

Hillsboro City Council Meeting
May 26, 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 meeting were approved.

Commissioner McCammack discussed the current agreement for accepting waste water from Schram City and felt it is in need of review and updating. The discharge we are receiving needs to be metered to determine if we are getting storm water as well. McCammack also stated the current ordinance restricting water usage through the spring and summer months needs to be reviewed now that the new treatment plant is online.

Commissioner Trost informed the Council that he hoped to have a draft budget prepared for early next week for Council review. Trost also noted that there have been several inquiries to redo the current water and sewer bonds which could save the City thousands of dollars. Commissioner Trost also informed the Council that he has been working on grant applications for the Fire Department through the State and Homeland Security.

Commissioner Sherer discussed the change of Council positions that had taken place on October 14th and felt there needed to be an ordinance adopted clarifying the designations as set forth by Municipal Code.

Mayor Baran instructed City Attorney Jarman to try and have an ordinance prepared for the next meeting.

Commissioner Hill asked Chief Satterlee to give a brief report on the Police Department stating that four officers had received commendations for their work to combat drunk driving. Those officers were Cory Davidson, Tim Sheldon, Tim Hopper and Randy Leetham.

Commissioner Hill also informed everyone of an upcoming public meeting this coming Wednesday with the USEPA and IEPA concerning the cleanup of the Eagle Zinc site.

Mayor Baran informed everyone that the grant funding for the new rail spur has been approved. IDOT will be handling the bidding process for construction of the spur.

Commissioner Trost asked if there has been any news on the stimulus package.

Mayor Baran responded that he has not received any status updates from the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. Mayor Baran also stated there may be grant

funding through IDOT to make repairs on many of the City streets and that is also being pursued.

City Attorney Jarman stated he has been working on the sale of City owned properties at Glenn Shoals Lake and on the Greenwood property at the Old Lake. Jarman also noted that Mrs. Glosecki, located on the Northeast side of Glenn Shoals, is also interested in purchasing City property.

City Attorney Jarman also informed the Council there has been some renewed interest in leasing a portion of the Challacombe estate located in Texas for the production of gas. The portion of land involved would be close to 100 acres.

City Attorney Jarman asked for a decision on a new lease agreement to be placed on the next meeting agenda.

City Engineer Dave Kimmel reported that 50% of the punch list for the new water plant has been completed and the rest should be completed by June 17th. Mr. Kimmel also reminded everyone that there would be a meeting at City Hall this Wednesday concerning the 2009 MFT program.

Mayor Baran informed everyone that an “open house” for the new water plant is now scheduled for June 14th.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Trost to approve this year’s resolution for the Old Settler’s Parade route. The route would be the same as in year’s past. Motion carried 5-0.

Sandy Austin was present to express her concerns about the City selling property at the North end of Glenn Shoals Lake. She was concerned that the sale of the property would leave her no access to the lake lot she currently rents. Mrs. Wille was also concerned for the same reasons. The parcel in question was going to be purchased by Mr. Kibler.

Commissioner Hill stated that earlier when the land purchases were requested by Mr. Kibler he was told an easement would be requested before approval of any sale.

Don Downs was present to discuss drainage problems in his neighborhood near Keller and Seymour. First on his list was the waterway in front of his property that does not drain and needs work. He stated he has had the problem for the past five years and the problem has been looked at but never fixed. Mr. Downs next discussed a problem with water backing up in the Harling basement on Keller and Seymour and felt the present culvert was not large enough to take the water away. Downs then stated the water flowing South on Seymour does not drain as it used to, since the concrete drain box was installed. In his opinion the box inlets needed to be lowered.

Commissioner Hill stated she and the Public Works Supervisor would meet with Don Downs and work with him to try and rectify the drainage issues.

Mayor Baran informed the Council that Sheriff Vazzi had contacted him about establishing a special handicapped parking space for the County Treasurer, one that would be better suited for the use of his power scooter. Mayor Baran asked Commissioner Hill and her Department to see what could be done.

Commissioner Hill stated they would not only check on parking for the treasurer but also make recommendations for moving a handicapped space near the "Plaza".

Commissioner McCammack informed the Council that he should have an estimate on getting the Leible and Bullington ponds fixed within the next couple of days.

Mayor Baran recommended Commissioner McCammack confer with the City engineers to verify the size of overflow piping the pond would require.

Motion was made at 7:51 to go into "closed session" to discuss contract negotiations concerning water for the "coal company" and personnel by Commissioner McCammack and seconded by Commissioner Hill. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Baran reconvened the regular meeting at 8:28 with roll call and those present were Mayor Baran and Commissioners Trost, Hill, McCammack and Sherer.

The consensus of the Council was to hold a special meeting held on June 2nd at 7:00 pm to discuss water contract negotiations with the "Coal Company" and also have the City engineers present.

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:29 by Commissioner Sherer and seconded by Commissioner McCammack. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dave Booher, City Clerk