

**Enrolled Minutes of the One-Hundred-Second Regular Meeting or Special Meeting
For the Twenty-Ninth Highland Town Council Regular Plenary
Business Meeting (Electronic/In person Hybrid) Monday, September 25, 2023**

The Twenty-Ninth Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana met in its regular plenary session on Monday, September 25, 2023 at 6:30 O'clock P.M. in the regular place, the Highland Municipal Building, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland, Indiana.

*This meeting was convened as both an in person and an electronic meeting. Some persons were participating remotely on a Zoom platform that allowed for real time interaction, and supported the public's ability to observe and record the proceedings. People were able to participate in person and remotely. When the agenda item provided for public comment, this was supported as well. Councilor Bernie Zemen, Councilor Toya Smith, Councilor Mark Schocke, Councilor Tom Black and Councilor Philip Scheeringa all participated in person.

Pursuant to HMC Section 2.05.130(A)(2), the Town Council considered and reviewed the agenda in an informal proceeding in the plenary meeting room before the president called the meeting to order.

The Town Council President Tom Black presided over the meeting. The Town Clerk-Treasurer, Mark Herak, was present to memorialize the proceedings. The meeting was opened with Councilor Mark Schocke 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 Bernie Zemen, Toya Smith, Mark J. Schocke, Thomas Black, Philip Scheeringa were present. Clerk-Treasurer, Mark Herak was also present. A quorum was attained.

Additional Officials Present: Dave Byers, Park and Recreation Director; Mark Knesek, Public Works Director; Metropolitan Police Chief Ralph Potesta; Kenneth J. Mika, Building Commissioner; Redevelopment Director Maria Becerra; Mike Pipta, Fire Chief and Ed Dabrowski, Director of Information Technology were present. John Reed, Attorney with Abrahamson, Reed & Bilse was remote.

Guests: Theresa Badovich (remotely) and Robin Carlascio (remotely) of the Idea Factory were also present.

Minutes of the Previous Meetings: The minutes of the September 11, 2023 Plenary meeting were approved by general consent.

Special Orders:

1. **Consideration of Proposed Additional Appropriations:** (*controlled funds*) Proposed Additional Appropriations in Excess of the 2023 Budget in the Corporation General Fund in the amount of \$43,000,

(a) Attorney verification of Proofs of Publication: The TIMES 15th September 2023.

THE TIMES | **ow**
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AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

Northwest Indiana Times
601 W. 45th Ave.
(219) 933-3333

I, Stefan Edward Pla, of lawful age, being duly sworn upon oath depose and say that I am an agent of Column Software, PBC, duly appointed and authorized agent of the Publisher of Northwest Indiana Times, a publication that is a "legal newspaper" as that phrase is defined for the city of Munster, for the County of Lake, in the state of Indiana, that this affidavit is Page 1 of 2 with the full text of the sworn-to notice set forth on the pages that follow, and that the attachment hereto contains the correct copy of what was published in said legal newspaper in consecutive issues on the following dates:

PUBLICATION DATES:
14 Sep 2023

Notice ID: YEvU5NYCmEFWjE0UBWH
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Stefan Pla

Agent

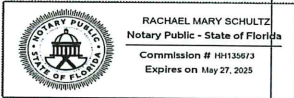
VERIFICATION

State of Florida
County of Charlotte

Signed or attested before me on this: 09/14/2023

Rachael Mary Schultz

Notary Public
Notarized Online using audio-video communication



See Proof on Next Page

TOWN OF HIGHLAND
NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF PROPOSED ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

Notice is hereby given the taxpayers of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, that the Town Council of said Municipality in said Municipal Building, 3333 Ridge Road, at 6:30 p.m. on the 25th day of September 2023, will consider the following additional appropriations in excess of the budget for the current year in the following funds:

Corporation General Fund	
Acct. 1101-0009-11147 Interim Fire Chief Stipend	\$ 8,000.00
Total 100 Series:	\$ 8,000.00
Acct. 1101-0009-11130 PD Sworn Overtime	\$25,000
Total 100 Series	\$25,000
Total 100 Series	\$33,000
Acct. 1101-0000-38613 Baby Box	\$ 10,000.00
Total 300 Series:	\$ 10,000
TOTAL for the FUND:	\$ 43,000.00

Funds to support these additional appropriations in the Corporation General Fund shall be supported by miscellaneous revenue, unreserved unobligated fund balance on deposit to the credit of the fund. Taxpayers appearing at such meeting shall have a right to be heard thereon. Taxpayers are asked to contact the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer at (219) 838-1080 to provide an email address to allow the zoom platform information to be provided as the meeting is still being conducted as an Electronic/In Person Hybrid. You may also write to the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer if you have concerns. The additional appropriations, as finally made, will be filed with the Department of Local Government Finance, for its review. The Department of Local Government Finance shall make a written determination of the sufficiency of funds within fifteen days of receipt of a certified copy of the action taken.

TOWN COUNCIL OF HIGHLAND
 Tom Black, President
 By: Mark Henak Clerk-Treasurer
 9/14 - 44456

HSPAXLP

(b) **Public Hearing.** no comments from the public or visitors

(c) **Action on Proposed Appropriation Enactment No. 2023-23:** An Enactment Appropriating Additional Moneys in Excess of the Annual Budget for the **Corporation General Fund**, all pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-18, and I.C. 36-5-3-5

Councilor Zemen introduced and moved for the consideration of Enactment No. 2023-23 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Schocke seconded. Upon a roll call vote, a unanimous vote being necessary, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The enactment could be considered at the same meeting of its introduction.

Councilor Zemen moved for the passage adoption of Enactment No. 2023-23 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Smith seconded. Upon a roll call vote, a two-thirds vote being necessary, there were five (5) affirmatives and no (0) negatives.

The motion passed. The enactment was passed and adopted upon the signature of the municipal executive at the same meeting of its introduction.

**Town of Highland
Appropriation Enactment
Enactment No. 2023-23**

AN ENACTMENT APPROPRIATING ADDITIONAL MONIES IN EXCESS OF THE ANNUAL BUDGET for the CORPORATION GENERAL FUND, ALL PURSUANT TO I.C. 6-1.1-18, and I.C. 36-5-3-5.

WHEREAS, Following a public hearing advertised pursuant to I.C. 5-3-1, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget for the **Corporation General,**

WHEREAS, It has been determined that such additional appropriations as may be approved by this enactment, will not increase the levies set under I.C. 6-1.1-17, all pursuant to I.C. 36-5-3-5;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED 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 additional sums of money are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the **Corporation General Fund** herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

CORPORATION GENERAL FUND

Acct. No. 1101-0007-11147 Interim Fire Chief Stipend	\$8,000.00
Acct. No. 1101-0009-11130 PD Sworn Overtime	\$25,000.00
<i>Total 100 Series:</i>	\$33,000.00
Acct. No. 1101-0000-38613 Baby Box	\$10,000.00
<i>Total 300 Series:</i>	\$10,000.00
Fund Total:	\$43,000.00

Section 2. That the Clerk-Treasurer is hereby authorized and instructed to inform the Department of Local Government Finance of this action and that these monies be made available for expenditure pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-18.

Section 3. That in satisfaction and for the purposes of the provisions set out in I.C. 36-5-2-9.6, I.C. 36-5-3-5, I.C. 36-5-4-2, this enactment shall be deemed properly filed and introduced before the Town Council at a regular or special meeting, properly called and convened pursuant to I.C. 5-1.5-14 *et seq.*

Introduced and Filed on 25th day of September 2023. Consideration on same day or at same meeting of introduction sustained a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed, pursuant to IC 36-5-2-9.8.

