

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

**October 7, 2013**

**Council convened at 7:05 p.m. with Council President Christopher Woodard presiding.**

**Present: Council Pro-Tem Lewis, Councilmember Moore, Councilmember Patrick,  
Councilmember McClary and Council President Woodard (5).**

**Absent: None (0).**

**A quorum being present, Council was declared in session.**

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**PUBLIC HEARING:**

**10-07-13-1**

**The Clerk stated this was the place and time to hold a public hearing to get citizens input and suggestions on the naming of the new Highland Park Fire Station.**

**Fire Lt. McClary read a letter signed by several firefighters in support of the station being name after the late Fire Chief Thomas Taylor.**

**Former Mayor Porter suggested Martha G. Scott or someone with history. He also, suggested appointing a committee for the naming of the station.**

**Citizen Mr. Pye asked why it has to be named at all. Let it remain the Highland Park Fire station.**

**Citizen Ms. Clowney suggested naming the station after the citizens of Highland Park.**

**Citizen Verbainger suggested naming the station after the individual who wrote the grant for the station.**

**Moved by Councilmember McClary  
Supported by Councilmember Patrick**

To close the Public Hearing. The hearing was closed at 7:17 p.m.  
**PRESENTATION:**

State Representative Thomas Stallworth of the 7<sup>th</sup> District presented Det. Paul Thomas a resolution for solving a “Cold Case.”

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**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Moved by Councilmember McClary  
Supported by Council Pro Tem Lewis

To approve the agenda with the addition of a resolution from Councilmember Moore to restore management and operation of the Highland Park Water System. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Moved by Council Pro Tem Lewis  
Supported by Councilmember Moore

To approve the minutes of the Workshop Meeting held September 3, 2013. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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Moved by Council Pro Tem Lewis  
Supported by Councilmember McClary

To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held September 3, 2013. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

\*

Moved by Councilmember McClary  
Supported by Councilmember Moore

To approve the minutes of the Workshop Meeting held September 16, 2013. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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Moved by Councilmember McClary  
Supported by Councilmember Patrick

To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held September 16, 2013. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

**TABLED ITEM:**

**09-16-13-5**

**Moved by Council Pro Tem Lewis  
Supported by Councilmember McClary**

**To remove the following resolution from the table. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Highland Park City Council authorizes the City Attorney and Clerk to execute deeds on behalf of the City of Highland Park.**

**Moved by Council Pro Tem Lewis  
Supported by Councilmember Patrick**

**To temporary authorize Council President Woodard and the Clerk to sign deeds on behalf of the city. Yeas (3), Nays (1) Councilmember McClary, Absent (0).**

**\* Councilmember Patrick wasn't present for the vote. However, returned after the vote was finished.**

**\*\*\***

**MAYOR:**

**10-7-13-1**

**The following resolution was submitted for approval.**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK AND D&B BILLING SERVICES TO PROVIDE BILLING SERVICES FOR THE WATER DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK**

**Moved by Councilmember McClary  
Supported by Council Pro Tem Lewis**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Highland Park City Council authorizes an agreement between the City of Highland Park and D & B Billing Services, to provide water billing services for the City of Highland Park for a period of one year for an amount not to exceed Twenty Thousand (\$20,000) Dollars.**

**Yeas (2), Council Pro Tem Lewis, Councilmember McClary, Nays (3) Councilmember Moore, Councilmember Patrick and Council President Woodard, Absent (0).**

10-7-13-2

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ERNST AND  
YOUNG LLP TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES  
TO THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City of Highland Park City Council hereby approves an agreement between the City of Highland Park and Ernst & Young LLP, located at One Kennedy Square, Ste. 1000, 777 Woodward Ave. Detroit, Michigan 48226, to provide financial analysis, operational analysis and additional services as outlined in the attached Statement of Work, for an amount not to exceed Two Hundred Thousand and 00/100 (\$200,000.00).

**NO ACTION TAKEN**

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10-7-13-3

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION TO GRANT A VEGETATION MANAGEMENT EASEMENT TO  
THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSMISSION COMPANY**

Moved by Councilmember McClary  
Supported by Council Pro Tem Lewis

**WHEREAS**, the City of Highland Park currently owns property located at 1406 Avon Road E. Rochester Hills, Michigan 48037; and

**WHEREAS**, the International Transmission Company, a Michigan Corporation located at 27175 Energy Way, Novi, Michigan 48377 is requesting a vegetation management easement for the above referenced property; and

**WHEREAS**, the International Transmission Company is requesting that the City of Highland Park allow it the perpetual right to enter onto the land to cut, trim, remove, destroy or otherwise control any or all trees or brush now or hereafter standing or growing within the easement strip, and

