

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

**April 6, 2026**

Council convened at 7:08 p.m. with Council Pro Tem Robinson presiding.

Present: Council Pro Tem Robinson, Councilwoman Manica, Councilwoman Martin, Councilman Ash-Shafii (4).

Absent: Council President Thomas (1).

A quorum being present, Council was declared in session.

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**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Moved by Councilwoman Martin  
Supported by Councilwoman Manica

To approve the agenda as presented. Yeas (3), Nays Robinson (1), Absent Thomas (1).

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**ADMINISTRATION  
04-06-26 V**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING 2026 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS  
(LIMITED TAX GENERAL OBLIGATION)**

Moved by Councilwoman Manica  
Supported by Councilwoman Martin

**WHEREAS**, the City does hereby determine that it is necessary to pay all or part of the costs of acquiring, constructing, installing, repairing and improving certain capital improvements in the City, including but not limited to sewage disposal system collection system improvements consisting generally of the (i) rehabilitation of approximately 15,984 linear feet of existing sanitary sewer by lining with cured-in-place sewer lining method and replacing approximately 6,066 linear feet of existing sanitary sewer lines, (ii) replacement, rehabilitation and repair of sanitary sewer manholes in multiple locations in the City, south of Ford Street and east of Hamilton Avenue; and (iii) cleaning and televising for various sewer segments throughout the City, together with all necessary interests in land, rights-of way, appurtenances and attachments thereto (the “Project”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Project qualifies for the State of Michigan Clean Water Revolving Fund financing program administered by the Michigan Finance Authority (the “Authority”) and the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes & Energy (“EGLE”), whereby the bonds of the City are sold to the Authority and bear interest at a fixed rate of not to exceed one percent (1.00%) per annum; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council deems it necessary to borrow the principal amount of not to exceed Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) and issue capital improvement bonds (the “Bonds”) pursuant to Act 34, Public

Acts of Michigan, 2001, as amended (“Act 34”), to finance the cost of the Project and to pay certain costs of issuance of the Bonds; and

**WHEREAS**, a notice of intent for bonds was published in accordance with Act 34 which provides that the capital improvement bonds may be issued without a vote of the electors of the City unless a proper petition for an election on the question of the issuance of the Bonds is filed with the City Clerk within a period of forty-five (45) days from the date of publication and as of this date no petition has been filed with the Clerk; and

**WHEREAS**, in connection with the sale of the Bonds to the Authority, the Authority is requiring that, in addition to a pledge of the City’s limited tax, full faith, credit and resources, the Bonds be secured by a pledge, pursuant to the authority of Act 227, Public Acts of Michigan, 1985, as amended (“Act 227”), of the payments the City is eligible to receive from the State of Michigan under Act 140, Public Acts of Michigan, 1971, as amended, and other sources of revenues as defined in the Trust Indenture (as hereinafter defined) (collectively, “Distributable State Aid”); and

**WHEREAS**, the City previously entered into a certain Amended and Restated Debt Retirement Trust Agreement between the City and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee (the “Trustee”), dated as of August 1, 2018, as supplemented (the “Trust Indenture”), in connection with the City’s pledge of Distributable State Aid as security for certain outstanding obligations of the City (“Outstanding DSA Obligations”) pursuant to the provisions of Act 227; and

**WHEREAS**, in connection with the issuance and sale of the Bonds to the Authority and the pledge of Distributable State Aid as security therefor, the City is required to enter into a supplemental indenture (the “Supplemental Indenture”) with the Trustee to authorize the issuance of the Bonds as additional bonds to be secured by Distributable State Aid under the Trust Indenture.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. Authorization of Bonds; Bond Terms. Subject to no proper petition being filed within the 45-day period, bonds of the City designated 2026 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS (LIMITED TAX GENERAL OBLIGATION) (the “Bonds”) are authorized to be issued in the aggregate principal sum of not to exceed Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) as finally determined by order of the EGLE for the purpose of paying part of the cost of the Project, including the capitalized interest and the costs incidental to the issuance, sale and delivery of the Bonds. The Bonds shall be in the form of a single fully-registered, nonconvertible bond of the denomination of the full principal amount thereof, dated as of the date of delivery, payable in principal installments in the years 2027 through 2055 or as finally determined by the order of the EGLE at the time of sale of the Bonds and approved by the Authority and by the Mayor, the City Administrator, the City Clerk or the Finance Director of the City (each an “Authorized Officer”). Interest on the Bonds shall be payable on April 1 and October 1 of each year, commencing April 1, 2027, or on such other interest payment dates as determined by an Authorized Officer at the time of the sale of the Bonds. Final determination of the principal amount of and interest on the Bonds and the payment dates and amounts of principal installments of the Bonds and interest thereon shall be evidenced by execution of the Bonds and of a purchase contract between the Authority and the City (the “Purchase Contract”) and each of the Authorized Officers is authorized and directed to execute and deliver the Purchase Contract when it is in final form and to make the determinations set forth above.