DULY ORDAINED AND ADOPTED this 25th Day of September 2023, 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

Tom Black, President (IC 36-5-2-10)

ATTEST:

Mark Herak
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-42-4-1; IC 36-5-6-5)

Comments from the Public or Visitors: None

Communications:

Highland Fire Department Open House & Car Show on Saturday, October 7, 2023 from 10:00 o'clock a.m. to 3:00 o'clock p.m.

Highland Main Street Makers Market on Saturday, October 7, 2023 from 10:00 o'clock a.m. to 3:00 o'clock p.m.

Staff Reports: none filed

Appointments:

• **Statutory Boards and Commissions**

Executive Appointments

1. **Economic Development Commission.** (1) Appointment to be made by the municipal executive, but requiring nomination from the Town Council. Term ends just before February 1st. *(Currently the position is vacant)*
 - a. Nomination by the Town Council. *(The council would pass a motion to nominate.)*
 - b. Appointment by executive. *(If nominee is acceptable, the Town Council President may appoint.)*

The Town Council President, as municipal executive, said he would delay this appointment until a later date.

Home Rule Boards and Commissions

2. **Community Events Commission** *Multi-Year position.* (1) appointment to be made by the Town Council President. **Term: 4 years.** *(Positions currently held by Jacqui Herrera and Sandy McKnight)*
3. • **Tree Board:** (1) appointments, to be made by the municipal executive, but requiring nomination from the Town Council. *(Position currently vacant.)*
 - a. Nomination by the Town Council. *(The council would pass a motion to nominate.)*
 - b. Appointment by executive. *(If nominee is acceptable, the Town Council President may appoint.)*

Councilor Zemen moved to nominate **Mary Ann Brunt**. Councilor Smith seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were four affirmatives and one negative, with Councilors Zemen, Smith, Scheeringa and Black voting in the affirmative and Councilor Schocke voting in the negative. Mary Ann Brunt was nominated to the Town Council President for appointment.

The Town Council President accepted the nomination and appointed **Mary Ann Brunt**, 2231 Oakdale Street, Highland to the Tree Board.



Town of Highland Board or Commission
Candidate Information and Application

Please return completed form to Office of the Clerk-Treasurer

Name: MARY ANN BRUNT
Home address: 2231 OAKDALE ST. HIGHLAND
Telephone Number (Home): 219 838 1522 (unlisted, please leave blank)
Alternative Number: 219 477 7712
Home-mail address: mabrunt5900@gmail.com
Work e-mail address: _____
Vocation: _____
Business Name: _____
Business Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

If applicable, please indicate who referred you: Connie Wacholc - Highland Neighbors for Sustainability
Indicate the Board or Commission in which you are interested in serving:
(You may indicate more than one)

- Advisory Board of Zoning Appeals
Members of a BZA may not hold other elective or appointive office in municipal, county or state government, except as permitted by I.C. 36-7-4-902. Member must be a resident
- Board of Sanitary Commissioners
Silent on qualifications

Please provide a brief written statement regarding why you wish to serve on the commission or board you have checked above. You may attach added paper if needed. Further, you may attach a resume.

I am very concerned about climate change & I know the important role trees play in the environment. The town has lost too many trees to age, drought, disease, insects, lazy homeowners & unnecessary destruction by utility companies. We must replant.

Do you know of any reason why you may not be able to be covered by a surety bond?

Yes

No

Please provide a list of previous or present involvement or service in the Town of Highland or elsewhere.

I was very involved in all the Highland schools - OTC, & supportive parent for all activities my son likes partake in. I'm a member at Highland Neighbors for Sustainability & I'm spearheading an effort to reach out to all Highland schools.

Please return your completed Application (pages 1-3) to the Town of Highland, Office of the Clerk-Treasurer • 3333 Ridge Road • Highland, Indiana 46322. E-mail: mgriffin@highland.in.gov

4. **Municipal Plan Commission** (1) (vacancy) appointment to be made by Town Council President. (Note: Unexpired term of Hunter Balczo, Esq., (D), term ending 1st Monday January 2025) No more than two of any party. Current composition is 2 Republicans, 1 Democrat.

Council President Black said he would not make the appointment but rather let the new Council make the appointment.

5. **Redevelopment Commission:** (1) appointment to be made by Town Council President. (Note: vacancy created by the resignation of Bill Leep – term expires 1st Monday in 2024)

Council President Black said he would not make the appointment but rather let the new Council make the appointment.

Legislative Appointments

Regional Statutory Commissions or Boards

Home Rule Commissions

1. **Main Street Bureau Board:** (17) appointments to be made by the Town Council. Term: Two years ending 1 Jan 2025. *There are currently 11 of the 17 in place and serving. Currently serving are Rhonda Bloch, Teri Yovkovich, Renee Reinhart, Alex Robertson, Diane Barr-Roumbus, James Roumbus, Sandy McKnight, Al Simmons, Ben Reinhart, Sandy Ray and Kathy Smallis.*
2. **Community Events Commission Multi-year positions:** (4) appointments to be made by the Town Council. **Term: 4 years.** *(Note: Currently vacant)*

Single year positions: (8) appointments to be made by the Town Council. **Term: 1 year.** *(Note: There are currently 7 of the 8 in place and serving, Jack Rowe, Carol Parker, Maria Armagast, Michelle Coon, Linda Carter, Rachael Carter, Erica Fizer Katsepas)*

The Town Council President, as municipal executive, said he would delay appointments until a later date.

General Orders and Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

1. **Authorization for Public Purchase or Reimbursement per HMC Section 2.35.030:** To purchase or reimbursement with municipal funds of three (3) polo style shirts with the proper municipal logo or other shirts possessing the proper logo, two (2) shirts for Councilor Scheeringa and one (1) shirt for Councilor Smith, to be paid or reimbursed by municipal funds.

Councilor Schocke moved to authorize for Town Councilor Scheeringa to obtain (2) polo style or other shirts possessing the proper municipal logo and Councilor Smith to obtain (1) polo style or other shirt possessing the proper municipal logo to be paid or reimbursed by municipal public funds. Councilor Zemen seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five (5) affirmatives and no negatives. The motion to purchase or reimburse with municipal funds of polo shirts for Councilor Scheeringa and Smith passes.

2. **Pre-Adoption Hearing of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Budget for the Town of Highland.**

- (a) Acknowledgement of Publication: *(Under current law, no publication by unit just by Department of Local Government Finance online Gateway. The proposed components of budget must be submitted to the Gateway at least 10 days before the Preliminary Hearing. The proposed budget notice was filed with the Gateway on September 15, 2023) (See IC 6-1.1-17-3)*
- (b) Introduction of Proposed Ordinance No. 1788: An Ordinance of Appropriations and Budget Levies and Rates for the 2024 Budget of the Civil Town. Councilor Smith introduced and filed the proposed Ordinance 1788. There was no further action to I.C. 6-1.1-17-3(a); I.C. 6-1.1-17-5(a)(8) and I.C. 36-5-3-4.

ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RATES

State Form 55865 (7-15)
Approved by the State Board of Accounts, 2015
Prescribed by the Department of Local Government Finance

Budget Form No. 4
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Ordinance / Resolution Number: 1788

Be it ordained/resolved by the Town Council of the Town of Highland that for the expenses of HIGHLAND CIVIL TOWN for the year ending December 31, 2024 the sums herein specified are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same. Such sums herein appropriated shall be held to include all expenditures authorized to be made during the year, unless otherwise expressly stipulated and provided for by law. In addition, for the purposes of raising revenue to meet the necessary expenses of HIGHLAND CIVIL TOWN, the property tax levies and property tax rates as herein specified are included herein. Budget Form 4-B for all funds must be completed and submitted in the manner prescribed by the Department of Local Government Finance.

