

Council met in regular session with the following persons present: Mayor Richard Zink, Safety-Service Director Ralph Holt, Law Director Fred Beery, Auditor Gary Lewis and Clerk Beverly Brown.

President William McCreight called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mr. Kevin Chambers, Mr. John Dodds, Mr. Richard Donley, Mrs. Peggy McClellan, Mr. R. Paul Pence, Mrs. Kristine Norris, and Mr. Charles Walker.
Absent: None

Councilperson Peggy McClellan offered prayer for the meeting followed by Mayor Zink leading those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President McCreight welcomed Mr. Gary Lewis as the new Hillsboro City Auditor. Mr. Lewis said that he was excited to be here and working for the people of Hillsboro, looking forward to working with administration and city council.

CITIZEN OF THE MONTH-

Mayor Zink presented Marie Knott the "Citizen of the Month" award for her work as a weatherperson in Hillsboro for over 50 years. She and her late husband, Tom Knott co-founded the Southern Ohio Genealogical Society and she's involved in church activities.

Minutes of the November 5, 2005 meeting were approved as presented.

MONTHLY REPORTS- The clerk read reports by title only from the Water Meter Department, Hillsboro Public Utilities, Water Treatment Plant, Wastewater Treatment Plant, Income Tax Bureau, Street Department, Police Department, Fire Department, Life Squad and Auditor's Office

PUBLIC REQUESTS- None

COMMUNICATIONS – None

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS – None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

Meetings I attended this month-

November 3 - Update on Northeast Street Sidewalks

November 7 - URS Sewer Plant Upgrade Meeting
Council Meeting

November 8 - Pinnacle HealthCenter Grand Opening
South Lift Station Progress Meeting
Wedding

November 9 - Wedding
Employee's Safety Meeting

November 14 – Met with ODOT and County for Belfast Pike and State Route 73 Road Closing
Grant Presentation by SPC at the Library
Wedding

November 15 – Groundbreaking at Heartland

November 16 - Met with Contractors on Harry Sauner Road Project

November 17 - Went to Chillicothe with Sgt. Priest to be with him to receive the AAA 2005
Community Safety Award

November 18 - Attended the National Weather Service Award for Mrs. Knott

November 21 – Met with County and State on Infrastructure

November 22 – Spoke to National Honor Society at Hillsboro High School
Street and Safety Committee Meeting

November 29 – Meeting on Bonding for the New Water Plant

November 30 – Met with Superintendent of Hillsboro Schools
Special Council Meeting
Wedding

Probably as you all know I was very disappointed that the temporary earnings tax was defeated and as you all know and must understand; the community needs are still there and will be until additional revenue can be brought in for capital improvements. So, the need didn't go away; just the incoming revenue.

The Belfast Pike Sewer Project has been moving right along. We're sorry for the inconvenience of the folks using Route 73 south, however; we must meet EPA requirements to eliminate overflows.

Harry Sauner Road has had the grinding and repair work completed as well as the first layer of asphalt. The road has been temporarily striped for the winter. The finish layer and permanent striping will be put down in the spring.

On Thursday, December 1, the water maintenance crew was replacing a fire plug at 132 West Main and uncovered a tank. The tank had been there for years and there was some liquid leaking from tank. Ralph Holt contacted EPA and got the proper instructions on removal of the tank. Ralph will probably have a little more on that later.

Bills were sent to the townships for fire protection for 2006. Total for the seven townships is \$154,479.00. Council had already approved the rates on a two-year contract for 2005 and 2006.

As I mentioned before, I went to Chillicothe with Sgt. Priest and was there when they received this safety award from AAA. The region that this covers runs from Steubenville to the Ohio River; including Fayette and Highland Counties. Hillsboro received one of only three platinum awards given by AAA. All city, village, Ohio State Patrol Posts and County Sheriff's Departments are eligible for recognition. This takes in a large number of law enforcement agencies. With that I think we should congratulate Chief Thompson and his staff for the extra things that they do in the city to make it a safer place to live and continuous extra effort has proven that they received this award.

The next item that I would like to mention is a sincere welcome to Gary Lewis who has already been welcomed as the new auditor. I've known Gary for many years and am looking forward to working closely with him in the future.