The Bonds or principal installments thereof shall be subject to redemption prior to maturity at any time with the prior written consent of Authority on terms approved by Authority.

The Bonds shall bear interest at an interest rate per annum on the par value thereof as evidenced by execution of the Purchase Contract, but in any event not to exceed one percent (1.00%) per annum, and any of the Authorized Officers as shall be appropriate shall deliver the Bonds in accordance with the delivery instructions of the Authority. The principal amount of the Bonds is expected to be drawn down by the City

periodically, and interest on the principal amount drawn down shall accrue from the date such principal amount is drawn down by the City. The Bonds are also subject to the payment of “additional interest” as described in the form of the Bonds included in Section 6 of this Resolution.

The Bonds shall not be convertible or exchangeable into more than one fully-registered bond. Principal of and interest on the Bonds shall be payable as provided in the Bond form in Section 6 of this Resolution.

The Bonds or principal installments thereof shall be subject to prepayment at any time prior to maturity by the City with the prior approval of the Authority and on such terms as may be required by the Authority.

The City Treasurer shall record on the registration books payment by the City of each installment of principal or interest or both when made and the cancelled checks or other records evidencing such payments shall be returned to and retained by the City Treasurer.

Upon payment by the City of all outstanding principal of and interest on the Bonds, the Authority shall deliver the Bonds to the City for cancellation.

2. Execution of Bonds. The Mayor and the City Clerk are authorized to execute and deliver the Bonds in accordance with the delivery instructions of the Authority. The Bonds of this issue shall be executed in the name of the City with the manual or facsimile signatures of the Mayor and the City Clerk and shall have the seal of the City, or a facsimile thereof, printed or impressed on the Bonds. The Bonds bearing the manual or facsimile signatures of the Mayor and the City Clerk sold to the Authority shall require no further authentication.

3. Transfer Agent; Transfer of Bonds. The Trustee, acting as the bond registrar, transfer agent, and paying agent for the Bonds (the “Transfer Agent”), shall keep the books of registration for this issue on behalf of the City. Any Bond may be transferred upon such registration books by the registered owner of record, in person or by the registered owner’s duly authorized attorney, upon surrender of the Bond for cancellation, accompanied by delivery of a duly executed written instrument of transfer in a form approved by the Transfer Agent. Whenever any Bond or Bonds shall be surrendered for transfer, the City shall execute and the Transfer Agent shall authenticate and deliver a new Bond or Bonds, for like aggregate principal amount. The Transfer Agent shall require the payment by the bondholder requesting the transfer of any tax or other governmental charge required to be paid with respect to the transfer.

Unless waived by any registered owner of Bonds to be redeemed, official notice of redemption shall be given by the Transfer Agent on behalf of the City. Such notice shall be dated and shall contain at a minimum the following information: original issue date; maturity dates; interest rates; CUSIP numbers, if any; certificate numbers (and in the case of partial redemption) the called amounts of each certificate; the place where the Bonds called for redemption are to be surrendered for payment; and that interest on the Bonds or portions thereof called for redemption shall cease to accrue from and after the redemption date.

In addition, further notice shall be given by the Transfer Agent in such manner as may be required or suggested by regulations or market practice at the applicable time, but no defect in such further notice nor any failure to give all or any portion of such further notice shall in any manner defeat the effectiveness of a call for redemption if notice thereof is given as prescribed herein.

