

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

May 2, 2022

Council convened at 7:00 p.m. with Council President Clyburn presiding.

Present: Council Pro Tem Patrick, Councilmember McDonald, Councilmember Bates, Councilmember Armstrong, and Council President Clyburn (5).

Absent: (0).

A quorum being present, Council was declared in session.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Council Pro Tem Patrick
Supported by Councilmember Armstrong

To approve the agenda with the removal of Approval of Minutes and item VIIIb from Public Works. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

**SUBMISSION OF 2022-2023 PROPOSED BUDGET
05-02-22 V**

Moved by Council Pro Tem Patrick
Supported by Councilmember Bates

To receive and file the Proposed 2022-2023 proposed budget. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

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Moved by Council Pro Tem Patrick
Supported by Councilmember McDonald

To hold a Public Hearing on the 2022-2023 Proposed Budget Monday, June 6, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

**CITY COUNCIL
05-02-22 VI**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT DTE RESTORE ITS UTILITY SHUT-OFF MORATORIUM FOR ONE CALENDAR YEAR

Moved by Councilmember McDonald
Supported by Council Pro Tem Patrick

WHEREAS, the Mission of the Highland Park City Council is to implement the City Charter and to make legislative decisions that provide for good government, public peace, health, safety and prosperity for the City; **and**,

WHEREAS, according to news media accounts, when the COVID-19 pandemic began in 2020, causing a wave of medical and financial hardships, 34 states directed utilities to stop shutting off customers' service, according to the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners. However, Michigan was *NOT* one of those, relying instead on voluntary suspensions by the state's utilities; **and**,

WHEREAS, during the pandemic, DTE discontinued the *kiosk option of payment* from several public locations and government buildings and sketchy web connections through urban areas severely curtails the ability of many of its customers to easily pay their bills; **and**,

WHEREAS, DTE's self-imposed three-month shut-off moratorium was shorter than those put in place by the largest utilities in Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin. Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) chair Dan Scripps defended DTE's decision, stating that people who stop paying their bills during a longer moratorium might be likely to ever catch up; **and**,

WHEREAS, DTE's price per kilowatt-hour is also higher than the price charged by the largest utility in each of the other Great Lake states of Illinois, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin, according to news media sources. In view of this data, the Highland Park City Council extends an invitation to meet with leaders of DTE at a City Council workshop of their choosing, to discuss the company's rates and our community infrastructure concerns; **NOW**,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Highland Park City Council respectfully requests that DTE restores its moratorium of utility shut-offs for one calendar year, given the lasting economic impacts of the pandemic, thereby giving the City of Highland Park residents/customers much needed relief. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

ENGINEERING
05-02-22 VII

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

A RESOLUTION FOR THE SUBMITTAL OF THE 2024 TRANSPORTATION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND (TEDF) GRANT APPLICATION TO THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (MDOT) OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BY THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

Moved by Councilmember McDonald
Supported by Council Pro Tem Patrick

WHEREAS, the City of Highland Park Engineering Department received a notice of available infrastructure funding from the Michigan Department of Transportation for eligible all-season roads within the City of Highland Park; and

WHEREAS, as part of the tentative award of the grant, the City of Highland Park shall be responsible for the cost of services necessary for the engineering design, permitting, and other constructions documents necessary for the reconstruction and repair of Davison Service Drives; and

WHEREAS, the project shall be East and Westbound Davison Service Drives between Brush Street and Oakland Avenue, in the City of Highland Park; and

WHEREAS, the Engineering Department, it is necessary for the City of Highland Park to apply for the TEDF Grant to reconstruct and repair the East and Westbound Davison Service Drives. Available funding includes \$375,000 towards reconstruction with an anticipated match of twenty (20) percent from the City of Highland Park; and

WHEREAS, the Engineering Department is requesting an approval to submit a grant for the TEDF to the Michigan Department of Transportation Office of Economic Development on May 6, 2022; and

BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Highland Park City Council APPROVES the submittal of the 2024 Transportation Economic Development Fund grant application to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Office of Economic Development before May 6th, 2022, for system continuity with the secondary all-season road system. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

**PUBLIC WORKS
05-02-22 VIII**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

RESOLUTION TO SOLICIT BIDS FOR STREET STRIPING

Moved by Councilmember Armstrong
Supported by Councilmember Bates

WHEREAS, street markings work in unison with signs to ensure traffic flows in an efficient and safe manner for drivers as well as pedestrians; and

WHEREAS, there are eight streets in Highland Park whose street markings have become worn and require repainting (Second, Third, John R, Brush, Manchester, Glendale, Oakman and Puritan); and

WHEREAS, the City desires to solicit bids for street striping in the 2022 painting season; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City approves soliciting bids to restripe eight streets in Highland Park as Act 51 funds are available. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Pro Tem Patrick
Supported by Councilmember McDonald

To adjourn the meeting, motion carried, meeting adjourned at 7:31 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 2nd day of May 2022 and that said minutes are available for public inspection at the address designated on the posted public notice.



Cidia Wicker-Brown, Deputy City Clerk