
HL 10	1597
HL 12	1200
HL 16	929

and the portion of Precinct 6 consisting of the following census blocks:

HL 06	Population
180890407004000	49
180890407004001	66
180890407004002	70
180890407004003	41
180890407004004	47
180890407004005	55
180890407004006	27
180890407004007	41
180890407004008	57
180890407004009	40

and the portion of Precinct 11 consisting of the following census blocks:

HL 11	Population
180890407001005	71
180890407001006	81
180890407001014	63
180890407001015	54
180890407001016	40
180890407001017	46
180890407001018	67
180890407002014	39
180890408013002	38
180890408013003	15
180890408013014	22

- (5) **District (Ward) 5. Town Council District 5 shall be comprised of the following precincts and/or parts of precincts, represented by U.S. census blocks with populations determined by the United States Census Bureau in the 2020 Decennial Census:**

Election District 5 – Population Total: 4,807

Precincts 9, 15 and 21:

Precinct	Population
HL 09	986
HL 15	1353
HL 21	808



and the portion of Precinct 5 consisting of the following census blocks:

<u>HL 05</u>	<u>Population</u>
180890405012007	51
180890405012008	78
180890405012009	140
180890405012010	59
180890405012011	57
180890405021006	101
180890405021007	0
180890405021008	0
180890405021009	118
180890405021010	0
180890405021011	0
180890405021012	0
180890405021013	18

and the portion of Precinct 19 consisting of the following census blocks:

<u>HL 19</u>	<u>Population</u>
180890408023007	47
180890408023008	58

and the portion of Precinct 26 consisting of the following census blocks:

<u>HL 26</u>	<u>Population</u>
180890405022005	0
180890405022006	193
180890405022007	37
180890405022008	34
180890405022009	42
180890405022010	44
180890405022011	28
180890405022012	51
180890405022013	0
180890405022014	93
180890405022016	230
180890405022017	135
180890405022018	46
180890405022019	0

**Section 2.** Schedule of Implementation. Pursuant to IC 36-1-6-10(b), the provisions of this Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage. However, a previously adopted ordinance establishing election districts remains in effect for the purpose of filling a vacancy in the executive, fiscal, or legislative body until the expiration of the term of that office.

Introduced and Filed on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of December 2022. 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 12<sup>th</sup> Day of December 2022 by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, having been passed by a vote of 4 in favor and 1 opposed.

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

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Bernie Zemen, President

*Attest:*

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Mark Herak, Clerk-Treasurer

- 3. Proposed Ordinance No. 1774: An Ordinance to Establish the Wage and Salary Rates of the Elected Officers, the Non-Elected Officers, and the Employees of the Town of Highland, Indiana.**

Councilor Sheeman introduced and filed on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of December 2022. Consideration on same day or at same meeting of introduction pursuant to IC 36-5-2-9.8 was not sought.

- 4. Proposed Ordinance No. 1775: An Ordinance to Make a Technical Updating Amendment to the Current Code of Ordinances for the Town of Highland, Particularly Amending Section 9.65 Alarm Systems, All Pursuant to I.C. 36-5-6 ET SEQ.**

Councilor Schocke introduced and moved for the consideration of Proposed Ordinance No. 1775 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Sheeman 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 for the passage adoption of Ordinance No. 1775 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Sheeman seconded. Upon a roll call vote, a two-thirds vote being necessary, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. Ordinance 1775 was passed and adopted upon the signature of the municipal executive at the same meeting of its introduction

**ORDINANCE No. 1775  
of the  
TOWN of HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

**AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE A TECHNICAL UPDATING AMENDMENT TO THE CURRENT CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND, PARTICULARLY AMENDING SECTION 9.65 ALARM SYSTEMS, ALL PURSUANT TO IC 36-5-6 ET SEQ.**

**WHEREAS**, Title 36, Article 1, Chapter 5 of the Indiana Code provides that the legislative body of a unit **shall** codify, revise, rearrange, or compile the ordinances of the unit into a complete, simplified code excluding formal parts of the ordinances;

**WHEREAS**, The legislative body of this unit, the Town of Highland, is the Town Council, pursuant to IC 36-1-2-9(5) and IC 36-5-2-2;

**WHEREAS**, The present general and permanent ordinances of the Town of Highland, formally codified in 2012, are in need of technical and substantive modifications not confined to any particular Title, Article or Chapter but nevertheless desirable to further improve and perfect the Code; and,

**WHEREAS**, The Town Council, is persuaded that it is necessary and desirable to adopt the several technical and substantive modifications necessary to carry out this requirement and to further improve and perfect the Code,

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

**Section 1.** That the Highland Municipal Code, be hereby amended by repealing Section 9.65.070 (D) in its entirety, and replacing it with a new provision, to be styled as Section 9.65.070 (D), which shall read as follows:

**9.65.070 (D) Service Charge for false alarms.**

(D) False alarms service charges shall not apply when more than one false alarm occurs within a 24-hour period. Service charges shall not apply when the false alarm may be explained by a storm, a power outage, an open door or when an alarm is inadvertently set off.

**Section 2.** That this ordinance shall be effective from and after its passage and adoption, as evidenced by the signature of the Town Council President and attested thereto by the Clerk-Treasurer, all pursuant to IC 36-5-2-10 and IC 36-5-2-10.2.

Introduced and Filed on 12<sup>th</sup> day of December 2022. 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 12th Day of December 2022, 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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Bernie Zemen, 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; IC 36-5-2-10.2)

- 4. PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 1776: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN SCHEDULES IN CHAPTER 9.65 OF THE HIGHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE AND INCREASING CERTAIN FINES THAT ARE PAYABLE BEFORE A CLERK IN THE ORDINANCE VIOLATION BUREAU, ALL PURSUANT TO I.C. 33-36, I.C 36-1-3, IC 36-1-4, I.C 36-8 AND I.C. 36-9 ET SEQ.**

Councilor Schocke introduced and moved for the consideration of Proposed Ordinance No. 1776 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Smith 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 for the passage adoption of Ordinance No. 1776 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Smith seconded. Upon a roll call vote, a two-thirds vote being necessary, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. Ordinance 1776 was passed and adopted upon the signature of the municipal executive at the same meeting of its introduction

**Ordinance No. 1776  
Of the  
TOWN of HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

**An Ordinance Amending Certain Schedules in Chapter 9.65 of the Highland Municipal Code and increasing certain fines that are payable before an admissions Clerk in the Ordinance Violation Bureau, all Pursuant to IC 33-36, IC 36-1-3, IC 36-1-4, IC 36-8 and IC 36-9 et Seq.**