This ordinance/resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval by the Town Council of the Town of Highland.

Name of Adopting Entity / Fiscal Body	Type of Adopting Entity / Fiscal Body	Date of Adoption
Town Council of the Town of Highland	Town Council	10/23/2023

Funds				
Fund Code	Fund Name	Adopted Budget	Adopted Tax Levy	Adopted Tax Rate
0101	GENERAL	\$9,722,063	\$6,800,000	0.4484
0180	DEBT SERVICE	\$752,000	\$853,339	0.0563
0254	LOCAL INCOME TAX	\$642,750	\$0	0.0000
0342	POLICE PENSION	\$845,790	\$1,550	0.0001
0706	LOCAL ROAD & STREET	\$438,827	\$0	0.0000
0708	MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY	\$1,110,254	\$0	0.0000
1151	CONTINUING EDUCATION	\$49,500	\$0	0.0000
1301	PARK & RECREATION	\$2,895,573	\$1,405,000	0.0926
1380	PARK BOND	\$1,396,468	\$1,248,624	0.0823
2379	CUMULATIVE CAPITAL IMP (CIG TAX)	\$65,000	\$0	0.0000
2391	CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT	\$539,000	\$703,686	0.0464
2411	ECONOMIC DEV INCOME TAX CREDIT	\$630,000	\$0	0.0000
2430	REDEVELOPMENT - GENERAL	\$363,455	\$330,000	0.0218
2482	REDEVELOPMENT BOND	\$106,663	\$0	0.0000
6421	DISTRICT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT	\$192,725	\$0	0.0000
		\$19,750,068	\$11,342,199	0.7479

Home-Ruled Funds (Not Reviewed by DLGF)		
Fund Code	Fund Name	Adopted Budget
9500	Information & Communication Technology Fund	\$381,454
9501	VIPS/Park Public Safety Fund	\$6,000
9502	Special Events Non-Reverting	\$132,850
		\$520,304

ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RATES

State Form 55865 (7-15)
Approved by the State Board of Accounts, 2015
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Budget Form No. 4
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Name		Signature
Tom Black	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Bernie Zemen	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Toya Smith	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Mark Schocke	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Philip Scheeringa	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	

ATTEST

Name	Title	Signature
Mark Herak	Clerk-Treasurer	

MAYOR ACTION (For City use only)

Name		Signature	Date
	Approve <input type="checkbox"/> Veto <input type="checkbox"/>		

In accordance with IC 6-1.1-17-16(k), we state our intent to issue debt after December 1 and before January 1 Yes No

In accordance with IC 6-1.1-17-16(k), we state our intent to file a shortfall appeal after December 1 and before December 31 Yes No

(c) Public Hearing. The Town Council President called the hearing to order. There was no public comment either in person or on line.

Pursuant to IC 6-1.1-17 et seq., consideration of the proposed ordinance for adoption cannot take place sooner than ten (10) days following the pre-adoption hearing. Consideration for passage and adoption of the Proposed Ordinance will be at the regular meeting of the Town Council, Monday, October 23, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

3. Pre-Adoption Hearing of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Budget of the Sanitary District, pursuant to IC 6-1.1-17-20. Under amendments to IC 6-1.1-17-20, the proper officers shall submit the proposed budget and property tax levies to the municipal fiscal body. The fiscal body of the city, town, or county (whichever applies) shall review each budget and proposed tax levy and adopt a final budget and tax levy for the taxing unit. The fiscal body may reduce or modify but not increase the proposed budget or tax levy. The final adoption vests with the Town Council. The Town Council should take its final action at its meeting of October 23, 2023.

- (a) Acknowledgement of Publication: *(Under current law, no publication by unit just by Department of Local Government Finance online Gateway. The proposed components of budget must be submitted to the Gateway at least 10 days before the Preliminary Hearing. The proposed budget notice was filed with the Gateway on September 15, 2023). (See IC 6-1.1-17-3)*

- (b) Introduction of Proposed Ordinance No. 1789: An Ordinance of Appropriations and Budget Levies and Rates for the 2024 Budget of the Sanitary District. Councilor Smith introduced and filed the proposed Ordinance 1789. There was no further action to I.C. 6-1.1-17-3(a); I.C. 6-1.1-17-5(a)(8) and I.C. 36-5-3-4.

ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RATES

State Form 55965 (7-16)
 Approved by the State Board of Accounts, 2015
 Prescribed by the Department of Local Government Finance

Budget Form No. 4
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Ordinance / Resolution Number: 1789

Be it ordained/resolved by the **Town Council of the Town of Highland** that for the expenses of **HIGHLAND SANITARY DISTRICT** for the year ending December 31, **2024** the sums herein specified are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same. Such sums herein appropriated shall be held to include all expenditures authorized to be made during the year, unless otherwise expressly stipulated and provided for by law. In addition, for the purposes of raising revenue to meet the necessary expenses of **HIGHLAND SANITARY DISTRICT**, the property tax levies and property tax rates as herein specified are included herein. Budget Form 4-B for all funds must be completed and submitted in the manner prescribed by the Department of Local Government Finance.

This ordinance/resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval by the **Town Council of the Town of Highland**.

Name of Adopting Entity / Fiscal Body	Type of Adopting Entity / Fiscal Body	Date of Adoption
Town Council of the Town of Highland	Town Council	10/23/2023

Funds				
Fund Code	Fund Name	Adopted Budget	Adopted Tax Levy	Adopted Tax Rate
8201	SPECIAL SANITARY GENERAL	\$2,410,012	\$262,000	0.0173
8280	SPECIAL SANITARY DEBT SERVICE	\$1,992,315	\$1,804,094	0.1190
		\$4,402,327	\$2,066,094	0.1363

Name		Signature
Tom Black	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Bernie Zemen	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Toya Smith	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Mark Schocke	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Philip Scheeringa	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	

ATTEST		
Name	Title	Signature
Mark Herak	Clerk-Treasurer	

In accordance with IC 6-1.1-17-16(k), we state our intent to issue debt after December 1 and before January 1

Yes No

Yes No

ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RATES

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Approved by the State Board of Accounts, 2015
Prescribed by the Department of Local Government Finance

Budget Form No. 4
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In accordance with IC 6-1.1-17-16(k), we state our intent to file a shortfall appeal after December 1 and before
December 31

No

- (c) Public Hearing. The Town Council President called the hearing to order. There was no public comment either in person or on line.

