

Hillsboro City Council Meeting
February 12, 2008

Mayor Baran opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes of the previous meeting and executive session were approved.

Mayor and Commissioners Reports;

Commissioner Hill reported she has been working on ideas for budget cutbacks. Hill noted that one of their biggest expenses is part-time help. Hill asked Commissioner Trost to assign a dollar value on how much could be spent on summer help so a plan could be put in place sharing the help between departments. Commissioner Hill also informed the Council that 8 employees have been certified to spray for weeds this year and the intent is to use chemicals to cut down on much of the weed cutting. Hill next reminded everyone that she is looking for a new campground host for this year. Commissioner Hill next updated everyone by stating Sam Whitlow is doing well after his recent foot surgery, but it will be awhile before he can return to work. Commissioner Hill informed the Council that two of the cables securing the marina have broken and need replaced, although it has been secured for now. The dive squad has volunteered to do the work when the water warms up.

Commissioner Hill next discussed the need for an ordinance governing dredging on the lakes. Hill explained the Corps of Engineers will issue a permit and the NRCS will issue a permit, but permission still needs to go before the Council. Hill is working on an ordinance and permitting process that needs to be followed before any dredging can be done on Glenn Shoals Lake. The City would apply for a blanket permit from the Corps of Engineers and the NRCS extending from Misenheimer Bridge to the North end of the lake. Then anyone wanting to dredge would only need a permit from the City of Hillsboro. Commissioner Hill mentioned some of the ideas in the permitting process from the City would involve submitting written plans, completion within one year, permitting fees, inspections, and written certificates of insurance holding the City harmless of any accidents or injuries.

Code Enforcement Officer Booher explained that if the City gets the permit dry silt could be removed from the lake bed and sold or stored for City use.

Commissioner Hill next informed everyone that she had attended and completed the NIMS 300 class and found the course very enlightening. Hill stated from what she had just experienced the City is not prepared for a major disaster and steps need to be taken to correct this. Hill suggested a mock disaster drill be held to determine the City's strengths and weaknesses.

Commissioner Hill next discussed the cabins at Old Lake Hillsboro and how they have become a thorn in the City's side. One such cabin is the Hurst cabin which was demolished, but much of

the foundation and debris still exists. Attorney Jarman would revisit the nuisance abatement notice issued to this cabin and advise them the abatement has not been completed.

Mayor Baran suggested the City survey the properties and sell the property to the cabin owners.

Commissioner Sherer also reported on the NIMS 300 class that was held this past weekend at the firehouse.

Commissioner Trost stated all departments would be presented budget work sheets after the final payroll run in February, thus being able to reflect a full 10 months of this past year's budget.

Commissioner McCammack thanked all departments for their help in removal of the recent snow. McCammack gave a special thank you for the Parks Department for volunteering to remove snow from the Main Street sidewalks. McCammack mentioned by code the business owners are responsible for the removal in front of their own buildings. McCammack also discussed the light snow and icing that occurred this past weekend. McCammack stated that due to budget constraints he is reluctant to send men out on overtime and asked people to "drive smart" and allow a little extra time. McCammack next mentioned he would be coming back to the Council to get approval for pump parts at the waste water plant.

Mayor Baran mentioned the Public Works Departments have been working on a 16 inch valve that is malfunctioning at the new water tower. Mayor Baran also touched on the escalating costs of police and fire pensions that are being passed by State legislators without any assistance in funding them. Mayor Baran passed a sample resolution concerning the funding of Police and Fire pensions to the Council for their review and possible approval at the next Council meeting. Baran stated he would be attending a Municipal League meeting with Representative Hannig and Senator Demuzio to discuss the aging infrastructure of municipalities. Mayor Baran also asked City Attorney Jarman to review an IDOT document concerning the funding of the proposed Hixson rail siding.

City Attorney Jarman thanked the City for removing the snow in front of his office. Jarman also informed the Council that paper work on the "Chances" building has been sent to the Illinois Department of Revenue and the bank.

City Engineer Scott Hunt reported the closing documents for the 2007 MFT program have been submitted to IDOT for their approval. Scott also announced there will be a meeting this Thursday with Commissioner McCammack to discuss a draft proposal for the 2008 MFT program.

Motion was made by Commissioner Trost and seconded by Commissioner McCammack to pay this month's bills in the amount of \$ 220,812.57. Motion carried 5-0.