**Whereas,** The Town of Highland is a local unit of general government governed by a Town Council, which is both the fiscal and legislative body of the Town;

**Whereas,** IC 36-1-3-2 confers upon all local units the powers that they need for the effective operation of government as to local affairs;

**Whereas,** IC 36-1-3-6 (b)(1) prescribes that any such exercise of power shall be authorized through passage of an ordinance passed by the legislative body;

**Whereas,** Indiana Code 36-8-2 et seq., authorizes the Town of Highland, as a municipality, to exercise powers for the purpose of protecting the health, safety and welfare of its residents, and to preserve the peace, order and safety of the Town; and

**Whereas,** The Town of Highland, is a Municipal Government which may pass and codify ordinances for the operation of the government, all pursuant to IC 36-1-4 and IC 36-1-5;

**Whereas,** The Town Council believes this action to be necessary and desirable for the conduct of the affairs of the Town, and in the public interest, consistent with powers previously described as well as the powers granted under IC 36-1-3 et seq.;

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

**Section 1.** That subdivision (A) of Section 9.65.100 of the municipal code be amended by repealing subdivision (A) and replacing it with a new subdivision, to be styled as (A), which shall read as follows:

**(A) Penalty.** In addition to the false alarm service charges prescribed by HMC 9.65.070, any person who violates, disobeys, omits, neglects or refuses to comply with any of the provisions of this chapter shall be issues a citation with a payable fine of \$500.00 for each offense. Each day that a violation is permitted to exist shall constitute a separate offense. False alarms service charges shall not apply when more than one false alarm occurs within a 24-hour period. Service charges shall not apply when the false alarm may be explained by a storm, a power outage, an open door or when an alarm is inadvertently set off.

**Section 2.** That the provisions set forth in this ordinance shall become and remain in full force and effect thereafter, immediately following the date of its passage and

adoption, upon its signature by the executive in the manner prescribed by IC 36-5-2-10(a) and its publication as prescribed in IC 36-5-2-10(b).

Introduced and Filed on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of December 2022. 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 12<sup>th</sup> Day of December 2022 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

---

Bernie Zemen, President (IC 36-5-2-10)

Attest:

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Mark Herak,  
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-16-4-1;IC 36-5-6-5)

6. **Proposed Ordinance No. 1777:** An Ordinance to Make a Technical Updating Amendment to the Current Code of Ordinances for the Town of Highland, Particularly Amending Section 5.02 Vacation Leave, All Pursuant to I.C. 36-5-6 ET SEQ.

Councilor Black introduced and moved for the consideration of Proposed Ordinance No. 1777 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Sheeman 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 Black moved for the passage adoption of Ordinance No. 1777 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Sheeman seconded. Upon a roll call vote, a two-thirds vote being necessary, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. Ordinance 1777 was passed and adopted upon the signature of the municipal executive at the same meeting of its introduction

**ORDINANCE No. 1777**  
**of the**  
**TOWN of HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

**AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE A TECHNICAL UPDATING AMENDMENT TO THE CURRENT CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND, PARTICULARLY AMENDING SECTION 5.02 VACATION LEAVE, ALL PURSUANT TO IC 36-5-6 ET SEQ.**

WHEREAS, Title 36, Article 1, Chapter 5 of the Indiana Code provides that the legislative body of a unit shall codify, revise, rearrange, or compile the ordinances of the unit into a complete, simplified code excluding formal parts of the ordinances;

WHEREAS, The legislative body of this unit, the Town of Highland, is the Town Council, pursuant to IC 36-1-2-9(5) and IC 36-5-2-2;

WHEREAS, The present general and permanent ordinances of the Town of Highland, formally codified in 2012, are in need of technical and substantive modifications not confined to any particular Title, Article or Chapter but nevertheless desirable to further improve and perfect the Code; and,

WHEREAS, The Town Council, is persuaded that it is necessary and desirable to adopt the several technical and substantive modifications necessary to carry out this requirement and to further improve and perfect the Code,

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

**Section 1.** That the Highland Municipal Code, be hereby amended by repealing Section 5.02.01 in its entirety, and replacing it with a new provision, to be styled as Section 5.02.01, which shall read as follows:

**5.02 Vacation Leave.**

5.02.01 Upon the successful completion of an Employee's orientation period of ninety (90) days, all full-time employees, with like, full-time previous municipal, county or state employment, becomes eligible for vacation his/her first year. The Employee's vacation must be taken prior to the Employee's 1<sup>st</sup> year anniversary. Part-time and reserve duty are not recognized for vacation time for the Employee. After the Employees 1<sup>st</sup> year, the vacation schedule for full-time employees with like, full-time previous municipal, county or state employment reverts to the same vacation schedule as employees without like previous municipal, county or state employment. The Employee's vacation allotment will be based upon the like, full-time previous municipal, county or state employment, in accordance with the following schedule:

<u>Years of Like, Full-Time Service</u>	<u>Entitled to</u>
One (1) thru year Second (2)	4 days of Vacation
Three (3) thru year Four (4)	8 days of Vacation

Five (5) and greater

10 days of Vacation

A full-time employee without like, full-time previous municipal, county or state employment become eligible for vacation after completing one (1) year of employment. The vacation year is a calendar year. Beginning with January 1 of the calendar year following the year in which the employee reaches their one-year anniversary, the employee will be eligible for ten (10) days of vacation. The employee's vacation allotment during the calendar year at the employee's one (1) year anniversary will be in accordance with the following schedule:

<u>Month of Hire</u>	<u>Entitled To</u>
January	10 Days of Vacation
February	10 Days of Vacation
March	9 Days of Vacation
April	8 Days of Vacation
May	7 Days of Vacation
June	6 Days of Vacation
July	5 Days of Vacation
August	4 Days of Vacation
September	3 Days of Vacation
October	2 Days of Vacation
November	1 Day of Vacation
December	0 Days of Vacation

**Section 2.** That the Highland Municipal Code, be hereby amended by repealing Section 5.02.02 in its entirety, and replacing it with a new provision, to be styled as Section 5.02.02, which shall read as follows:

**5.02 Vacation Leave.**

5.02.02 All full-time employees beginning with January 1 in the calendar year in which you celebrate five (5) years of continuous service you will receive fifteen (15) days of vacation. Beginning with January 1 in the calendar in which you celebrate ten (10) years of continuous service you will receive twenty (20) days of vacation. Beginning with January 1 in the calendar year in which you celebrate fifteen (15) years of continuous service you will receive twenty-five (25) days of vacation.