**WHEREAS**, International Transmission Company is willing to pay the city of Highland Park \$11,516.19, in exchange for the city's agreement to allow the easement; therefore



**BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Highland Park City Council hereby approves the Vegetation Management Easement Agreement between the City of Highland Park and International Transmission Company on the specified piece of property located 1406 Avon Road E. Rochester Hills, Michigan 48037. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).**

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10-7-13-4

**The following resolution was submitted for approval.**

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A PROPOSAL FROM JOY CONSTRUCTION LEASING, INC. LOCATED AT 7730 JOY RD. DETROIT, MI 48204 FOR WATERMAIN REPAIR ON TUXEDO ST. IN THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK, MICHIGAN**

**Moved by Councilmember McClary  
Supported by Councilmember Patrick**

**BE IT RESOLVED that the Highland Park City Council does hereby accept a proposal from Joy Construction Leasing, Inc. to perform water main repair on Tuxedo St. in Highland Park, Mi. for an amount not to exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00). Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).**

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10-7-13-5

**The following resolution was submitted for approval.**

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A PROPOSAL FROM JOY CONSTRUCTION LEASING, INC LOCATED AT 7730 JOY RD. DETROIT, MI 48204 FOR WATERMAIN REPAIR ON W. GRAND ST. IN THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK, MICHIGAN**

**Moved by Councilmember McClary  
Supported by Council Pro Tem Lewis**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Highland Park City Council does hereby accept a proposal from Joy Construction Leasing, Inc. to perform water main repair on W. Grand St. in Highland Park, Mi. for an amount not to exceed Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2500.00) for a 8 inch repair or Three Thousand Eight Hundred (\$3,800) for a 12 inch repair. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).**

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**FINANCE:**

**10-7-13-6**

**The following resolution was submitted for approval.**

**Moved by Council Pro Tem Lewis  
Supported by Councilmember Moore**

**\*Councilmember Patrick requested to abstain.**

**Moved by Council Pro Tem Lewis  
Supported by Councilmember McClary**

**To approve Councilmember Patrick request. Yeas (4), Nays (0), Absent (0).**

**WHEREAS, the City of Highland Park is required by the State of Michigan to have an independent audit performed by certified public accountants;**

**WHEREAS, the Finance Department of the City submitted and received requests for proposals to complete the City's annual audits for the years 2013-2015;**

**WHEREAS, members of the Highland Park City Council held a workshop on September 16, 2013 to review and discuss the bids for the annual audits;**

**WHEREAS, the Mayor's office and the Finance Department are requesting the City Council to approve a contract with the firm of Gregory Terrell & Company to complete the audit for the years ending June 30, 2013-June 30, 2015;**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Highland Park City Council approves the bid submitted by Gregory Terrell & Company to complete the audits for the City of Highland Park for the years ending June 30, 2013 –June 30,, 2015.**

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution becomes a part of the official records of the City of Highland Park. Yeas (4), Nays (0), Abstain (1) Councilmember Patrick, Absent (0).**

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**10-7-13-6**

**The following resolution was submitted for approval.**

Moved by Councilmember McClary  
Supported by Council Pro Tem Lewis

**TRANSPORTATION SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN CITY OF HIGHLAND  
PARK AND PEOPLE'S COMMUNITY SERVICES OF METROPOLITAN DETROIT**

**WHEREAS, the City of Highland Park desires to arrange for non-emergency transportation to and from designated destinations.**

**WHEREAS, PCS provides general transportation services to the residents of its service area.**

**WHEREAS, the parties wish to enter into an agreement for the provision of certain transportation services desired by the City of Highland Park. This agreement shall be effective July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014 and may be renewed upon mutual agreement of the parties.**

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Highland Park hereby apply to SMART and agree to the terms and conditions herein, for the receipt and expenditure of Municipal Credits and Community Credits and further agree that the Municipal and Community Credits Agreement between the parties is incorporated herein by reference. The community agrees to use \$11,590 in Municipal Credit funds. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).**

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**OUTSIDE COMMUNICATIONS:**

**A communication from L.I.J.B.S. Enterprises, LLC re: response to request for qualification and proposals- towing**

**As you are aware, L.I.J.B.S. Enterprises, LLC was the lowest responsible bidder to the city's request for qualifications and proposals for towing services (RFP) L.I.J.B.S. is a professional, highly capable firm that is not only interested in providing quality service to the City and its constituents but also in bolstering the local economy and tax base. As indicated in our response to the RFP, we have a number of offers that we are considering, to lease and purchase property in the City of Highland Park. This would allow a towing yard to actually be located within city limits and directly results in jobs for Highland Park residents. With over 25 years combined experience with governmental entities and private companies, L.I.J.B.S. offers a commendable administrative fee back to the City of Highland Park and a reasonable tow fee for its customers.**

**Bearing this in mind, we were shocked when City Council rejected the resolution to authorize the City to contract with us back in August 2013. This action came after more than a few inconsistencies had been identified in the actual RFP process. Both L.I.J.B.S.**



and Troy's Towing- the only bidder was recommended by the Chief of Police to provide towing services to the City. Historically, the services have been provided by two companies. This way, if there is an emergency or one company is unavailable, the other can step in. As it stands now, the City is only authorized to move forward with one contract. This, only one company will be servicing the City's towing needs, which is not in the City's best interests.

