

**Hillsboro City Council Meeting
September 22, 2020**

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

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

The "Pledge of Allegiance" was recited.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Commissioners' reports:

Commissioner Robbins reports were printed and they will be included in the minutes.

Commissioner Murphy asked everyone to keep the town clean and mow their yards because everyone is responsible for their own property. Murphy said code enforcement continues and Coach Stewart is out mowing and weed eating.

Interim Mayor Duncan had nothing to report

Commissioner Downs said hydrant flushing will begin soon and the semi-annual chlorine burn will begin and last about two weeks. Downs asked everyone to try and locate your curb stop so you know where it is. Downs said a lighting strike at the plant took out some electronics and the agitator inside the water tower has burnt up and the company is going to honor the warranty and fix it. Downs said a sewer line and storm sewer on Summer St. has been located and both seem to be right next to each other.

Community Planner Jonathan Weyer gave his report and it will be included in the minutes.

City Engineer was not present.

Public Comments:

Eric Bradley and John Gibb addressed the Council on the storm sewer and sanitary sewer at his house and his neighbors. Both would like to build garages and need both sewers moved so they can build their garages in the near future. Clerk Davidson was advised by Interim Mayor Duncan to meet with both and see what needed to be done.

Chris Hubbart addressed the Council and a printout of his comments will be included in the minutes.

The Daughters of the American Revolution presented a proclamation to the Council in honor of constitution week.

Dave Leonatti addressed the Council on the corner Block building. Dave said the building could be saved but it will take some time and money to get it done. Dave said the roof needs structural repair to stop the leaks and begin working on the inside. Dave said there are several life and safety issues with the building and Dave says he has the resources to possibly get some grant money to work on the building. Dave said the

building is a great building and he doesn't know of any other downtown building with a roof structure like the corner building. Dave said the building is stable and it could make a good building with some care.

Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Downs to accept the 2020 audit report from Patton & Company. Kyle Putnam from Patton & Company addressed the council and explained she had given each one of them a report. Putnam said the general fund and expenses went up because of IMRF payout. Putnam said there was a loss for 2020 and the revenues will not increase so the City needs to be careful. Putnam said the special funds look good and have increased for the City. Putnam said the water & sewer department increased some funds for the year. Putnam said the overall forecast for the future is not good since most small businesses continue to struggle. Putnam said the pensions are still a concern especially since the state now handles the investments. Putnam said to expect a decrease in almost all taxes because of Covid-19. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Downs to approve the 2020 – 2021 health insurance plan for the City of Hillsboro from Blue Cross Blue shield. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Murphy and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to approve a quote from CTI to upgrade phone and internet systems at City Hall, the Police Department and the Fire Department at a cost of \$5,475.62. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Murphy to purchase a leaf vac for the street department at a cost of \$7,500.00. Motion carried 4-0.

Agenda item No. 15 was pulled from the agenda.

Motion was made by Commissioner Murphy and seconded by Commissioner Downs to approve deeding over property along Ice Plant Rd. PIN No. 16-01-305-033 to Noah Dean Emerick. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Downs to approve a \$2,000 façade grant for Hollie Blake (Subway). Motion carried 4-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Downs to approve a \$4,000 façade grant for Ryan Hamby (305 & 307 S. Main St.). Motion carried 4-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Downs to approve a \$2,000 façade grant for Baltic Avenue Investments, LLC (107 S. Main St.). Motion carried 4-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Downs to approve a \$20,000 third phase TIF reimbursement for work done on 229 S. Main St. This will be one of the upstairs apartments. **Motion was made by Commissioner Duncan** and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to approve the reimbursement pending approval by Moran Economic Development. Amended Motion carried 4-0. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion to Adjourn was made at 8:07 pm by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Murphy. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cory M. Davidson, City Clerk