4. Security; Debt Retirement Fund; Defeasance of Bonds. The City hereby pledges its limited tax full faith and credit for the prompt payment of the Bonds. The City shall, each year, budget the amount of the debt service coming due in the next fiscal year on the principal of and interest on the Bonds and shall, if debt service on the Bonds is not paid first from Distributable State Aid in accordance with the Trust Indenture, advance as a first budget obligation from its general funds available therefor, or, if necessary, levy taxes upon all taxable property in the City, subject to applicable constitutional, statutory and charter tax rate limitations, such sums as may be necessary to pay such debt service in said fiscal year.

As additional security for repayment of the Bonds, the City hereby pledges the Distributable State Aid collected by the State of Michigan and returned to the City pursuant to Act 140, to the Authority as purchaser and holder of the Bonds, and the City hereby authorizes an Authorized Officer to approve, execute and deliver a Revenue Sharing Pledge Agreement (the “Revenue Sharing Pledge Agreement”) between the City and the Authority, authorizing the State Treasurer to transmit the revenue sharing moneys assigned and pledged therein directly to the Authority, its designee or the Trustee in accordance with the Trust Indenture. In connection with the pledge of Distributable State Aid to secure payment of the Bonds, the City hereby authorizes an Authorized Officer to approve, execute and deliver the Supplemental Indenture to provide for the payment of Distributable State Aid on the Bonds.

The City hereby establishes and creates the 2026 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BOND FUND, a special, separate and segregated fund held by the Trustee under the Trust Indenture, for the benefit of the holders of the Bonds in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Trust Indenture. The City Treasurer is authorized and directed to establish and create such additional accounts and funds as are necessary to facilitate the payment of the Bonds under the Supplemental Indenture.

In the event cash or direct obligations of the United States or obligations the principal of and interest on which are guaranteed by the United States, or a combination thereof, the principal of and interest on which, without reinvestment, come due at times and in amounts sufficient to pay at maturity or irrevocable call for earlier optional redemption, the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Bonds, shall be deposited in trust, this resolution shall be defeased and the owners of the Bonds shall have no further rights under this resolution except to receive payment of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Bonds from the cash or securities deposited in trust and the interest and gains thereon and to transfer and exchange Bonds as provided herein.

5. Construction Fund; Proceeds of Bond Sale. The City Treasurer is authorized and directed to open a separate depository account with a bank or trust company designated by an Authorized Officer, to be designated 2026 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS CONSTRUCTION FUND (the “Construction Fund”) and deposit into said Construction Fund the proceeds of the Bonds less accrued interest, if any, which shall be deposited into the Debt Retirement Fund. The moneys in the Construction Fund shall be used solely to pay the costs of the Project and the costs of issuance of the Bonds.

6. Bond Form. The Bonds shall be in substantially the following form, subject to such modifications which may be required by the Michigan Attorney General and the MFA and approved by bond counsel and with such changes as may be required to conform the Bonds to the final terms of the Bonds established by the Sale Order.

7. Useful Life of Project. The estimated period of usefulness of the Project is hereby declared to be not less than thirty (30) years.

8. Negotiated Sale; Application to EGLE and Authority; Execution of Documents. The City determines that it is in the best interest of the City to negotiate the sale of the Bonds to the Authority because the Clean Water Revolving Fund financing program provides significant interest savings to the City compared to competitive sale in the municipal bond market. The Authorized Officers are hereby authorized to make application to the Authority and to the EGLE for placement of the Bonds with the Authority. The actions taken by the Authorized Officers with respect to the Bonds prior to the adoption of this Resolution are ratified and confirmed. The Authorized Officers are each authorized to execute and deliver the Purchase Contract, a Revenue Sharing Pledge Agreement, the Supplemental Agreement, the City’s Certificate, a Distributable Aid Deposit Agreement and such other documents if required by the Authority. Any Authorized Officer is further authorized to execute and deliver such contracts, documents and certificates as are necessary or advisable to qualify the Bonds for the Clean Water Revolving Fund. The Authorized Officers are each hereby authorized to negotiate with the Trustee and execute a Supplemental Indenture providing for the issuance of the Bonds. Prior to the delivery of the Bonds to the Authority, any Authorized Officer is hereby authorized to make such changes to the form of the Bonds contained in Section 13 of this

Resolution as may be necessary to conform to the requirements of Act 227, including, but not limited to changes in the principal maturity and interest payment dates and references to additional security required by Act 227.

