

Hillsboro City Council Meeting
March 11, 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 were approved.

Mayor and Commissioners Reports,

Commissioner Hill reported that a new campground host has been found and the campground will open April 1, 2008. No one will be allowed to obtain a campsite until this date. Crews are busy painting the interior of the campground shower building. Water to the campground will be turned on Wednesday to check for any leaks or other problems. Commissioner Hill also informed everyone that she has a person who will monitor activities at the North Marina.

Commissioner Hill next discussed a problem with the parking lot at the Sports Complex. Large trucks are using the area to turn around and are tearing up the lot. Commissioner Hill was instructed to contact Chris Daniels of the County Recycling Center as it was probably trucks using that facility causing the problem.

Commissioner Sherer discussed an emergency operations plan that he had been working on and asked the Council to review the document and give their input. The plan has not been updated since the 1980's.

Commissioner Trost mentioned that Homeland Security Grants are becoming available and work to obtain these would be starting.

Mayor Baran announced the Union Pacific Railroad agreement should be coming soon and asked that City Attorney Jarman review the document at that time.

Mayor Baran asked the Council if they had any objections of moving the agenda item concerning parking at Broad and Seward to the top of the agenda. Being no objections former Commissioner Richmond addressed the Council.

Richmond reminded the Council of decisions that were made beginning in August of 2006 and again in October 2006 concerning a safety hazard involving parking at Broad and Seward Streets. Richmond stated that the Council agreed to remove two parking spots on the southwest corner of Broad and Seward Streets and replace them with one parallel parking space. This was to allow drivers on Broad Street a better view of traffic going East on Seward Street. Richmond stated at the time it was decided not to paint the new spaces until Main Street was resurfaced, which didn't happen that year. Richmond's question was when we can expect to see it fixed.

Mayor Baran thought City crews could go ahead with striping that area and then when contractors restripe after the resurfacing of Main Street they would know what needed done in

that area. Mayor Baran then asked Commissioner Sherer and Commissioner Hill to coordinate an effort to get this done.

Commissioner Hill informed the Council that she had been approached with another parking problem. The hairdresser north of the new Sullivan's drive thru pharmacy pickup lane stated a handicap parking area had been lost due to the drive thru. This parking was used as a drop off area for many of her customers. It was the Council's opinion that the drive thru lot is not that busy and it could be used as a drop off area.

There was a brief reference to U-turns in Hillsboro and Commissioner McCammack stated the new striping on Main Street would use a double center line which prohibits crossing where doubled.

City Attorney Jarman stated he had been talking with the Village of Butler attorney concerning an agreement for the City of Hillsboro to take and treat their sludge. Jarman stated we need to include a fee structure and who meters the discharge. Mayor Baran asked Jarman to discuss some of these issues with Waste Water Superintendent Merriman. Finally Mayor Baran, City Attorney Jarman and Butler Mayor Boliard need to have a meeting to discuss all items to be addressed in the agreement.

Commissioner Hill asked if a limit should be placed on the amount of wastewater received due to lack of treatment capacity at our facility.

Commissioner McCammack stated that we have received verbal approval from the IEPA that we have the capacity to treat what Butler would be sending us.

Mayor Baran asked Attorney Jarman if work was progressing on the sale of the "Chances" building. Jarman stated he had not heard anything from the company holding the mortgage.

Mayor Baran stated there also needed to be a meeting between himself, Commissioner Hill and Attorney Jarman to discuss the annexation issue brought up by the Planning Commission. Mayor Baran asked Clerk Booher for a print out of all those water customers outside the City limits for use in determining annexation potential.

City Engineer Hunt discussed the rail spur and the fact that Design 9 has still not received the blessing of Union Pacific concerning the plans that have been submitted. Hunt noted that even after U.P. gives their blessing to the plans their will still be 2 to 3 weeks work to do before the project can be opened for bids.

Hunt informed the Council that the new Water Treatment Plant is 60-65% complete and they are continuing to work on the raw water pump station. Painting of the metal tanks will begin next week. There still has been no agreement reached with Ameren concerning getting power to the raw water pump station.

