

**Hillsboro City Council Meeting**  
**March 7, 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 Gregory. Commissioner Ward was absent.

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. Butler said there was a meeting with City personnel over the animal code and he will be meeting with the County along with Mayor Downs. Butler thanked Mike Beeler, Tom Weiss and Matt Weiss for helping straighten the pole barn being built at the street shed.

Commissioner Gregory had nothing to report.

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

Mayor Downs reminded everyone about the Façade Grants available for local businesses and said there has not been anymore issues with lift stations.

Community Planner Sarah McConnell read her report and it will be included in the minutes.

The city engineer was not present.

There were no public comments.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Gregory** and seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve purchasing security cameras from Utilitra for a cost of \$49,364.18. The cost includes the installation and configuration of security cameras at City Hall, Police Department and 3 enclosures which will cover some of downtown along with a LPR camera and camera for Memorial Park. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Gregory** and seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve the Old Tyme Tractor Show to be held at the Fireman's Clubhouse on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Wright** and seconded by Commissioner Butler to adopt Ordinance No. 1752 amending section 38-5-42 of the revised code of ordinances of the City of Hillsboro. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Wright** and seconded by Commissioner Butler to adopt Ordinance No. 1753 authorizing and approving the acquisition of certain

property located at 506 Taylorville Rd. by negotiation or by condemnation by the City of Hillsboro. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Wright** and seconded by Commissioner Gregory to adopt Ordinance No. 1754 authorizing and approving the acquisition of certain property located at 469 Taylorville Rd. by negotiation or by condemnation by the City of Hillsboro. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Wright** and seconded by Commissioner Butler to approve a proposal from Webster & Associates, Inc. for appraisals of four properties for easements for a cost of \$6,000. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Gregory** and seconded by Commissioner Butler to approve purchasing 10 body cameras and five spare batteries for the police department from Motorola Solutions for a cost of \$24,195. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Gregory** and seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve purchasing 10 rifle plates for vests for the police department from Safe Life Defense for a cost of \$4,041. Motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner Butler started discussion on the use of ARPA funds. Butler said he would like to use part of the remainder of ARPA funds to purchase a new barge and track hoe for Glenn Shoals Lake. Butler said he would like to use around \$300,000 of the remaining money. Butler said he wanted to know everyone's thoughts on the use of the money. Butler wanted everyone to think about it for the next couple of weeks. Butler said the barge will be about the same barge Litchfield purchased. Commissioner Gregory asked who would operate the equipment and Butler said they would get training on the equipment before it is used. Gregory also asked about renting a track hoe and he was told it wouldn't be cost effective to rent one. Butler said if the City was going to work on the lakes and follow the study when it is done they would need this equipment. Commissioner Wright asked if the requirements for what the City needed would change once the study is done and Butler said he spoke to Jeff and he said this was going to be what the City needed for everything the City wants to do. Wright asked if there were any other sources of money available because the City needs to replace lead service lines and Gregory asked if the money could be used on the west side of town to replace water lines.

Commissioner Butler started discussions on land along Industrial Park Dr. on the east side of the road but it is owned by the City and in Schram City's corporate limits. Butler said he has someone that wants to go on the property for his business and build a machine shed. Butler said he would like a contract if it is sold making them put a building on the property within a certain amount of time. Butler said Schram City will not allow the City of Hillsboro to annex that property. Mayor Downs thought the City should look at doing the MAI appraisal so it can be sold.

**Motion to Adjourn was made at 7:56 pm by Commissioner Gregory** 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-March 7, 2023

