

Hillsboro City Council Meeting
June 23, 2009

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 meetings were approved.

Mayor Baran took this time to thank everyone and let them know he appreciated all of their help and concerns during his recent illness. Mayor Baran also informed everyone that, contrary to what has been rumored; he intends to remain as Mayor until April of 2011.

Commissioner Hill reported the Street Department has been picking up limbs downed by the recent storms and asked everyone for their patience as the department has reduced manpower.

Commissioner Hill also announced that David Pence has a copy of the movie "Fireproof" for employees and their significant others to view. A notice will go out later stating where and when the movie could be seen.

Commissioner McCammack asked Commissioner Hill if she had noticed how people mowing grass were blowing it into the streets where it has a tendency to clog drains.

Commissioner Hill asked the public to avoid blowing their grass into the streets.

Commissioner Sherer noted the grant work for stabilization of the shoreline below the Country Club has been submitted and now are awaiting announcement whether the grant has been approved. Commissioner Sherer informed the Council that work is continuing on the Challacombe House with an anticipated completion date in early July.

Commissioner Trost informed everyone that he spoke with the City Attorney concerning the sale of approximately 8 acres of land adjoining Lake Hillsboro. It was decided a survey would not need to be done if current legal descriptions of the lands were produced.

Commissioner Trost also informed everyone that copies of the final proposed budget were completed and copies were available in City Hall. A public budget hearing would be scheduled for 6:45 pm. preceding the July 14th meeting.

Commissioner Trost also informed the Council of an opportunity to save money by refinancing water and sewer bonds. Commissioner Trost stated he would have someone attend the next meeting to explain the process.

Waste Water Superintendent Reynolds reported working on the 20 plus pumping stations throughout the City and the installation of a new Flow-meter.

City Attorney Jarman reported that there was nothing new concerning the Challacombe mineral lease agreements as of yet. Jarman presented the Council with a draft handi-capped parking ordinance for their review and approval at the next meeting. It was also noted that a new court date needed to be established concerning the cleanup of the Stark property at 902 St. Louis Street.

Commissioner Sherer asked the City Attorney for more clarification on the recent liquor ordinance passed concerning the banning of alcohol to all City properties. Who enforces the ordinance and what are the fines? Does the ordinance pertain to the lakes and golf course?

City Attorney Jarman informed everyone that the Liquor Commissioner (Mayor) may direct the Police Department to enforce the new ordinance with fines from \$25.00 to \$1,000.00. The new rule applies to municipal-owned structures on City owned properties.

Mayor Baran asked for Commissioner Sherer and City Attorney Jarman to review the ordinance and its definitions to clarify any confusion.

City Engineer Hunt presented the Council with an updated punch list of items the contractor will be completing at the new water plant. Five of the 32 items involve the permanent shutdown of the old plant. Hunt reported he has also been working with IDOT preparing the final specifications for the rail spur with construction to begin possibly in September.

Kathy Dagon, President of the Old Settler's Association, was present to ask the Council for road closures involving festivities around the August celebration.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner McCammack to approve the closing of a portion of Main Street on August 15th from 6:00 to 9:00 pm for the dedication of the Lincoln statue. Approval was also given to close Main Street all day on August 16th for the annual car show. Motion carried 5-0.

Members of the Fourth of July Committee were also present to request the closure of Main Street on the morning of July 4th from 8:00 am until 10:00 am for a mini-biathlon.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Trost to approve the closing of Main Street from the Plaza to Sullivan's on July 4th for 8 to 10 am for a mini-biathlon. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Hill took this time to discuss a forthcoming problem with parking for the 4th of July fireworks. The Auxiliary Police have informed her that they don't have the manpower available for the evening of July 4th, but would be able to assist with the morning triathlon. Commissioner Hill stated the City could not afford to pay overtime to have employees do the traffic control and asked if the Committee could offer any assistance.

Chief Deputy Stretch stated he was having a meeting with the Auxiliary Police on Wednesday to see if anything could be worked out to help with the parking situation. Stretch also noted that membership is down which also creates a problem when multiple events are scheduled.

Motion was made by Commissioner Sherer and seconded by Commissioner Hill to approve an IDOT grant agreement to construct a rail spur near the Hixson lumber property. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner McCammack to approve an agreement with Hurst & Rosche for an operation and maintenance study for a water line supplying the new coal mine. The cost of the study is \$5,000.00 which would be reimbursed by the "coal company". Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCammack and seconded by Commissioner Trost to enter into a one year instrumentation agreement with Hach Chemical Company for the instruments at the new water treatment plant. They would test, repair and calibrate all of the instrumentation at a cost of around \$6,000.00. Motion carried 5-0.

There was a brief discussion on Ron Lanthrip bidding out of the Fire Department into the Street Department. As both departments are represented by the same union there is no basis to reject the bid. Mr. Lanthrip would have 10 days to decide if he wants to remain in the new position or go back to his old one.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner McCammack to accept the bid of Ron Lanthrip going from the Fire Department to the Street Department. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Baran asked the Council for approval of a proclamation supporting Chicago's bid to host the next summer Olympics. Mayor Baran stated he had originally been against the proposal as he thought it would impact the taxpayers of downstate Illinois with little benefits.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Sherer to approve a proclamation of support of Chicago's bid for the summer Olympics. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Sherer and seconded by Commissioner McCammack to instruct the City Attorney to prepare a resolution for the sale of several parcels of City owned properties around the north end of Glenn Shoals Lake. These properties have already been surveyed and appraisals completed. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Sherer and seconded by Commissioner Hill to have the City Attorney draw up a resolution for the sale of City owned property at the old lake to Dustin Greenwood. Motion carried 5-0.

Attorney Jarman noted there would also be attorney fees that would need to be divided among those wishing to purchase these properties.

Next on the agenda was a request from the campground hosts to address the Council.

Mayor Baran stated that he had reviewed their letter outlining issues at the campground and asked if they would like to have a meeting with himself, Commissioner Sherer and the hosts to address the issues at hand. This was satisfactory with the hosts.

Upcoming agenda items would be a handicapped parking ordinance, budget hearing and passing of a new budget, refinancing of water and sewer bonds and a pay request for the new water plant.

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:05 pm by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Trost. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dave Booher, City Clerk