

**Enrolled Minutes of the Eleventh Regular or Special Meeting
For the Twenty-Seventh Highland Town Council
Regular Meeting
Monday, May 14, 2012**

Study Session. The Twenty-Seventh Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana met in a study session preceding the regular meeting on Monday, May 14, 2012 at 6:40 O'clock P.M. in the regular place, the meeting chambers of the Highland Municipal Building, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland, Indiana.

Silent Roll Call: Councilors Dan Vassar, Brian Novak, Konnie Kuiper and Bernie Zemen were present. Councilor Mark Herak was absent owing to delay of the commuter train. The Clerk-Treasurer, Michael W. Griffin was present to memorialize the proceedings. A quorum was attained.

General Substance of Matters Discussed.

1. The Town Council discussed the agenda of the imminent regular meeting.
2. The Town Council discussed the recommendation of the IT Director (contract) regarding the two Indiana Bell service agreements, which are proposed to be for a term of 36 months and the prospect of changing the term to 24 months without a change in cost.
3. The Town Council discussed the feedback that may have been received regarding the propose 3500 block of Garfield Street Reconstruction Project and the associated special assessment financing of curbs and sidewalks.
4. The Town Council discussed a letter transmitted by Christine Dick, daughter in law of Arthur Dick, whose home on Kennedy Avenue is the subject of a property maintenance enforcement by the Building Department. Mr. Dick is a resident at a special care facility and the daughter in law indicated that she and her husband are trying to bring the house into compliance with the building regulations but were seeking some delay or relief from the enforcement steps taken.

The study session ended at 6:59 O'clock p.m.

Regular meeting. The Twenty Seventh Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana met in its regular session on Monday, May 14, 2012 at 7:00 O'clock P.M. in the regular place, the plenary meeting chambers of the Highland Municipal Building, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland, Indiana.

The Council Vice-President Dan Vassar, as acting president, presided and the Town Clerk-Treasurer, Michael W. Griffin, was present to memorialize the proceedings. The meeting was opened with Councilor Brian Novak 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 Dan Vassar, Mark Herak, Konnie Kuiper, Brian Novak and Bernie Zemen. The Clerk-Treasurer, Michael W. Griffin was present to memorialize the proceedings. A quorum was attained.

Additional Officials Present: Rhett L. Tauber, Town Attorney; John M. Bach, Public Works Director; Peter T. Hojnicki, Metropolitan Police Chief; Kenneth Mika, Building Commissioner; and Cecile Petro, Redevelopment Director were present.

Also present: Ed Dabrowski IT Director (Contract); and Larry Wolendowski, Past President and member of the 23rd Town Council were also present.

Minutes of the Previous Meetings:

The minutes of the regular meeting of April 23, 2012 were approved by general consent.

Special Orders:

1. **Public Hearing.** Considering remonstrances against the amounts set forth in the Preliminary Determination of Assessments by the Town Council associated with a project to improve the 3500 blocks of Garfield Avenue to be known as the **Garfield Avenue Reconstruction Project** financing the cost of these improvements through the Municipal General Improvement Fund. (Works Board Order No. 2012-13)

(a) Verification of Proofs of Publication. (IC 5-3-1;IC 36-9-17) (TIMES 2 May 2012). The Town Attorney indicated that the proofs were in compliance with IC 5-3-1.

(b) **Open Public Hearing.** *Public Hearing Issue:* Whether the lots or tracts of land have been or will be benefited by the Improvements in the amount set forth in the Assessment Roll, such greater or lesser amount, or any amount at all. The Town Council President called the hearing to order. The following comments were received:

1. Rick Volbrecht, 9221 Parkway Drive, Highland, spoke in favor of the project.
2. Tom Black, 3515 Garfield Street, Highland, inquired whether the Council or a department head had inquired about grants or other monetary offsets to support the project and ease the burden for persons on fixed incomes.

It was noted that the Public Works Director had contacted the Lake County Community Development Department for access to Community Development Block Grant Funds for this project to assist persons who qualify for assistance owing to low to moderate house income.