9. Tax Covenant. If the Bonds are issued on a tax-exempt basis, the City shall, to the extent permitted by law, take all actions within its control necessary to maintain the exclusion of the interest on the Bonds from gross income for federal income tax purposes under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), including, but not limited to, actions relating to any required rebate of arbitrage earnings and the expenditures and investment of Bond proceeds and moneys deemed to be Bond proceeds.

10. Adjustment of Bond Terms; Authorization of Other Actions. Each Authorized Officer is hereby authorized to adjust the final bond details to the extent necessary or convenient to complete the transaction authorized in this Resolution, and in pursuance of the foregoing are each authorized to exercise the authority and make the determinations authorized pursuant to Section 315(1)(d) of Act 34, including but not limited to, determinations regarding interest rates, prices, discounts, maturities, principal amounts, denominations, dates of issuance, interest payment dates, redemption rights, the place of delivery and payment, designation of series, and other matters, all subject to the parameters established in this Resolution.

The Authorized Officers are each hereby authorized and directed to take all other actions necessary or advisable to enable the sale and delivery of the Bonds as contemplated herein, including applying for and paying the related fees for ratings and making such other filings with and paying related fees to any parties, including filing an application with the Michigan Department of Treasury for an Order or Orders of Approval to issue all or a portion of the Bonds under Act 34, and an application for exemption of the investment grade rating requirement.

11. Bond Counsel. The City hereby confirms the appointment of Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, P.L.C. as bond counsel for the Bonds, notwithstanding the periodic representation in unrelated matters of parties or potential parties to the transaction contemplated by this resolution. The legal fees of Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, P.L.C. shall be paid from the proceeds of the sale of such Bonds or such other legally available funds of the City.

12. Municipal Advisor. The City hereby confirms the appointment of Robert W. Baird & Co., Incorporated, to act as its Municipal Advisor with respect to the Bonds. The fees of the Municipal Advisor shall be paid from the proceeds of the sale of the Bonds or such other legally available funds of the City.

13. Rescission. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same hereby are rescinded. Yeas (4), Nays (0), Absent Thomas (1).

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**CITY CLERK**  
**04-06-26 VI**

The Clerk submitted a Parade Permit application for approval for May 16, 2026, from the Parker Pride Alumni Association.

Moved by Councilman Ash-Shafii  
Supported by Councilwoman Manica

To table the above item. Yeas (3), Nays Robinson (1), Absent Thomas (1).

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**FINANCE**  
**04-06-26 VII**

Submission of the Proposed Budget FY 2026 - 2027.

Moved by Councilwoman Manica  
Supported by Councilman Ash-Shafii

To receive and file. Yeas Manica, Ash-Shafii (2), Nays Martin, Robinson (2), Absent Thomas (1).

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**FIRE**  
**04-06-26 VIII a**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A COMMERCIAL GEAR DRYER TO BE FUNDED THROUGH THE AVAILABLE FUNDS FROM THE CURRENT 2025-2026 FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET**

Moved by Councilwoman Martin  
Supported by Councilman Ash-Shafii

**WHEREAS**, the City of Highland Park Fire Department wishes to replace the current gear dryer for the Fire Department. The current dryer was purchased new in 1996 and has served the Highland Park Fire Department well for the past 30 years. The dryer caught fire on March 6, 2026, and is a total loss; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Highland Park Fire Department requested multiple quotes for replacement commercial dryers. The gear dryer, a Unimac 30 lb. dryer the Fire Department is requesting as a replacement is specific to the Fire Department's needs; and

**WHEREAS**, the price for the gear dryer is \$7,208.00, for which the funds will come from our current budget.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Highland Park approves the purchase of a gear dryer at the cost of \$7,208.00 by the Highland Park Fire Department, to be funded by the Fire Department's current 2025/2026 budget. Yeas (4), Nays (0), Absent Thomas (1).