Parks & Public Properties Dept. Work Summary

Council Meeting Report-September 22, 2020

- Mowing, weed eating, and weed spraying in parks, public properties, and campground
- Pressure washed Fireman's Clubhouse and applied one coat of paint to exterior
- Picked up and disposed of junk trailer and drag that were removed from the woods north of the parking lot at the South Marina
- Repairs and maintenance to boat
- Put fish structures in Hillsboro Lake donated by Thomas Reynolds
- Performed electrical repairs in campground
- Removed gate and associated fencing from the ramp to the Marina
- Cut up and hauled off logs from Challacombe property and fallen limb in the campground
- Jim went to Taylorville and met with the lake superintendent to look at a siltation structure and related blueprints to see if a similar structure might work for siltation at Lake Hillsboro at Smith Road bridge.
- Set forms at Sports Complex for new sidewalk section
- Performed monthly inspection of Marina fuel underground storage tank
- Applied 2 coats of stain to Challacombe deck
- Applied stain to Lake Hillsboro and South Marina launch docks
- Applied dark stain to Masonic Pavilion
- Installed four benches at the fire pit at Hillsboro Lake
- Installed replacement electrical access panel in the area under the stage at the campground
- Jim met with representative from Burbach Aquatics about the condition of the pool and the possibility of the City partnering with them for assistance with the OSLAD and potentially other grants
- John Pocklington donated his time and equipment to disc Central Park in preparation for all the work that is to be performed
- All sites in Sherwood Forest Campground were rented for the 2020 season

STREET DEPT.

1. FINISHED POURING CONCRETE AT CORNER OF OAK AND SUMMER STREETS.
2. RAN STREET SWEEPER
3. RAN DURAPATCHER
4. FINISHED PUTTING DASH IN CAR 7'S SQUAD
5. RAN SONDE THROUGH SEWER ON SUMMER ST.
6. CLEANED GRATES
7. BLACKTOPPED
8. RAN JETTER THROUGH STORM SEWER BEHIND FAIRMONT PL.

Community and Economic Planner Report, 09-22-2020

-The Strategic Plan Public Comment Meeting will be set for October 27th. It would have been the 13th, but I'll be in Wisconsin on my pilgrimage. The plan is still on the website and already available for public comment.

-Marketing website will hopefully be done by the end of this week. The reason for the delay is that we have a team that has a huge amount of responsibilities elsewhere, so coordinating everyone's schedule is a bit rough. However, it is looking fantastic and I can't wait to see the results.

-In our ongoing campaign to try and figure out the Corner Block, we've hit on a number of different strategies and possibilities. Last week, I decided to try and stitch together a narrative that will give us what I hope is a last ditch effort to save the building. Essentially, it's a document that tries to stitch everyone's ideas together in one place so we are all working on the same page, literally. You should have copies of that in your emails and boxes.

-The Coop will be holding a vision casting session on October 3rd where we will nail down the vision, mission and direction for the next three years. Last week, Cara, the executive director and I, meet with Senator Andy Manar who is going to help us on the state level with connections and some help on every level.

-The Alexandria announcement last week was a great success. Senator Manar and Representative Avery Bourne attended and I want to thank them publically for coming to the event.

-Atlas is planning another December announcement. It is potentially bigger than the purse company. Details will be forthcoming and the council can ask me for details privately.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Weyer

Community and Economic Planner

The purpose of me coming before you today is in hope of bridging the gap of the blatant abuse of power, authority, and biased reporting that has caused division and undo stress in this community.

I believe that Hillsboro Illinois and Montgomery county is a beautiful place to raise your family. A place truly where all lives matter.

We have one of the most amazing Mexican restaurants in the world. There is a cozy cafe where you can get a burger and one of the most amazing egg rolls know to man. Authenticated by a family that chose to settle here with Vietnamese heritage.

A trip through town and you will find a Romainion family that settled here and has continued to invest and build our community. Giving us all a Half time in a world that truly needs a break from the chaos.

I grew up playing football here on the 03-04 final four back to back toppers. Where one of our strongest fastest running backs was Reggie Evans a POC who's father worked for the city and is a great man no matter what color his skin is.

We are home of Matt Hughes and a country boy can survive. I myself am proof that through hard work and determination you can do something amazing from examples like him.

I want to personally thank each and everyone of you for the yes votes and believing in me enough to loan us \$20,000 of tax payers money. Along with giving us the \$2,000 a year for three years out of the Tif fund to help make Hubbard Wood possible.

Along with the city we were also funded by two different Native American families. Who personally loaned us money to help us get our start when others couldn't see our vision.

I am proud of myself and my wife for overcoming the obstacles and paying back the tax payers money with interest to the city. It saddens me to know that this is not the case for everyone that has used tax payer funds.

I want to remind you all that you are elected by a community of constituents. All of you besides Interim mayor Katie Duncan who was appointed by previous mayor Brian Sullivan.

Elected to represent all the people of this community and not just some of them.

It sickens me to hear that members of this board have referred to citizens of this community on a regular basis as animals. I have personally been told by this member of the board that they wish members of this community would go back to not paying attention.

I was also told by this member of the board that they cant wait till they are off the board so they can reveal truths behind how bad our water situation was in Hillsboro.

This is one of many reasons that I am pushing to have all meetings here forth recorded for public record and viewing both live and available for the citizens to recall at any moment.