To date, we will have not received a valid reason for denial of the resolution that would ultimately authorize our contract. We are concerned we were not given a fair and equitable opportunity and respectfully urge this Council to reconsider its decision. Specifically, we are asking for the critical issue of towing operations and the need for adequate servicing to the City to be added as a line item to your next agenda and we are asking for reconsideration of your denial of the authorization of our contract.

We are eager to answer any questions you may have and will be available at the next City Council meeting to do so.

**THE ABOVE COMMUNICATION WAS ORDERED RECEIVED AND FILE**

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The following communication was received from American Water Resources.

As, you may know, most Highland Park homeowners are not aware that they are responsible for the water line running through their property. American Water Resources of Michigan will soon send a letter to Highland Park residents, informing them of their service line maintenance responsibility. The mailing will explain that: (1) normal wear and tear can cause water line leaks, (2) homeowners are responsible for making the necessary repairs, and (3) repairs can cost thousands of dollars. The Water Line Protection Program offered by American Water Resources of Michigan provides homeowners with an optional means to affordably protect themselves from the expense and aggravation of service line repairs.

Please be assured that this letter explains that our programs are offered by American Water Resources of Michigan and that we are independent of Highland Park.

In case Highland Park homeowners have questions about American Water Resources of Michigan, below is a list of key information:

American Water Resources of Michigan is a subsidiary of American Water, which has served homeowners for over 127 years.

Servicing over one million customer contracts nationwide.

American Water Resources has an A+ Rating and is a Better Business Bureau accredited business.



**American Water Resources will only use licensed, Highland Park area contractors for repairs.**

**We have been selected by the New York City Water Board as their official service line protection provider.**

**Over 90% of our customers are very satisfied with the overall value of our program.**

**THE ABOVE COMMUNICATION WAS ORDERED RECEIVED AND FILE**

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**The following communication was received from Gloria Shand, Administrator for Park Geriatric Village.**

**I am writing this letter to request that I be added to the City Council Meeting agenda to discuss my request for purchase of properties in the City of Highland Park.**

**I would like to be added to the City Council agenda for the meeting in October, on either the 7<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> of this year.**

**Ms. Shand stated that the village was interested in purchasing several vacant lots for additional parking, and a park like area for residents. Council informed her that the lot purchase program procedure was being amended and she should contact real estate for the status of completion.**

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**The following certificate of liability insurance was received.**

**A certificate of liability insurance was received for Highland Park Public School Academy System, d/b/a/ Highland Park Renaissance Academy % Leona Group to use Ernest T. Ford field house.**

**Moved by Council Pro Tem Lewis  
Supported by Councilmember Patrick**

**Refer the certification to Mr. Drain, Recreation Director.**

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**CITY COUNCIL AFFAIRS:**

**Councilmember McClary moved to reconsider agenda item # VI (b) the request to approve a resolution to enter into an agreement with Ernest & Young LLP to provide professional services to the City of Highland Park. Council Pro Tem Lewis supported the motion. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).**

**Moved by Councilmember McClary  
Supported by Council Pro Tem Lewis**

**To approve the agreement. Yeas (2) Council Pro Tem Lewis and Councilmember McClary, Nays (3) Councilmember Moore, Councilmember Patrick and Council President Woodard, Absent (0).**

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**Councilmember Moore read the attached resolution.**

**A REOLUTION TO RESTORE MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF THE  
HIGHLAND PARK WATER SYSTEM**

**Moved by Councilmember McClary  
Supported by Council Pro Tem Lewis**

**To table the resolution. Yeas (3) Council Pro Tem Lewis, Councilmember McClary and Council President Woodard, Nays (2) Councilmember Moore and Councilmember Patrick, Absent (0).**

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**Moved by Council Pro Tem Lewis  
Supported by Councilmember McClary**

**To adjourn the meeting, motion carried meeting adjourned at 10:05 p.m.**

**CERTIFICATE**

**I, hereby certify that the attached is a copy of the proposed minutes of a Regular Meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of October 2013 and that said proposed minutes are available for public inspection at the address designated on the posted public notice.**

*Brenda J. Green*

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**Brenda J. Green, City Clerk**