3. Frank Tokoly, 3520 Garfield Street, Highland, noted he organized the original petition drive in support of the proposed project. He further noted that he had received no request from any signatory to the petition to withdraw support. Mr. Tokoly spoke in favor of the project.
4. Larry Wolendowski, 8341 Delaware Place, Highland, inquired whether trees might be replaced if the reconstruction forced the removal of existing trees in parkways. He noted that he recalled from his time as a member of the Town Council a policy of tree replacement.
5. Tom Black, 3515 Garfield Street, Highland, expressed concern for his neighbor who he described as on a "fixed income" and uncertain of her ability to pay any assessment imposed to support the project. Mr. Black questioned the validity of the petition that was circulated to initiate the process.

With leave from the Town Council, Councilor Novak and several residents in attendance engaged in a colloquy regarding residents' previous representations to organize and assist those neighbors on Garfield Street that may be challenged economically by the imposition of these improvement assessments.

6. Mary Guterrez, 3512 Garfield Street, Highland, noted that she was one of the residents to which Councilor Novak referred who suggested that neighbors could help those neighbors who may be less able to pay any assessments. It was noted that Mr. Tokoly followed up when the proposed assessments, which are the subject of this hearing, were distributed to the affected residents. Ms. Guterrez spoke in favor of the project.

There being no further public comments, the Town Council closed the hearing.

- (c) Consideration of (Confirmatory) **Works Board Order No. 2012-15**: An Order Confirming the Special Municipal General Improvement Fund Special Assessment Rolls for Property Owners Benefiting from the Garfield Avenue Reconstruction Project. *(As drafted the waived repayment would be over 4 years an Interest rate of 7.5%)*

Councilor Vassar moved the passage and adoption of Works Board Order No. 2012-15. Councilor Kuiper seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The works board order was adopted.

**TOWN OF HIGHLAND
WORKS BOARD ORDER NO. 2012-15**

AN ORDER CONFIRMING THE SPECIAL MUNICIPAL GENERAL IMPROVEMENT FUND SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLLS FOR PROPERTY OWNERS BENEFITTING FROM THE GARFIELD AVENUE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

WHEREAS, On April 23, 2012, the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Indiana, adopted Order of the Works Board No. 2012-13 entitled "A Preliminary Order Adopting and Approving Municipal General Improvement Fund Special Assessment Rolls for Property Owners Benefiting from the Garfield Avenue Reconstruction Project", a copy is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, The Town Council has held a public hearing, after publication of notice as required by law, and has received and heard all remonstrance from owners of property described in the notice regarding Works Board Order No. 2012-13; and

WHEREAS, The Town Council now desires to confirm Works Board Order No. 2012-13.

NOW, THEREFORE, Be it ordered by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, as follows:

Section 1. That the Town Council hereby confirms Works Board Order No. 2012-12;

Section 2. That the Town Council hereby sustains the presumptive assessments a indicated on the Assessment Roll by confirming the presumptive assessment against each of the properties described in the Assessment Roll, which confirmation is based upon this Town Council's findings concerning the special benefits that each property has received or will receive on account of the Improvements (as defined in Works Board Order No. 2012-12);

Section 3. That the Town Council hereby directs that the Assessment Roll be delivered to the Clerk Treasurer, and that upon completion of the Improvements, the final Assessment Roll for the Improvements be delivered to the Clerk Treasurer for notification to each affected person and collection of the special assessments;

Section 4. That the Town Council hereby determines that owners of properties described in the Assessment Roll may pay such assessments in annual installments over a period of 4 years, with interest accruing on such unpaid portions at an interest rate of 7.5% per annum, and also approves the substantially final form of Waiver Agreement attached hereto as **Exhibit "B"**, to be entered into by the Town and each owner of property desiring to pay the assessments in annual installments.

Be it So Ordered.

Duly adopted by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, this 14th day of May 14, 2012, by a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF
HIGHLAND, INDIANA

Bernie Zemen, President

Attest:

Michael W. Griffin, IAMC/MMC/CPFA
Clerk-Treasurer

EXHIBIT B
WAIVER AGREEMENT

This Waiver Agreement (the "Agreement") is made and entered into as of the ___ day of _____, 2012 by and between the Town of Highland, Indiana (the Town) and _____, the owner of certain property located within the corporate limits of the Town of Highland, Indiana, (the Property Owner), and witnesses that:

WHEREAS, the Town has completed certain improvements, including reconstruction of curbs and sidewalks (the "Improvement"), affecting and benefitting certain property owned by the Property Owner; and

WHEREAS, the Town has determined to pay for the cost of the Improvement through its Municipal General Improvement Fund and the collection of special assessments to be levied against each property owner benefitting from such Improvement; and

