

**MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE HIGHLAND PARK CITY COUNCIL**

**June 5, 2023**

Council convened at 7:03 p.m. with Council President Thomas presiding.

Present: Council President Thomas, Council Pro Tem Robinson, Councilwoman Manica, Councilwoman Martin, and Councilman Ash-Shafii (5).

Absent: (0).

A quorum being present, Council was declared in session.

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**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Moved by Councilman Ash-Shafii  
Supported by Council Pro Tem Robinson

To move item VIII to item I. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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Moved by Councilman Ash-Shafii  
Supported by Council Pro Tem Robinson

To approve amended agenda. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved by Councilman Ash-Shafii  
Supported by Council President Thomas

To approve the minutes of the In-Person and Virtual Special meeting held April 27, 2023. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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Moved by Councilwoman Manica  
Supported by Councilwoman Martin

To approve the minutes of the In-Person and Virtual Regular meeting held May 1, 2023. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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Moved by Councilman Ash-Shafii  
Supported by Council Pro Tem Robinson

To approve the minutes of the In-Person and Virtual Special meeting held May 10, 2023. Yeas (4) Thomas, Robinson, Manica and Ash-Shafii, Nays (1) Martin, Absent (0).

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Moved by Councilwoman Manica  
Supported by Councilwoman Martin

To approve the minutes of the In-Person and Virtual Workshop meeting held May 15, 2023. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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Moved by Councilman Ash-Shafii  
Supported by Council Pro Tem Robinson

To approve the minutes of the In-Person and Virtual Special meeting held May 24, 2023. Yeas (4) Thomas, Manica, Martin and Ash-Shafii, Nays (1) Robinson, Absent (0).

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**PUBLIC HEARING**  
**06-05-23 V**

The Clerk stated this was the place and time to hold a Public Hearing to receive citizen's comments on proposed General Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2023/24.

Moved by Councilwoman Manica  
Supported by Council President Thomas

To convene the Public Hearing. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0). Public Hearing opened at 8:31 p.m.

Comments were received from the community and City Council.

Moved by Councilwoman Manica  
Supported by Councilwoman Martin

To end the Public Hearing. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0). Public Hearing closed at 9:25 p.m.

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**VETO**  
**06-05-23 VI**

The following communication was received from Mayor McDonald.

On May 10, 2023 City Council adopted a Motion Amending Section 3, Section 5, Section 6, Section 7 and Section 8 of Marijuana Ordinance No. 2020-3. Pursuant to Charter Section 6-3, I am hereby exercising my authority to veto this action.

First, Charter Section 6-1, requires that City Council "shall function and determine policies as an integrated body and shall not delegate powers or determination to committees of its members." The Amendments were introduced by Councilwoman Kallela Martin and supported by Council Pro Tern Robinson and Councilman Khursheed Ash-Shafii. Based on the representations of Council President Jamal Thomas, he nor Councilwoman Temeka Manica participated in any discussions regarding the Marijuana Ordinance in an Open Meeting, Workshop or otherwise.

There was no Workshop Meeting for the City Council to discuss the Amendments as a collective body. Attorney Anthony Chubb agreed to meet with City Council and suggested dates for a Study Session. Council President even scheduled a Workshop for May 15, 2023 but City Councilmembers Martin and Ash-Shafii rushed to request a Special Meeting on May 10, 2023. Since there was no discussion or questions at the Special Meeting, it appears that there were prior discussions in violation of the Open Meetings Act.

Second, the Amendments did not comply with Charter Section 6-2(a) and Section 6-2(d) which requires that the amendments be in the form for final adoption. The City Attorney and I have consistently expressed that the Amended Ordinance was not in the correct format to be voted upon. The first page suggests inserting sections, there are pages missing, some sections are ambiguous, important provisions have been eliminated. There is no vote total, date of adoption or signature for the Clerk, no meaningful conversation or community participation and probable increased litigation.

Third, in accordance with Charter Section 7-5(6) the Amendments were not approved by the City Attorney. Councilman Ash-Shafii erroneously implied that Attorney Chubb had approved the amendments which was not true. Attorney Chubb provided a detailed opinion as to why the Amendments could not be approved. The additional changes were in an email and not approved nor appropriately incorporated into the Amended Ordinance. Furthermore, based on the City Council Procedure to Pass an Ordinance, there was no First nor Second Reading of the Amendments.

