

**Hillsboro City Council Meeting  
February 21, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Roll call was taken and those present were Mayor Downs and Commissioners Wright, Butler and Ward. Commissioner Gregory was absent because of illness.

The "Pledge of Allegiance" was recited.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Commissioners' reports:

Commissioner Butler read his report for public properties and streets and they will be included in the minutes.

Commissioner Gregory was absent

Commissioner Wright read her report and it will be included in the minutes.

Commissioner Ward said he met with CNB Bank with Bonnie and could possibly be buying some CD's with reserves.

Mayor Downs commended the fire department for their quick response to the fire on Hickory St. and said the police department has been kept pretty busy and thanked the police department for their work at the hospital & jail on a call. Downs reminded everyone to keep their leaves and gumballs picked up and out of the drains.

Community Planner's report will be included in the minutes.

City Engineer was not present.

Public Comments:

Jim O'Neill addressed the Council on the proposed water & sewer rate hike agenda item No. 19. O'Neill didn't agree with any proposed rate hike and said the City couldn't do it without a public hearing. O'Neill said a year ago there was a rate increase and he did some research. O'Neill said he thought the rate structure was very interesting after he got it. O'Neill said he had a statute that says the rate increase cannot be done without a notification about their right for a public forum and the amount of unaccounted for water must be used to determine the rate. O'Neill said nobody has been notified and if there is a rate increase he will make sure there is a public forum on the increase. O'Neill said he knows for a fact two contracts have been awarded with out bidding.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Ward** and seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve paying bills for the month of February in the amount of \$357,101.93. Bills for

Fitz's Dive Shop and Sentinel Equipment were pulled until invoices were sent. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Butler** and seconded by Commissioner Wright to adopt Ordinance No. 1749 an ordinance authorizing advertisement for sale property owned by the City of Hillsboro – 1116 South Main Street. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Butler** and seconded by Commissioner Ward to adopt Ordinance No. 1750 an ordinance authorizing advertisement for sale property owned by the City of Hillsboro – 1115 South Main Street. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Ward** and seconded by Commissioner Wright to adopt Ordinance No. 1751 an ordinance amending chapter 40 of the revised code of ordinances regarding fences, walls and obstructions and section 6-4-4 of the Hillsboro Property Maintenance Code. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Butler** and seconded by Commissioner Ward to approve a \$3,000 proposal from Hurst & Rosche for bridge inspections of City bridges. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Butler** and seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve reinstating dog ordinances for the City. Commissioner Butler said it was only for discussion and he wanted everyone to think about what they wanted in the code. There was no action taken.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Butler** and seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve hiring Bailey Newingham as the Central Park Pool manager. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Butler** and seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve hiring Bernard Huber to run the South Marina. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Butler** and seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve purchasing a field groomer from ERB Turf Equipment for a cost of \$19,621.28. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Butler** and seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve purchasing pipe and valves for the Hillsboro Old Lake drawdown system from Midwest Municipal Supply for a cost of \$30,944.84. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Wright** and seconded by Commissioner ward to approve a 15% rate increase for water & sewer and removing steps 4 & 5 for the rate costs. An ordinance will be approved at the next meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion to Adjourn was made at 7:53 pm by Commissioner Ward** and seconded by Commissioner Wright. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cory M. Davidson, City Clerk

# Parks & Public Properties Dept. Work Summary

## Council Meeting Report-February 21, 2023

- Checking buildings/heat, servicing dog park, emptying trash cans, picking up trash, etc.
- Continued at the former rent house at the Harkey House working on structural stabilization, updating the wiring, preparing for drywall, etc.
- Replaced heater at N. Marina
- Met with Fred, Kendra, and Brian Limbaugh about sidewalks at Central Park
- Worked on budget proposal
- Building Trades classes disassembled pavilion at Scout Camp for future rebuilding at Central Park. They are now working on the building at Central Park that will house restrooms.
- Attended Rivers & Routes tourism summit with Fred, Sarah, and Valerie Belusko
- Hard west winds loosened the temporary cable at the south marina slips dock resulting in damage. The parks and streets departments teamed up and have the dock temporarily secured again. We are waiting on an estimate from JLS Marine (the builder of the dock) for repairs.
- Continued blowing, vacuuming, and mulching leaves at the campground
- Mondin Electric repaired "dead leg" of power feeding multiple campsites at the campground

# STREET DEPT. REPORT

2-21-23

1. INSTALLING METAL ON NEW POLE BARN
2. PICKED UP BRUSH
3. CLEANED STORM GRATES
4. INSTALLED NEW HARD DRIVE FOR POLICE SQUAD CAMERA SYSTEM
5. OIL CHANGE IN POLICE SQUAD CAR
6. SERVICED SOME EQUIPMENT

Public Utility Report February 21, 2023

**Water:**

Lake Glenn Shoals water quality is still very good right now, a slightly higher pH than usual this time of year.

We are still evaluating performance of the media replacement in filter #1. We still do not have enough information to see any change at this time since we are still in the process of "seasoning" the filters.

Hach Field Service is coming in this week to perform the quarterly calibrations of the online analyzers.

The raw water generator has been cycling automatically since the issues a few weeks ago.

We received all of the 1 1/2" meters we ordered last fall. There are still 320 standard meters from two outstanding orders. Badger has said they are making progress in getting the backlog of orders out the door, but we are potentially still several months out.

**Sewer:**

Pre-Procurement Bids were opened on February 9<sup>th</sup>. The Oxidation Ditch Equipment, Sludge Dewatering Centrifuge, UV Disinfection, and Cloth Media Filtration were the items that were part of this bid cycle. W&C is tabulating the bids as well as the life cycle costs and will provide a recommendation to the City for review and acceptance soon.

Lakewood #2 had a couple alarms as of lately, we have determined that a couple floats were bad.

A site utility review at the Sewer Plant took place on February 8<sup>th</sup>. Both CTI and Ameren were present to discuss existing and proposed plants. The biggest challenge to the design is the overhead Ameren Power. A conceptual idea to re-feed the plant during construction is in review with Ameren.

Still looking into the two major breakdowns at the WWTP (Trickling Filter Rotating Distributor and the Clarifier Shaft). We have a parts quote on the Trickling Filter and we are still waiting to have the Clarifier inspected to determine what can be done.

Economic Development and Community Planner Report 2/21/2023

Continue to work on web design and social media campaigns and tourism efforts.

Working on some grant opportunities including one for the corner block building.

Working with Cory and Moran's office for the Capital Improvement Plan.

WSMI radio spot with Shawn Ballint to promote the Shop Hillsboro event on Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup>.

Shop Hillsboro event on Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> Mardi Gras feedback

I've been attending County meetings in order to stay in tune with what is happening at the county level and communicate pertinent information to the council and to Cory, City Clerk.

Feb 21-23 I will be in Springfield attending the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Rural Community Economic Development Conference bring put on by the Illinois Institute of Rural Affairs. I will also be a presenter along side Valerie Belusko to discuss the CORI study that MCEDC has been conducting.