

Hillsboro City Council Meeting
December 11, 2007

Mayor Baran called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

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 commended her departments for holding expenses down this period.

Commissioner Sherer reported that the first groups of officers and dispatchers have completed the "Priority Dispatch" training and all have become certified. The second group has completed the training and has taken their certification exams. Commissioner Sherer also informed the Council that C.J. Richmond is retiring from his position as crossing guard at Beckemeyer School and a replacement will be sought.

Commissioner Trost reported that Ron Jenkins will be sending out checks for property taxes on Friday. Trost also noted that these will be used to pay back the anticipation warrants.

Commissioner McCammack informed the Council that due to the taste and odor of the water he will be purchasing 6,000 pounds of carbon to replace the old carbon in the filters. The cost is around \$8,000.00. Arrangements are being made to pay the total in installments to help with financing.

Mayor Baran discussed a fax he had received from "Soft-fire" (David Pence) concerning some ordinance issues he would like to see addressed. Mayor Baran asked the Council to review the document and place it on a future agenda for discussion.

Mayor Baran next read a letter of resignation from water plant operator Garry Williamson.

Commissioner McCammack thanked Mr. Williamson for his 28 years of service and presented him with a gift from the City of Hillsboro.

Mayor Baran next informed everyone that this would be the last Council meeting covered by Journal-News reporter Nancy Slepicka as her and Richard are retiring at the first of the year.

Mayor Baran stated he is continuing to seek funding for the relocation of the sewer line located at the present water treatment site.

City Attorney Jarman reported work on selling the "Chances" building is continuing and the bank holding the mortgage is willing to work with the City. The next step is to have the owner sign the deed over to the City.

Jarman next reported on an easement involving houses owned by Chuck Ellis and Ray Luebbert. The easement was for 20 years and has since expired. This was noticed due to a pending sale of the Luebbert property. Jarman asked that extension of the agreement be placed on the next agenda for Council approval.

City Engineer Hunt reported that workers from CB&I are on site at the new water plant and work on the filtering mechanisms will begin soon. Hunt also reported the Rural Development has approved change order #3 concerning the new treatment plant.

Hunt next reported there has been no change in Ameren's position concerning the relocation of the 36 inch sewer line at the old water plant. They insist the line be located off of property they will be acquiring from the City.

Motion was made by Commissioner Trost and seconded by Commissioner Sherer to approve payment of monthly bills in the amount of \$ 189,922.75. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Trost and seconded by Commissioner Sherer to approve Tax Levy *Ordinance # 1469* in the amount of \$ 701,610.00. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCammack and seconded by Commissioner Trost to adopt *Resolution 2007-8* abating the taxes associated with Ordinance #1284. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Sherer and seconded by Commissioner McCammack to adopt *Resolution 2007-9* abating the taxes associated with Ordinance #1361. Motion carried 5-0.

Scott Hunt of Hurst & Rosche presented the Council with 2 pay requests involving the new water treatment plant.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCammack and seconded by Commissioner Hill to approve resolution **WTP 2007-6** authorizing payment of water plant construction bills in the amount of \$ 1,113,309.78. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCammack and seconded by Commissioner Hill to approve resolution **WTP 2007-7** authorizing payment of water construction bills in the amount of \$ 819,285.00 to Plocher Construction.

Commissioner Hill presented the Council with a copy of an agreement the Natural Resource Committee has been working on involving the purchase of untreated water by the coal company.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Trost to accept this agreement to be used by the City appointed negotiating committee in coming to terms with the coal company. Motion carried 5-0.

City Attorney Jarman presented the Council with an ordinance limiting left turns on Main Street in the business district.

Motion was made by Commissioner Sherer and seconded by Commissioner Hill to adopt **Ordinance 1470** limiting left turns on Main Street. The ordinance predominately effects turns going south from Sullivan's Pharmacy. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Trost informed the Council that the City is not getting the tax monies from the State in a timely manner; they are presently two months behind. This is money the City needs for all of its general fund expenditures. Trost stated he has talked with local banks and interim financing could be obtained.

Motion was made by Commissioner Trost and seconded by Commissioner Hill to secure gap financing in the form of a revolving 6 month loan from Hillsboro National Bank. The motion also authorized City Clerk Booher and City Treasurer McCoy to sign the necessary loan documents. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Sherer and seconded by Commissioner McCammack to approve the appointment of Mike Summers to the Hillsboro Auxiliary Police Department. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion to adjourn was made at 7:40 by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Trost. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dave Booher, City Clerk