WHEREAS, the Town has adopted an assessment roll which sets forth the amounts of the assessment for each parcel of property benefitting by the Improvement; and

WHEREAS, the Town has determined to permit owners of _____ property benefitting by the Improvement, to pay the assessment ~~in annual installments~~, with interest to accrue at a rate of _____ per annum; and

WHEREAS, Property Owner has determined to pay the assessment by installments, and pursuant to Indiana Code 36-9-36 must enter into a written agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Town and the Property Owner each desire to enter into this Waiver Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, in the consideration of the foregoing premises and the mutual covenants and agreements contained herein, the Town and Property Owner agree as follows:

Section 1. Payments in Installments. The Property Owner acknowledges and agrees to pay the total assessment relating to the Improvement benefitting property owned by Property Owner in the amount of \$. Property Owner further agrees to pay such assessment in 4 annual installments of \$ _____ interest at 7% per annum) plus interest.

Section 2. Waiver. Pursuant to Indiana Code 36-9-36, Property Owner agrees that in consideration of the privilege of paying the assessment in annual installments, Property Owner shall not make any objection to any illegality or irregularity regarding the assessment against Property Owner's property, and shall pay the assessment as required by law with specified interest, as set forth above in Section 1.

Exhibit "B"

Section 3. Applicable Laws. This Waiver Agreement is being entered into pursuant to the provisions of Indiana Code 36-9-36, and the Town and the Property Owner agree that all applicable provisions of Indiana law shall apply, including provisions relating to liens on property subject to assessment and foreclosure to enforce any such lien in the event of default in the payment of the assessment or any installment thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this agreement as of the day and year first written above.

3. **Executive Proclamation:** A Proclamation in Recognition of May 12, 2012 as Fibromyalgia Awareness Day in the Town of Highland. The Clerk-Treasurer read aloud the enrolled proclamation, which the Town Council President adopted with his signature.

TOWN OF HIGHLAND
PROCLAMATION OF the TOWN EXECUTIVE

A PROCLAMATION IN RECOGNITION OF MAY 12, 2012 AS FIBROMYALGIA AWARENESS DAY

WHEREAS, An estimated 10 million people in the United States and millions of people worldwide have been diagnosed with fibromyalgia, a disease for which there is no known cause or cure; and

WHEREAS, It often takes an average of five years to receive a diagnosis of fibromyalgia, and medical professionals frequently are inadequately educated on the diagnosis and treatment of fibromyalgia; and

WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia is a chronic pain disorder—becoming an increasingly common diagnosis and taking a toll emotionally, financially and socially on patients, their family, friends, co-workers and community; and

WHEREAS Fibromyalgia is life-altering, preventing patients from contributing to society at the level they once did because of a myriad of symptoms that can come and go unpredictably and vary in severity; and

WHEREAS, People with fibromyalgia are never completely symptom-free; they are always in pain; this pain impacts every area of their life and others must step up to fill in the voids left when all the patients' efforts are focused on just getting through the day, showing just how much fibromyalgia truly hurts everyone; and

WHEREAS, The chronically ill place a larger burden on the health care and insurance industries and businesses that must cover the costly expenses associated with their treatment, medications and sometimes hospitalizations; and

WHEREAS, Society as a whole is also impacted when patients are physically unable to work and must depend on government assistance to survive; and

WHEREAS, Increased awareness and expanded knowledge of the realities of life with fibromyalgia will allow the community at large to better support patients and their family, friends, co-workers and employers who struggle with the challenges of this chronic pain disorder; and

WHEREAS, Fibromites Unite, the National Fibromyalgia & Chronic Pain Association, the Fibromyalgia Network, and other groups around our country have joined to promote fibromyalgia awareness and support - including improved education, diagnosis, research, and treatment,

Now, Therefore, I, Bernie Zemen, by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, now hereby proclaim May 12, 2012, as **Fibromyalgia Awareness Day** in the Town of Highland;

Be it Further Proclaimed, That the citizens of Highland are hereby encouraged to support the search for a cure and assist those individuals and families who deal with this devastating disorder on a daily basis.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Corporate Seal to be affixed at the Highland Municipal Building this 14th day of May in the year, 2012.