I would also like to give special thanks to Cherri Pitzer for serving as temporary auditor from October 16 until Mr. Lewis was appointed. With extra effort on Cherri's part; we were able to continue business on an efficient and timely schedule.

And this is probably the last scheduled meeting that we will have before the end of the year and I would like to wish all of the council members, city employees and Hillsboro citizens; a happy holiday season and prosperous New Year and wish the council members that are going off, the best of luck. Anybody have any questions; I'll be glad to answer them.

I would like for Nick to show his award. I asked him to bring it out so people could take a look at it and give a brief explanation on what went in to receiving this.

Chief Thompson said, "Well, the award as the mayor has stated, was received the 17th of November and it is the result of efforts by the department in safety programs such as Safety Pup which is presented to the kindergarten and first grades; youth fingerprinting and bicycle safety and programs of that nature. The department's been involved with AAA safety programs for a number of years, so we were very pleased to receive the plaque."

SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR'S REPORT-

As you know; we bid out our insurance, our health insurance and we only had one bid that was from Doug Wagoner and Associates Insurance. We did the insurance differently this year. We basically gave them the requirements we needed as far as the insurance and then we asked the different insurance companies who wanted to bid, to bid the plan that we had. Because last year it basically turned in to a fiasco because we had so many different policies coming at us and we didn't know which one to choose or which one to look at. It was very complicated. So I thought by bidding it out with what we have now and using that as a guideline; we would get the same plan and the same kind of coverage that we had last year.

What we received was; Doug gave us four different options and we had a meeting Thursday and Doug shared with everyone what the plans were. He gave us a plan for United Healthcare, Anthem Blue Cross, Medical Mutual and Medical Mutual HRA format. Medical Mutual HRA

format came in at an annual cost of \$849,844 which was less than the other three companies. So what I need from council tonight is for them to pass this so we can accept this insurance. The other issue we have is the bid for the Hillsboro Lift Station replacement. We had two bids and unfortunately Southern Ohio Trenching bid exceeded the 10% engineering cost estimate so it had to be thrown out, so Cooper's Excavating LLC came in at \$194,990. That's the only bid that was accepted.

Tonight there is a resolution that council; it will be the second reading on the EMS vehicle. We have a cost now for that resolution; it's not to exceed \$175,000 and is from the Horton Emergency Vehicle Company. I'm asking for council to look at that this evening.

The other information I have is we're looking at; and I've mentioned this before to council; we're looking at on-line bill-pay for sewer for water/sewer. It will be a cost to the consumer of \$3.95 for anyone who wants to go on-line for bill paying for water and sewer. It will max out at \$200; nothing over \$200 will be paid on-line.

AUDITOR'S REPORT-

I think everyone has received copies of my reports for your review. If you have any questions, by all means please see me after the meeting; I'd be happy to answer your questions as best as I can at this point in time. Also feel free to stop by my office at any time and we can get more details on those as well. Later on I will have a couple pieces of legislation to introduce.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES-

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Mr. Donley, Chairman

There was no official meeting in November for the Finance Committee but as you can see in the standing committee is number one to look at the supervisor's and non-union wages; that's something that's going to be dealt with later. I think we also have a resolution that's going to entertain a little bit of that. Also weekly pay; and that's being discussed and I think that's also a resolution tonight.

The report was approved with a motion by Mrs. McClellan and seconded by Mr. Chambers. All members present voted yea.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE AND RESTORATION COMMITTEE- Mr. Pence, Chairman

The only item I have in my committee is looking at computers for the Auditor's office and that was pretty well covered by Mr. Donley's report last week; so I would ask that that would be taken out of the committee.

CIVIL SERVICE AND EMPLOYEE RELATIONS COM, MRS. McCLELLAN, CHAIR

Mr. Walker reported on the meeting. Civil Service and Employee Relations Committee met on December 1 at 5:30. Council members present were myself, John Dodds, Kevin Chambers, Kris Norris, Gary Lewis the new auditor, also present were Safety-Service Director Ralph Holt, Dick Zink, Council President Bill McCreight and our insurance representative Doug Wagoner. The items discussed was the insurance and the committee's going to recommend that we accept Medical Mutual HRA format for the employees. It sounds like the best one for all of us. We had Mr. Wagoner here tonight if anyone has any questions, you can ask him.

