



**VILLAGE OF HIGHLAND PARK**  
1650 Highland Park Drive North  
Wednesday, November 20, 2024, 6:00 p.m.  
**Regular Meeting**

**IN ATTENDANCE** Mayor Brandon McWhorter, Commissioner Amanda Updike, Commissioner Derek Camann, City Manager Ric Busbee, Village Clerk Blair Updike, Clerk's Assistant Lita O'Neill, Treasurer Mary Bradley, City Attorney Andrew Hand (via telephone), Resident Catherine Angel

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor McWhorter called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** led by Mayor McWhorter

**ROLL CALL** taken by the Clerk's Assistant Lita O'Neill

Commissioners present included Mayor Brandon McWhorter, Commissioner Amanda Updike, and Commissioner Derek Camann.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Catherine Angel, 1632 S. Highland Park Drive, made comments about the broken concrete near her driveway.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Previous Meeting Minutes

A Motion to adopt the previous meeting minutes from the September 25, 2024 regular meeting of the Village Commission, and the Final Budget and TRIM public hearing was made by Commissioner Camann, seconded by Commissioner Updike.

All in favor. The motion passed.

Ordinance 24-01 Second Reading and Public Hearing

Mayor McWhorter read Ordinance 24-01 by title into the record.

The Mayor opened the floor for public comment. Being none, the floor was closed. The Mayor opened the floor for discussion among the Commission. Being none, the floor was closed.

A Motion to adopt Ordinance 24-01 upon second reading was made by commissioner Camann, seconded by Commissioner Updike.

A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor: Mayor-Commissioner McWhorter, Commissioner Camann, Commissioner Updike

The motion passed unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Resolution 24-08, Budget Amendment for FY23-24

Mayor McWhorter asked the Village Clerk to read the resolution by title into the record. Background was provided by staff. The Mayor opened the floor for public comment. Being none, the floor was closed. The Mayor opened the floor for discussion among the Commission. Commissioner Camann asked the Treasurer, Mary Bradley, a question. Ms. Bradley provided a response. The floor was closed.

A motion to approve Resolution 24-08 was made by Mayor McWhorter, seconded by Commissioner Camann. A roll vote was taken. Voting in favor: Mayor-Commissioner McWhorter, Commissioner Camann, Commissioner Updike

The motion passed unanimously.

### Amendment 2 Passage and Discussion

Mayor McWhorter asked Attorney Hand to provide the analysis about the passage of Amendment 2, the right to hunt and the right to fish. The amendment is very simply worded, so it is open to debate. The Attorney commented that this legislation may be tested in the courts in the future and noted that fishing is not necessarily permissible on any lake in Florida. Attorney Hand stated that until the new legislation gets tested in court, it is uncertain how this legislation will impact the day-to-day business of the Village, or any other municipality in Florida.

## **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

The City Manager stated that the vendor used for hurricane debris removal only charged \$900.00 total. Mr. Busbee noted that everything is quiet and peaceful. He noted that mulch will be placed out before Christmas.

Commissioner Camann commented that the landscaping crew did a great job post hurricane Milton and thanked the City Manager for overseeing the work.

Mayor McWhorter commented that the Village of Highland Park has managed its budget well, and having the funding available allows the Village to move quickly and get things done without waiting on other agencies.

The Mayor thanked the City Manager for taking care of these items.

## **TREASURER REPORT**

The Treasurer reported that she met with April Cooper from Wicks, Brown, Williams, and Co., and the FY2023-2024 audit will be presented early in 2025.

## **QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Commission decided to cancel the December 18th work session. The Clerk's Office will update the website and bulletin board with that information.

Meeting dates for 2025 were provided to the commission. Dates include the fourth Wednesday of every other month starting in January: 1/22, 3/26, 5/28, 7/23, 9/24, and 11/26.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:31pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lita O'Neill  
Assistant to the Clerk

## **Approved: January 22, 2025**

*Minutes of Village Commission meetings may be obtained from the Village Clerk's Office. The minutes are recorded, but not transcribed verbatim. Persons requiring a verbatim transcript may make arrangements with the Clerk to duplicate the recording. The cost of duplication will be the expense of the requesting party.*

*In accordance with Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, persons with disabilities needing special accommodations to participate in this meeting should contact the Village Clerk's Office no later than 5:00 p.m. on the day prior to the meeting at 863-455-6518, or via email at [clerk@highlandpark-fl.org](mailto:clerk@highlandpark-fl.org).*

*Persons who wish to appeal any decision made by the Village Commission with respect to any matter considered during a public hearing at this meeting will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose may need to ensure that verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based.*