

Hillsboro City Council Meeting  
April 14, 2009

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

Roll call was taken and those present were Mayor Baran and Commissioners Trost, Hill, McCammack and Sherer.

The "Pledge of Allegiance" was recited.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Commissioner Hill informed everyone that the John Deere backhoe had caught fire and our insurance company has been notified. Commissioner Hill also discussed the need to replace a 3" trash pump at a cost of around \$1,200 that would be shared by at least three departments. Hill also reminded everyone of the spring cleanup to be held during the upcoming week on Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 7:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Chief Satterlee updated everyone on the recent open house held with the high school Criminal Justice Class at the Police Department shooting range. The event began a few years ago as a 2-hour event but has now expanded to an all-day affair. Not only were members of the Hillsboro Police Department present but also County Deputies and a representative of the Department of Conservation.

Commissioner Hill also reminded everyone of an upcoming benefit chicken dinner to be held on May 3rd for John Michaels who has terminal melanoma.

Commissioner Hill also stated the Police Department has been actively seeking grants to help with the department's expenses.

Hill also noted that a "work zone safety" class would be held in the near future.

Mayor Baran stated that he, along with Commissioner McCammack, Engineer Hunt and Waste Water Superintendent Reynolds, would be looking at plans for upgrading the waste water plant.

Commissioner Trost stated that due to employees taking advantage of an early retirement incentive the City may find the need to hire summer help. Trost also reported the Fire Department is also looking into grant opportunities. Commissioner Trost asked everyone to be working on their budget proposals.

Mayor Baran informed everyone that the IEPA and USEPA would be holding public meetings to discuss the remediation of the Eagle Zinc property. They would also look at utilizing the proposed rail spur for hauling off remediate materials. Mayor Baran also stated he is looking into a planning grant for upgrading the waste water plant.

Commissioner Sherer thanked Sam and Barb Whitlow, Terry Hozian and the "Blue Knights" for making this year's Easter egg hunt a success.

Commissioner Sherer next discussed perks to City employees and personnel and informed everyone that from this day forward there would be no more.

Commissioner Sherer also stated he is looking into adding additional seasonal campsites in the campground.

Commissioner Sherer informed everyone that he hoped to have an “open house” in July for the reopening of the Challacombe House. Sherer stated he would have a request to allow for the replacement of the Challacombe flooring at the next meeting at cost under \$10,000.00.

Commissioner Sherer also stated that the Fire Department now houses a 6 wheel Polaris that was purchased by MABAS 56 (Mutual Alarm Box System) with a Homeland Security grant, to be used as needed by members of MABAS 56.

Commissioner Sherer next introduced Robbie Shipman and Chris Papin of Hillsboro Volunteer Fire Department who presented the Mayor the keys to the dive van that was purchased by Volunteers. Sherer also added that since 1999 to date the Volunteer Fire Department has contributed \$168,000.00 worth of equipment to the City.

City Attorney Jarman reported that there would be a court hearing on May 9<sup>th</sup> concerning two abatement notices that have not been complied with.

City Engineer Hunt reported that they could be signing a certificate of “substantial completion” for the new water plant by the end of the next week. A punch list has been drafted outlining areas that still need attention.

Engineer Hunt also informed the Council that there is an issue with non-compliance with the elevator that will need to be addressed. Issues of concern were the need to install fire alarm monitors and a sump pump in the elevator shaft. Cost estimates for these items would be \$17,801.45 and would need a decision in the near future.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Trost** and seconded by Commissioner McCammack to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$241,338.39. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Baran introduced Mike Rappe` who was present to discuss the preservation of brick streets.

Mr. Rappe` stated the brick streets in town are an important part of the history of Hillsboro and noted we have slowly been losing brick footage by making repairs with blacktop or cement. Mr. Rappe` had researched the repair of brick streets and informed the Council that with proper maintenance they save money versus the constant repair of asphalt streets. Rappe` stated he would like to see a resolution passed that would call for “any” repairs to brick streets be done with bricks.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Hill** and seconded by Commissioner Trost to appoint Andrew Golden to the Hillsboro Auxiliary Police Department. Motion carried 5-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Sherer** and seconded by Commissioner Trost to appoint Justin Gonzalez to the position of firefighter. Motion carried 5-0.

Next on the agenda was the leasing of the South Marina to Janette Fenton. As she was not in attendance, Commissioner Sherer asked the item to be tabled until the next meeting.

Lee O'connor, a member of the planning committee for a proposed 4<sup>th</sup> of July Triathlon was present to ask Council permission allowing the swimming portion of the event to be held on Glenn Shoals Lake. The intent was to use one lane of the South boat ramp for entry and one lane for exiting the swimming portion of the event. The Council was in favor of the event but stated there would need to be an ordinance change to allow swimming on Glenn Shoals. City Attorney Jarman was instructed to prepare an amendment for the next meeting. There were also issues with liability insurance that would need to be taken care of before being approved by the City's insurance carrier. Assurances were made that everything would be in order for the event and future meetings would be scheduled to coordinate the event with local authorities.

There was a brief discussion on employee health insurance coverage. City employees looking for a way to help save money and retain their current benefits had found an alternative plan and asked for City assistance in implementing the plan.

Also in attendance was Bill Schmaltz of Einstein Consulting who would be point of contact in the plan. The plan involves partial self-insurance with Blue Cross being the major medical carrier. The plan would only work if a separate bank account was created to pay the smaller expenses until deductibles are met. The employees would like to see assurances that this fund would not be used for other expenses.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Hill** and seconded by Commissioner Trost to instruct the City Attorney to write an ordinance putting limits and protections on the health insurance account. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Baran read a resolution written by the Montgomery County Veteran's Assistance office requesting a VA clinic be located in Hillsboro and associated with Hillsboro Hospital.

**Motion was made by Commissioner McCammack** and seconded by Commissioner Sherer to draft a letter of support for a Veteran's clinic to be located in Hillsboro. Motion carried with 4 yeas and Commissioner Trost voting present as he works at Hillsboro Hospital.

Mayor Baran asked for Council approval to go into closed session to discuss personnel issues.

**Motion was made at 9:00 pm by Commissioner McCammack** and seconded by Commissioner Hill to go into closed session to discuss personnel. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Baran reconvened the regular meeting at 9:32 with those present being Mayor Baran and Commissioners Trost, Hill, McCammack and Sherer.

**Motion to adjourn was made at 9:33 by Commissioner Trost** and seconded by Commissioner Sherer. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dave Booher, City Clerk