

Hillsboro City Council Meeting
November 13, 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, Hill, McCammack and Sherer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor and Commissioners reports:

Commissioner Hill reported that Santa will be arriving this Saturday and that Auxiliary Police will be on site on Friday evenings to keep older kids from harassing some of the younger kids wanting to see Santa. Hill also reported that the City will be taking part in the street light program offered by Ameren to help save on energy consumption. Commissioner Hill also reported her department has been winterizing all of the park facilities.

Commissioner Hill next discussed the conditions lake lot lessees have left their lake lots. Commissioner Hill stated these lots need to be cleaned up and everything removed or secured. If this is not done, the lessees will not be able to renew their lots.

Commissioner Hill also discussed a proposal she had received from Hurst & Rosche Engineers quoting \$3000.00 to do a study that would tell her what she can structurally do with the Challacombe House rebuild. Commissioner Hill thought this was too high for the information she needed and would be meeting with Tom Baker of Hurst & Rosche to discuss it further.

Mayor Baran informed her that there are qualified individuals in the community that would probably donate their time for this type of study.

Commissioner Sherer reported that Mark Smith had been dropped from the dive team due to lack of participation. Commissioner Sherer reminded everyone of the upcoming Christmas parade this Saturday and also that Girl Scouts would be selling chili in the Lutheran Church basement.

Commissioner Trost stated tax bills would soon be going out, but he still did not expect to see any distribution checks until at least January.

Commissioner McCammack stated that he and Commissioner Hill had discussed opening the Street Department complex for leaf drop offs on Saturday December 8th from 8:00 am until noon. McCammack also reminded everyone that dumpsters will be placed at the Street Department for residents to get rid of accumulated junk and yard waste during the last week of November. McCammack also reported the finding of a gas line bored through a sewer line on Taylorville Road that will need to be fixed.

Water Superintendent Fath was present to inform the Council on the findings of testing that his department had conducted on Kinkead Road. Fath informed everyone on the numerous discolored water complaints they have received from residents on top of Kinkead Road. Fath stated his personnel had flushed the hydrant at the top of the hill hard for 2 hours every night. An iron study was conducted during this time and results were compiled. The study showed a

dramatic decrease in iron residue during and after the flushing. The water department also surveyed the customers individually during this time to get their reactions. Everyone was pleased with the results from the vigorous flushing. Fath concluded that this gave the City a couple of options. One would be to change the iron water pipe to pvc or wait until the new plant goes online and can produce a water that is not so corrosive.

Water Superintendent Fath next presented the Council with an award from the IEPA celebrating the Hillsboro Water Department five years in succession of meeting the State fluoride standards.

Mayor Baran read a thank you letter from Mrs. Hutchinson commending the City for placing boil orders on their web page to inform customers. Mayor Baran also commented on the wonderful celebration held at the war memorial on Sunday. Mayor Baran next stated Engineer Hunt is getting the final drawings of the rail spur to I.D.O.T. and with their approval we could be seeing action in about three months.

Motion was made at 7:21 pm by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner McCammack to go into closed session to discuss contract negotiations with the coal company for the sale of untreated water. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Baran asked members of the Natural Resource Committee and Water Superintendent Fath to join the “closed session.”

Mayor Baran reconvened the regular meeting at 8:00 pm with roll call and those present were Mayor Baran and Commissioners Hill, Trost, McCammack and Sherer.

The next agenda item was to be a decision on the contract concerning the sale of untreated water to the coal company.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner McCammack to table any decision until further study is completed. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Trost informed everyone that this month’s bills were higher than normal due to \$67,000.00 in Risk Management Insurance premiums and a \$52,000.00 water tower payment.

Motion was made by Commissioner Trost and seconded by Commissioner Hill to pay this month’s bills in the amount of \$ 317,809.09. Motion carried 5-0.

City Attorney Jarman stated he is working on three nuisance abatements. One on Park Street has complied with the notice. The resident on Crittenden Street has asked for a hearing which will be held this Thursday evening. The “Chances” building may have a prospective buyer that would make the necessary repairs.

City Engineer Scott Hunt was on vacation, but Mayor Baran stated that Scott would be happy to hear that recommendations from the dam study are being carried out by Commissioner Hill’s department.

Appointments to the Sports Association Board were tabled and would be addressed at the next meeting.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCammack and seconded by Commissioner Trost to approve Resolution #5 pay request from Plocher Construction in the amount of \$981,872.00. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Trost to purchase a tract of land from Fuller Redi-Mix to be used for a portion of the new rail spur. The purchase price was to be one (1) dollar. Motion carried 5-0.

The next agenda item concerned a request for annexation, but the proper paper work had yet to be submitted therefore this request was tabled to a later date.

There was discussion on the proposed burn ordinance as prepared by Commissioner Sherer and his committee. The Council voiced their concerns on a few of the requirements contained in the document. After discussion of these items City Attorney Jarman stated he would make the changes and present them to the Council for their review.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Trost to approve the Lakewood Estates lease assignment from Bill Whitley to Don Karban. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Sherer and seconded by Commissioner Hill to approve the appointments of Amy Golden and Heather Everett to the Hillsboro Auxiliary Police Department. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:34 pm by Commissioner Sherer and seconded by Commissioner Trost. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dave Booher, City Clerk