

**Hillsboro City Council Meeting
September 24, 2021**

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

Roll call was taken and those present were Mayor Downs and Commissioners Duncan, Murphy, Robbins and Wright.

The "Pledge of Allegiance" was recited.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Commissioners' reports:

Commissioner Robbins read his reports and they will be included in the minutes. Robbins asked citizens to please understand the street department will not always get the brush picked up because of emergencies so please have some patience with them.

Commissioner Murphy said there are 60+ applicants for the police department. Murphy relayed a thanks to Justin for speaking with Jane Calvert about oil & chipping. Murphy said he spoke with Consolidated about their tower and they cleaned up around the tower. Murphy said the City has now demolished near 50 structures around town and some has been with the help of the property owners. Murphy thanked Weyer for everything has done around town and with getting the Governor to town. Murphy again asked everyone to call the police if they have a problem or see something wrong. Murphy read Lee's report and it will be included in the minutes.

Commissioner Duncan had nothing to report.

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

Mayor Downs let everyone know what the City has spent with Hillsboro Electric on getting pumps out of pump stations because of rags, towels, socks, etc. being placed down the sewer. Downs gave his condolences to past City employees who have passed away recently. Downs said the OSLAD grant had been submitted and spoke about the governor coming to town.

Community Planner Jonathan Weyer gave his report and it will be included in the minutes. Weyer let the Council know there will be a speaker for the October 10th Council meeting.

City Engineer Jeremy Connor said the Helston Place sewer replacement planning is still on going and the special bridge program will be coming up and everything will be submitted when time.

There were no public comments.

Members of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) presented Mayor Downs with a proclamation for constitution week and Mayor Downs signed the proclamation.

Motion was made by Commissioner Duncan and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to approve paying bills for the month of September in the amount of \$473,853.10. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Murphy to approve a request for improvement under the Illinois highway code for sidewalk and curb improvements at the plan locations along Tremont St., Mechanic St., and Wood St. (section 21-00000-01-SW) for \$175,000. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Duncan to approve project support for Illinois Safe Routes to School funding application – funding cycle 2021 (East Fairground from Rountree to Hilltop and Rountree from East Fairground to Illinois 127). Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Murphy and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to approve a \$24,629 housing grant payment to Bill's Home Improvement and a \$13,739 housing grant payment to Blue Collar Construction for a total of \$38,368. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Murphy to approve remodeling the Fireman's Clubhouse exterior for a cost NTE \$12,500. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Duncan to approve replacing a main electrical panel in Sherwood Forest Campground for a cost of \$18,870 from Mondin Electric. Motion carried 4-0 with Mayor Downs abstaining.

Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Wright to accept ownership of the public improvements for The Hills project and Kennedy Court in East Hillsboro. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Murphy to approve concrete work along the north side of Wait St. to include sidewalks and curb & gutter for a cost of \$5,600. Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Wright abstaining.

Agenda item No. 18 was pulled from the agenda by Mayor Downs.

Motion was made by Commissioner Duncan and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to approve the lease assignment, with an extension until 2051, for 315 Lakewood Dr. from Zoellick to Menzel. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wright and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to approve purchasing a new handheld meter reader from Midwest Meter for a cost of \$5,150. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve a TIF grant for Hillsboro Chiropractic Center located at 114 E. Wood St.. The item was tabled until more information could be obtained on the application.

Motion was made by Commissioner Murphy and seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve a \$1,975 TIF grant reimbursement for Spears Title, Jacob Fleming, for work done at 218 S. Main St. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve Cigna Health Insurance as the City carrier starting October 1st. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Duncan and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to adopt Resolution No. 2021-09, a Resolution for participation in the federal surplus program. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wright and seconded by Commissioner Murphy to approve purchasing a hydraulic saw from Schulte Supply Company for a cost of \$4,865. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Murphy to approve allowing Hurst & Rosche to review documentation for the 1994 gas leak at Glenn Shoals Lake per the EPA. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Murphy to approve hiring Billy Christian as the Youth Sports Administrator for the City. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Murphy and seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve the annual homecoming parade. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Murphy to approve appointing Ron Deabenderfer to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve a TIF grant reimbursement to Bri Spinner and Jessica Chappelle for installing a water line to their buildings. Both received \$9,171. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Murphy to approve a closed session on 5 ILCS 120/2(C)(6) "the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the City" at 8:33 pm.

