

Hillsboro City Council Meeting  
October 9, 2007

Mayor Baran opened the meeting 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 the Parks Department is working on this year's "haunted forest" to be held on October 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. On Friday evening from 6 to 7 pm there will be free hot dogs and drinks. A hayride through the forest will be available from 7 to 9 pm on both Friday and Saturday evenings for a \$1 donation from adults.

Commissioner Hill reminded all lake lot holders to begin clearing their lots for the winter.

Commissioner Hill who presides over public property, also updated everyone on the new State-wide "no smoking" rules taking place beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>. As of January 1<sup>st</sup> there will be no smoking in any city-owned buildings or vehicles and all ashtrays are to be removed. Picnic tables will be placed near the buildings as designated smoking areas.

Commissioner Hill also commended all the departments for working together on the sealing of cracks on Main Street.

Commissioner Sherer discussed the enforcement of the new "no smoking" ban and wondered if there was a way by ordinance the City might get 100% of any fines levied.

Commissioner Sherer next reported this is "Fire Prevention Week" and the department has been visiting Beckemeyer School and giving safety tips and demonstrations. There will also be an "Open House" at the Fire Department on October 13<sup>th</sup> from 10 am until 2 pm. Sherer also informed the Council the Police Department will be having a night shoot on Wednesday the 17<sup>th</sup> and they will be doing demonstrations for the High School government class at the range on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Trost reminded everyone that one half of this year's risk management insurance is due by December in the amount of \$68,000.00. Trost also mentioned that he had the opportunity to view a demonstration by the Police Department K-9's at Fusion this past week and it illustrated how good the dogs are.

Commissioner McCammack took this opportunity to praise the Hillsboro High School golf team and their achievements. McCammack informed everyone that Brooke Beeler would have a chance to do what only one other Hillsboro athlete has accomplished and this would be defend her State Championship title. Matt Hughes successfully defended his State title in wrestling. McCammack stated his departments are still working on water line breaks due to the dry weather. Commissioner McCammack next reported the sealing of the cracks on Main Street went really well this past week. McCammack next discussed an ordinance that prohibited the digging across the roads in Rolling Hills and Lakewood Estates subdivision. The ordinance

prohibits trenching across the roads for water and sewer utilities but does not list any other utilities. McCammack wanted to know if this would allow Ameren IP to trench across the road for electric or gas service. The ordinance was referred to City Attorney Jarman for review and to then give his interpretation.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Trost** and seconded by Commissioner McCammack to pay this month's bills in the amount of \$244,700.68. Motion carried 5-0.

City Attorney Jarman reported there would be a nuisance hearing with Mr. Mellow of Crittenden Street concerning his nuisance abatement notice. Jarman next reported there would be a small claims hearing on October 16<sup>th</sup> concerning the defaulting of revolving loan payments by "Lois's Groom Room".

City Engineer Hunt reported work was progressing well on the new water treatment plant. Hunt next discussed an agreement with Ameren to run electric to the new raw water pump station. Item #4 in the agreement is in need of clarification as to when the balance of the payment is to begin. The wording needs to state the payment process does not begin until an "order to proceed" with the installation is given. City Attorney Jarman stated he would send a suggested rephrasing of item 4. Hunt also informed the Council that measures need to be taken to complete the agreement concerning the 36" sewer relocation at the old water plant. Mayor Baran stated he would contact Ron Pate of Ameren IP to set up a meeting. Hunt briefly discussed the Hixson rail spur where there is a possibility that a longer encasement needs to be made on the gas line running under the crossing. Ameren is checking to see if they would be responsible for the extension and if not give the City an estimate of costs.

Mayor Baran asked City Attorney Jarman if documentation for the sale of the Lance Fuller property had been prepared yet. This land will be utilized by the new rail spur near the Hixson property. Attorney Jarman stated the paper work has yet to be completed.

