

**CITY OF HIGHLAND HEIGHTS**  
**Regular Council Meeting Minutes**  
**September 3, 2024**  
**Approved: September 17, 2024**

On Tuesday, September 3, 2024 at 7:01 p.m. Mayor Meyers called the regular Council meeting to order at 176 Johns Hill Road.

**Council Members Present:** Mayor Greg Meyers. Councilmembers Deborah Ball, Gary Chinn, John Braun, Alex Bramel, John Hoffert, Rene Heinrich. A quorum was present.

**Staff Present:** City Administrator, Michael Giffen; Police Chief, Bill Birkenhauer; City Clerk/Treasurer, Jeanne Pettit; Code Enforcement Officer, Dave Fornash; Public Works Director, Steve Lehman; Attorney, Michelle Eviston.

Mayor Meyers requested a moment of silence for Herb Kenter's wife, Mary Jo, who passed away recently. Mr. Kenter is a former mayor of Highland Heights.

**Minutes for Approval**

- **Regular Meeting Minutes of August 6, 2024.** These minutes had been previously emailed to the Mayor, Council Members, and City Staff for review.
- **Action Taken:** Member Heinrich made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular council meeting held August 6, 2024. Seconded by Member Hoffert. Discussion: None. Yes: 4, Abstain: 2. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.

**Scheduled Guests**

- Terry Hatton – Republican Candidate for State Representative for House District 67 – introduced himself, discussed his community involvement, and his business.
- Matt Lehman – Democratic Candidate for State Representative for House District 67 – introduced himself, discussed how he will continue good, responsible representation in Frankfort and maintain open communication for our district in Frankfort and with the city.

**Correspondence:** None

**Staff Reports**

- City Administrator – Michael Giffen
  - Announced a public meeting for the realignment of Sunset Drive.
  - New website is up and running and a newsletter is coming soon.
  - Recommended taking the 4% increase for the tax rate.
  - Fall Celebration event is on October 5.
- Police Chief – Bill Birkenhauer
  - John Dunn, retired Police Lieutenant from the Highland Heights Police Department, was recognized by Chief Birkenhauer for his years of service to the city and other police departments.
  - Announced a police clerk and police officer were hired.
- City Clerk/Treasurer – Jeanne Pettit
  - Update on tax season and upcoming county clean-up events.
- Code Enforcement Officer – Dave Fornash
  - Update on recent activity and utilizing the police social worker to provide services to residents in need.
- Public Works Supervisor – Steve Lehman
  - Update on projects, events, and use of the new mulcher.

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- Attorney – Michelle Eviston
  - **Municipal Order**
    - **Municipal Order 09-2024:** A municipal order appointing Joe Groat to the unexpired term of Sydney Fillhardt on the Highland Heights Code Enforcement Board.
    - **Action Taken:** Member Bramel made a motion to accept municipal order 09-2024. Seconded by Member Chinn. Discussion: None. Yes: 6. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.
    - **Action Taken:** Member Heinrich made a motion to have a first reading of the ad valorem tax rate ordinance using the \$1.47 per \$1,000 rate. Seconded by Member Bramel. Discussion: None. Yes: 6. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.
    - **Ordinance – First Reading**
      - **Ordinance 07-2024:** An ordinance assessing and levying an ad valorem tax on the property within the city of Highland Heights, KY and imposing interest and penalties thereon.

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business**

- John Hoffert – The Tree Commission would like to make the Fall/Halloween Contest an annual event. The Tree Commission will manage and judge the event.
  - **Action Taken:** Member Hoffert made a motion to make the Fall/Halloween contest an annual event with the Tree Commission managing it. Seconded by Member Heinrich. Discussion: None. Yes: 6. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.

**Citizens to Address Council:** None

**Adjournment**

- **Action Taken:** Member Bramel made a motion to adjourn the September 3, 2024 meeting. Seconded by Member Braun. Discussion: None. Yes: 6. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m. on Tuesday, September 3, 2024.

**Submitted by:**   
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**Jeanne M. Pettit, City Clerk/Treasurer**

**Signed:**   
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**Gregory V. Meyers, Mayor**