

**Hillsboro City Council Meeting  
December 14, 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 and Wright.

The "Pledge of Allegiance" was recited.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Commissioners' reports:

Mayor Downs read the street department and public property reports and they 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. Tim Ferguson reported that Mike Renfro had completed his Class A water certification.

Commissioner Murphy asked everyone to keep their properties clean and pick up after themselves. Mike Lee said the vehicles in East Hillsboro are in the process of being removed along with another property with trash and the trash is in the process of being removed. Lee said there were 63 building permits issued to date. Murphy said there are several items on the agenda to discuss for his departments. Murphy read two quotes that he found interesting and pertinent to what was going on.

Mayor Downs reported on vandalism around the parks and said cameras have caught some of what is going on and also reference to spit on the front door of City Hall. Downs said there will be some individuals wearing pink vests one day. Downs told everyone to be respectful to your neighbors and said the Imagine Hillsboro group did a great job with the Christmas Festival. Downs asked everyone to help the City out and clean up the ditches in front of their house to prevent backup.

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

City Engineer Jeremy Connor said the Helston Pl. project is moving forward along with the Huber Dr. water line project.

There were no public comments.

Agenda item #9 was pulled from the agenda by Mayor Downs.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Duncan** and seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve paying bills for the month of December in the amount of \$624,499.34. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Wright** and seconded by Commissioner Duncan to adopt Ordinance No. 1700 establishing water connection requirements in the City of Hillsboro. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Wright** and seconded by Commissioner Duncan to adopt Resolution No. 2021-12, a resolution supporting applying for the Rebuild Downtown and Main Streets Grant. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Wright** and seconded by Commissioner Duncan to approve the low bidder, Kinney Contractors, for the MFT sidewalk project section 21-00000-01-SW. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Duncan** and seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve the local public agency services agreement (MFT-CE) with Hurst & Rosche and resolution 2021-13 for improvement for the MFT CE services for the MFT sidewalk project section 21-00000-01-SW. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Duncan** and seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve a \$4,000 Façade Improvement Grant reimbursement to Chris Casey for work done at 421 & 423 S. Main St. in Hillsboro. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Duncan** and seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve remodeling City Hall to include windows and carpet. After minor discussion

**Motion was made by Commissioner Wright** and seconded by Commissioner Duncan to amend the motion to exclude carpet and do two windows on the front of City hall for a cost of \$2,975.00 each. Amended motion carried 4-0. **Motion was made by Commissioner Wright** and seconded by Commissioner Duncan to approve the final motion. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Murphy** and seconded by Commissioner Duncan to approve purchasing a mini-pumper from HME for a cost of \$297,764.00 and include a missed deck gun on the bid for a cost of \$5,795.00 and pay the cost at 50% down and the other 50% before the end of the fiscal year. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Murphy** and seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve purchasing two squad cars for the police department from Victory Lane Ford. The squad cars include to 2021 Dodge Durango's for a cost of \$34,666.00 each. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Murphy** and seconded by Commissioner Duncan to approve hiring Jacob Longwell as a patrolman in the police department. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Murphy** and seconded by Commissioner Duncan to approve hiring Kyle Craig as a dispatcher / engineer in the fire department. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Duncan** and seconded by Commissioner Wright to accept the recommendation of Mayor Downs to appoint Chris Sherer as Commissioner for the rest of the term. Motion failed with Commissioners Duncan and Murphy voting no and Commissioner Wright and Mayor Downs voting yes.

**Second Motion was made by Commissioner Duncan** and seconded by Commissioner Wright to accept the recommendation of Mayor Downs to appoint Fred

Butler as Commissioner for the rest of the term. Motion carried 3-1 with Commissioner Murphy voting no.

Commissioner Butler was sworn into office by Mayor Downs.

**Motion to Adjourn was made at 8:20 pm by Commissioner Duncan** 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-December 14, 2021**

- Mulching and leaf cleanup in parks, lakes, and public properties, emptying trash cans, checking public buildings, servicing the dog park, controlled burns, etc.
- Put up Christmas tree and snowflakes downtown
- Delivered and picked up picnic tables for Imagine Hillsboro holiday event
- Cut down and cleaning up dead trees at Challacombe Park and former CTI lot and ground or removed stumps
- Completed grading work at the south end of the former CTI lot to make the slope able to be mowed
- White Sanitation serviced the grease traps at the Marina restaurant and Central Park concession stand
- Worked with the PD gathering surveillance footage for park vandalism
- Power has been disconnected, underground lines have been located, and Mondin Electric will soon begin new panel installation at the campground.