Roll call to go back into regular session was taken at 8:47 pm with Mayor Downs and all Commissioners present.

There was no action taken on the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the City.

Motion to Adjourn was made at 8:48 pm by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Wright. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cory M. Davidson, City Clerk

Parks & Public Properties Dept. Work Summary

Council Meeting Report-September 14, 2021

- **Mowing in parks, lakes, and public properties**, emptying trash cans, servicing the dog park, spraying weeds, trimming limbs, weed eating, etc.
- Decant pond at Sports Complex has been dipped out by E & G Construction
- Worked with Rench Trucking to haul dirt from Complex to Central Park to continue grading slopes to allow mowing
- Office of the State Fire Marshall inspected the fuel system at the Marina and our permit was approved for 2 more years
- Removed tree at NW corner of Central Park
- Page Tree Service removed hollow hickory tree at the Fireman's Clubhouse
- Dug out large granite rock and place at 4th of July Point Park to be lettered with park address
- Worked with Jonathan and Jeremy Connor to complete OSLAD Grant application
- Met with Jim Rossel of Haier Plumbing to discuss piping construction to allow lowering of Hillsboro Lake for spillway replacement and other future maintenance
- Installed two man doors and garage door in building at Central Park
- Finally received and installed garage door for the shop that was ordered May 12th
- Dealt with aftermath of excessive rains-close and reopen lake, remove debris from north access are launch ramp, level docks, etc.
- Replaced post at Campground that had electrical service attached
- Received 72" Grasshopper mower

Street Department

1. OILED ROADS (HAVE 4 LEFT TO COMPLETE)
2. RAN DURAPATCHER
3. RAN STREET SWEEPER
4. BLACKTOPPED VARIOUS PLACES
5. MOWED RIGHT OF WAYS
6. REPAIRED WATER LEAK AT CENTRAL PARK POOL
7. PICKED UP BRUSH
8. REPAIRED STORM DRAIN ON MAIN ST. AT WOOD ST.
9. FINISHED CURB AND GUTTER ON SUMMER ST. (STILL HAVE SOME SIDEWALK TO DO)
10. CLEANED STORM DRAINS AND GRATES
11. TILLED AND REPAIRED YARD ON HICKORY ST. THAT WAS DUG FOR A WATER LEAK
12. HELPED THE SEWER PLANT REPAIR PUMPS AT THE HICKORY PUMP STATION TWICE

THANK YOU TO THE TOWN FOR YOUR PATIENCE AND UNDERSTANDING DURING ROAD OILING

RANDY LEETHAM
Chief of Police

TIM HOPPER
DEPUTY CHIEF

TIM SHELDON
Patrolman

John Stretch
Patrolman

Gary Mellor
Investigator

Adam Fath
Patrolman

Clay Murzynski
Patrolman

Caleb Reynolds
Patrolman

Mike Lee
*Code Enforcement /
Zoning*

Kelly Brewer
Part-Time Patrol

FRANK KENNY
PART-TIME PATROL

THOMAS O'BRIEN
PART-TIME PATROL



HILLSBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT

447 SOUTH MAIN STREET, SUITE 5

HILLSBORO, IL 62049

PHONE: 217-532-6120

FAX: 217-532-5599

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT Zoning and Code Enforcement September 14, 2021

I have spoken to 6 homeowners about various items such as high grass, trash and building conditions.

I have spoken with 3 architects about their upcoming projects.

There were 2 citations issued for failure to Maintain/permit dangerous building conditions.