TOWN of HIGHLAND, INDIANA
BY ITS TOWN COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Bernie Zemen

Attest:

Michael W. Griffin, IAMC/MMC/CPFA
Clerk-Treasurer

Staff Reports:

Parks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fire	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Police	0	4	3	0	0	0	0
Street	1	1	5	0	0	2	0
Water & Sewer	0	0	4	0	0	4	77
Maint.	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	1	6	16	0	0	7	77

Effective January 1, 2002, OSHA changed the record keeping guidelines. The municipality now counts the number of days lost from the day after the injury until the employee returns to work. Weekend, holidays, vacation days or other days scheduled off are included in the lost days count to a maximum of 180 days.

Unfinished Business and General Orders:

- Resolution No. 2012-21:** An Exigent Resolution Providing For The Transfer of Appropriation Balances From And Among Major Budget Classifications In The **Municipal Cumulative Capital Development 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 Vassar moved and Councilor Novak seconded the passage and adoption of Resolution No. 2012-21. Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The Resolution was adopted.

**TOWN OF HIGHLAND
 APPROPRIATION TRANSFER RESOLUTION
 RESOLUTION NO. 2012-21**

AN EXIGENT RESOLUTION PROVIDING for the TRANSFER of APPROPRIATION BALANCES from and AMONG MAJOR BUDGET CLASSIFICATIONS in the MUNICIPAL CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT 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 **Municipal Cumulative Capital Development 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 **Municipal Cumulative Capital Development 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:

MUNICIPAL CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Reduce Account: #430.12 Police Vehicles	<u>\$3,695.75</u>
<i>Total 400 Series Reductions</i>	\$3,695.75
Increase Account: #220.04 PD Vehicle Parts & Supplies	<u>\$3,695.75</u>
<i>Total 200 Series Increases</i>	\$3,695.75
Total of All Fund Decreases:	\$3,695.75

Total of All Fund Increases: \$3,695.75

DULY RESOLVED and ADOPTED this 14th Day of May 2012 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:

Michael W. Griffin, IAMC/MMC/CPFA
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-16-4-1; IC 36-5-6-5)

2. Resolution No. 2012-22: A Resolution Authorizing the Town of Highland, Indiana to Enter into an Agreement with the County of Lake, Indiana in Undertaking Community Development Activities.

Councilor Novak moved and Councilor Vassar seconded the passage and adoption of Resolution No. 2012-22. Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The Resolution was adopted.

Town of Highland
TOWN COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 2012-22

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING the TOWN of HIGHLAND, INDIANA to ENTER INTO an AGREEMENT with the COUNTY of LAKE, INDIANA in UNDERTAKING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Whereas, The Town of Highland, Indiana is interested in a program of Community Development; and

Whereas, It is necessary for the Town of Highland, to obtain funds to achieve such goals and objectives as provided by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended; and

Whereas, Said Act encourages municipalities to enter into Cooperation Agreements with the County regarding said Act; and

Whereas, The County of Lake has expressed its desire to qualify as an Urban County under the provisions of the aforesaid Act;

NOW, THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, County of Lake, Indiana as follows:

Section 1. That the cooperation agreement for the purpose of undertaking essential community development activities as a participating unit of general local government for a term of three (3) years covering the **Federal fiscal years 2013, 2014 and 2015**, by and between the County of Lake, State of Indiana through its Board of Commissioners and the Town of Highland, by its Town Council is hereby approved in each and every respect;

Section 2. That the President of the Town Council is hereby authorized and directed to evidence this approval by entering into the agreement with the County of Lake, State of Indiana, for the purpose of undertaking essential community development activities as a participating unit of general local government, a copy of which Agreement is attached hereto, incorporated herein by reference and identified as "Exhibit A".

Passed and Duly Adopted by the Town Council, Lake County, Indiana this 14th day of May 2012. Having been approved 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:

Michael W. Griffin, IAMC/MMC/CPFA
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-16-4-1;IC 36-5-6-5)

3. **Works Board Order No. 2012-16:** An Order Approving and Re-Authorizing the Entry into a Service Agreement with SBC doing business as AT&T for Advanced Centrex Services, under §31.22 of the Municipal Code, for a period of 36 months.
4. **Works Board Order No. 2012-17:** An Order Approving and Authorizing the Entry into a Service Agreement with AT&T for Certain Telecommunications and Broadband Services, under §31.22 of the Municipal Code, for a period of 60 Months.