**Section 2.** The provisions of this Ordinance shall be effective from and after January 8, 2023.



**Section 3.** That this ordinance shall be effective from and after its passage and adoption, as evidenced by the signature of the Town Council President and attested thereto by the Clerk-Treasurer, all pursuant to IC 36-5-2-10 and IC 36-5-2-10.2.

Introduced and Filed on 12<sup>th</sup> day of December 2022. 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 12th Day of December 2022, 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**

---

Bernie Zemen, 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; IC 36-5-2-10.2)

- 7. Proposed Ordinance No. 1778:** An Ordinance to Make a Technical Updating Amendment to the Current Code of Ordinances for the Town of Highland, Particularly Amending Section 3.20 Bridging of Service, All Pursuant to I.C. 36-5-6 ET SEQ.

Councilor Smith introduced and moved for the consideration of Proposed Ordinance No. 1778 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Schocke 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 Smith moved for the passage adoption of Ordinance No. 1778 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Schocke seconded. Upon a roll call vote, a two-thirds vote being necessary, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. Ordinance 1778 was passed and adopted upon the signature of the municipal executive at the same meeting of its introduction

**ORDINANCE No. 1778  
of the  
TOWN of HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

**AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE A TECHNICAL UPDATING AMENDMENT TO THE CURRENT CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND, PARTICULARLY AMENDING SECTION 3.20 BRIDGING OF SERVICE, ALL PURSUANT TO IC 36-5-6 ET SEQ.**

**WHEREAS**, Title 36, Article 1, Chapter 5 of the Indiana Code provides that the legislative body of a unit shall codify, revise, rearrange, or compile the ordinances of the unit into a complete, simplified code excluding formal parts of the ordinances;

**WHEREAS**, The legislative body of this unit, the Town of Highland, is the Town Council, pursuant to IC 36-1-2-9(5) and IC 36-5-2-2;

**WHEREAS**, The present general and permanent ordinances of the Town of Highland, formally codified in 2012, are in need of technical and substantive modifications not confined to any particular Title, Article or Chapter but nevertheless desirable to further improve and perfect the Code; and,

**WHEREAS**, The Town Council, is persuaded that it is necessary and desirable to adopt the several technical and substantive modifications necessary to carry out this requirement and to further improve and perfect the Code,

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

**Section 1.** That the Highland Municipal Code, be hereby amended by repealing Section 3.20.01 in its entirety, and replacing it with a new provision, to be styled as Section 3.20.01, which shall read as follows:

**3.20 Bridging of Service.**

3.20.01 All like, full-time service of previous municipal, county or state employment of one or more years, will be treated as continuous service after completing one (1) full consecutive year of service sit the Town of Highland for all purposes where length of service affects a group employment benefit, with the exception of INPRS pensions, which is governed by state law. This will effective for all full-time hires that occur after January 8, 2023

Like, full-time service to be determined by the individual Department Head.

**Section 2.** The provisions of this Ordinance shall be effective from and after January 8, 2023.

**Section 3.** That this ordinance shall be effective from and after its passage and adoption, as evidenced by the signature of the Town Council President and attested thereto by the Clerk-Treasurer, all pursuant to IC 36-5-2-10 and IC 36-5-2-10.2.

Introduced and Filed on 12<sup>th</sup> day of December 2022. 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 12th Day of December 2022, 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**

---

Bernie Zemen, President (IC 36-5-2-10)

Attest:

---

Mark Herak,  
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-42-4-1; IC 36-5-6-5; IC 36-5-2-10.2)

8. **Proposed Ordinance No. 1779:** An Ordinance to Make a Technical Updating Amendment to the Current Code of Ordinances for the Town of Highland, Particularly Amending Section 4.00 Hours of Work and Compensation Policies, All Pursuant to I.C. 36-5-6 ET SEQ.

Councilor Sheeman introduced and moved for the consideration of Proposed Ordinance No. 1779 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Black 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 Sheeman moved for the passage adoption of Ordinance No. 1779 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Black seconded. Upon a roll call vote, a two-thirds vote being necessary, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. Ordinance 1776 was passed and adopted upon the signature of the municipal executive at the same meeting of its introduction

**ORDINANCE No. 1779  
of the  
TOWN of HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

**AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE A TECHNICAL UPDATING AMENDMENT TO THE CURRENT CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND, PARTICULARLY AMENDING SECTION 4.00 HOURS OF WORK AND COMPENSATION POLICES, ALL PURSUANT TO IC 36-5-6 ET SEQ.**

WHEREAS, Title 36, Article 1, Chapter 5 of the Indiana Code provides that the legislative body of a unit shall codify, revise, rearrange, or compile the ordinances of the unit into a complete, simplified code excluding formal parts of the ordinances;

WHEREAS, The legislative body of this unit, the Town of Highland, is the Town Council, pursuant to IC 36-1-2-9(5) and IC 36-5-2-2;

WHEREAS, The present general and permanent ordinances of the Town of Highland, formally codified in 2012, are in need of technical and substantive modifications not confined to any particular Title, Article or Chapter but nevertheless desirable to further improve and perfect the Code; and,

WHEREAS, The Town Council, is persuaded that it is necessary and desirable to adopt the several technical and substantive modifications necessary to carry out this requirement and to further improve and perfect the Code,

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

**Section 1.** That the Highland Municipal Code, be hereby amended by repealing Section 4.03.05 in its entirety, and replacing it with a new provision, to be styled as Section 4.03.05, which shall read as follows:

**4.03.05 Patrol Division Police Officers/ Crime Impact Unit Officers.**

Patrol Division Police and Crime Impact Unit Officers work a twenty-four (24) day work cycle beginning with the first day of the cycle on a 4- days on and 2 days off schedule with an 8-hour work day, for a total of one hundred and twenty-eight (128) hours in the twenty-four (24) day cycle, averaging 37.42 hours per week in a 365-day period. Officers will be paid time and one-half the regular rate of pay OR will receive compensatory time at one and one-half the time for all work performed in excess of one hundred and twenty-eight (128) hours per twenty-four (24) day cycle.

**Section 2.** That the Highland Municipal Code, be hereby amended by repealing Section 4.03.06 in its entirety, and replacing it with a new provision, to be styled as Section 4.03.06, which shall read as follows:

**4.03.06 Criminal Investigation Division, Patrol Officers and other Officers assigned to Specialty Positions ( School Resource Officer, Technology and Training Officers, Support Services Administrator, Administrative Assignments, etc.).**

Criminal Investigation Division, Patrol Officers and other Officers assigned to Specialty Positions ( School Resource Officer, Technology and Training Officers, Support Service Administrator, Administrative Assignments, etc.)

work a 5-days on and 2 days off schedule with an 8-hour work day, 40 hours per week, beginning on Sunday and ending on Saturday. Officers will be paid time and one-half the regular rate of pay OR will receive compensatory time at one and one-half the time for all work performed in excess of forty (40) hour per week.