Consequently, this Veto suspends the operation of the Amended Ordinance and is without legal effect absent a vote to adopt the Amended Ordinance at the next regular meeting of the City Council by an affirmative vote of at least four of its members.

Moved by Councilwoman Manica  
Supported by Councilwoman Martin

To override the Mayor's veto. Nays (3) Thomas, Manica and Martin, Yeas (2), Robinson and Ash-Shafii, Absent (0).

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**MAYOR**  
**06-05-23 VII**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE PERIOD JULY 1, 2023 TO  
JUNE 30, 2024 AS PRESENTED BY MAYOR GLENDA MCDONALD**

Moved by Councilmember Manica  
Supported by Council President Thomas

**WHEREAS**, the City of Highland Park is required by the State of Michigan to submit an annual operating budget to accurately reflect current operations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor of the City of Highland Park submitted a proposed Budget for the year 2023-2024 to the members of Highland Park City Council on April 17, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, members of the Highland Park City Council held a Public Hearing on Tuesday, June 5, 2023 to review and discuss the proposed tax rates and Annual Budget for the year 2023-2024; and

**WHEREAS**, estimated total revenues and expenditures by fund are:

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Revenue</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>
General (101)	\$12,615,699	\$12,615,699
Major Roads (202)	\$1,168,487	\$2,202,487
Local Roads (203)	\$701,100	\$523,100
Federal Grants (234)	\$200,000	\$200,000
CDBG (252)	\$50,000	\$50,000
Forfeiture (267)	\$4,000	\$4,000
Pension Judgment (230)	\$3,402,000	\$3,402,000
Emergency Loan (301)	\$145,944	\$145,944
Bond Judgment (351)	\$446,395	\$446,395
Building Department (211)	\$230,000	\$230,000
JAG (214)	\$14,395	\$14,395
MIDC (260)	\$143,892	\$143,892
FIA Building (280)	\$90,000	\$90,000
Water & Sewer (592)	\$7,653,000	\$7,653,000
ERS (741)	\$620,071	\$373,071
P&F (742)	\$630,000	\$393,508
MERS (743)	\$2,433,600	\$1,771,600
TIFA (248)	\$51,500	\$13,500

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Highland Park City Council adopts the Proposed Budget for the year 2023-2024 on an activity/department basis as presented by Mayor Glenda McDonald; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the City of Highland Park shall cause to be levied and collected the general property tax on all real and personal property within the City on the 2023 tax roll an allocated millage of 19.2502 mills for general operations, 2.8874 for rubbish, 22.0631 for pension judgment (12.8701 summer, 9.1930 winter), 2.0026 for Bond Judgment and 0.3338 for an Emergency Loan (millage rates adjusted for Headlee and annual debt schedules); and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution becomes a part of the official records of the City of Highland Park. With \$75,000 taken from the Chief of Staff position and added to Public Works. Yeas (4) Thomas, Robinson, Manica and Martin, Nays (1) Ash-Shafii, Absent (0).

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**LEGAL  
06-05-23 VIII**

Moved by Councilman Ash-Shafii  
Supported by Councilwoman Manica

To recess the Regular meeting to go into Closed Session. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0). Meeting recessed at 7:06 p.m.

Moved by Councilman Ash-Shafii  
Supported by Councilwoman Martin

To reconvene Regular meeting. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0). Meeting reconvened at 8:02 p.m.