Councilor Novak moved and Councilor Kuiper seconded to delay consideration of Works Board Orders No. 2012-16 and 2012-17 to instruct the IT Director to return to AT&T and seek to modify the terms to 24 months with the same rates as set forth for 36 months, the proposed term in each agreement. Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The consideration of the works board orders was delayed.

5. **Works Board Order No. 2012-18:** An Order Approving, and Authorizing an Indemnity Agreement and associated Wage reimbursement between the Town of Highland and Cindy Reno of the Metropolitan Police Department.

Councilor Kuiper moved and Councilor Herak seconded the passage and adoption of Works Board Order No. 2012-18. Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The order was adopted.

**Town of Highland
Board of Works
Order of the Works Board 2012-18**

AN ORDER APPROVING, AND AUTHORIZING AN INDEMNITY AGREEMENT AND ASSOCIATED WAGE REIMBURSEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND AND CINDY RENO OF THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT.

WHEREAS, Title 36, Article 1 Chapter 4 of the Indiana Code confers certain general corporate powers on the several units of government in Indiana;

WHEREAS, Section fifteen of that chapter specifically provides that a unit of government may fix the level of compensation of its officers and employees; and

WHEREAS, I.C. 36-5-3-2 further provides in pertinent part that the town legislative body shall provide reasonable compensation for the other town officers and employees, and to this end, the Town legislative body has passed and adopted wage and salary ordinances from time to time;

WHEREAS, Section 2, subsections a through c in relevant versions of the wage and salary ordinance provide for departmental reporting of wage and hour changes, however, during a routine review, it was determined that a worker's required pay rate had not been filed and reported, presenting an underpayment, with particulars set forth in Exhibit of the accompanying Indemnity Agreement; and

WHEREAS, The Town Council now desires to approve and authorize a indemnity agreement, and reconcile wage underpayment,

Now Therefore Be it Ordered by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, acting as the Works Board of Municipality:

Section 1. That the Works Board hereby finds and determines that the term and provisions of the indemnity agreement reasonable and approved in each and every respect (Agreement affixed as an exhibit to this order);

Section 2. That the Works Board further hereby finds and determines that the identified sum for reimbursement to the indemnitor to be correct and in accordance with the terms of the wage and salary ordinances then in effect;

Section 3. That the proper officers are now authorized and approved to execute the indemnity agreement, that the Metropolitan Police Chief to identify proper resources to support the purposes of the agreement and that the Clerk-Treasurer be authorized to make payment according to the terms this agreement and finally, filing a copy of this agreement as financial materials with the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer, pursuant to IC 36-5-4-14;

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 14th day of May 2012 having 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:

Michael W. Griffin, IAMC/MMC/CPFA
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-16-4-1; IC 36-5-6-5)

6. Action to approve appointment or employment of full-time employee, pursuant to Section §3.03 of the Compensation and Benefits Ordinance.

(a) The Public Works Director recommends for hire Richard Benda for employment in the full-time position of Mechanic.

Councilor Vassar moved and Councilor Kuiper seconded the approval of the hiring of **Richard Benda** as recommended by the full-time position of Mechanic in the Public Works Department. Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. Richard Benda was hired.

7. Authorize the proper officer to publish a notice for proposed additional appropriations in the Special Public Safety Fund in the Amount of \$1,711.50 and in the General Improvement Fund in the amount of \$4,000.

Councilor Kuiper moved and Councilor Novak seconded to authorize the proper officer to publish as indicated . Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The publication of legal notice was approved.

8. Action to cancel the plenary business meeting of the Town Council of Monday, May 28, 2012, pursuant to HMC §30.27 (C).

Councilor Kuiper moved, seconded by Councilor Vassar to cancel the standing meeting of May 28, 2012 in order to honor the Memorial Day Holiday. Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The meeting was cancelled.

Comments from the Town Council Members
(For the Good of the Order)

- **Councilor Mark Herak:** *Park and Recreation Board Liaison • Budget and Finance Chair • Liaison to the Board of Sanitary Commissioners • Liaison to the Community Events Commission • Liaison to the Park and Recreation Board.*

Councilor Herak reported that the Lincoln Community Center parking lot is nearing completion.

Councilor Herak recognized the Public Works Director who offered a brief survey of Sanitary Board projects.

- **Councilor Dan Vassar:** *Redevelopment Commission Liaison.*

Councilor Vassar recognized the Redevelopment Director who offered a cursory overview of on-going redevelopment activities and reminded all of the forthcoming meeting of the Redevelopment Commission.