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**Subject:** Report

**From:** Justin Chappellear <streets@hillsboroillinois.net>

**Date:** Tue, Dec 14, 2021 10:55 am

**To:** Cory Davidson <cityhall@hillsboroillinois.net>

1. Lots of leaf pickup
2. Installed sewer main on Moler Ln
3. Ran street sweeper on Main St before the Christmas festivities
4. Milled bumps in pavement on Seward St
5. Started removing excess rock and dirt buildup on Smith Rd
6. Put up barricades around corner block building
7. Removed barricades around corner block building for fence installation

Sent from my iPhone

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## **Public Utility Report Dec. 14, 2021**

### **Water:**

High service pump #1 was finally isolated and disassembled for repairs. It has been delivered to Illinois Electric Works for the repairs to be completed and they will install when it is finished.

Our chemical vendors have given us a heads up that we will be seeing yet another increase in treatment chemical prices after the first of the year. Product availability is still not an issue however.

The water level at Lake Glenn Shoals has dropped below full pool. We will now be charging the coal mine at the higher rate for raw water usage until the lake fills back up.

A new register for the Taylor Springs main water meter was installed on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Once it is uploaded into the Beacon "Eye on Water", T.S. and the Hillsboro Water Dept will be able to track daily usage.

### **Sewer:**

Still meeting with vendors on Lift Stations at Hickory St and the Locker Plant. Before final recommendations can be provided, some piping/elevation profiles need evaluated to size the pumps correctly.

Wrapped up the discharge of treated groundwater with AECOM/Ameren. An invoice was generated based on the flow meter reading of just under 10,000 gallons. They encountered significantly less water than they were expecting. The site has been demobilized and are still in negotiations with the City on cleaning up the rest of the site's contamination.

All of the survey work for the new treatment plant has been completed. The property at the front gate does not have a very good legal description, therefore, property boundaries are not set accurately. There will be a few recommendations the City can look at on how to proceed.

There were no issues with the storm on Friday night. A few brief power outages, but nothing else.

### **Statement for newspaper:**

With the coming of the new year, the City of Hillsboro will be ensuring that our practices for water and sewer collection align with our municipal code.

Payments are due by the 15th of each month in order to avoid 15% late fees. Delinquent accounts not paid by close of business on the first Monday of the following month will be shut off the following morning (The Tuesday following the first Monday).

Accounts will be charged turn off/turn on fees if not paid by the 4:00 close of business on the first Monday in the amount of \$40 for disconnection and \$40 for reconnection.

Hardships must be brought to the attention of the City Clerk or Water Clerk prior to these events. If you fail to initiate contact and produce a valid reason why the account has not been paid, services will be discontinued.

## **Community and Economic Planner Report 12/14/2021**

-The rough draft of the Downtown Grant is finished and being circulated for editorial comments and suggestions. If any of the council members want to see it, please let me know. We are on track for the January 10<sup>th</sup> submission date.

-The MCEDC has passed its budget for next year and I'm extremely pleased to report that we've approved the next stage for the Center of Rural Innovation study.

-Mayor Downs and I attended the CURE seminar in Springfield on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. It was an all day seminar on how small towns can plan for a sustainable future. The Institute for Rural Affairs at Western Illinois, who helped us form Imagine, invited us and was the main sponsor for the forum.

-This Wednesday, I've been invited to a summit of regional economic development hubs in Alton, Illinois. As you know, we're working developing a regional hub centered around the Workforce Training Center being established in Hillsboro. We will be touring and learning from Alton Works, which has just been established there to revitalize that city and figure out how to start our own regional hub here.

-We've established a Spring Mental health forum that will happen in April. The title will be "Human Flourishing in the Age of Social Media." Currently, we are in discussions with an international speaker and expert in this area, so stay tuned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Weyer  
Community and Economic Planner.