

**Hillsboro City Council Meeting  
October 26, 2021**

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

Roll call was taken and those present were Mayor Downs and Commissioners Duncan, Robbins and Wright. Commissioner Murphy was remote because of an illness.

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.

Commissioner Murphy said Litchfield announced in the paper that they are looking for new ways to tackle derelict property and a lot of the communities are looking at what Hillsboro has done and modeling some of their efforts after Hillsboro. Murphy reminded everyone to pick up their trash, help their neighbors and call police if you something wrong because Facebook is not an outlet for complaints.

Commissioner Duncan had nothing to report.

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

Mayor Downs said the Hillsboro fall cleanup will be Tuesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> – Saturday November 6<sup>th</sup> at the street shed. Downs said the rake & run will be the Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup> to go along with the fall cleanup.

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

City Engineer Jeremy Connor reported the Seward St. bridge project went in front of the Planning Commission and he is waiting for responses from them. Connor said the bid date for the sidewalk work had been approved by IDOT and sent out to let contractors know. Connor also said he is working with Woodard & Curran to hopefully include the pump station in the Helston St. project.

There were no public comments.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Wright** and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to adopt Ordinance No.1720, an Ordinance amending Article II sections 38-2-1 & 38-2-6 of the City of Hillsboro Code. Motion carried 5-0.

Agenda item No. 10 to approve a NTE \$2,000 Façade Improvement Grant for Teresa Taylor at 211 S. Main St. was pulled from the agenda by Mayor Downs.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Murphy** and seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve hiring Charlie Goad as a part-time dispatcher at \$15 an hour. Motion carried 5-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins** and seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve allowing Greg Cowell to use City owned land near Glenn Shoals Lake to create a retention pond and clear out some trees in front of his property. Motion carried 5-0.

**Motion to Adjourn was made at 7:30 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-October 26, 2021**

- Mowing in parks, lakes, and public properties, emptying trash cans, servicing the dog park, spraying weeds, weed eating, etc.
- Met with Glenn Shoals Lake adjacent landowner for potential City land use
- Worked on entrance to dog park
- Added rock to trail base and riprapped erosion areas in creek banks near dog park
- Added mulch around trees, benches, etc, at dog park
- Picked up trees from Forrest-Keeling Nursery for "Recover, Replant, Restore!" grant program
- Dug up pipe at S. Marina parking lot restrooms that was broken causing a recurring sink hole
- Power washed Harkey rental house for Imagine Hillsboro volunteer painters and cleaned up landscaping
- Assisted at the Sports Complex with drainage and plumbing issues
- Replaced posts and repainted brackets for ENTER and EXIT signs at Challacombe House
- Patched a leak on flat roof at Challacombe House
- Conducted UST inspection at Marina
- Retaining wall work at the shop continues
- Rebuilt a picnic table

## **STREET DEPARTMENT STUFF**

Finished sidewalk work on Summer St

Poured sidewalk on Park St

Picked up dead cat on Main St

Blacktopped

Ran street sweeper and leaf vac

Repaired sewer main on School St

Picked up leaves and brush

Replaced street sign for Huber Dr.

## **Community and Economic Planner Report 10/12/2021**

-The Mental Health Summit is being planned for November 8<sup>th</sup>. It will include area leaders, at least for this first go around. We're hoping to expand it at future events. Again, this is in our Strategic Plan for the city and will start the conversation of how we can work together to meet the needs of those struggling with mental health issues.

-Next Tuesday, I was invited by BIO-STL to attend a conference on Rural Health and Economic Development at University of Missouri-St. Louis. This will include a number of presentations about how health care is important for citizen health and rural economic development. As I stated in the economic development plan, the Health sector is our most important economic driver not only in Hillsboro, but our region.

-Mayor Downs and I will be working with Atlas 46 and their next stage of development in Hillsboro. We will have more details as we progress, but it's some pretty exciting stuff. This has been an ongoing conversation, but due to getting the production facility in Vandalia up and going, a vital need for them, they're ready to take things to the next stage here.

-The Coop shared workspace will be open next Monday and taking new members.

-The Center on Rural Innovation study is proceeding and we're working hard to meet their information requirements. We're still doing research and working with CORI. More on this soon.

-The downtown grant work is ongoing with a public meeting to happen on November 18<sup>th</sup>.

-The Growth Management Plan is on track for a December rough draft to be presented to the Planning Commission and the Council. The committee is submitting their reports to me so that I can start writing it up.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Weyer  
Community and Economic Planner.

## **Public Utility Report Oct. 26, 2021**

### **Water:**

Parts for High Service Pump #1 rebuild project have finally showed up. Staff will disassembly the pump and get it to Illinois Electric Works to make the repairs. Once complete, they will install and laser align the unit prior to testing.

4" water meter has been installed at the Hospital.

Schram City's water meter was updated to bring them online with Beacon Badger platform. Currently, along with all the other municipalities, they are self reading and reporting the monthly usage. Starting next month, the City will be able to bill them via the software. We will plan on updating Taylor Springs' meter next. They have a compatible Badger Meter we can connect to as well.

Water is still looking good from Lake Glenn Shoals. No quality issues currently.

### **Sewer:**

We believe we have identified the sock bandit feeding the Hickory Street pump. Sewer department staff installed a catch basket to prevent material from making it to the pumps. Hopefully this will decrease the hours and dollars we have been spending over there.

Tim met with representatives of Hurst-Rosche on the Helston Street Sewer Project. They are looking at the feasibility of rehabbing the pump station behind Paris Frozen Foods. It is currently in poor condition and potentially could be added on with the sewer project.

Ameren has received the sample results of the ground water pumped from the first round of remediation. The levels of manganese and barium were elevated with everything else within range. Tim is looking into this and will report back if the City should allow for discharge of the water in to the sewer system. NOTE: The City has yet to agree to allow them to discharge. Representatives from both parties need to still negotiate terms and conditions. The only thing agreed to so far is water quality standards.

The Sewer Dept investigated a reported sewer issue on North Broad Street. We are working with on resolving the matter with all parties involved.