**Section 3.** That the Highland Municipal Code, be hereby amended by repealing Section 4.03.07 in its entirety, and replacing it with a new provision, to be styled as Section 4.03.07, which shall read as follows:

**4.03.07 Criminal Investigation Division (CID).**

Criminal Investigations Division (CID) officers may be assigned duties by the Chief of the Metropolitan Police Department in which the CID officer may be in coordinated schedule with Patrol Division. In such a case, the Criminal Division Officers may be subject to the work cycle of the patrol division as directed by the Chief.

**Section 4.** That the Highland Municipal Code, be hereby amended by repealing Section 4.03.08 in its entirety, and replacing it with a new provision, to be styled as Section 4.03.08, which shall read as follows:

**4.03.08 An Officer who is on authorized assignment to a multi-agency Federal, State and Local Law Enforcement.**

An Officer who is on authorized assignment to a multi-agency Federal, State and Local Law Enforcement will work on a seven-day work cycle beginning with the first day of the seven-day workweek. Officers will be paid time and one-half the regular rate of pay OR will receive compensatory time at one and one-half the time for all work performed in excess of forty (40) hour per week.

**Section 5.** That the Highland Municipal Code, be hereby amended by repealing Section 4.03.09 in its entirety, and replacing it with a new provision, to be styled as Section 4.03.09, which shall read as follows:

**4.03.09 Officers performing the task as a Field Training Officer (FTO).**

Each day an FTO trains a Recruit, he/she can claim up to a maximum of one (1) hour of overtime for this additional training/prep/paperwork, with the Officer being paid time and one-half the regular rate of pay OR will receive compensatory time of one and one-half time.

**Section 6.** The provisions of this Ordinance shall be effective from and after January 8, 2023.

**Section 7.** That this ordinance shall be effective from and after its passage and adoption, as evidenced by the signature of the Town Council President and attested thereto by the Clerk-Treasurer, all pursuant to IC 36-5-2-10 and IC 36-5-2-10.2.

Introduced and Filed on 12<sup>th</sup> day of December 2022. 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 12th Day of December 2022, 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**

---

Bernie Zemen, 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; IC 36-5-2-10.2)

9. **Works Board No. 2022-37:** AN ORDER for the TEMPORARY CLOSING OF MUNICIPAL OFFICES at the MUNICIPAL BUILDING 3333 RIDGE ROAD on FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2022 FOR YEAR-END FISCAL AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION TASKS

Councilor Black moved the passage and adoption of Works Board Order No. 2022-37. Councilor Schocke seconded. Upon a roll call vote of the elected officials, there were five (5) affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. Works Board Order No. 2022-37 was adopted.

**The Town of Highland  
Board of Works  
Order of the Works Board No. 2022-37**

**AN ORDER for the TEMPORARY CLOSING OF MUNICIPAL OFFICES at the MUNICIPAL BUILDING 3333 RIDGE ROAD on FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2022 FOR YEAR-END FISCAL AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION TASKS**

**Whereas,** The Town Council has been reliably advised that owing to the desire to ensure completion of several tasks associated with year-end fiscal and records

administration, it may be advisable to reduce public access hours to the municipal building while maintaining a scheduled workday;

**Whereas,** Pursuant to IC 36-1-24(3), the Town Council is also the Works Board for the Town of Highland and governs the hours and other matters related to the Town Hall;

**Whereas,** The Town Council now desires to modify the access hours of the Highland Municipal Building on Friday, December 30, 2022;

**Now Therefore be it hereby Ordered** by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana as follows:

**Section 1.** That the usual hours of **public access** at the administrative and associated offices at the Highland Municipal Building on **Friday, December 30**, are hereby fixed at **8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. but the usual hours of operation or the scheduled workday are unchanged;**

**Section 2.** That the affected department heads and the Clerk-Treasurer shall carry out the purposes of this order, which is to provide an opportunity for in-service training for administrative, clerical and other workers of the municipality or to support year-end duties;

**Section 3.** That the Clerk-Treasurer will take steps by appropriate media release to give notice of the subject of this order;

**Section 4.** That this order shall be effective on and from its passage and adoption;

**Be it So Ordered.**

**Duly Adopted, Resolved and Ordered** by the Highland Town Council, Lake County, Indiana, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of December 2022. Having been passed by a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

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

---

**Bernie Zemen, President (IC 36-5-2-10)**

**Attest:**

---

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

**10. APPROPRIATION TRANSFER RESOLUTION NO. 2022-28: :** AN EXIGENT RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATION BALANCES FROM AND AMONG MAJOR BUDGET CLASSIFICATIONS IN THE CORPORATION GENERAL FUND AS REQUESTED BY THE PROPER OFFICER AND FORWARDED TO THE TOWN COUNCIL FOR ITS ACTION PURSUANT TO IC 6-1.1-18-6.

COUNCILOR SHEEMAN MOVED THE PASSAGE AND ADOPTION OF APPROPRIATION TRANSFER RESOLUTION NO. 2022-28. COUNCILOR BLACK SECONDED. UPON A ROLL CALL VOTE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIALS, THERE WERE FIVE (5) AFFIRMATIVES AND NO NEGATIVES. THE MOTION PASSED. APPROPRIATION TRANSFER RESOLUTION 2022-28 WAS ADOPTED PENDING THE SIGNATURE OF THE MUNICIPAL EXECUTIVE

**TOWN OF HIGHLAND  
APPROPRIATION TRANSFER RESOLUTION  
RESOLUTION NO. 2022-28**

**AN EXIGENT RESOLUTION PROVIDING for the TRANSFER of APPROPRIATION BALANCES from and AMONG MAJOR BUDGET CLASSIFICATIONS in the Police Department of the CORPORATION GENERAL FUND as REQUESTED BY THE PROPER OFFICER AND FORWARDED to the TOWN COUNCIL for its ACTION PURSUANT TO IC 6-1.1-18-6.**

**WHEREAS,** It has been determined that certain exigent conditions have developed since adoption of the original budget and it is now necessary to transfer certain appropriations into different categories than were initially appropriated for the various functions of the **Corporation General Fund;**