City Clerk Booher took this opportunity to furnish the Council with a spreadsheet explaining the City's financial responsibilities for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCammack and seconded by Commissioner Trost to approve *Resolution WTP 2008-9* in the amount of \$ 926,950.77 for construction of the new water plant. Plocher Construction would receive \$907,163.00 and Hurst & Rosche \$19,787.77. Motion carried 5-0.

Richard Small was present to discuss the upcoming Roubaix bike race now being sponsored by the Montgomery County Cancer Association. The association will be getting help from Nancy and Richard Slepicka as well as Dennis Springer. The race would be scheduled for March 29th using streets on the West side of Hillsboro with Council permission. Mr. Small also discussed an opportunity to host the Kelly-Miller Circus this year at the South end of the Sports Complex as has been done in the past. Mayor Baran informed Mr. Small that if he could furnish approval from the Sports Association the Council would act on his request at the next meeting.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Sherer to approve this years "Roubaix" bike race to be held on March 29, 2008.

Commissioner Hill discussed an engineering agreement she had received from Hurst & Rosche Engineers to assist in the planning and engineering of repairs and expansion of the Challacombe House. Commissioner Hill stated in light of the City's financial stability she finds it fiscally irresponsible for her to commit to spending a considerable sum of money to upgrade and expand the Challacombe House. Hill felt she could do much of the work needed to get the facility back up and running with insurance money from the fire and labor provided by City Departments. Commissioner Hill stated the Challacombe fund has extra monies due to the mineral lease agreements and would like to offer up \$175,000.00 of her funds to help with shortfalls in the water plant construction project. Therefore Commissioner Hill tabled any actions on the proposal from Hurst & Rosche.

There was a long discussion concerning longevity wages for City employees. The contract for the Police Department had what appeared to be a different longevity wage schedule than that of all the other Departments. The present contract increased Police union wages by an additional .30 per hour at 10 years and an additional .35 per hour at 20 years of service. The union (773) contract for all other employees increased .05 per hour at 10 years and another .05 per hour at 20 years. Commissioner Trost did not believe that was the proposal he had negotiated. The Council was in favor of paying all employees equally, but had mixed emotions as to the original intent of the terminology concerning longevity in the Police (F.O.P.) contract.

Mayor Baran asked past Commissioner Richmond for his input of the negotiations.

Former Commissioner Richmond, who along with Commissioner Trost, negotiated on behalf of the City stated that he remembered the total longevity package for the Police (F.O.P) being worth an additional 90 cents.

Motion was made by Commissioner Trost and seconded by Commissioner McCammack to ask the Police Department to reopen the contract for clarification of longevity raises. Motion failed with Commissioners Hill, Sherer and Mayor Baran voting no.

After further discussion it was decided that the "me too" clause in the contract for Union 773 should reflect the same longevity increases.

Motion was made by Commissioner Sherer and seconded by Commissioner Hill to apply the longevity increases to Union 773. Mayor Baran, Commissioner Trost and City Attorney Jarman would negotiate with the union and see if they would use January 22, 2008, as the date to

implement the new longevity increases. This being the date they asked the City for a wage opener. It was hoped any increase could be spread over 3 payments to help with the present budget. Motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner Trost voting no.

Motion was made by Commissioner Sherer and seconded by Commissioner Hill to approve the minutes from the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting concerning the placement of billboards on the sides of buildings. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Baran stated there would be no action taken this meeting on the recommendations of the Zoning Board but would agenda the City's response for the next meeting. Mayor Baran also stated there would need to be a change in the text of the zoning ordinance to reflect the desires of the Zoning Board if the Council were to approve the recommendations.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Sherer to approve the purchase for 4 new cables to secure the marina. The cost of the cables would be around \$1,100.00. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCammack and seconded by Commissioner Sherer to approve Change order #4 in the amount of \$415,234.49 pertaining to construction of the new water plant. The change order involved wiring at the new plant and the installation of 10 inch and 16 inch water lines. Motion carried 5-0.

City Engineer Hunt asked the Council to table the approval of the electrical agreement with Ameren IP until the next meeting.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Sherer to table action on the electrical service agreement with Ameren concerning supplying power to the new raw water pump station. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:37 pm by Commissioner Trost and seconded by Commissioner Sherer. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dave Booher, City Clerk