

Hillsboro City Council Meeting
February 27, 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, Richmond, McCammack and Hill.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Mayor and Commissioners reports

Commissioner Hill reported on two recent fires within her department. There was a fire at the Challacombe House that did extensive damage to the main meeting room. Insurance adjusters have been on site and will be notifying the City as to their findings. Hill also reported she had just been notified of a grass fire that has damaged the water pump and wiring at the north marina. The restrooms at the north ramp will not open until the damage has been repaired.

Commissioner Richmond reported for Code Enforcement officer Booher that in January there were 14 vehicle abatement notices issued and all have complied. Booher also listed two property cleanups pending. One was a cabin near the Firemen's Club and one was a property on Crittenden Street. Five building permits have also been issued.

Commissioner Trost mentioned that Treasurer McCoy has presented all the Council and departmental supervisors' budget worksheets to begin preparing this year's budget. Trost also informed the Council that lots 34 to 43 located in the center of Tremont Terrace are City owned. Commissioner Hill informed the Council that residents surrounding Tremont Terrace have agreed to mow the grass in the center circle if the City agrees not to sell the land.

Mayor Baran informed the Council he would be meeting tomorrow at 1:00 pm with representatives of US Representative Phil Hare to discuss the cleanup of the Eagle Zinc property and to check the availability of grant funding for the new water plant.

City Attorney Jarman reported the cabin at the old lake located near the Firemen's club still has 30 days to complete all of the repairs listed in the abatement notice. The date to comply with the notice is April 3, 2007. The other property in question is on Crittenden Street and abatement has not been completed. Jarman was instructed by Commissioner Richmond to begin court proceedings against the property.

Attorney Jarman next discussed with the Council a request from Montgomery County Rural Water to extend their contract another 40 years so they can submit for more grant funding. Mayor Baran asked Commissioner Hill and Commissioner McCammack to meet with Attorney Jarman and set up a meeting with representatives from the Water District to go over the proposed contract.

Mayor Baran next discussed the “Gloria’s Flower Land” property on Hamilton Street. The business has closed and the building needs removed. Baran asked the Enforcement Officer Booher follow up on the status of the cleanup.

City Engineer Hunt reported he has received approval from Rural Development to advertise for bids on the new water plant. Hunt stated he would like Council approval to begin advertising for bids on March 1st with a pre-bid meeting on March 28 and bid opening on April 17th.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCammack and seconded by Commissioner Trost to approve advertising for bids on the new water plant on March 1st with a pre-bid meeting on March 28th and the bid opening on April 17th. Motion carried 5-0.

Hunt next mentioned they are still waiting to hear from Ameren concerning the relocating of a sewer line on the current water treatment plant property. The relocation of the line would be bid after we hear from CDAP concerning our grant request.

Commissioner McCammack asked Hunt if he had previewed the grant application before it was submitted. Hunt stated he had read the application and highlighted changes that needed to be made before submittal, but had not received a copy of the actual submitted application.

Engineer Hunt next discussed plans for the 2007 MFT program were ongoing with discussions on trying to preserve the surface in the business district and avoid a full scale resurfacing. Hunt next mentioned that the NPDS renewal application for the water treatment plant has been submitted.

Hunt next informed the Council that Hurst & Rosche has completed their portion of the proposed rail spur survey and had submitted their report to Design Nine, who will complete the rest of the plans. The rail spur could be sent out for bids in July or August.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill to hire Brandon Niehaus and Brett Huber to work at the Sports Complex this season. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Baran asked if everyone could be ready with his or her list of hires for the next Council meeting. All agreed they would be ready.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Richmond to approve **Ordinance #1456** amending the littering ordinance by increasing the fine to \$250.00 for littering on Main Street, the Plaza and around the Historic Courthouse. Motion carried 5-0.

Before the vote was taken Commissioner Richmond wanted assurances that if his officers ticketed someone that prosecution would be pursued. Richmond was assured this was their intent.

Motion was made by Commissioner Richmond and seconded by Commissioner McCammack to appoint Greg Singleterry and Caleb Payne to the Auxiliary Police Department. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCammack and seconded by Commissioner Trost to approve the cleaning of basins at the wastewater plant in an amount not to exceed \$2,000.00. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Richmond and seconded by Commissioner Hill to adopt **Ordinance # 1457** amending the animal control ordinance. The amendment makes it the duty of all dog owners to remove and dispose of any feces left by his dog on public or private property. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner McCammack had intended to seek approval to purchase a sewer camera truck at this meeting, but decided to wait until the March 13th meeting. McCammack went on to explain the need for a camera truck. His department had been trying to unclog a sewer main with high-pressure water and they were having no luck, but before sending the cutting attachment into the sewer they sent a camera into the line to look for blockage. The camera found a 2-inch gas main running inside the sewer main. Fortunately they spotted this before sending the cutter into the main or there could have been an explosion. It was lucky the department was trying out a used camera truck that week or the problem would have never been identified. Jim Lohman, local plumber, was in the audience and stated a camera truck would be a very worthwhile purchase for the City. McCammack stated he would check prices on a used camera truck and bring his proposal before the Council at the next meeting.

Attorney Jarman discussed the Challacombe drilling lease agreement and the fact that the rental payment is overdue. All parties are now aware of the situation and are trying to find a way to make any penalty payments fair for all. Jarman asked that approval of any agreement be placed on the next meeting agenda.

Upcoming agenda items would be the appointment of Mathew Kernebeck to the Auxiliary Police Department, Challacombe House rebuilding plans, hiring of summer help, Montgomery County Water Company contract extension and the Challacombe mineral lease agreement.

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

Respectfully Submitted
Dave Booher, City Clerk