- Checking buildings/heat, servicing dog park, emptying trash cans, picking up trash, etc.
- Continued work at the new Harkey museum working on updating the wiring, aligning walls, preparing for drywall, etc.
- Made repairs to roof and siding at Harkey House and museum from wind damage
- Jim went out on both lakes with Jeff Boeckler and Dave Strowmatt. Jeff used GIS mapping to identify areas of erosion, riprapping, siltation, tributaries coming into the lake, etc.
- Jim met with Tim Ferguson and Jeff Boeckler about sampling the lakes and tributaries leading to both lakes. This sampling procedure will start as soon as equipment can be obtained.
- Removed bench and timbers from former "Monarch Park"
- Building Trades classes continue to work on the building at Central Park removing old siding and framing up for restrooms.
- Hard west winds started to pull out the post that the temporary cable was hooked to for the south marina slips dock. A new post has been set in concrete that will hold the cable until new anchors can be set. We have received an estimate from JLS Marine (the builder of the dock) for repairs.
- Cleaning up items left behind on non-renewed sites in the campground in preparation for the Move and Waiting List procedures that will occur on March 18<sup>th</sup> at the campground.
- Removed two docks that had fallen into disrepair and were dangerous from the old lake at the campground
- Continued picking up sticks and limbs and blowing and mulching leaves at the campground
- Parks crew dropped and cleaned up multiple dead trees in the campground
- Trees dropped at Challacombe, south marina, and campground by Tree Bothers Tree Service
- CTI has started installation of new wifi equipment at the campground.
- Modified boat trailer to better fit the boat
- David McCormack is finalizing design of disc golf course. Clearing of fairways and installation will begin soon after.

## **STREET DEPT. REPORT**

1. STARTED PUTTING ROOF ON POLE BARN
2. CLEANED STORM DRAINS
3. PICKED UP BRUSH
4. JETTED SOME CULVERTS AT PINNACLE PT.
5. MADE REPAIRS TO LEAF VAC
6. SPREAD ROCK AT SPORTS COMPLEX
7. MADE SOME REPAIRS TO THE STREET SWEEPER
8. BLACKTOPPED SOME POTHoles AROUND TOWN

**Water:**

The chemical bay garage door opener was replaced by Springfield Overhead Door and is working well.

Midwest meter delivered 120 water meters and registers, but still do not have the cellular endpoints as of yet. Fingers crossed we will see them in the next month or so.

The rain late last week has caused issues with water quality coming from Glenn Shoals Lake. We have been able to address the issue so far with chemical adjustments at the treatment plant.

The IL EPA has opened up a second round of funding for Lead Service Inventories. Woodard and Curran will be completing the application again. The EPA has suggested this round of funding will be for the communities that applied and were denied, as well as additional water supplies that did not participate initially.

Tim F and Jim M met with Jeff Boeckler of NorthWater discussing in-lake monitoring to establish a baseline. There will be some minor equipment purchases needed but we will plan to run all the testing in house at the WWTP.

**Sewer:**

Despite the large amount of rain we had last week, the sewer system encountered few reported issues. Basically the normal issues we see with rains of that size and intensity.

One of the Equalization Basin pumps suffered a blown motor. We have a spare motor and seal on hand and will be getting it repaired ASAP. The motor is not worth rebuilding and we will likely seek a replacement to have on hand again.

Staff has been servicing the lawn mowers in preparation for the grass cutting season.

The Trickling Filter pump system had a failure last week, which turned out to be an issue with the level controller and floats. Hillsboro Electric assisted and it is back up and running as designed again.

**Tim Ferguson**

Project Manager | Associate Principal

### Economic Development and Community Planner Report 03/07/2023

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. Had a meeting on Friday with Aly Grady, Mayor Downs, Brian Carver, and Randy Renner

Monday I met with the Historical Preservation Committee to discuss the façade grant application from Connie Childers.

Working with Cory and Moran's office for the Capital Improvement Plan. Meeting with Jeremy on Monday afternoon to fill in the details on the worksheet they sent to us.

Energy Grant : There is a county meeting on Wednesday I will be attending. They will meet to discuss how to allocate the grant money for phase 2. Plan to meet with Mayor and Fred to discuss what our phase 2 plan should be. H

Attended the county committee meeting on Tuesday morning and will attend the meeting on Thursday evening.

Feb 21-23 I attended and presented the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Rural Community Economic Development Conference in Springfield put on by the Illinois Institute of Rural Affairs. Our presentation went well and had about 75 people total attend the two sessions. I had several people approach me about Hillsboro and express interest in our town and the good things we are doing here.