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**CITY ADMINISTRATOR  
06-05-23 IX a**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE MEDIATOR RECOMMENDED INTERIM AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
GLWA AND THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK ATTACHED AS EXHIBIT A, HERETO**

Moved by Councilwoman Manica  
Supported by Councilwoman Martin

**WHEREAS**, after over a month of mediation, the negotiating team led by City Administrator Cathy Square has reached an interim agreement to stay all GLWA pending litigation and allow the parties to continue to work to resolve outstanding points of legal disagreement. In consideration of the interim agreement, the City of Highland Park agrees to pay GLWA \$1,000,000 for water and sewer bills; and

**WHEREAS**, the terms of the interim agreement are more precisely set forth in Exhibit A.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Highland Park City Council hereby approves the MEDIATOR PROPOSAL-INTERIM AGREEMENT BETWEEN GLWA AND THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK attached as Exhibit A and authorizes the City Administrator to take such additional actions called for in the Interim Agreement required to effect the purposes thereof. Yeas (4) Thomas, Manica, Martin and Ash-Shafii, Nays (1) Robinson, Absent (0).

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**06-05-23 IX b**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CLAIM FOR THE PROTECTING MI PENSION GRANT**

Moved by Councilman Ash-Shafii  
Supported by Council Pro Tem Robinson

**WHEREAS**, Public Act 166 of 2022, Section 979a(1) appropriated funds to the Michigan Department of Treasury (Treasury) for the Protecting MI Pension: Michigan Local Pension Grant Program (Protecting MI Pension) for qualified units that operate a qualified retirement system, and

**WHEREAS**, a "qualified unit" means a city, county, township, village, or road commission that operates a qualified retirement system as defined in Public Act 166 of 2022, section 979a(7)(c), and

**WHEREAS**, a "qualified retirement system", as defined in Public Act 166 of 2022, section 979a(7)(b), means a retirement pension benefit within a retirement system, as defined in section 3 of the protecting local government retirement and benefits act, Public Act 202 of 2017, MCL 38.2803, of a qualified unit, with a funded ratio below 60 percent based on the last report filed as required by section 5 of the protecting local government retirement and benefits act, Public Act 202 of 2017, MCL 38.28035, as of December 31, 2021, and

**WHEREAS**, qualified units with a qualified retirement system are eligible to submit a claim for a grant award for an amount to increase the funding of the qualified retirement system liabilities to 60 percent funded or to a cap of \$170,000,000, whichever amount is less, and

**WHEREAS**, qualified units with qualified retirement systems shall comply with "grant award requirements", and

**WHEREAS**, "grant award requirements" are defined in Section 979a (2)(a)-(f) of Public Act 166 of 2022, and further detailed as part of the Protecting MI Pension grant application (Treasury Forms 5886 and 5887), and

**WHEREAS**, Treasury requires each qualified unit's governing body to adopt a resolution authorizing the Chief Administrative Officer to file a claim for an award for the Protecting MI Pension Grant Program, and

**WHEREAS**, City of Highland Park acknowledges that it: (i) is a "qualified unit"; (ii) operates "qualified retirement system"; (iii) agrees to comply with "grant award requirements"; (iv) authorizes the Chief Administrative Officer to file a claim for a grant award on behalf of the local government;

**AND** thus, is eligible to participate in a Protecting MI Pension Grant Program.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Highland Park City Council (governing body) hereby authorize participation in the Protecting MI Pension grant program and on behalf of the City of Highland Park authorizes Cathy Square, City Administrator, (designee) to provide this resolution indicating its approval to Treasury, and to submit and execute documents requested by Treasury relating to the Protecting MI Pension grant program requirements. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

**06-05-23 X a**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION FOR MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK AND THE WAYNE COUNTY LAND BANK CORPORATION**

Moved by Councilwoman Manica  
Supported by Councilwoman Martin

To table to the June 20, 2023 meeting. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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**06-05-23 X b**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION TO SUBMIT APPLICATION FOR MI-HOPE GRANT**

Moved by Councilwoman Manica  
Supported by Councilman Ash-Shafii

**WHEREAS**, the State of Michigan is accepting applications for the Michigan Housing Opportunities Promoting Energy Efficiency program (MI-HOPE) to aid communities through energy-efficient home repairs and upgrades; and

**WHEREAS**, the MI-HOPE program, an extension of MSHDA's Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP), aids communities throughout Michigan by providing funds to local governments and non-profit organizations to engage in energy-efficiency housing projects; and

**WHEREAS**, funds are available to help households presumed to have encountered pandemic- related hardships

remain in housing units and assist with improving the health and safety of their homes; and

