

**VILLAGE OF HIGHLAND HILLS, OHIO**  
**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**January 24, 2024**  
**6:00 p.m.**

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The Special Council Meeting of the Village of Highland Hills, Ohio was called to order by Council President Cassandra Pride at 6:00 p.m. in Room No. 14 of Village Hall. It was also broadcast via Zoom Video Communications.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Was recited by all.

**ROLL CALL:** Present were Council President Cassandra Pride and Councilpersons Geavona Greene, David Mills, James McManus and Robert Wright. Also present: Mayor Michael L. Booker, Law Director Thomas P. O'Donnell and Senior Director Jean Smith.

**CLERK TO READ THE NOTICE:** Clerk Sikon read the Legal Notice of Special Council Meeting (attached).

**DISCUSSION BY PUBLIC OF CURRENT AGENDA, NON-DEBATABLE, TWO-MINUTE MAXIMUM TIME:** None.

**SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA:**

Consideration of the following legislation:

**Resolution No. 2024-09:** A Resolution Confirming Council's Appointment of Robert Wright, II as Council Member to Fill a Vacancy Created by the Resignation of Michael Goodwin, and Declaring an Emergency.

Moved by Councilman Mills and seconded by Councilwoman Greene to waive the three reading rule and referral to committee. All voted aye and the **motion carried**.

Moved by Councilwoman Greene and seconded by Councilman Mills to approve Resolution No. 2024-09. All voted aye and the resolution was **adopted 4 – 0**.

At that time, Mr. Robert L. Wright, II was sworn into office by Law Director Thomas P. O'Donnell. The Oath of Office is attached.

President Cassandra Pride announced that Resolution No. 2024-10 will be removed from the Consent Agenda and voted upon separately. She is related to John Pride and will therefore recuse herself from voting.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:** Items listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine. Each item will be read individually into the record and the Consent Agenda will then be enacted as a whole by one motion and one roll call. There will be no separate discussion of these

items. If discussion by Council is desired on any item on the Consent Agenda, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda by Council motion and considered in its normal sequence under the Regular Order of Business.

- a. \*Legislation: Introduce, suspend rules requiring three readings and referral to committee, and adopt those legislative items indicated with an asterisk (\*):

**\*Ordinance No. 2024-11:** An Ordinance Providing for an Increase in the Payment to Members of the Various Boards and Commissions of the Village, and Declaring an Emergency.

**\*Resolution No. 2024-12:** A Resolution Approving the Mayor's Re-Appointment of Susan Hamilton to the Position of Village Engineer and Authorizing the Mayor and President of Council to Enter and Execute a Contract with Susan Hamilton as the Engineer for the Village of Highland Hills, and Declaring an Emergency.

**\*Resolution No. 2024-13:** A Resolution Confirming the Mayor's Re-Appointment of Thomas P. O'Donnell to Serve as Law Director for the Village of Highland Hills, and Declaring an Emergency.

**\*Resolution No. 2024-14:** A Resolution Confirming the Mayor's Re-Appointment of Donald Williams to Serve as Magistrate for the Village of Highland Hills Mayor's Court, and Declaring an Emergency.

**\*Resolution No. 2024-15:** A Resolution Confirming the Mayor's Re-Appointment of Armina Newton to Serve as Finance Director for the Village of Highland Hills, and Declaring an Emergency.

Moved by Councilwoman Greene and seconded by Councilman Mills to waive the three reading rule and referral to committee. All voted aye and the **motion carried.**

Moved by Councilwoman Greene and seconded by Councilman Mills to approve the Consent Agenda. All voted aye and the Consent Agenda was **adopted 5 – 0.**

#### **FIRST READING CONSIDERATION:**

**Resolution No. 2024-10:** A Resolution Confirming Council's Appointment of Two Members to the Village Volunteer Firefighters Dependent Fund Board, and Declaring an Emergency.

Moved by Councilwoman Greene and seconded by Councilman Mills to waive the three reading rule and referral to committee. Councilpersons Greene, Mills, McManus and Wright voted aye; Councilwoman Pride recused herself from the vote. **Motion carried 4 - 0.**

Moved by Councilwoman Greene and seconded by Councilman McManus to approve Resolution No. 2024-10. Councilpersons Greene, Mills, McManus and Wright voted aye; Councilwoman Pride recused herself from the vote. Resolution No. 2024-10 was **adopted 4 – 0**.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, it was moved by Councilman Mills and seconded by Councilwoman Greene to adjourn the meeting. All voted aye and the meeting concluded at 6:11 p.m.



Cassandra Pride, President of Council



Margaet Sikon, Clerk of Council

Attachments:

Legal Notice of Special Council Meeting

Robert L. Wright, II Oath of Office

**VILLAGE OF HIGHLAND HILLS, OHIO  
OFFICE OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL**

**LEGAL NOTICE OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING**

**CALLED BY:** Council President Cassandra Pride  
**DATE:** Wednesday, January 24, 2024  
**TIME:** 6:00 p.m.  
**LOCATION:** Highland Hills Village Hall, Room No. 14  
3700 Northfield Road  
Highland Hills, Ohio 44122  
And via Zoom Video Communications

**PURPOSE OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING:**

Consideration of the following legislation:

**Resolution No. 2024-09:** A Resolution Confirming Council's Appointment of Robert Wright, II as Council Member to Fill a Vacancy Created by the Resignation of Michael Goodwin, and Declaring an Emergency.

**\*Resolution No. 2024-10:** A Resolution Confirming Council's Appointment of Two Members to the Village Volunteer Firefighters Dependent Fund Board, and Declaring an Emergency.

**\*Ordinance No. 20924-11:** An Ordinance Providing for an Increase in the Payment to Members of the Various Boards and Commissions of the Village, and Declaring an Emergency.

**\*Resolution No. 2024-12:** A Resolution Approving the Mayor's Re-Appointment of Susan Hamilton to the Position of Village Engineer and Authorizing the Mayor and President of Council to Enter and Execute a Contract with Susan Hamilton as the Engineer for the Village of Highland Hills, and Declaring an Emergency.

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Members of the public may attend the meeting in person, or via Zoom Video Communications on a smart phone or computer by connecting to the following link, which is available on the Village of Highland Hills website, [www.vhhohio.org](http://www.vhhohio.org):

<https://zoom.us/j/8838361642>

The public may also listen in by phone, by calling the following number:

**1-312-626-6799 and punch in meeting ID 8838361642#**

***(Important: If prompted for a participation number, press the # sign again)***

VILLAGE OF HIGHLAND HILLS, OHIO  
VILLAGE COUNCIL

*Margaret Sikon*

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret Sikon  
Clerk of Council

**THE VILLAGE OF HIGHLAND HILLS, OHIO**  
**COUNCIL MEMBER**

**OATH OF OFFICE**


I, **ROBERT L. WRIGHT, II** do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States of America, the Constitution and Laws of the State of Ohio, the Charter and Ordinances of the Village of Highland Hills, obey the rules, regulations and orders of Council of the Village of Highland Hills, Ohio, and will discharge the duties of the position of Councilperson to the best of my knowledge and ability, so help me God.

Date: January 24, 2024

  
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**ROBERT L. WRIGHT, II**

STATE OF OHIO                    )  
                                          ) ss.  
COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA    )

SWORN TO BEFORE ME, and subscribed in my presence this 24<sup>th</sup> Day of January, 2024.

  
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**THOMAS P. O'DONNELL**  
**DIRECTOR OF LAW**  
**VILLAGE OF HIGHLAND HILLS, OHIO**