

Hillsboro, Kansas
September 19, 2023

1. The City Council met in regular session via Zoom and in person on Tuesday, September 19, 2023 at 6:30pm with Mayor Lou Thurston and Council members Blake Beye, Brent Driggers and David Loewen participating.

Members Absent: Council member Byron McCarty.

2. **Others Participating:** JT Klaus representing Triplett, Woolf & Garretson; Matt Stiles, City Administrator; Danielle Bartel, City Clerk; Jerry Mendoza, Director of Parks & Recreation.

3. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Lou Thurston called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

VOUCHERS in the amount of \$602,534.16.

MINUTES for the regular meeting dated September 5, 2023.

CDBG AND HEAL GRANT VOUCHERS totaling \$29,546.51.

Council member Driggers motioned to approve the consent agenda. Council member Beye seconded. Motion carried.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

6. **ANNUAL DEPARTMENT REPORT, CARA DUELL, SWIMMING POOL:** Duell was unable to present due to illness.

7. **INTRODUCE DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION:** Matt Stiles introduced Jerry Mendoza as the new Director of Parks & Recreation. Mendoza shared his background, passion for developing youth through sports, and ideas for additional programming. He also noted flag football and league volleyball begin Saturday.

8. BUSINESS ITEMS

PURCHASE OF BALLISTICS VESTS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT: Administrator Stiles shared the request to purchase six new bullet proof vests for the police department. He noted the department received \$6,000 in donations through the community foundation to make this purchase, which brings the city cost to \$4,134.

Council member Loewen motioned to approve the purchase of six body armor vests for the Police Department from Safe Life Defense at a cost of \$10,134. Council member Beye seconded. Motion carried.

PURCHASE OF ROAD ASPHALT FROM APAC: Administrator Stiles shared the street department is patching several asphalt streets across town. Staff estimates the total cost of asphalt will be around \$15,000.

Council member Beye motioned to approve asphalt purchases from APAC at a not to exceed amount of \$15,000. Council member Loewen seconded. Motion carried.

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

LEGAL PUBLICATIONS ON CITY WEBSITE: Administrator Stiles reviewed Charter Ordinance 22 which took effect in November 2021, although the city took no action to make an official change at that time. He shared the Attorney General's opinion 2023-5 which was issued on July 26, 2023 regarding legal publications. Stiles reminded the Council that no action would be taken at this meeting.

JT Klaus of Triplett, Woolf & Garretson provided the legal background on the City's process to this point. Klaus noted the City of Hillsboro has taken the necessary steps to approach this decision.

Council discussion ensued regarding public feedback, staff involvement, and reasons for adopting this change. Mayor Thurston inquired about newspaper subscription statistics and online activity. The mayor reminded council and staff to be deliberate about this decision, and conscious of their responsibility to the citizens of Hillsboro.

Administrator Stiles noted the City Attorney's office has provided a specific process for producing an affidavit form for website publications. Klaus provided advice on how to be transparent when using the website for legal publications. Stiles shared the city has experienced delays in receiving affidavits of publication and Klaus highlighted the importance of receiving such affidavits in a timely manner.

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

- AMPI Building
- United Way Survey
- Flint Hills Regional Council
- Job Fair with CORE Communities
- KPP Electric Bill
- Health Insurance Savings Report
- Tyler & Lucy Ediger's baby

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

12. COUNCIL COMMENTS: Council member Beye shared his enthusiasm for the Arts & Craft Fair. Mayor Thurston spoke of his involvement in greeting vendors early Saturday morning and noted the fair had 50 more booths this year than last year.

13. ADJOURNMENT: Council meeting adjourned at 7:36pm.

ATTEST:


LOUIS THURSTON, MAYOR
DANIELLE BARTEL, CITY CLERK