

Hillsboro, Kansas
February 15, 2022

1. The City Council met in regular session via Zoom and in person on Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 4:00pm with Mayor Lou Thurston and Council members Blake Beye, Brent Driggers, David Loewen and Byron McCarty participating.

2. Others Participating: Andrew Kovar, City Attorney; Matt Stiles, City Administrator; Danielle Bartel, City Clerk; Police Department staff including Jessey Hiebert, Randy Brazil, John Huebert, and Peyton Heidebrecht; Crystal Hinnen of Ranson Financial; and Larry Smith for the Land Bank meeting.

3. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Lou Thurston called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES dated February 1, 2022.

VOUCHERS in the amount of \$106,276.63.

Council member McCarty motioned to approve the consent agenda. Council member Loewen seconded. Motion carried.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

6. HILLSBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT: Mayor Thurston welcomed members of the Police Department and proceeded with the pinning ceremony for Jessey Hiebert as Chief of Police, Randy Brazil as Assistant Chief of Police, and John Huebert as Sergeant. The newest police officer, Peyton Heidebrecht, was also introduced.

7. SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TRUST FUND: Sergeant John Huebert reported to the Council on the Special Law Enforcement Trust Fund's activity in 2021, with revenue from one asset seizure and one expenditure.

8. RANSON FINANCIAL: Crystal Hinnen of Ranson Financial described the BASE grant. The City of Hillsboro could apply for a grant of roughly \$3 million for a new fire station, with the grant covering 75% of the amount if awarded. Council discussed the benefits and associated costs. Council member McCarty motioned engage with Ranson Financial to apply for a BASE grant for a new fire station. Council member Beye seconded. Motion carried.

9. BUSINESS ITEMS:

ORDINANCE 1342 IBC CODE ADOPTION ADDITION: Administrator Stiles reviewed the ordinance which would amend the adoption of the 2021 International Building Code to clarify the language about requirements for a peer review on storm shelters and omit the green building codes. Council member Driggers motioned to approve Ordinance 1342 and authorize the Mayor to sign. Council member Loewen seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

ORDINANCE 1343 ZONING CHANGE FOR 415 S WASHINGTON: Administrator Stiles shared the recommendation from the Planning Commission to approve a zoning change at 415 S Washington. Council member McCarty motioned to approve Ordinance 1343 and authorize the Mayor to sign. Council member Beye seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

POLICY 96 USE OF COLLECTION AGENCIES: Administrator Stiles reviewed the contract with CBK and the proposed policy. He noted staff will make every effort to work with customers before utilizing CBK for collections. Council member Driggers motioned to approve Policy 96 and authorize the Mayor to sign. Council member Loewen seconded. Motion carried.

POLICY 97 EV CHARGERS FOR COMMERCIAL CAR DEALERS: Administrator Stiles explained the rebate program offered through Kansas Power Pool and the proposed policy. Council member Driggers motioned to approve Policy 97 and authorize the Mayor to sign. Council member Loewen seconded. Council member Beye abstained. Motion carried.

S&P RATING FILING ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: Administrator Stiles reviewed the recent S&P bond rating which improved from the 2019 rating of a BBB+ with a negative outlook. The S&P rating for the City of Hillsboro is now an A- with a stable outlook. Council member Loewen motioned to acknowledge the rating change notice and authorize staff to file the confirmation from S&P for the City's upgraded bond rating. Council member Beye seconded. Motion carried.

Mayor Thurston expressed his sincere appreciation for Greg Vahrenberg of Ranson Financial, to this Council, Administrator Stiles, City Clerk Bartel, and to all involved in this improved rating.

HILLSBORO FORD INVOICES: Administrator Stiles reviewed the Hillsboro Ford invoices totaling \$2,004.24. Council member Loewen motioned to approve the invoices; Council member Driggers seconded. Council member Beye abstained. Motion carried.

City Council moved into a Land Bank meeting at 4:43pm and returned to the City Council meeting at 4:46pm.

10. ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION:

OFFICIAL MEETING TIME: Administrator Stiles suggested the Council reconsider the regularly scheduled meeting time. Council discussed and requested staff develop an ordinance for all meetings to be held at 6:30pm.

SPECIAL MEETING FOR SENIOR CLASS PROJECTS: Administrator Stiles shared the HHS senior class would like to present community project ideas to the Council during class times. If Council were to meet to hear these presentations, a special meeting would be required. Alternatively, a Council representative could hear the seniors' presentations.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Council member Loewen motioned for the City Council to recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters of non-elected personnel pursuant to KSA 75-4319 (b)(1) for a period of 10 minutes. The meeting will include the City Administrator and City Attorney. The open meeting will resume at 5:05pm. Council member Driggers seconded. Motion carried.

No action was taken during the Executive Session. The open meeting resumed at 5:05pm.

12. CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Administrator Stiles reported on the following:

- 2021 Year End Financials
- Mowing Bids
- City Auction tentatively scheduled for April
- Video of February 1 Council Meeting
- Brooke Carroll scheduled for March 1
- KPP Bill

Administrator Stiles updated the Council that with the current high wind, a portion of the county is battling fires.

13. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

14. COUNCIL COMMENTS: None.

Mayor Thurston distributed challenge coins to Council members and encouraged each to keep the strategic plan at front of mind.

15. ADJOURNMENT: Council meeting adjourned at 5:15pm.

ATTEST:


LOUIS THURSTON, MAYOR


DANIELLE BARTEL, CITY CLERK