Pursuant to IC 6-1.1-17 et seq., consideration of the proposed ordinance for adoption cannot take place sooner than ten (10) days following the pre-adoption hearing. Consideration for passage and adoption of the Proposed Ordinance will be at the regular meeting of the **Town Council, Monday, October 23, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.**

- 4. Pre-Adoption Hearing of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Budget of the Waterworks District, pursuant to IC 6-1.1-17-20. *Under amendments to IC 6-1.1-17-20, the proper officers of the special taxing district shall submit the proposed budget and property tax levies to the municipal fiscal body. The fiscal body of the city, town, or county (whichever applies) shall review each budget and proposed tax levy and adopt a final budget and tax levy for the taxing unit. The fiscal body may reduce or modify but not increase the proposed budget or tax levy. The final adoption vests with the Town Council. The final adoption vests with the Town Council. The Town Council should take its final action at its meeting of October 23, 2023.***

- (a) Acknowledgement of Publication: *(Under current law, no publication by unit just by Department of Local Government Finance online Gateway. The proposed components of budget must be submitted to the Gateway at least 10 days before the Preliminary Hearing. The proposed budget notice was filed with the Gateway on September 15, 2023). (See IC 6-1.1-17-3)*

- (b) Introduction of Proposed Ordinance No. 1790: An Ordinance of Appropriations and Budget Levies and Rates for the 2024 Budget of the Waterworks District. Councilor Smith introduced and filed the proposed Ordinance 1790. There was no further action to I.C. 6-1.1-17-3(a); I.C. 6-1.1-17-5(a)(8) and I.C. 36-5-3-4.

ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RATES

Slate Form 55865 (7-15)
Approved by the State Board of Accounts, 2015
Prescribed by the Department of Local Government Finance

Budget Form No. 4
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Ordinance / Resolution Number: 1790

Be it ordained/resolved by the Town Council of the Town of Highland that for the expenses of HIGHLAND WATER DISTRICT for the year ending December 31, 2024 the sums herein specified are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same. Such sums herein appropriated shall be held to include all expenditures authorized to be made during the year, unless otherwise expressly stipulated and provided for by law. In addition, for the purposes of raising revenue to meet the necessary expenses of HIGHLAND WATER DISTRICT, the property tax levies and property tax rates as herein specified are included herein. Budget Form 4-B for all funds must be completed and submitted in the manner prescribed by the Department of Local Government Finance.

This ordinance/resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval by the Town Council of the Town of Highland.

Name of Adopting Entity / Fiscal Body	Type of Adopting Entity / Fiscal Body	Date of Adoption
Town Council of the Town of Highland	Town Council	10/23/2023

Funds				
Fund Code	Fund Name	Adopted Budget	Adopted Tax Levy	Adopted Tax Rate
8383	WATER DISTRICT DEBT SERVICE	\$333,457	\$408,956	0.0270
		\$333,457	\$408,956	0.0270

Name		Signature
Tom Black	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Bernie Zemen	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Toya Smith	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Mark Schocke	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Philip Scheeringa	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	

ATTEST		
Name	Title	Signature
Mark Herak	Clerk-Treasurer	

In accordance with IC 6-1.1-17-16(k), we state our intent to issue debt after December 1 and before January 1 Yes No

In accordance with IC 6-1.1-17-16(k), we state our intent to file a shortfall appeal after December 1 and before December 31 Yes No

- (c) Public Hearing. The Town Council President called the hearing to order. There was no public comment either in person or on line.

Pursuant to IC 6-1.1-17 et seq., consideration of the proposed ordinance for adoption cannot take place sooner than ten (10) days following the pre-adoption hearing. Consideration for passage and adoption of the Proposed Ordinance will be at the regular meeting of the Town Council, Monday, October 23, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

In all cases above, ten (10) or more taxpayers may object to a budget, a tax rate or tax levy by filing a petition with the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer not more than seven (7) days following these hearings. (Monday, October 16, 2023) The objection petition must identify the provisions of the budget, tax rate or tax levy to which taxpayers object. If a petition is filed, the Town Council shall adopt with the budget a finding concerning the objections in the petition and the testimony presented

5. Proposed Enactment No. 2023-21: An Enactment Regarding the Disposition of Surplus on Deposit to the Credit of the Water Cash Reserve Fund, Authorizing its transfer to the Corporation General Fund, pursuant to I.C. 8-1.5-3-11 et seq.

Councilor Smith introduced and moved the consideration of Enactment No. 2023-21 at the same meeting of introduction. Councilor Scheeringa seconded. Upon a roll call vote, a unanimous vote being necessary to consider the Enactment on the same night of introduction, there were five (5) affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The Enactment could be considered at the same meeting of its introduction.

Councilor Smith moved the passage and adoption of Enactment No. 2023-21 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Schocke seconded. Upon a roll call vote, a two-thirds vote being necessary, there were five (5) affirmative votes and no negatives. The motion passed. Enactment No. 2023-21 was passed and adopted upon the signature of the municipal executive at the same meeting of its introduction.

TOWN COUNCIL of the TOWN of HIGHLAND
ENACTMENT NO. 2023-21

An Enactment Regarding the Disposition of Surplus on Deposit to the Credit of the Water Cash Reserve Fund, Authorizing its transfer to the Corporation General Fund, pursuant to I.C. 8-1.5-3-11 et seq.

WHEREAS, The Town of Highland by proper legislative action has established a Department of Waterworks pursuant to IC 36-1.4-4, codified as Chapter 12.05 of the Highland Municipal Code;

WHEREAS, The Department of Waterworks is governed by the provisions of IC 8-1.5-4 and IC 8-1.5-3 in its operations and management of assets;

WHEREAS, Indiana Code 8-1.5-4-11 particularly provides for the establishment by ordinance of a Cash Reserve Fund for the waterworks, for its stewardship for loans, and

transfers for payments in lieu of taxes and under IC 8-1.5-3-8(e) for rates that support reasonable return on the utility plant of the municipality;

WHEREAS, Pursuant to IC 8-1.5-3-11 (b), the Town of Highland has established a Waterworks Cash Reserve Fund, under Section 12.05.050 (A) of the Highland Municipal Code;

WHEREAS, Pursuant to IC 8-1.5-3-11 (d), the Town of Highland adopted in its budget for FY 2023 an amount to include in the corporation general fund budget, in an amount, which cannot exceed the amount in the Cash Reserve Fund at June 30 of the year of the budget's preparation and not in excess of the amount calculated in the user rate basis for ROI;

WHEREAS, The amount in the Cash Reserve Fund at June 30, 2022 was \$307,838.38; and,

WHEREAS, Pursuant to IC 8-1.5-3-11 (d), the Town Council as the municipal legislative body desires to transfer **all** of the amount identified in the adopted budget for FY 2023,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana as follows:

Section 1. That pursuant to the provisions of IC 8-1.5-3-11(d), the Town Council hereby finds and determines the following:

- (A) That the Town Council adopted and the Department of Local Government Finance approved by order the budget of the Town for FY 2023, which for its municipal general fund did include an amount of up to \$247,500.00 to be transferred from the municipal water utility cash reserve fund;
- (B) That there is a Waterworks Cash Reserve Fund established by the municipality under Section 12.05.050 of the municipal code and the amount on deposit to that cash reserve fund at June 30, 2022 was three hundred and seven thousand, eight hundred thirty-eight dollars and thirty-eight cents (\$307,838.38);
- (C) That any transfer herein authorized does not impair or adversely affect compliance with any terms or conditions of any bond ordinance or resolution, indenture, contract or similar instrument binding upon the municipality;
- (D) That the most recently adopted and effective rates and charges of the Department of Waterworks provide for rates that support reasonable return on the utility plant of the municipality, pursuant to IC 8-1.5-3-8(e), with such reasonable return to be deposited in the Cash Reserve Fund;

Section 2. That for the expenses of said municipality, the amount of Two hundred forty-seven thousand, five dollars (\$247,500) are hereby transferred and set apart from the Waterworks Cash Reserve Fund for deposit in the Corporation General Fund, subject to the laws governing the same, subject to the approval of the Board of Waterworks Directors, as set forth in Indiana Code 8-1.5-3-11(a);

Section 3. That the Clerk-Treasurer is hereby authorized and requested as follows:

- (A) To seek the approving action of the Board of Waterworks Directors as set forth above; and,
- (B) Upon approval, to transfer the sum identified and as authorized herein;

Section 3. That, in addition to the express authority conferred herein, the Clerk-Treasurer as the disbursing and fiscal officer of the Municipality, is hereby authorized and requested to take such steps as necessary to carry out the purposes of this enactment;

Section 4. That the money transferred may be expended from the Corporation General Fund, for purposes permitted by law, and after its appropriation in the manner set forth in IC 6-1.1-18.