I attended a Zoning Board of Appeals meeting where 3 Variances were discussed and passed.

I am continuing to work on rundown buildings and tall grass.

Michael Lee
Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer

Public Utility Report Sept. 14, 2021

Water:

Massive rainfall impacted the water quality from Glenn Shoals, it took a few days to get that corrected but it is all back to normal.

Hydrant flushing will begin the week of September 20. During this time, there may be periods of lower water pressure and the potential for discolored water. If you encounter dirty water, please run the cold faucet until it subsides.

Sewer:

Wipes, rags, socks, bath towels, and other materials have recently been pulled from lift station pumps all over town including twice on Hickory St. Remember please do not flush wipes or feminine hygiene of any kind. Even if it says "flushable" as our sewer was not designed to handle those items.

Used the Hydro-Vac to thoroughly clean the wet well at Hickory Street. We have used a private company in the past to perform this service but now will be able to utilize the City owned equipment. This will be a tremendous benefit and will allow us to possibly get all accessible stations cleaned twice a year.

US Army Corps of Engineers visited the proposed new Sewer Plant location to review for wetland issues. It was determined the site did not meet any wetland conditions and will not require any further action.

Cleaned a sewer on Truesdale Place after homeowner experienced slow drainage. Likely tree roots on the homeowner's side is the culprit.

**The new water bill/payment system is online, if you experience any problems please call City Hall. Anyone that was already on auto debit doesn't need to do anything. I urge everyone else to sign up for auto debit to avoid late payments in the future.

Community and Economic Planner Report 09/14/2021

-Hillsboro had a great week last week! The Governor came, as the Mayor discussed, and we told the world about our town being a part of the Smithsonian Exhibit. I want to thank everyone who helped last week to make everything possible, it was truly a community effort. Again, just shows the strength of our town!

-This Thursday, we will be meeting with Barb Smith, Behavioral Health Nurse Coordinator Hillsboro Area Hospital, to plan the Mental Health Summit on November 8th. To remind everyone, this is a priority of Commissioner Murphy's and we adopted into the goals of our strategic plan last year. Mental Health has always been a serious issue, but I think we've all seen the red lights flashing in the past two years.

-The OSLAD grant has been submitted and I want to thank the Mayor, Commissioner Robbins, Jim May and Jeremy Connor for their hard work to complete this application in three weeks. It was no small feat and everyone pitched in hard.

-As to grants, we are working on two as of yesterday. The first one is the Safe Routes to School grant. You'll be addressing our part later in the meeting. Jeremy and I will be leaving after our reports to attend the school board meeting to answer questions there. It's due September 30th, so we are going to be pressing hard on that one.

The next one will be the grant the governor announced here on Friday. We have a bit more time on that one, thankfully, but we will be pressing hard on this one. It could take the place of our ITEP grant to some degree, so it's a bit of a gift. Stay tuned for more reports on that soon.

-We had our first meetings with the Center on Rural Innovation last week and it's an exciting start. They gave us the layout of how they will conduct the digital economy study. We anticipate it will take 6-8 weeks and we will be pulling in area digital economy leaders. It fits very well with our economic development plan and I'm excited to see how this moves forward.

-Mayor Downs extended an invitation to Dr. David Lett, who is leading the South Central Illinois Innovation and Job Center, to speak to the council on October 12th about the effort and how Hillsboro can be further involved. The vision is to be the regional workforce training and innovation hub for agriculture, manufacturing, trades, technical and entrepreneurial initiatives. It will serve Macoupin and Montgomery Counties with the main location being in Litchfield, as the geographical center of these regions.

-Myself and Kaitlyn Fath are working on some training opportunities for our local restaurants. Stay tuned.

-The Growth Management Plan is on track for a December rough draft to be presented to the Planning Commission and the Council. The committee has done a fantastic amount of work and I'm grateful for everything they've done so far.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Weyer
Community and Economic Planner.