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** 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 appropriations are hereby transferred and set apart out of the funds hereinafter named for the purposes specified, subject to the laws governing the same, such sums herein transferred unless otherwise stipulated by law;

**Section 2.** That is has been shown that certain existing unobligated appropriations of the **Corporation General Fund** which are not needed at this time for the purposes for which originally appropriated, and may be transferred to a category of appropriation in order to satisfy an existing need, as follows:

CORPORATION GENERAL FUND

**Metropolitan Police Department**



Reduce Account:	#1101-0009-340.23 PD Health/Medical	\$ <u>79,620.00</u>
	<i>Total 300 Series Reductions</i>	\$ 79,620.00

Increase Account:	#1101-0009-111.20 PD Corporals Salaries	\$43,405.00
	#1101-0009-111.30 PD Sworn Overtime	<u>\$15,000.00</u>
	<i>Total 100 Series Increases</i>	\$58,405.00

Increase Account:	#1101-0009-220.04 PD Vehicle Parts & Sup	
\$10,900.00		
	#1101-0009-230.04 PD Other Supplies	<u>\$10,315.00</u>
	<i>Total 200 Series Increases</i>	\$21,215.00

<b>Total of All Fund Decreases:</b>	<b>\$79,620.00</b>
<b>Total of All Fund Increases:</b>	<b>\$79,620.00</b>

**DULY RESOLVED and ADOPTED** this 12<sup>th</sup> Day of December 2022 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**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bernie Zemen, President (IC 36-5-2-10)

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Herak  
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-16-4-1; IC 36-5-6-5)

11. Authorizing the proper officer to publish legal notice of a public hearing: Public Hearing to consider additional appropriations in the amount of \$36,000 in the Redevelopment Capital Fund.

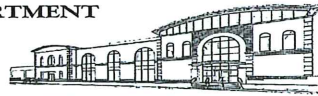
Councilor Sheeman moved to authorize the publication of a legal notice of a public hearing to consider proposed additional appropriations in the Redevelopment Capital Fund in the amount of \$36,000. Councilor Black seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The publication was approved. The hearing will take place in 2023. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 6:30.

12. APPROVAL AND INSTRUCTION. ACTION TO APPROVE AND INSTRUCT THE TOWN COUNCIL PRESIDENT TO AFFIX SIGNATURE TO THE LETTER OF AGREEMENT FOR FEE INCREASE BETWEEN THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND AND PROPERTY MANAGER/SITE CENTERS FOR HIGHLAND GROVE MALL SECURITY SERVICE.

Councilor Schocke moved to approve the letter of agreement with Property Manager/ Site Centers dated October 6, 2022 and to authorize the Town Council President to sign it. Councilor Smith seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The letter was approved and the signature was authorized.



**HIGHLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
3315 RIDGE ROAD  
HIGHLAND, IN 46322-2097  
(219) 838-3184  
PETER T. HOJNICKI, CHIEF OF POLICE



October 6, 2022

Mr. Kevin Duddleston  
Property Manager/Site Centers  
1100 South Canal Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60607

Re: Letter of Agreement for fee increase  
Highland Grove Mall Security Service

Dear Mr. Duddleston,

The purpose of this letter is to follow up on the correspondence you had with Commander John Banasak on August 25<sup>th</sup> and October 5, 2022 regarding security services provided by the Highland Police Department at the Highland Grove Mall.

The current fee for these services is \$32.75 per hour, of which the officer receives \$30.00 while the remaining \$2.75 is used to support the associated vehicle costs.

Beginning on January 1, 2023 the security rate would be increased to \$44.00 per hour, of which the officer will receive \$40.00 and the town will recoup the remaining \$4.00 for associated vehicle costs.

This will be for a three (3) year contract starting January 1, 2023 thru December 31, 2026 at this rate.

The parameters of security as outlined by this agreement will consist of a uniformed off-duty Highland Police Officer in a marked police unit to patrol the property daily from 5:00pm to 10:00pm except on the days that you determine that the Mall will be closed and not in need of our services.

This letter will serve as to authorize the Highland Police Department to enforce any traffic and/or parking issues, solicitor complaints, and other violations of criminal law on your property.

In closing, let me thank you for your willingness to work with the Town of Highland as I feel we have had a good working relationship and we desire to maintain this crime prevention service.

Please call or write if you have any questions. If you find these terms acceptable, please sign below and return a signed copy to my attention at the Highland Police Department. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Peter T. Hojncki, Chief of Police  
Highland Police Department

Approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bernie Zemen, Council President  
Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark A. Herak, Clerk Treasurer

Accepted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022

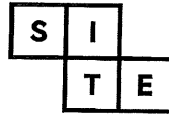
Site Centers

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

EMY TERJESKI  
Printed Name

DIRECTOR OF PROPERTY MANAGEMENT  
Title

11/14/22  
Date



**Highland Grove – Security Service Information**

The Highland Police Dept. provides off-duty security service / vehicle patrols at the center 5 PM till 10 PM daily with a marked squad car.

Total weekly hours: 35

Total # weeks annually: 52

Hourly rate: \$44.00 (includes vehicle cost)

\*hours subject to change

3300 Enterprise Parkway / Beachwood, OH 44122 / 216.755.5500 / fax 216.755.1500 / [www.sitecenters.com](http://www.sitecenters.com)

13. ACTION TO RESCHEDULE A MEETING. RESCHEDULE THE STANDING PLENARY BUSINESS OF MONDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2022 TO WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2022, WITH START TIMES UNCHANGED. (IT WAS NOTED THAT SECTION 2.05.130 (D) OF THE HIGHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE AUTHORIZES THE TOWN COUNCIL TO RESCHEDULE BY A TWO-THIRDS VOTE.)

Councilor Black moved to cancel the Town Council's Standing Plenary Meeting for Monday, December 26, 2022, owing to the Christmas Day Holiday and reschedule for Wednesday, December 28, 2022 beginning at 6:30 p.m. Councilor Schocke seconded. Upon a roll call vote, a two-thirds vote being necessary, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The last plenary meeting of 2022 was rescheduled.

**TOWN of HIGHLAND**  
HIGHLAND MUNICIPAL BUILDING • 3333 RIDGE ROAD • HIGHLAND, INDIANA 46322  
PHONE: (219) 838-1080 FAX: (219) 972-5097

OFFICE of the TOWN COUNCIL

**Public Notice**

DATE: MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2022

TO: AREA MEDIA AND THE PUBLIC

**RE: NOTICE CANCELLATION OF PLENARY MEETING of the TOWN COUNCIL OF HIGHLAND**

*MEETING CANCELLED.* PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY CONFERRED UNDER SECTION 2.05.130 (C) OF THE HIGHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE, THE TOWN COUNCIL PRESIDENT HAS CANCELLED THE STANDING PLENARY MEETING OF **MONDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2022**. THE CANCELLATION IS TO OBSERVE THE CHRISTMAS DAY HOLIDAY. THE PLENARY MEETING HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2022 WITH THE PLENARY BUSINESS MEETING AT 6:30 P.M.