Introduced and Filed on the 25th day of September 2023. Consideration on same evening of introduction attained a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed, pursuant to IC 36-5-2-9.8.

DULY ORDAINED AND ADOPTED this 25th day of September 2023 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

Tom Black, President (IC 36-5-2-10)

Attest:

Mark Herak
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-42-4-1; IC 36-5-6-5)

Approval by the Board of Waterworks Directors

It is hereby certified that the foregoing transfer from the cash reserve fund to the corporation general fund was considered at a regular or special meeting of the Highland Board of Waterworks Directors.

The transfer identified herein is duly approved pursuant to the provisions of IC 8-1.5-3-11(a) by the Board of Waterworks Directors of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, this ____ day of _____ 2023 having passed by a vote of ____ in favor and ____ opposed.

THE HIGHLAND WATER WORKS
BY IT'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

George A. Smith, President

Attest:

Richard Volbrecht, Secretary

6. Proposed Enactment No. 2023-22: An Enactment Regarding the Disposition of Surplus on Deposit to the Credit of the Sanitary District Sewage Cash Reserve Fund, Authorizing its transfer to the Corporation General Fund, pursuant to HMC Section 12.10.110.

Councilor Scheeringa introduced and moved the consideration of Enactment No. 2023-22 at the same meeting of introduction. Councilor Schocke seconded. Upon a roll call vote, a unanimous vote being necessary to consider the Enactment on the same night of introduction, there were five (5) affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The Enactment could be considered at the same meeting of its introduction.

Councilor Scheeringa moved the passage and adoption of Enactment No. 2023-22 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Schocke seconded. Upon a roll call vote, a two-thirds vote being necessary, there were five (5) affirmative votes and no negatives. The motion passed. Enactment No. 2023-22 was passed and adopted upon the signature of the municipal executive at the same meeting of its introduction.

TOWN COUNCIL of the TOWN of HIGHLAND
ENACTMENT NO. 2023-22

An Enactment Regarding the Disposition of Surplus on Deposit to the Credit of the Sanitary District Sewage Cash Reserve Fund, Authorizing its transfer to the Corporation General Fund, pursuant to HMC Section 12.10.110.

WHEREAS, The Town of Highland by proper legislative action has established a Department of Public Sanitation and Sanitary District pursuant to IC 36-9-25 et seq., codified as Chapter 12.10 of the Highland Municipal Code;

WHEREAS, The Department of Public Sanitation and Sanitary District is governed by the provisions of I.C. 36-9-25 and in some cases IC 36-9-23 in its operations, rate-setting and management of assets;

WHEREAS, Indiana Code 36-1-3 particularly provides for the exercise by ordinance of powers that are expressly granted to the municipality by statute and all other powers necessary or desirable in the conduct of its affairs, even though not granted by statute;

WHEREAS, Pursuant to IC 36-1-3 and IC 36-9-25 the Town adopted HMC Section 12.10.110, establishing a cash reserve fund for the wastewater and storm water utilities, for its stewardship for loans, and transfers for payments in lieu of taxes for rates that support a reasonable return on the sewage utility plant of the municipality;

WHEREAS, Pursuant to IC 36-9-25-11 (l), which expressly states that its particular provisions may not be construed to prohibit a municipal legislative body from including in an ordinance adopted under IC 36-9-25 any other provision that the municipal legislative body considers appropriate, the Town did adopt in its most recently effective rate ordinance, rates and charges that support a reasonable return on the sewage utility plant of the municipality;

WHEREAS, HMC section 12.10.110, provides that the cash reserve fund shall be governed by the provisions of IC 8-1.5-3-11;

WHEREAS, Pursuant to IC 8-1.5-3-11 (d), the Town of Highland adopted in its budget for FY 2023 an amount to include in the corporation general fund budget, in an amount, which cannot exceed the amount in the Cash Reserve Fund at June 30 of the year of the budget's preparation and not in excess of the amount calculated in the user rate basis for ROI;

WHEREAS, The amount in the Cash Reserve Fund at June 30, 2022 was \$1,810,005.42; and,

WHEREAS, Pursuant to the foregoing, the Town Council as the municipal legislative body desires to transfer all of the adopted amount identified in the adopted budget for FY 2023,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana as follows:

Section 1. That the Town Council hereby finds and determines the following:

(C) That the Town Council adopted and the Department of Local Government Finance approved by order the budget of the Town for FY 2023, which for its municipal general fund did include an amount of up to \$150,000 to be transferred from the municipal sewage cash reserve fund;

- (D) That there is a Sanitary District Sewage Cash Reserve Fund established by the municipality under Section 12.10.110 of the municipal code and the amount on deposit to that cash reserve fund at June 30, 2022 was one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00);
- (C) That any transfer herein authorized does not impair or adversely affect compliance with any terms or conditions of any bond ordinance or resolution, indenture, contract or similar instrument binding upon the municipality;
- (D) That the most recently adopted and effective rates and charges of the Department of Public Sanitation and Sanitary District provide for rates that support reasonable return on the utility plant of the municipality, pursuant to IC 36-9-25-11(l), with such reasonable return to be deposited in the Cash Reserve Fund;

Section 2. That for the expenses of said municipality, the amount of One hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00) are hereby transferred and set apart from the Sanitary District Sewage Cash Reserve Fund for deposit in the Corporation General Fund, subject to the laws governing the same, subject to the approval of the Board of Sanitary Commissioners, as set forth in Indiana Code 8-1.5-3-11(a) as adopted by reference in HMC Section 12.10.110 (A);

Section 3. That the Clerk-Treasurer is hereby authorized and requested as follows:

- (C) To seek the approving action of the Board of Sanitary Commissioners as set forth above; and,
- (D) Upon approval, to transfer the sum identified and as authorized herein;

Section 4. That, in addition to the express authority conferred herein, the Clerk-Treasurer as the disbursing and fiscal officer of the Municipality, is hereby authorized and requested to take such steps as necessary to carry out the purposes of this enactment;

Section 5. That the money transferred may be expended from the Corporation General Fund, for purposes permitted by law, and after its appropriation in the manner set forth in IC 6-1.1-18.

Introduced and Filed on the 25th day of September 2023. Consideration on same evening of introduction attained a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed, pursuant to IC 36-5-2-9.8.

DULY ORDAINED AND ADOPTED this 25th day of September 2023 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

Tom Black, President (IC 36-5-2-10)

Attest:

Mark Herak
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-42-4-1; IC 36-5-6-5)

Approval by the Board of Sanitary Commissioners

It is hereby certified that the foregoing transfer from the cash reserve fund to the corporation general fund was considered at a regular or special meeting of the Highland Board of Sanitary Commissioners.