I was asked why I am bringing these issues to facebook and to the public.

I will remind you again that you are elected officials that are elected to serve for the community as a whole and not just some of them.

Which brings me to the legal letter I was given by the city police department to cease and desist saying that there was a Trump Rally coming to our beautiful lake on labor day weekend.

I was told by a local citizen that they were told that Chief of police Randy Letham told them they could not have this rally.

In fact in the paper from the last meeting nothing was brought up about a Trump Rally and Randy Leetham was quoted as saying he said no when asked about a drinking party.

I have requested minutes from the previous meeting to try to see exactly what was said.

However after requesting information about my dealings with the city it has come to my attention that meetings are transferred to minutes by people that work for this city. People make mistakes.

In the meeting minutes that I requested it states that I Hubbard Wood receive \$6,000 a year over 3 years at \$2,000 a year as long as he stays open.

It was a clear mistake.

Much like hearing about commissioner Murphy having to restate the same thing in three consecutive meetings so that Hillsboro Journal Representative Mr. D would accurately report what he stated in the paper.

This is simply a waste of tax payers money and time.

Which brings me to my main point.

In the letter I was sent it clearly states

The City of Hillsboro takes no position on political affiliation or your ability to support or refusal to support various political candidates.

It has been long standing policy that in the city of hillsboro that when the city property is used as part of any type of organized activity whether it be political or otherwise the event must be approved by the city council and the event organizers must show proof of insurance on a level that satisfies the city for the activities planned.

When i raised the question on who had these permissions and insurances to perform the black lives matter prayer vigil. I was presented with information that Matt Sands was one of the organizers of this event. He simply notified some members of the council and police chief Randy Leetham and was able to perform what many members of this community consider a politically biased event that has caused death destruction and chaos in communities across this nation.

I later found out that we even had a stolen van from another community burned in our city that was never reported about. I was told that this had direct connection to the event that took place in our community. Thank god that was all.

A little more research and I found that Democratic Candidate for governor J.B. Pritzker was able to speak on Lincoln Plaza. I have asked and am still looking for information on weather they had to provide the same provisions that I was asked for and any help in finding this information would be much appreciated.. Or if this is another blatant discrimination becasue of a difference in political views. Which I believe is simply unconstitutional.

What concerned me the most is City Planner Jonathan Weyer was listed as one of the organizers of the Black lives Matter prayer vigil.

After being personally attacked about my political view by city planner Jonathan Weyer while I knew he was working in the city during business hours I brought this to the attention of Previous Mayor Brian Sullivan.

I feel that I have been personally left out of events and point blank ignored because of dealings with Jonathan Weyer. He even posted that Kyle Anderson opened the first Art Gallery In hillsboro. This is many years after we opened

Hubbart Wood which announced our art Gallery right on the front of the building. In fact Jonathan Weyer was given inside information about my operation while working for the city.

I also messaged him telling him of his error which to this day i believe stands to be corrected.

Much of this dispute between city planner Jonathan Weyer and myself was over him calling the President of the United states of America Donald J. Trump a rapist or sexual predator.

When Jonathan Weyer first came to town he told me that there was one crazy chick that was making accusations about him. I simply told him it was a hypocracy for him to say that about the president because he told me he faced the same thing.

He demanded an apology and I refused to give him one because I had stuck up for Jonathan on coming to town originally.

Since coming out publicly about what i feel like was point blank discrimination and now harrassment from Jonathan Weyer. I have been sent many articles that speak about several women being victimized by him. In fact up to 8.

The articles talk about manipulation, persuasion and narcissism. Some of the very things I feel he has done to me and now this community.

I know he has done some great things in this community as should anyone hired to perform this duty with tax payers money.

I have asked for the removal of Jonathan Weyer to prevent further disruption of equality, freedom, and the pursuit to happiness in our beautiful community.

I would also ask that we use CTI to our advantage and record and produce live footage of meetings from here on. I know as I have talked to city Clerk Cory Davidson that he is working towards this as well.

I would also like to ask that members of this body of government no longer act in biased actions or above their pay grade.

Mr. Leetham you are the chief of police. There is a bureaucracy that must take place in a community to ensure that people's rights and freedoms are not infringed upon. It is not your job to tell someone they can or can not hold an event in this community. I know you should know this now as your name and email was carbon copied on the letter i received that describes the process to hold an event in this city.

It did make me happy to see you said no to a drinking event though as i expressed my concerns in that department to sheriff Rick Robbins on your well being in February of 2019.