As always, meetings are open to the public to observe and record. All meetings are held at the Highland Municipal Building, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland.

TOWN COUNCIL of HIGHLAND  
Bernie Zemen, President

BY: OFFICE of the HIGHLAND CLERK-TREASURER  
MARK HERAK, CLERK-TREASURER


14. ACTION TO APPROVE PURCHASE OF UP TO ONE-WEEK (FIVE DAYS) OF VACATION TIME IN LIEU OF TIME OFF, PURSUANT TO SECTION §5.02.09 OF THE COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS ORDINANCE. *THE CLERK-TREASURER IS ASKING FOR APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING VACATION BUY-OUT FOR 2022:*

SR. CHANCERY BURSAR CLERK, DONNA O'ROURKE      5 DAYS      \$809.60

Councilor Schocke moved to approve the purchases of unused vacation as indicated for the Sr. Chancery Bursar Clerk . Councilor Black seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five (5) affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The vacation buy-back was approved as indicated.

Vacation Buy-Back Request  
 year: 2022

GL Account number	Employee Name	Calculation	Buy Back Amount
1101-0004-11105 Gen CT Clerical Wages	Donna O'Rourke	\$20.24 x 40 hrs	\$ 809.60
Total \$			809.60

Department Head Approval  Date 12/06/22

Board of Jurisdiction \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

This was approved at the Meeting of : \_\_\_\_\_

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

§ 5.02.09 Vacation Buy-Back Option

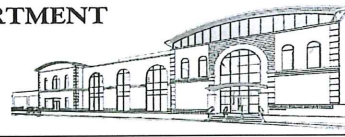
In lieu of vacation time and with the approval of the Department Head and the Board of Jurisdiction, an employee may be paid for up to one week of their vacation allowance. Only one (1) week total per calendar year can be paid in lieu of time-off.

15. Signature Authorization. Action to authorize and approve the Town Council to execute member signatures on Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioner letter commending Sergeant Shawn Anderson, Corporal Thomas Manyek, and Officer James Mullins, Officer Luke Paprocki and Officer Joel Sullivan for their work in the *Field Training Program*.

Councilor Black moved to authorize the Town Council members to sign letters of commendation as described above. Councilor Sheeman seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The signatures were authorized.



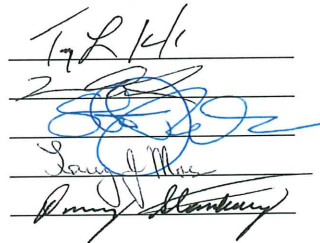
**HIGHLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
3315 RIDGE ROAD  
HIGHLAND, IN 46322-2097  
(219) 838-3184  
PETER T. HOJNICKI, CHIEF OF POLICE



Sergeant Shawn Anderson  
Corporal Thomas Manyek  
Officer James Mullins  
Officer Luke Paprocki  
Officer Joel Sullivan

The Highland Metropolitan Police Commission would like to take this opportunity to thank you for processing the most recent four (4) new recruits. We recognize the importance of this initial training period and your commitment to ensure they successfully complete the program. Training four individuals at one time takes a tremendous amount of effort on your part, ensuring they receive all the necessary exposure on a wide variety of subject matter in a relatively short period of time. The difference with training four at one time is you more often than not had someone sitting beside you, taking you away from your regular routine, ensuring you take baby steps until they learned to crawl, walk and finally run on their own. Your commitment to the program and this department are noted. We commend you for your efforts!

Highland Metropolitan  
Police Commission



Highland Town Council

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16. RESOLUTION NO. 2022- 29: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE JOB DESCRIPTION AND QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE POSITION OF CHIEF OF POLICE IN THE HIGHLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT AS DETERMINED BY THE TOWN BOARD OF METROPOLITAN POLICE COMMISSIONERS, ALL PURSUANT TO IC 36-8-9-4.

Councilor Sheeman moved the passage and adoption of Resolution No. 2022-29. Councilor Black seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. Resolution No. 2022-29 was adopted.

**TOWN OF HIGHLAND, INDIANA  
RESOLUTION NO. 2022-29**

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE JOB DESCRIPTION AND QUALIFICATIONS for the POSITION of CHIEF OF POLICE in the HIGHLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT as DETERMINED by the TOWN BOARD of METROPOLITAN POLICE COMMISSIONERS, all PURSUANT to IC 36-8-9-4

**Whereas**, The Town of Highland has a Metropolitan Police Department organized under the provisions of IC 36-8-9 et seq. and enacted locally under Chapter 9.10 of the Highland Municipal Code;

**WHEREAS**, IC 36-8-9-4 (a), authorizes the Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners to appoint police officers of the Town Police Department, expressly reading: *"The board may appoint, subject to the qualifications for employment determined by the board and approved by the town legislative body, as many persons as necessary to serve in the police department of the town. One person shall be appointed as the police chief;"*

**WHEREAS**, The Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners has determined written job descriptions which include formal qualifications for appointment to certain positions in the police department;

**WHEREAS**, The Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners now presents these written job descriptions, *which include formal qualifications* for the approval of the Town Council; and,

**WHEREAS**, The Town Council, having reviewed this job description and the formal qualifications as determined by the Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners, now desires to take steps to approve these qualifications,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA** as follows:

**Section 1.** That the qualifications for the Exempt Sworn Position Description dated 12-08-22 as determined by the Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners is approved for the following position, provided that they are amended to include the requirement set forth in IC 36-8-4-6.5, et seq *"This section applies to the State requirements that apply to the appointment of a police chief or deputy police chief in all cities."*:

**(a) Chief of Police**



**Section 2.** That the qualifications for the Exempt Sworn Position Description dated 12-08-22 as determined by the Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners for the position of Chief of Police further includes:

- (a) **Indiana Driver's License (within ninety (90) days of appointment)**
- (b) **Resident of the Town of Highland ( within 6 months of appointment)**
- (c) **I.L.E.A. Chief's Certification ( 12 months of appointment)**
- (d) **A degree in management and/or experience in an administrative position in law enforcement is preferred**
- (e) **Federal Bureau of Investigation or Northwestern Staff and Command Certification is highly recommended**

**Section 3.** That this resolution's scope is limited to the approval of the qualifications as determined by the Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners and does not render approval of the staffing associated with each description;

**Section 4.** That the staffing associated with each description is subject to the provisions of the wage and salary ordinance and the compensation and benefits ordinance, which may be adopted from time to time as well as the constraints of the budget(s) as adopted annually;

**Section 5.** That the actual description is hereby incorporated into this resolution by reference and two (2) copies are on file in the office of the clerk-treasurer for public inspection as well as in the police department.

**DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, this 12<sup>th</sup> Day of December 2022. Having passed by a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

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

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Bernie Zemen, 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)

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

**Councilor Toya Smith:** • *Sanitary Board Liaison • and Public Works.*

Councilor Smith acknowledged Building Commissioner, Ken Mika who commented that BZA, has two things on the agenda for their meeting of Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, one being a request from Boyer Construction and the other to approve a finding of fact from the previous meeting. He said that a new coffee shop is opening in the old Taco Bell buildings that at one time was Dickey's BBQ.

She then acknowledged Public Works Director Mark Knesek who commented that he was glad leaf collection was about over. All that remain is small piles of leaves. He has one truck driving around Town looking for leaves but there's no particular schedule. They are also collecting branches. He said that they will be closing the trash compactor on Saturday's till spring as they are only getting 1 or 2 cars in the fall and probably less in the winter and it doesn't make financial sense to have to pay someone 4 hours pay when no one is using the trash compactor.

Mark asked the Council to re-look at the no vacation for a year policy as it is hard to go a full year without needing to take time off. He said he did not want people coming to work when sick because they don't have vacation time. He thought maybe do something like a pro-rata program.

Councilor Schocke asked the Public Works Director what they did with the collected leaves. He was advised that they compost them.

**Councilor Mark Schocke:** • *Park and Recreation Liaison* • *and Community Events Commission Liaison.*

Councilor Schocke announced that his one basketball team is 2-0, whereas his second team he coaches is 0-2. He complimented the park staff in hiring really good refs and it has been a real pleasure coaching thus far this year. He said he attended a concert this past Friday put on by the Highland Dance Academy and it was phenomenal. He was nothing but impressed by everyone's hard work. He acknowledged a book written by Highland resident Alex Ross about the Rookery.

He then acknowledged Park Superintendent, Alex Brown who plugged the Community Band who has a concert this Thursday. It is their holiday concert at Lincoln Center. The members rehearse every Wednesday. They are a bunch of people who love to play their instruments and be a part of concert band.

- **Councilor Tom Black:** *Liaison to the Board of Waterworks Directors* • *Redevelopment Commission Liaison.*

Councilor Black acknowledged Redevelopment Director Maria Becerra who thank the Council for approving the additional appropriations for the façade improvement program. She added that to receive the money for the improvement, it is contingent upon meeting the design standards and approval from the Building Department. She also thanked the Council for agreeing to advertise for the additional appropriation for

the Wayfinding Sign. She said the Commission met in executive session and interviewed a candidate for the Assistant Redevelopment Director. The Commission hopes to fill the position by the end of the year. She thanked the Council for their participation in the interview.

Councilor Black asked the Public Works Director about the utility work he noticed on Highway Avenue. He was advised it was the telephone company working on their equipment.

- **Councilor Roger Sheeman:** *Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners Liaison • Fire Department, Liaison • Chamber of Commerce Liaison • Information Communications and Technology Department Liaison.*

Councilor Sheeman acknowledge Metropolitan Police Chief Pete Hojnicky who began by thanking the Town Council for hiring Officer Ray Navarro who comes with vast experience. He said the Shop with the Cops was this past Saturday and it went very well with approximately 54 children participating. The Police Commission is approving a new design or decal to go on the police vehicles.

Councilor Sheeman then acknowledge Fire Chief Bill Timmer who said they had a nasty working fire on Ross Street. He said they rescued 2 dogs unfortunately only 1 survived. The Fire Department is also having Shop with a Fireman. It is scheduled for the 20<sup>th</sup> of December.

Councilor Black asked Chief Timmer about the car accident at Kuiper's Funeral Home and was anyone hurt? The driver of the vehicle, lost control and hit the porch of the funeral home, totally they're car. The driver was unhurt but the car as described above was totaled. It was a brand-new Bronco and the owner hadn't made a single payment yet.

Councilor Sheeman then acknowledged IT Director Ed Dabrowski. He mentioned that the contractor who installed the sound system downtown was seeing if he could figure out why the sound keeps fading in and out. He is thinking that it might be the amplifier. He will be suppling Ed with a revised quote for a new sound system. Ed also wanted to thank Public Works for the crew who used the bucket truck to check the wiring.

Councilor Sheeman said if we upgrade the sound system, he wouldn't mind hearing music playing all year downtown. He added that since the Council is considering the wage and salary ordinance, he would like to see the fire fighters and police officers be paid time and a half should they be called out or scheduled to work a holiday.

- **Council President Bernie Zemen:** *Town Executive • Chair of the Board of Police Pension Trustees • Liaison to the Tree Board.*

Councilor Zemen acknowledged Ken Mika, Building & Inspection Commissioner and inquired as to items on this week's Plan Commission. He said that there were no

items on the agenda and a notice would be going out advising that the meeting was being cancelled.

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

**Comments from Visitors or Residents:**

LARRY KONDRAT, HIGHLAND, I find every bit of this full sustainability thing disgusting, Mr. Schocke. Not only did you promise these fine people that you were going to write this ordinance but they also promised to tell you how many businesses relocated to the City of Michigan City because of their sustainability ordinance. Did they ever get back to you as I haven't seen anything? I would find that difficult if I was in your shoes to write anything based on the information that they gave you. He then asked the Council if they know net metering is and then proceeded to provide the explanation. That's where I install solar panel and if I have excess energy, I can sell it back to Nipsco. That ability goes away in 2032 and in order to qualify, I had to install the solar panels by 2018 and if I installed them after 2018, I have to be a member of a consortium, which Highland does not have. If I am a member of the consortium, then I have the ability to sell electricity back to Nipsco 2042. However, as you know Nipsco is building a solar farm and once operational, all the net metering goes away. Now, back to the ordinance as it is written with some interesting language. He asked the Council is they knew what environmental justices meant. Its for these people here to say what is fair and equitable

Mr. Kondrat was then interrupted by Connie Wachala and he turned to her and said, "excuse me ma'am. Thank you. They are constantly interrupting me"

He continued, now you can google environmental justice and it says that these people will be able to determine what's fair and equitable. It's not based upon a laws or rules but what they say. You still have children on the ordinance who are going to dictate policy on how I have to live. You have a 5-member commission, 2 of them will be picked by from the schools either by a principal or the superintendent. That means you still have 11 or 12 or 13-year old's on the commission who are going to try to tell you what you can and cannot do. They're going to set policy for society's physical and mental health. I don't know if any of these children are medical physicians. They are going to tell you what you can and cannot eat in terms of food. Are any of them nutritionists. Don't consider this ordinance as it is disgusting. Its unconstitutional. Its discriminating against age. Connie Wachala made another comment to Mr. Kondrat regarding God and he told her God isn't going to help her.