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**04-06-26 VIII b**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF 12 MSA BRAND AIR PACKS, 24 AIR BOTTLES, 30 MASKS AND ONE RAPID INTERVENTION RESCUE BAG TO BE FUNDED THROUGH THE AVAILABLE FUNDS FROM THE CURRENT 2025-2026 FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET SPECIFIC FOR THE PURCHASE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE GEAR**

Moved by Councilwoman Manica  
Supported by Councilman Ash-Shafii

**WHEREAS**, the City of Highland Park Fire Department wishes to replace its compliment of aging and outdated air packs. The air packs the Fire Department currently operates with are decades old and well beyond their expected service life; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Highland Park Fire Department requested a quote from the only vender of MSA air packs in the mid-west region, receiving a quote of \$158,194.64. MSA is the brand currently used by the Fire Department to operate with and which the Fire Department is familiar with using, as do the Fire Department's mutual aid departments, which would provide the Fire Department with better interoperability; and

**WHEREAS**, these new air packs will provide the Highland Park Firefighters with: a) more reliable breathing air; b) greater protection from the high temperatures and smoke inside a structure fire; c) greater protection during overhaul operations and search and rescue of trapped civilians; and d) any other situation with high concentrations of carbon monoxide and other toxic fumes. The rapid intervention rescue bag will enhance Highland Park Firefighters the ability to rescue trapped victims by providing them with immediate lifesaving breathing air during the rescue process.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Highland Park approves the purchase of 12 MSA brand air packs, 24 air bottles, 30 masks, and one rapid intervention rescue bag, for a total cost of \$158,194.64, using the funds from the personal protective gear line item of the current 2025/2026 Highland Park Fire Department budget. Yeas (4), Nays (0), Absent Thomas (1).

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**RECREATION**  
**04-06-26 IX**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE GIFT OF TREES TO MLK PARK FROM SAY DETROIT  
AND COOPER STANDARD**

**WHEREAS**, SAY DETROIT, along with Cooper Standard, would like to extend their commitment to Highland Park by sponsoring a "Earth Day Tree Planting" at MLK Park; and

**WHEREAS**, they will plant 10-15 frees around the park; and

**WHEREAS**, all projects will be conducted by licensed and insured contractors; and

**WHEREAS**, by adding these trees to MLK Park, the community will be able to continue to enjoy their park; and

**WHEREAS**, any additional improvements would be approved by the Highland Park Director of Parks and Recreation; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City approves and accepts SAY Detroit and Cooper Standard's proposed MLK Park tree planting project. Yeas (4), Nays (0), Absent Thomas (1).

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**WATER**  
**04-06-26 X**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE PUBLIC ADVERTISEMENT FOR PURPOSES OF RECEIVING CONSTRUCTION BIDS FOR THE FY2026 CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND (CWSRF) SANITARY SEWER REHABILITATION PROJECT**

Moved by Councilwoman Manica  
Supported by Councilman Ash-Shafii

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary for the City of Highland Park Water Department to address sewer infrastructure improvements; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has reviewed and approved the FY2024 CWSRF Project Plan Application for the City of Highland Park, that included a multiple year plan between FY2024 through FY2028, as submitted to EGLE; and

**WHEREAS**, EGLE has approved and awarded \$3,000,000 in loan funding for the FY2026 CWSRF Project; and

**WHEREAS**, the approved scope of this project includes the replacement of approximately 1.58 lineal miles of combined sewer, 3.03 lineal miles of GIPP lining, and approximately 47 manhole and catch basin structure replacements; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the intent of the Water Department Director that when the construction contract is awarded that construction would tentatively begin Summer of 2026; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the City of Highland Park City Water Department requests to publicly advertise the FY2026 Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project for purposes of soliciting construction bids, tentatively anticipated on Wednesday, April 15, 2026. Yeas (3), Nays Robinson (1), Absent Thomas (1).

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**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Councilwoman Manica  
Supported by Councilman Ash-Shafii

To adjourn the meeting, meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

**CERTIFICATE**

I hereby certify that the attached is a copy of the minutes of the In-Person and Virtual Regular Meeting held the 6<sup>th</sup> day of April 2026 and that said minutes are available for public inspection at the address designated on the posted public notice.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a series of loops and flourishes, representing the name Cidia Wicker-Brown.

Cidia Wicker-Brown, Deputy City Clerk