The transfer identified herein is duly approved pursuant to the provisions of IC 8-1.5-3-11(a), incorporated by reference in HMC Section 12.10.110 (A) and now adopted by the Board of Sanitary Commissioners of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, this ____ day of _____ 2023 having passed by a vote of ____ in favor and ____ opposed.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SANITATION & SANITARY DISTRICT
BY ITS BOARD OF SANITARY COMMISSIONERS:

Richard Garcia, President

Attest:

David Jones, Secretary

Comments from the Town Council:
(Good of the order)

- **Councilor Bernie Zemen:** *Liaison to the Board of Water Works Directors • Liaison and Plan Commission Member • Liaison to the Tree Board • Liaison to the Highland Neighbors for Sustainability.*

Councilor Zemen began by acknowledging Ken Mika, Building Commissioner who said at last Wednesday's Plan Commission, the Commission approved a Resolution proposed by the Redevelopment Commission combining several of the Allocation Areas.

Councilor Zemen then commented on the Tree Board which met last Thursday. He also welcomed the newest member, Mary Ann Brunt to the Tree Board. He said the Tree Board is planting some trees on October 8.

Councilor Zemen commented on the Highland Neighbors for Sustainability. He said the Recycling Team collected recyclables at the BBQ Fest. Their Community Garden Team made their weekly produce deliveries to the local food pantries, as well as, downtown restaurants. They will be partnering with Munster Sustainability on a Halloween costume exchange. Residents can take their costumes from last year to the Paws Retail Shop in Highland and get a free costume in exchange. Three (3) members attended the Climate Leadership Summit held at IUN on September 8th. And lastly, they will be holding an evening walk in the woods at Gibson Woods, this Friday, to learn about owls. The event is free but registration is limited, as there are three (3) remaining spots. If anyone on the Council would like to sign up, please feel free and bring your children as well. It starts at 7:00 o'clock p.m.

He mentioned that the Water Board will be meeting this Thursday.

Cathy Perrin passed out to the Council a flyer on Solar.



Highland Solar 101

Learn how you can advocate for local solar in your community!

This is a free event that brings together solar supporters to learn about and discuss the current state and future of solar energy in Indiana.

Whether you are a solar homeowner, completely new to solar, or somewhere in between – this event is for you!



Date: Wednesday, October 11

Time: 6:30 – 8 pm CDT

Location: Lake County Public Library – Highland Branch

2841 Jewett Ave
Highland, IN 46322

Learn more & RSVP at:
[Highland-Solar101.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/highland-solar-101)

Councilor Toya Smith: • *Sanitary Board Liaison • Public Works Liaison • Advisory Board of Zoning Appeals Liaison • Liaison to the Building and Inspections.*

Councilor Smith acknowledged Ken Mika, Building Commissioner who said the BZA will be meeting this Wednesday and they'll be reviewing and hopefully approving the Findings of Facts for a petition that was before them. At its previous meeting, they gave the petitioner a favorable recommendation to the Town Council. The petitioner wants to put a Tae Kwon Do instructional studio at 9717 Spring Street which is not a permitted use in that zoning. If those findings are approved, they'll be forwarded to the Town Council to take action at its first meeting in October.

Councilor Smith then acknowledged Mark Knesek, Public Works Director who said tomorrow, the Parkway Drive water main tie in will take place. The water will be off from 7 in the morning till 7 in the evening. Tie in letters were given out on Thursday to all the residents affected and again, tomorrow, rain or shine, the tie in will take place and the water will be shut off for 12 hours. He mentioned that Fall Clean-up will be October 10th this year. The waste hauler will be putting extra crews on in anticipation of the increase trash that will be placed in the parkway.

Councilor Zemen said he imagines the scavengers love that morning.

The Public Work Director said scavengers got the legs to the barricades that we used for our block party. They got the legs sometime last evening. After the party, the barricades were place on the ground with the legs on top and they were gone this morning when I got up.

He was asked by the Council how his block party went. He said it actually went well. The police were called within an hour after it started because we didn't have a permit. Three officers responded and they were good with the kids. Originally I thought we were in big trouble.

Councilor Smith said she has received a lot of calls and text and emails regarding her support for UAW Local 551. She said supports the Union as she supports all the unions and she particularly supports UAW Local 551. It is her hope that the people in the Union that are trying to get fair wages, get the wages that they're looking for. And she also expressed her condolence to the family of Tom, Conway, President of the Steelworkers International, who passed away Monday.

Councilor Mark Schocke: • *Park and Recreation Board Liaison • Council of Community Events Commission Liaison • Liaison to Main Street Bureau .*

Councilor Schocke began by acknowledging Dave Byers, Park and Recreation Director who said we have a couple of new playground projects underway. The one at Markley Park should be done within the next day or so pending weather conditions. The other is Brantwood Park and as Alex reported at the Council's last meeting, there has been a delay because of Nipsco. It's kind of out of our control and in their hands at this point. I'm

being told it's just a formality and that it needs to go through the proper channels of authorization, in order to move forward with that installation. We have new light fixtures being installed in Main Square Park. That project should be done within the next few weeks. These will be for the interior light poles within the park. We're hosting an AAU tournament this Sunday at Lincoln Center. We have a CPR class coming up next Tuesday at Lincoln Center. We have a handful of new employees already signed up to take the class. It's also opened to the public. We'll be taking sign-ups right through the start of that class which is next Tuesday night at 6 pm. We've been advertising strong on social media and through mass emails about our new freight ride night bicycle event on Friday night, October thirteenth. The ride is going to begin and end at Main Square Park. Registration is \$15. He said they are looking for more groups to do fright scenes along the route. They are awarding \$250 to the best scene and \$150 for second place. This could be a nice fundraiser for a non-profit. He thanked the Highland PD for doing traffic control for the event. Dave said they will be hosting a monster market craft fair on October 14th at Lincoln Center. He said they were getting a lot of attention for the event on social media. It going to be from 9 o'clock a.m. to 3 o'clock p.m. The following week, the Lincoln Center field house floor is getting refinished. The floor is refinished every 2 to 3 years and it has really prolonged the life of the floor which was put in in 1998. He concluded that youth basketball sign-ups are open and run through November.

Parks update for town council meeting 9/25/23

New playground installation in progress at Markley – will be done in the next couple days.
Delayed at Brantwood Park, awaiting NIPSCO approval.

New light fixtures are in for the interior light poles at Main Square and they will be going up soon.

We're hosting an AAU tournament this Sunday at Lincoln Center.

CPR & First Aid class at Lincoln Center next Tuesday evening.

Advertising for our Fright Ride bicycle event on Friday the 13th of October. Sign up now at bikesignup.com/highlandfrightride. Also seeking a few more groups to put on haunted scenes along the route for a chance to win up to \$250. Thanks to our friends at the Highland PD for their help with traffic control.

Hosting a Monster Market craft fair on October 14 at Lincoln Center. Vendors are really ramping up.

Getting fieldhouse floor refinished in 3 weeks.

- **Councilor Philip Scheeringa:** *Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners Liaison • Fire Department, Liaison • Chamber of Commerce Liaison • Information Communications and Technology Department Liaison.*

Councilor Scheeringa began by acknowledging Fire Chief Mike Pipta who reminded everyone that the Fire Department Open and Car Show was scheduled for Saturday, October 7th from 11 o'clock a.m. to 3 o'clock p.m. and encouraged everyone to attend. He said things have been kind of quiet, thank goodness. He said he is planning on making 6 promotions to fill in for some of the vacancies. With the Council's permission, they would like to have a ceremony at a Town Council Meeting when the fire fighters receive their new badges. It is sort of a way to show our appreciation to these fire fighters for stepping up to the plate and helping to move the Fire Department forward. He said he already talked to Councilor Black about the ceremony. Councilor Black appeared to be on board. He said he read an interesting thing in the news about Illinois, saying how difficult it is to get volunteer firefighters right now. It is so bad that Illinois is offering tax incentives to attract volunteers.

