

Hillsboro City Council Meeting

July 13, 2010

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.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Mayor and Commissioners' reports:

Commissioner Sherer reported his department has been mowing grass and cutting weeds. Parks employee, Henry McDonald, will be off work for a few weeks due to surgery. Commissioner Sherer informed everyone that due to a shortness of help grass and weed cutting would be prioritized.

Commissioner McCammack updated everyone on a recent algae bloom at the lake which causes issues at the water treatment plant. The lake has since been treated to address the algae bloom. McCammack also noted that his departments have been helping in the parks.

Mayor Baran reported that arrangements have been made to have the street sweeper repaired. It is hoped repairs can be completed by the "Old Settlers" festivities. Derelict properties are being mowed and there has been a suggestion of a volunteer "mowing brigade" to help with city wide mowing.

Mayor Baran also informed the Council of an upcoming recognition ceremony commemorating the 911 disaster and all of the emergency personnel involved.

City Attorney Cullen informed the Council that he has been making progress for getting repairs made to a couple of downtown structures.

City Engineer Hunt reported that there has been no progress at the rail spur due to soil compaction issues. Hunt reported one bid had been received involving the Tremont Street resurfacing project involving stimulus grant funds. The bidder was \$5,000.00 over what the grant would allow. A discussion would be held to determine what could be done to close that gap. Hunt next reported on Deer Run Mine Phase 1 utilities construction. There is currently a problem with making the utility bores under the railroad. The streets that were cut during the utilities installation will have asphalt placed in the trenches within the next couple of weeks.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Sherer to approve the replacement of a central air conditioning unit at City Hall in the amount of \$3,000.00. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Trost and seconded by Commissioner Hill to approve payment of this month's bills in the amount of \$292,321.70. A portion of the general fund would be reimbursed from grant funds used in the purchase of equipment for the Fire Department. Motion carried 5-0.

A presentation of health insurance savings was cancelled until a later time.

Sam Whitlow was present to request approval of a car show on Main Street August 15th as has been approved in past years.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Trost to approve an “Old Settlers” car show to be held on Main Street August 15th. Motion carried 5-0.

There was a brief discussion on Mr. Charles Ellis’ request to purchase a .26 acre parcel of City owned property directly in front of his property at Lake Hillsboro. If approved, Mr. Ellis would continue to allow the City to use this area for parking during the 4th of July festivities if given a “hold harmless” agreement. Commissioner Sherer voiced opposition to the sale.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner McCammack to approve the sale of City owned property to Charles Ellis along with a “hold harmless” agreement. Motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner Sherer voting no.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCammack and seconded by Commissioner Trost to approve pay request #2 from Hairer Plumbing for work completed on the Deer Run Mine Phase1 utility construction. The amount was \$689,655.37 to be reimbursed by the “coal company”. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner McCammack to approve Korte-Luitjohan’s bid to install screens at the Glenn Shoals intake structure in the amount of \$186,490.00. Motion was contingent on approval of the “coal company” who would be responsible for the payment. Motion carried 5-0.

The Council next discussed a proposed telecommunications ordinance that would allow a Council member to attend a meeting electronically if, due to an emergency or illness, they were unable to be present.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner McCammack to approve telecommunications Ordinance # 1512 allowing a Council member to attend meetings electronically. Motion carried 5-0.

City Engineer Hunt asked the Council to approve changing the date of the award on the intake screens contract as the item was tabled from the last meeting.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Sherer to change the award date of the intake screens contract to reflect July 13th instead of June 22nd. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner McCammack informed the Council of the need to make repairs on a large storm water pump.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCammack and seconded by Commissioner Sherer to approve \$2,790.10 for repairs of a 15 hp storm water pump. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Trost and seconded by Commissioner Sherer to approve the fiscal 2011 budget appropriation ordinance # 1513 in the amount of \$12,032,625.00. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Baran informed the Council of a request from Montgomery County Rural Water to extend the current water agreement for a new 40 years. This is needed for them to receive a grant from USDA Rural Development. The Council expressed concern as to the fact there is no guaranteed minimum purchase and we could lose revenue.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCammack and seconded by Commissioner Trost to approve a 40 year extension of the current water agreement with Montgomery County Rural Water. Motion carried 5-0.

Planning Commissioner Chairman Tom Gooding addressed the Council stating the Commission supports the general concept of a historical preservation area and went on to suggest the Council research creating a possible T.I.F. area involving the downtown area.

Commissioner Sherer informed the Council on recent discussions that have been held to help preserve the Main Street business district. Commissioner Sherer stated that from these discussions a plan was formulated to draft a "Historic Preservation" ordinance. The ordinance would allow for a 20% federal tax credit for owners.

Motion was made by Commissioner Sherer and seconded by Commissioner Hill to adopt "Historic Preservation" ordinance #1514. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Baran asked anyone interested in serving on the "historic preservation" committee to submit their names to him before the next meeting.

Commissioner Sherer informed the Council that there are currently Illinois tax credits being allowed but they are limited to one entity, the Pierre Marquette Hotel in Peoria. Commissioner Sherer read a resolution that would ask that this same benefit be given to "historic preservation" areas throughout Illinois and asked for Council approval of same.

Motion was made by Commissioner Sherer and seconded by Commissioner Hill to approve a resolution allowing for Illinois tax credits to designated "historical structures". Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Baran next asked Commissioner Sherer to research starting a downtown T.I.F. district.

Motion was made at 8:30 pm by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Sherer to go into "closed session" as permitted by 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (2) to discuss collective bargaining matters and the Fraternal Order of Police. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Baran reconvened the regular meeting at 8:55 pm.

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Trost to instruct the City Attorney and the F.O.P. to draw up the contract as discussed for approval at the next meeting. Motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner Sherer voting no.

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:57 by Commissioner Sherer and seconded by Commissioner Hill. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dave Booher, City Clerk