Hunt also discussed the finished water change order and the gap funding needed to pay for the change. Hunt reported Rural Development would not approve any additional funding without an adjustment in water rates. Hunt noted the funding needs to be resolved soon as the first pay request will be on April 8th.

Commissioner Hill asked Hunt about a document she had received concerning a fee structure to complete and engineering breach analysis of both dams. Hunt responded by stating IDNR needs to have the study completed by September of 2009.

Commissioner Hill asked Engineer Hunt to explain the responsibilities of the contractor and the City for work that needs to be done involving the new water treatment plant. Ditches on Smith Road were discussed with most of the responsibility of drainage falling on the City. The contractor would try to avoid any more erosion and siltations of the ditches from work done at the new treatment plant and would repair areas where they had crossed the Sports Complex. The City would be responsible for any road repairs where the new raw water line crossed through them.

Motion was made by Commissioner Trost and seconded by Commissioner McCammack to pay bills in the amount of \$ 206,802.78. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Baran informed everyone that he had met with Commissioner Hill and Commissioner McCammack and they had requested a change in the responsibilities of their positions. Mayor Baran asked Commissioner Hill to elaborate on the idea.

Commissioner Hill explained that with work moving quickly at the new water plant Commissioner McCammack would need to spend more of his time on this project. Therefore Commissioner Hill would add the overseeing of the Street Department to duties.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner McCammack to adopt *Ordinance #1472* (contingent on wording) removing the responsibility overseeing the Street Department from the Public Works Commissioner and adding it to that of the Public Property Commissioner. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCammack and seconded by Commissioner Hill to approve the 2008 Motor Fuel Tax Program in the amount of \$259,000.00, which includes the resurfacing and striping of Main Street. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCammack and seconded by Commissioner Trost to approve *Resolution WTP 2008-10* in the amount of \$595,861.84 for work on the new water treatment plant. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Sherer discussed the need to sell surplus airtanks that are at the Fire Station and will never be used by the Department.

Motion was made by Commissioner Sherer and seconded by Commissioner Hill to approve *Ordinance #1473* approving the sale of surplus fire equipment in the amount of \$1120.00. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Hill informed the Council of Richard Slepicka's request to resign from the Natural Resource Committee due to his recent retirement and desire to travel.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner McCammack to accept the resignation of Richard Slepicka from the Natural Resource Committee. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Trost to appoint Roy Thomas to the Natural Resource Committee. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Trost and seconded by Commissioner Hill to only hire summer help at the pool, beach and sports complex. The Sports Association contributes to the wages of the sports complex. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner McCammack to hire Brandon Niehaus, Brett Huber and Chris Jurgena at the Sports Complex. Motion carried 5-0.

City Attorney Jarman explained a request he had received concerning the mineral lease agreement and the Challacombe estate. Currently there are two entities involved in the exploration of gas and oil in Texas, Devon and Fortson. They are seeking to have Marathon Oil absorb 25% of their investments and assist in the exploration, but they need approval to do so. Attorney has been in contact with a knowledgeable person in Texas who explained this procedure is a regular process in the oil and gas business and recommended granting approval.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Sherer to approve the request of Devon and Fortson to diversify 25% of their expenses in the Challacombe mineral lease agreement by bringing Marathon Oil into the contract. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Trost to enter into an agreement with Montgomery County Rural Water to supply water to the North Marina. There would be an initial fee of \$250.00 for connection. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Baran recommended the appointment of Jane Calvert to the Zoning Board of Appeals to fill the position opened with the resignation of Cecil Saunders from the Board.

Motion was made by Commissioner Trost and seconded by Commissioner Sherer to appoint Jane Calvert to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Motion carried 5-0.

Upcoming agenda items could include the Union Pacific rail agreement and an agreement with I.D.O.T. concerning installing battery backup power to the stoplights at a cost of \$4,000.00 to the City.

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:08 pm by Commissioner Sherer and seconded by Commissioner Hill. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dave Booher, City Clerk