Mr. Holt said, "I do have one comment. There was a concern from the employees that on the deductible that there may be issues when they use their hospital insurance. They need to understand and know that there will be a system set up so when those are used, that the insurance can go right in and collect those funds. I believe when we talked with Gary, that there is going to be a bank set up so we have a deposit in there so that there's funds available so the insurance company can go in and take the deductibles out without the employee being involved in it.

Mayor Zink said, "In other words, they're going to bill the insurance company just the same as if they were paying it, but it's going to be coming right to the city and the city will pay it and they don't have to mess with it.

Mr. Pence reminded Mr. Walker that he had also attended the meeting. A motion to accept the report was made by Mr. Dodds and seconded by Mr. Pence. All members present voted yea.

STREET & SAFETY COMMITTEE, MR. WALKER, CHAIR.

Well, we held a meeting but we didn't hold a meeting; there was not enough members present to hold one. So we discussed the lighting on Harry Sauner which the safety-service director can go

ahead and do whatever needs to be.

Skate park; we put it on hold until about February and then we're going to meet with the people involved in it again. The other two items I didn't realize was in my committee. So we did not have a meeting basically.

President McCreight said they could take lights and sidewalks on Harry Sauner off until they get the paving done. Mayor Zink said that he thought they would have lights on Harry Sauner very shortly. Mr. Holt said the lights are already resolved and he had talked to the power company.

UTILITIES COMMITTEE; Mr. Dodds, CHAIR.

None

ZONING AND ANNEXATION COM.-Mr. Chambers, CHAIR.

None

COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT COM. - Mr. Shoemaker, CHAIR

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS-

Tabulation of bids for the Hillsboro Lift Station Replacements showed two bids with Southern Ohio Trenching coming in at more than 10% above the engineer's cost estimate. This left one bid by Cooper's Excavating LLC in the amount of \$191,990.00. A motion to accept the bid was made by Mr. Pence and seconded by Mr. Dodds. All members of council voted yea. Bid approved.

PASSAGE OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

ORD. 2005-19 – AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE FINAL DRAFT AMENDED SOLID WASTED MANAGEMENT PLAN OF THE ROSS, PICKAWAY, HIGHLAND, FAYETTE JOINT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT- The clerk read this ordinance by title only for a third reading. Mr. Donley made a motion to accept the ordinance and Mrs. McClellan seconded the motion. All members present voted yea. Ordinance passed.

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

RES. 05-36 – A RESOLUTION REQUIRING ALL DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY TO USE INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM- The clerk read this resolution by title only for a second reading. A motion to waive the three-reading rule was made by Mr. Walker and seconded by Mr. Dodds and all members voted yea. A motion to adopt the resolution was made by Mrs. McClellan and seconded by Mr. Chambers with all members voting yea. Resolution adopted.

RES. 05-38 – A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE AND DIRECT THE SAFETY AND SERVICE DIRECTOR TO PURCHASE A LIFESQUAD VEHICLE- The clerk read this resolution by title only for a second reading. Mr. Holt said that they had a 270-day delivery date on this item and they would appreciate it if they would pass the resolution. A motion to waive the three-reading rule was made by Mr. Walker and seconded by Mr. Dodds. The company for the purchase is Horton Emergency Vehicle and the amount is not to exceed \$175,000.

Jeff Bain, a fulltime firefighter/paramedic for the city of Hillsboro added that they had looked at several manufacturers of ambulances and for the runs that they have on the road conditions they encounter; they thought the large box and heavier frame chassis would better suit their needs. The lighter weight vehicles do not hold up under the conditions with which they work. The one they would like to have has a Chevrolet 4500 chassis with 169-inch box. This box would be two inches larger than the International they currently have.

A vote on the motion to waive the three-reading rule had all council members voting yea. Mr. Chamber made a motion to adopt the resolution and Mr. Donley seconded the motion. All members voted yea. Resolution adopted.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS-

RES. 05-40 – A RESOLUTION TO REPEAL LONGEVITY PAY IN THE CITY OF HILLSBORO- The clerk read this resolution in full for a first reading.

Mr. Steve Pence asked if this meant that non-union employees would have no more longevity after January 1, 2006. Mr. Walker said, "Nobody's going to get cut in pay, Steve." