



Clerkin' with David

February 5, 2025

Welcome!

I've been trying different ways to improve communication between the City and you (the citizen), and I've realized perhaps it is best to utilize all forms available. So, for the first time, thanks for checking out "Clerkin' with David," the print edition. What's new with the City? If you missed the latest city council meeting, here are a few things you may want to know:

Location for the Hillsboro Municipal Pool

The Hillsboro Municipal Pool is likely to have a new home when it opens in 2026. Plans are being discussed to construct the new facility at the Hillsboro Sports Complex west of the tennis courts. Under this proposal, the pool would be built on the east end of the current parking lot, with the intent to extend the lot further west. This would also include new surface pavement of that same lot and the driveway connecting to Smith Road, as well as the further construction of sidewalks throughout the complex. Hurst-Rosche is currently conducting a geotechnical report of the Complex location to ensure its viability as a pool home.

Central Park is no longer considered a viable option, as Streets and Public Improvements Commissioner Fred Butler informed the council it would cost at least \$700,000 more to build the pool there due to the cost of soil and the relocating of existing sewer lines. Butler said that kind of money could be used for other pool-related items that would be visible to patrons. Even if the City did decide to pay the added cost to build at Central Park, the integrity of the facility would be at risk due to the unfavorable ground conditions. It's important to note, despite the pool likely leaving, Central Park will not be overlooked by City officials. After demolition of the current pool has been completed, plans for the revitalization of the park will be discussed further, including what amenities might make sense for the site.

City to Seek Bids for Municipal Aggregation

The council adopted a resolution authorizing the mayor or his designee to seek bids for the City's municipal aggregation program. The current contract with Constellation NewEnergy runs through June. Once the council approves a new contract, residents will once again be given the option to either opt-out of the program or participate. Residents who wish to participate will not be required to take any sort of action.

The City has participated in a municipal electrical aggregation program since 2012 when citizens voted for the City to adopt said program. During that election, voters approved an 'opt-out' model,

requiring residents to take action if they choose not to participate in the program. The City is required by law to give residents the opportunity to opt out of the program every time a new contract is approved or if there is a reduction in the price under the current agreement.

Questions?

If you have any questions about what's going on with the City, you can contact the City Clerk's office by calling (217) 532-5566 ext. 2, or by emailing cityhall@hillsboroillinois.net. Thanks for reading!

David Jenkins
Hillsboro City Clerk