Councilor Vassar also inquired as the status of a local roads and streets paving schedule.

- **Councilor Konnie Kuiper:** *Fire Department, Liaison • Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners Liaison • Chamber of Commerce Liaison.*

Councilor Kuiper recognized the Fire Chief who offered a brief survey of departmental activity.

- **Councilor Brian Novak:** *Advisory Board of Zoning Appeals, Liaison.*

Councilor Novak acknowledged the Metropolitan Police Chief who offered a brief cursory survey of Traffic Safety Commission matters.

Councilor Novak acknowledged the Building Commissioner who reported on matters pending before the Advisory Board of Zoning Appeals.

- **Councilor Bernie Zemen:** *Town Executive • Chamber of Commerce Liaison • Police Pension Board Chairman • Plan Commission member • Liaison to the Board of Waterworks Directors.*

Council President Zemen acknowledged the Building Commissioner who reported on matters pending before the Plan Commission.

Comments from the Public or Visitors

1. Larry Wolendowski, 8341 Delaware Place, Highland complained about the increase he discerned to his property taxes. It was noted that property tax bills had been sent recently by the County Treasurer. Mr. Wolendowski represented that his property taxes rose 20%.

With leave from the Town Council and at its invitation, the Clerk-Treasurer offered a brief survey of elements that contributed to increases to many Highland taxpayers' property tax bills. It was noted that the assessed valuation dropped slightly from the prior year. Further property tax levies imposed to repay the

bonds of the municipal corporation and the Sanitary District were having an impact.

2. Rick Volbrecht, 9221 Parkway Drive, Highland, represented that the assessed valuation of his residence had actually declined from the prior year. He further represented that his property taxes increased by 7.9 %.

Mr. Volbrecht further referenced a published account in which the Town Council President reportedly stated that he expected plans for the construction of a new public safety facility to host the metropolitan police and the fire departments, would move forward in 2012. Mr. Volbrecht expressed concerns for moving forward based upon the current experience of tax increases and further expressed concerns regarding the costs for such a project.

3. Alice Gonzales, 3739 Wicker Avenue, Highland, reported that the Sabor Restaurant located on 45th Avenue in Highland, would be soon hosting a charity event and inquired about promoting the charity on the sign at the Main Square Park to promote the event.
4. Mark Harrison, 3428 42nd Place, Highland, commented about a code enforcement action involving his trailer and that a notification affixed to the trailer with an adhesive required him to buff out the spot where the citation was placed.

Mr. Harrison also inquired whether any demolition or some other action would be brought to bear on the building that hosted the former Chela's Restaurant. It is noted that the building, located on 45th Avenue, has fallen into disrepair . The Building Commissioner indicated that an unsafe building proceeding to address the building is being explored.

Payment of Accounts Payable Vouchers. Councilor Kuiper moved to allow the vendors accounts payable vouchers as filed on the pending accounts payable docket, covering the period April 24, 2012 through May 14, 2012. Councilor Vassar seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The accounts payable vouchers for vendors were allowed and the Clerk-Treasurer was authorized to make payment.

Vendors Accounts Payable Docket:

General Fund, \$308,745.24; Motor Vehicle Highway and Street (MVH) Fund, \$21,177.54; Local Roads and Streets Fund, \$9,003.52; Law Enforcement Cont. Education and Supply Fund, \$2,414.45; Capital Projects Retainage Agency Fund, \$72,805.95; FSA Agency Fund, \$1,700.55; Insurance Agency Fund, \$144,765.76; Information and Communications Technology Fund, \$5,934.59; Special Events Non Reverting Fund, \$474.10; Municipal Cumulative Capital Development Fund, \$128,806.86; Traffic Violations and Law Enforcement Agency Fund, \$7,486.50; Safe Neighborhood Grant Fund, \$2,016.00; Sexual Predator Grant Fund, \$3,721.51; Payroll Fund, \$2.89. Total: \$191,726.60.

Adjournment. Councilor Vassar moved that the plenary meeting be adjourned. Councilor Novak seconded. Upon a vote *viva voce*, the motion passed. The regular plenary meeting of the Town Council of Monday, May 14, 2012 was adjourned at 8:03 O'clock p.m. There was no study session following the plenary meeting.

Michael W. Griffin, IAMC/MMC/CPFA
Clerk-Treasurer