

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HILLSBORO, ILLINOIS
HILLSBORO CITY HALL
Minutes of the Regular Meeting – Tuesday, July 16, 2024

1. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Downs at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call was taken:

Present: Mayor Downs
Commissioners Fred Butler, Tommy Justison, Patrick Ward and Kendra Wright

Absent: None.

Also Present: Community Planner Sarah McConnell
City Attorney Chris Sherer
Public Properties Supervisor Jim May

3. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. **Public Comment:** Matthew Spinner addressed the council and thanked Commissioner Butler and Street Department Supervisor Justin Chappellear for clarifying some issues with sidewalk improvements.

5. Minutes of the July 2nd, 2024 regular meeting were approved as presented.

6. **Mayor and Commissioners' Departmental Reports:**

Commissioner Butler presented the reports for the Public Properties and Street Departments.

Commissioner Justison presented the reports for the Police and Fire Departments.

Commissioner Wright presented the reports for the Water and Sewer Departments. She stated there was an issue at the sewer plant caused by the amount of rain received. She also reported the lake levels are good with low algae.

7. **Economic Development & Community Planner Report:**

McConnell reported the bridges and trails are being constructed, which was part of the first round of the energy grant. She reported the phase 2 application for the second round is in progress with a potential project on the agenda later.

8. **City Engineer Report:**

Jeremy Connor was absent so no report was given.

9. **Discussion / Action – Ordinance No. 1800 an Ordinance Amending Section 22-3-2(A) of the Revised Code Regarding Designation of the City’s Freedom of Information Act Officer(s):** Motion by Ward and second by Wright to adopt Ordinance No. 1800. Motion carried with a 5-0 vote in favor.
10. **Discussion / Action – Ordinance No. 1801 an Ordinance Amending Portions of Chapter 31 of the Revised Code Pertaining to “Holiday Weekends”:** Butler reported this Ordinance cleans up the ordinance the City already has, stating if the 4th of July falls on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, jet skis will not be prohibited on the ensuing weekend. He said the City will have to amend Section E of the proposed ordinance to read “watercraft” instead of “boat.” Motion by Ward and second by Butler to adopt Ordinance No. 1801. Motion carried with a 5-0 vote in favor.
11. **Discussion / Action – Resolution 2024-14 a Resolution Regarding FOIA Officers for the City of Hillsboro:** Motion by Butler and second by Wright to adopt Resolution No. 2024-14. Motion Carried with a 5-0 vote in favor.
12. **Discussion / Action – Paying Bills for the Month of July:** Motion by Ward and second by Butler to approve paying bills for the month of July for a total of \$513,452.72. Motion carried with a 5-0 vote in favor.
13. **Discussion / Action – Award Bid for Tremont St./Jefferson St. Curb and Sidewalk Replacement Project:** Motion by Butler and second by Justison to approve awarding the bid for the Tremont Street/Jefferson Street Curb and Sidewalk Replacement Project to the low bidder Stutz Excavating for a cost of \$300,000. Motion carried with a 5-0 vote in favor.
14. **Discussion / Action – Proposal for Exterior Electronic Display Sign at Triangle Park Using DCEO Energy Transition Community Grant Funding:** McConnell reported she has heard from many organizations and citizens speaking about an electronic display sign in Hillsboro. She stated Imagine Hillsboro has looked into purchasing a sign, but funding has been an issue. She said the location of Triangle Park was suggested, and McConnell brought the issue to Butler, who said the school had also discussed the possibility of an electronic display sign. brought this project to the forefront for use of the funds from the 2nd round of the Energy Grant. McConnell said the City received bids from two sign companies already, with a third company being contacted as well. Ward said there is another bid the City has received that is not in the packet. He added he believes it is a great use of the funds. Justison asked what the other considerations were for the grant funds, stating it seems like a lot of money for a single sign. McConnell said the other consideration discussed was putting the money towards the next phase of the walking trails. She also said there is no shortage of good projects for which the money could be used. McConnell said the purpose of the sign would be community engagement and notifications. Wright asked if the bid proposals were for the same signs. Ward stated they were not identical signs. McConnell said much of the details could come after the submission of the grant. **Motion**

by Butler and second by Ward to approve using the Round Two DCEO Energy Grant funds for the electronic display sign. Wright voted no. Motion carried with a 4-1 vote in favor.

15. Discussion / Action – Adding Section of Boat Slips for Lake Glenn Shoals South Marina: Butler reported the City has a waiting list for boat slips, so these will be leased very quickly. May stated this should be paid off quickly. Ward said the City has the money and doesn't need to borrow it. He said he would like the City to adopt an ordinance at the next meeting requiring the City to pay back the reserves. Wright asked if anyone has reached out to the Lake Club because they may have some money. May said he believes they may have another project in mind. **Motion by Ward and second by Butler to approve adding a section of Boat Slips for the Lake Glenn Shoals South Marina. Motion carried with a 5-0 vote in favor.**

16. Discussion / Action – Challacombe House Upgrades/Repairs: Butler reported the cheapest bid that came in was for \$61,251.79, which is for quite a few repairs around the Challacombe House. May said the front ramp is in bad shape, and there won't be any need for it with the renovations to the deck and ramp area in the back. **Motion by Butler and second by Justison to approve the proposal from Weiss Construction, LLC for Challacombe House upgrades and repairs for a cost of \$61,251.79. Motion carried with a 5-0 vote in favor.**

17. Discussion – Upcoming Agenda Items: Downs reported he would like to take Commissioner Justison on a trip with Police Chief Leetham to look at a couple places regarding slowing traffic down, such as Smith Road. Downs also said the City has food truck items to talk about again. Wright stated she would like the council to discuss the library drain and the blocking off of parking spaces. Downs stated that is being bid out to put underground. Wright also asked about the fence at the Corner Block Building. Butler said he was told it would hopefully be down by Old Settlers, but he hasn't seen a lot of work done. Wright said another item that will be on the next agenda will be regarding savings on the City's energy bills. Ward stated he wants to see a contract to review. Butler stated the lease for solar panels for AC Power on the north end of the Eagle Zinc property will also be discussed.

18. Discussion / Action – Adjourn: **Motion by Justison and second by Wright to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried with a 5-0 vote in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,
David Jenkins, City Clerk