Councilor Scheeringa then called upon Chief Potesta who described the fatal accident that happened last Tuesday afternoon at Theo's. The victim was a ninety-one (91) year old female and the driver was an eighty-six (86) female. The actually knew each other and arrived at Theo's at the same time. He offered his condolences to both families. It was just a tragic accident. The reconstruction team that we just joined, ended up coming out and handling the accident scene for us. As of today, we haven't heard of any charges but they're still presenting it to the prosecutor. He thanked the Fire Department for being out there and helping us as well. He then went over some statistics. Over the past couple of weeks, we've had about 10 shopliftings, 6 of the 10 happened in south 41 business district. We had one at the Antique Mall and believe it or not, we had two (2) right across the street here at CVS. We have filed charges in 4 of these cases and another one pending. We had an elderly male attempting to give candy to children leaving Johnston school for the day. He was identified as an 83 year old resident who lived in the area. We found him right away. He was spoken to and it appeared there was nothing sinister. He just wasn't comprehending that you can't do that kind of stuff nowadays. A couple of stolen cars, one from a residential and one from one of our car dealerships. He said there were four (4) DUI arrests this past week. For the month of August just completed, there were 187 total arrests. Through August, year to date, there were 2,800 total citations issued, 3,300 warnings issued and the department responded to 10,548 calls. There were 54 DUI arrests already this year. Our guys and girls are out there hustling and couldn't be prouder of them.

Councilor Scheeringa said he had the honor of sitting in on new hire interviews over the last couple of weeks.

Fatal Accident at Theo's last Tuesday afternoon

91 year old victim - 86 year old driver - came together to eat. - Recon. TEAM RESPONDED - THANK FD
No word on charges

10 shopliftings - 6 at businesses in the S. 41 retail corridor - 1 @ Antique Mall - 2 CVS on
Ridge - 1 Stracks

Charges filed in 4 of these cases

Suspect identified / Charges pending in 1 other

Elderly male attempting to give candy to children leaving Johnston Elementary

Subject identified as 83 YOA resident who lived in the area.

He was spoken with and it appeared the incident was not sinister in nature.

2 auto thefts - 1 residential with known suspect

1 from one of our car dealerships - suspect used check to purchase car then put a stop
payment on it. Refuses to communicate with the dealership.

4 DUI arrests in the past week

2023 YTD

Officer	Days Worked	Arrests	Offenses	Total Citations	Total Citation Violations	Grant Citation Violations	Parking Citation Violations	Patrol Citations per day	Total Warnings	Total Warning Violations	Grant Warnings	Parking Warnings	Patrol Warnings per day	Incidents Handled	Incidents Responded	Accidents Handled	DUIs
ANDERSON C	121	6	11	56	76	0	0	0.63	116	138	0	0	1.14	298	418	40	2
ANDERSON S	115	0	0	29	40	0	0	0.31	96	106	0	3	0.90	153	305	17	0
BALON														75	76	6	0
BARNHILL														0	28	0	0
BRZEZINSKI	124	5	8	55	66	0	0	0.53	140	143	0	0	1.15	271	391	26	0
BYERS	123	2	3	72	80	0	1	0.64	125	129	0	0	1.05	169	388	12	0
COX G	119	0	0	10	10	0	0	0.08	51	60	0	0	0.50	110	327	12	0
DOMSIC				4	4				0	0				13	23	0	0
DUROCHER G	107	10	19	73	93	0	0	0.87	146	146	0	0	1.36	257	369	37	2
FREYK	128	12	16	78	94	0	0	0.73	154	154	0	0	1.20	289	440	30	5
GARZA G	120	0	0	57	70	0	0	0.58	70	71	0	0	0.59	109	299	11	0
GERINGER														0	30	0	0
GLIDEWELL	130	15	23	128	142	45	0	0.75	166	166	19	0	1.13	286	478	32	2
HILDENBRAND J														18	19	0	0
HINKEL J	126	0	0	56	70	0	0	0.56	79	106	0	0	0.84	220	535	23	0
HOFFMAN R		4	4	8	12	0	0	N/A	25	25	0	0	N/A	104	170	11	0
KEMPKE														0	0	0	0
KOWAL A	97	5	7	47	59	0	0	0.61	107	107	0	0	1.10	160	289	20	1
MANYEK	111	7	14	461	561	415	0	1.32	152	152	52	0	0.90	234	452	27	4
MULLINS J	111	32	59	133	229	0	0	2.06	183	191	0	1	1.71	313	424	32	10
NATELBORG		3	7											20	25	0	0
NAVARRO	72	5	7	37	43	0	0	0.60	89	90	0	1	1.24	178	260	21	0
NORSWEATHER	128	6	11	61	70	0	0	0.55	104	141	0	0	1.10	240	388	31	2
OMALLEY	118	5	10	65	71	0	0	0.60	143	145	0	0	1.23	217	354	25	0
ORTH B	114	2	2	54	60	0	0	0.53	113	117	0	1	1.02	170	262	24	0
PALMER G	55	0	0	5	6	0	1	0.09	23	28	0	0	0.51	54	115	9	0
PECKLER FR		3	3											25	31	2	0
PEREZ T	124	3	6	58	67	0	0	0.54	125	128	0	0	1.03	191	340	19	0
POTESTA R														6	7	1	0
RHEIN														0	49	0	0
SAPP	83	6	11	45	64	5	1	0.70	109	112	5	0	1.29	196	317	23	2
STANLEY B														1	1	0	0
SULLIVAN J	69	5	8	46	71	0	0	1.03	85	97	0	0	1.41	144	205	14	2
SWISHER E	101	0	0	27	31	0	0	0.31	64	64	0	0	0.63	152	306	9	0
TOMONDI S	122	7	14	87	104	0	0	0.85	104	104	0	0	0.85	118	238	21	2
WATKINS	131	19	33	124	201	66	1	1.02	117	119	17	0	0.78	339	586	32	14
YONKMAN M	69	2	7	34	54	0	1	0.77	38	44	0	0	0.64	100	194	19	2
																	0
																	0
SUPPORT SERV														17	16	0	0
VIPS														32	66	0	0
OTHER														306	9	1	0
Totals:	2,718	164	283	1,910	2,448	531	9	0.69	2,724	2,883	93	6	1.01	5,585	9,239	587	50
		187			2777					3244					10548		57

Through August

Councilor Scheeringa then acknowledged IT Director, Ed Dabrowski who said basically the calls for service are at the normal volume. During this time, he said he has taken the opportunity to revise the IT's Management Plan in regards to our data archiving and our disaster recovery plan. We do have a disaster recovery plan but it hasn't been updated in a while and there has been an uptick on some of the threat networks, particularly in the public safety arena. He said the threats are actually focusing on public safety buildings and public buildings in general. What he is trying to do is get to a point where we have a cloud presence and a local presence, sort of like a hybrid model. We'd like to get to the point where we could operate off site if our facilities were destroyed. He said he is doing a cost analysis and a spot analysis to determine the proper path to take getting that data safely retained outside our facilities. He wanted to remind people to be extra special with email and texts. He said bad actors are starting to send you a text message saying that your package can't be delivered and they ask you to click something. He reminded

everyone to be careful as he knew someone who clicked the message and he had to go buy a new phone. Things are changing in the world and not for the better

Councilor Scheeringa said he got two (2) of those USPS text today. He commented on what Ed is working on is to keep things like bodycam footage more secure.