Mayor Baran then read a card announcing the dedication of a portion of Rt. 185 in memory of Officer Terry J. Emerick. The ceremony will take place at 10:00 a.m. on November 3rd at Indian Springs Golf Course with a reception to be held after the ceremony at the Hillsboro Free Methodist Church.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Hill** and seconded by Commissioner McCammack to approve the annual Hillsboro High School homecoming parade on October 19<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm. The parade will end with a rally at the Main Street Plaza. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Baran made recommendations for appointments to the Airport Board.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Hill** and seconded by Commissioner Trost to appoint Emerald Ullman, Mark Osborn, Stanley Hughes, Raymond Dorf, Harold Koontz, Doug Schulte and Brian Sullivan to the Airport Board. Motion carried 5-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Hill** and seconded by Commissioner McCammack to approve this year's Airport Lease Agreement with the stipulation that the sentence concerning water utilities be removed. Motion carried 5-0.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Sherer** and seconded by Commissioner Hill to approve the transfer of the City's cable franchise from Charter Communication to New Wave Communications. This would be with *Resolution 2007-7*. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Sherer opened and read the bids for the three surplus police vehicles. The bids were as follows. Bill Draper bid \$499.99 for the 95 Ford Explorer. John Hamilton bid \$750 on the 95 Explorer, \$850 on the 95 Ford Crown Victoria and \$1250 on the 2002 Chevy Impala. A gentleman from Island Lake Illinois bid \$1886 for the 2002 Chevy Impala. Bay Ridge Motors Inc. in Staten Island, New York bid \$555 for the 2002 Impala.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Hill** and seconded by Commissioner Trost to review the bids and award them to the highest bidder. Motion carried 5-0.

There was a discussion of the status of the "Chances" building. City Attorney Jarman stated the time limit on the abatement notice is past and the next step would be to file a demolition law suit and get a court order with a 30 day summons. This would probably not be complied with, but then the City could make repairs to make the building safer and file a lien for expenses incurred.

Attorney Jarman stated at sometime the City will have to determine how much money they want to invest in the property. The City could make repairs and file the lien for repairs, which no one will pay, and then foreclose on the lien. After these steps the City would acquire the title.

Mayor Baran recommended beginning the proceedings as outlined by the City Attorney and in the meantime he would search for a buyer for the property.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Sherer** and seconded by Commissioner Hill to instruct the City Attorney to begin demolition proceedings. Motion carried 5-0.

The next item of discussion was the proposed drive thru window for Sullivan's Pharmacy. This would allow customers to enter from Berry Street and exit onto Main Street with a right turn only.

Bob Albracht, an ex-city commissioner, was present to voice his concerns as to why the Council should consider denying the request.

Mr. Albracht felt a drive exiting onto Main Street would detract from the integrity of the downtown business district. Mr. Albracht was also concerned with safety issues involved with traffic crossing the sidewalk area.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Sherer** and seconded by Commissioner McCammack to instruct City Attorney Jarman to prepare an ordinance permitting Mr. Sullivan the right of egress onto Main Street from his parking lot. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner McCammack asked Mr. Sullivan if there would be a mirror placed in a place such that drivers and pedestrians can see each other in advance. Mr. Sullivan stated he had a 3 ft mirror for this purpose.

Commissioner Trost stated that he and Mayor Baran had been exploring some avenues to secure additional funding to offset the \$350,000.00 grant that the City had hoped to obtain. Trost hoped to have something in place within the next couple of meetings.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Sherer** and seconded by Commissioner Trost to approve pay *Resolution WTP 2007- 4* to Plocher Construction and Hurst & Rosche in the amount of \$835,800.99. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner McCammack informed everyone that the bids for the resurfacing of Main Street came in \$20,000 over the engineer's estimate. There was only one bid submitted and it was his recommendation to table any decision and rebid next spring. McCammack also stated that if the bids are too high again that he might lease the proper equipment and do the work ourselves.

**Motion was made by Commissioner McCammack** and seconded by Commissioner Trost to table the resurfacing of Main Street until next year's MFT program. Motion carried 5-0. Commissioner Sherer stated the burning ordinance has not been formalized and any vote to accept it would be at a later date.

Commissioner Sherer and City Attorney Jarman were still working on a new burn ordinance and hope to have it ready for the next meeting.

Commissioner McCammack discussed a fall cleanup for this year as well as a leaf pickup. The fall cleanup will be where residents of Hillsboro may take items they would like to discard to the Street Department refuse area. The dates for this will be November 26<sup>th</sup> through December 1<sup>st</sup> from 7 am to 3 pm.

Mayor Baran asked how the brush pickup for senior citizens was working. McCammack stated there is some abuse but there is in most projects. Commissioner Hill asked McCammack to define senior citizen. McCammack stated this applies to a senior citizen that doesn't have the ability or the transportation to take their yard waste to the City drop off area. If you have no friends, family or church to help you we will come pick it up.

Commissioner McCammack next announced his department would be doing a city-wide leaf pickup beginning on November 26<sup>th</sup> through the 29<sup>th</sup>. The crew will come around each area just one time. They need to bagged and at the curb by 6:00 am.

Upcoming agenda items will be the burning ordinance, Halloween parade, and set dates for trick or treating.

**Motion to adjourn was made at 8:22 by Commissioner Sherer** and seconded by Commissioner Trost. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dave Booher, City Clerk