**WHEREAS**, MI-HOPE seeks to provide energy-efficiency assistance to eligible households having income equal to or less than 300% of the federal poverty level as outlined in United States Department of Treasury Guidance; and

**WHEREAS**, MI-HOPE assisted activities are limited to: roofs; storm doors/exterior doors; windows; modification/efficiency or replacement of heating (furnaces or boilers), cooling (full only), ventilation systems, and water heater upgrades {including on demand retrofitting}; and up- to-date exterior security lighting; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the city approves the submission of an application for the MI-HOPE grant. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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**FINANCE**  
**06-05-23 XI**

Moved by Council Pro Tem Robinson  
Supported by Councilwoman Manica

To receive and file the Monthly Financial Statement April 2023. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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**FIRE**  
**06-05-23 XII**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION TO SOLICIT QUOTES FOR A NEW PUMPER FIRE TRUCK**

Moved by Councilman Ash-Shafii  
Supported by Council Pro Tem Robinson

**WHEREAS**, the Highland Park Fire Department has the duty and responsibility to provide reasonably requisite resources to carry out extinguishment and prevention of fires; and

**WHEREAS**, due to age, wear & tear and diagnostic issues, the associated repair costs exceed the value of the current Pumper Fire Truck; and

**WHEREAS**, a New Pumper Fire Truck will be used to equip the Highland Park Fire Department with a fire apparatus that includes a fire pump of at least 1000-gallon capacity, water tank and hose body to combat structural and associated fires, and

**WHEREAS**, the costs associated with the New Pumper Fire Truck will be covered with funds from the 2023-2024 Fire Department Budget; and

**WHEREAS**, the Highland Park Fire Department is seeking approval to issue an RFQ for the New Pumper Fire Truck; and

**WHEREAS**, a New Pumper Fire Truck will be used for public safety and is in the best interests of the citizens of the City of Highland Park;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City authorizes the Highland Park Fire Department to solicit quotes for a New Pumper Fire Truck. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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**POLICE  
06-05-23 XIII a**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION TO PURCHASE IDEMIA LIVESCAN (FINGERPRINTING) MACHINE**

Moved by Councilwoman Martin  
Supported by Councilman Ash-Shafii

**WHEREAS**, the mission of the Highland Park Police Department is to maintain order, preserve human life and protect property within our community; and

**WHEREAS**, the City wishes to purchase IDEMIA Livescan equipment to use in the verification of suspects with accurate biometric technology; and

**WHEREAS**, IDEMIA equipment will provide investigative and public security solutions to safeguard the lives and well-being of citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the City received a quote from IDEMIA for a one-time cost of \$14,817.00 dollars; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City approves the purchase of a IDEMIA Livescan Machine at cost not to exceed \$14,817.00. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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**06-05-23 XIII b**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION TO PURCHASE TWENTY FLOCK SAFETY ALPR CAMERAS**

Moved by Councilwoman Manica  
Supported by Council Pro Tem Robinson

**WHEREAS**, the mission of the Highland Park Police Department is to maintain order, preserve human life and protect property within our community; and

**WHEREAS**, the City wishes to use Flock Safety Cameras to identify dumping in the city by placing the cameras in areas of the city where a high number of incidents of dumping have occurred; and

**WHEREAS**, the cameras can also be used to help identify stolen vehicles or vehicles involved in serious crimes; and

**WHEREAS**, the City received a quote from Flock Safety for cameras at a cost of \$3,000.00 each per camera, per year; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City approves the purchase of twenty cameras for one year from Flock Safety at a cost not to exceed \$60,000. Yeas (4), Thomas, Robinson, Manica and Martin, Nays (1) Ash-Shafii, Absent (0).



**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Councilwoman Martin  
Supported by Council Pro Tem Robinson

To adjourn the meeting, motion carried, meeting adjourned at 11:48 p.m.

**CERTIFICATE**

I hereby certify that the attached is a copy of the proposed minutes of the In-Person and Virtual Regular Meeting held the 5<sup>th</sup> day of June 2023 and that said minutes are available for public inspection at the address designated on the posted public notice.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brenda Green".

**Brenda Green, City Clerk**