- **Town Council President Tom Black:** *Town Executive (I.C. 36-1-2-5-(4); I.C. 36-5-2-2; I.C. 36-5-2-7); • Board of Trustees of the Police Pension Fund, Chair (By Law) • Budget Committee Chairman • Redevelopment Commission Liaison and Member • Member of the Lake County Solid Waste Management District Board • Member of the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIPRC) • Shared Ethics Representative.*

Councilor Black recognized Redevelopment Director Maria Becerra, who advised the Council that the TIF Allocation consolidation plan is ongoing. The Commission is reviewing the Town Council's comments that were made of about the Commercial Grant Guidelines. The Commission will be reviewing the Council's comments at the Redevelopment Commissions Tuesday meeting. She said the Commission will also be reviewing the four (4) quotes they received regarding the clean-up of the property at 8200 Indianapolis Blvd. She said the Main Street Restaurant Crawl is tomorrow night, Tuesday, September 26h. There are ten (10) businesses participating. She said the Makers Market is scheduled for October 7th from 10 o'clock a.m. to 4 o'clock p.m. and they can use additional vendors. Registration can be done on the Commission's website and the fee is \$25. She said with school back in session, the Makers Market has been a little slow.

Councilor Black then called upon HCCE Vice President Sandy McKnight to comment on the HCCE's upcoming Trunk or Treat. She said they are still looking for vendors and vendors can sign up via the HCCE's website. The event will be held on October 21st, in the Main Square parking lot. It will be from 10 o'clock a.m. to noon. The HCCE was hoping to play Halloween Music during the event with Park Director Trever Kinley is in charge to make it happen. She said a couple of people are setting up tents and hopefully they will have face painting. She asked if it was possible to park cars on Highway, with their trunks open and facing Main Square. The trick or treaters would walk along the sidewalk and not in the street. Police Chief Potesta said he didn't see a problem with it.

Councilor Black complimented the Clerk-Treasurer on his hard work in putting together the budget.

TOWN COUNCIL MTG 9-25-2023

TIF ALLOCATION CONSOLIDATION PLAN PROCESS IS ONGOING

COMMISSION WILL BE REVIEWING THE TOWN COUNCIL'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE COMMERCIAL GRANT GUIDELINES AT TOMORROW'S REDEVELOPMENT MEETING

8200 INDIANAPOLIS CLEAN UP - 4 QUOTES RECVD TO BE REVIEWED AT TOMORROW'S COMMISSION MTG

MAIN STREET'S RESTAURANT CRAWL IS TOMORROW WITH 10 BUSINESSES PARTICIPATING
OCTOBER'S CRAWL WILL FALL ON HALLOWEEN

MAKERS MARKET IS SCHEDULED FOR OCT 7TH, 10-4 MORE VENDORS ARE WELCOMED \$25 FEE & APPLICATION ON THE WEBSITE AND THE FACEBOOK.

THE WEEKLY THURSDAY MARKET IS STILL ONGOING (LESS ATTENDANCE THAN THE SUMMER MONTHS PROBABLY BECAUSE SCHOOL IS BACK.)

WAYFINDING SIGNS ARE CURRENTLY IN THE PROCESS OF BEING INSTALLED

Downtown Highland's
Restaurant Crawl
Presented by Highland Main Street
Tuesday, September 26th from 4-8pm
Featuring \$7 Specials:

- SIP Coffee House** - Lemon Verbena-Lavender Tea Latte w/ Brownie
- Green Witch Café** - Peppers stuffed w/ Arborio Rice, Artichokes, & Sundried Tomatoes
- Dan's Pierogies** - Ole Smokey Loaded Pierogi
- Jose's Family Restaurant** - Chicken Lemon Dill w/ Roasted Red Potatoes
- Naturally Jacks** - Pumpkin Spice "Beggels" or PB & Honey
- The Counter** - Pumpkin Pie Flurry or Maple Waffle Sundae
- Fuzzyline Brewing Co.** - Pork Schnitzel Sando
- Langel's Pizza** - Buffalo Chicken Bird Dog
- Growlers** - Slider Joes w/ House Chips
- Sakura Bowl** - Custom Bowl

That concluded comments from the Council and President Black then turned it over to comments from visitor's or residents, reminding them to limit it to 2 minutes.

Comments from Visitors or Residents:

Scott Houldieson, Highland, said he wanted to personally thank Council President Black for his support for the UAW Local 551, who are fighting for a fair contract. He also thanked Councilor Smith for her comments in support of UAW Local 551 and for union workers in general. He was happy that Terry Steagall had submitted a resolution. I was hopeful that the Council would consider the resolution tonight as that would be putting the weight of our Government on our side. There are roughly 209 families from UAW Local 551 who live in Highland and are part of our community. We are fighting for better working and living conditions for them which translates into a better community for Highland and for all of us. It's important for

the Council to weigh in on this, as we are fighting for better conditions for workers who live in our community. We have been bending over backwards for decades for the company, taking concessions when times were tough and we expected to get some of that back when times were better and times have been better for these companies for a decade now and we haven't had those concessions reinstated. He was a little disappointed that the Council didn't bring it up tonight but he hopes that the Council will consider at a later date.

Councilor Black asked if there were any other comments. Hearing none, he closed comments from the public and brought it back to the Council. He then asked for a motion to pay claims.

Payment of Accounts Payable Vouchers. There being no further comments from visitors or residents, Councilor Zemen moved to allow the vendors accounts payable vouchers as filed on the pending accounts payable docket, covering the period **September 13, 2023 through September 26, 2023.** Councilor Schocke seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five (5) affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The accounts payable vouchers for the vendor docket were allowed, payments allowed in advance were ratified, the payroll dockets listed were ratified and for all remaining invoices, the Clerk-Treasurer was authorized to make payment.

Accounts payable vouchers September 13, 2023 to September 26, 2023 in the amount of **\$344,395.30.**

General Fund, \$232,737.18; MVH Fund, \$15,923.35; LAW Enforcement Continuing Education, Training and Supply Fund, \$1,386.72; Information and Communications Technology Fund, \$8,210.35; LR&S, \$466.32; Special Events \$1,529.00; M CCD, \$8,593.00; Public Safety Income Tax Fund, \$3,877.00; Corporation Bond Exempt Fund, \$1,500.00; Community Crossing Grant, \$2,172.72; Donation, \$304.25; Police Pension, \$67,695.41.

Payroll Docket for payday of September 22, 2023 by fund:

General, \$283,537.15

Payroll Docket for payday of September 22, 2023:

Office of Clerk-Treasurer, \$16,312.19; Building and Inspection Department, \$10,816.09; Metropolitan Police Department, \$31,891.92; Public Works Department (Agency), \$72,439.19; Fire Department, \$1782.40 and Information and Technology Department, \$4,009.55; Total Payroll: \$237,251.34.

Payroll Docket for payday of September 29, 2023 by fund:

Total Payroll by fund: \$79,054.50

Payroll Docket for payday of September 29, 2023:

Boards & Commissions. \$10,651.82; Police Pension, \$67,587.76;
Total Payroll: \$78,239.58.

Adjournment of Plenary Meeting. There being no further business on the agenda, the Town Council President declared the regular plenary meeting of the Town Council of Monday, September 25, 2023, adjourned at 7:20 O'clock p.m.

Mark Herak
Clerk-Treasurer

Approved by the Town Council at its meeting of October 9, 2023.