Cathy Perrin, Highland, The members of the Highland neighbors for sustainability and I appreciate the amount of care and concern that you have all taken with the members of our group and shaping the Sustainability Commission ordinance. We have been eager to

answer questions and willing to compromise, however, we are also anxious to begin the important work of improving the resiliency of Highland, and making it a good place to work and live even better. At our last study session, Mr. Schocke said he make his changes to the Sustainability Commission ordinance and pass it on to the other Council members. We would respectfully request that these changes be made by Thursday, December 15th and given to me so I could review and agree on final ordinance language for the study session on December 19th. The Council would then be prepared to vote on the ordinance at your December 28th Town Council meeting. We would hope that you would consider on first reading so we could begin our work for the Town of Highland.

Alex Bazan, Indianapolis, said I was on the call of last week's study session where Nancy Moldenhauer, one of the members of Michigan City's Sustainability Commission spoke about their commission and their accomplishments. I would also like to echo the benefits of the Sustainability Commission from my experience working for local governments. I've had the privilege as a local governmental staff member to work with Sustainability Commissions. Sustainability Commissions contribute greatly to a community where a volunteer group cannot. They are our eyes and ears of the community. They are a temperature check on the community, a pulse. They reach people in the community that are not ordinarily reached through standard forms of communication. In my experience I've seen how a commission serves as a hub and spoke to foster volunteerism and amplify community news and initiatives. It's spurs community engagement. It's led to hundreds of hours volunteer work and thousands of pounds of diverted waste and pollution. A Commission empowers community members. It's a partnership with the town, a commitment to work together. A dedicated group to work on sustainability issues, issues that are wide and ranging and affect our quality of life. Sustainability is one of the most pressing challenges of our time and for future generations and it cannot be done alone. Town staff and elected officials can't do it alone. So, I'm encouraged that a commission is being considered. I look forward to a final draft of the Ordinance to establish a Sustainability Commission. I understand that we're still working through that draft and I'm sure we can come up with language that works for all of us, and I am looking forward to your vote to establish a Sustainability Commission. Thank you.

Brandon Dothager, Highland, said I would just like to quickly state that I support the Sustainability Commission and a lot of the criticisms that were levied by Mr. Kondrat against the Sustainability Commission were also levied against the EPA, when Richard Nixon, a Republican President, created it. It's done quite a few good things, cleaning up the air, water, and soil. I think this commission could do quite a few things in that regard as well

Connie Wachala, Highland said I have spent a decade writing for newspapers. I covered city and town government meetings all over the region. I confess, I had never seen a meeting where 15 people show up to discuss one issue who aren't angry about it. In fact, we're not coming here as an angry mob, at least not yet. We're looking to do something positive. Several Council members rolled their eyes at her comment about an angry mob, at least not yet and she responded, No rolling of the eyes. Please treat us with respect. This Council has had your share of angry mobs and we are coming here in the spirit of earnest volunteerism. I hate to think you are squandering our good will. We're a mixed

group; a preschool teacher; a sales and marketing professional; small business owners; a sustainability professional; a firefighter; a steel worker, an auto worker, an engineer, a professional classical musician, a director of finance, a social worker, a nurse and a college student. I sit through council meetings where I often hear a self-professed millionaire, whose business is just across the town limits, not even in Highland, a millionaire, probably a multi-millionaire who pretends to speak for this whole town. It's true, we have no millionaire business owners in our organization. Not even a single lawyer in our group. We work closely and represent the views of Highland. I don't know, I may be wrong but that's my guess. You ask, how does our request for a Sustainability Commission help Highland? Well, we are Highland. We're asking you to create this commission for economic benefits, for public health benefits and for the future of our community.

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

**Payment of Accounts Payable Vouchers.** There being no further comments from visitors or residents, Councilor Schocke moved to allow the vendors accounts payable vouchers as filed on the pending accounts payable docket, covering the period **November 30, 2022 through December 13, 2022.** Councilor Black 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.

**Vendors Accounts Payable Docket:**

**General Fund, \$211,038.15; Special Events, \$798.37; Law Enforcement Continuing Education, Training and Supply Fund, \$7,690.33; Gasoline Fund, \$34,236.80; Information and Communications Technology Fund, \$12,111.07; Special Events, \$376.00; Traffic Violations, \$1,000.00; INSURANCE PREMIUM, \$209,243.32; MCCD, \$961.00; Donation, \$1,196.14; Gaming Revenue, \$4,665.69; Public Safety Income Tax Fund; \$12,400.00**

**Total: \$1,143,546.04.**

**PAYROLL DOCKET FOR PAYDAY OF DECEMBER 2, 2022:**

**COUNCIL, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS, \$10,169.88; OFFICE OF CLERK-TREASURER, \$15,868.28 BUILDING AND INSPECTION DEPARTMENT, \$10,000.24; METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT, \$110,270.17; PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT (AGENCY), \$66,425.39; FIRE DEPARTMENT, \$34,386.42 AND 1925 POLICE PENSION PLAN PENSION FUND, \$68,757.11; INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT, \$3,690.41; TOTAL PAYROLL: \$299,832.09.**

**PAYROLL DOCKET FOR PAYDAY OF DECEMBER 2, 2022:**

COUNCIL, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS, \$10,169.88; OFFICE OF CLERK-TREASURER, \$15,868.28 BUILDING AND INSPECTION DEPARTMENT, \$10,000.24; METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT, \$110,270.17; PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT (AGENCY), \$66,425.39; FIRE DEPARTMENT, \$34,386.42 AND 1925 POLICE PENSION PLAN PENSION FUND, \$68,757.11; INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT, \$3,690.41; TOTAL PAYROLL: \$238,533.86.

**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, DECEMBER 12, 2022, ADJOURNED AT 8:24 O’CLOCK P.M.

Mark Herak  
Clerk-Treasurer

Approved by the Town Council at its meeting of December 28, 2022.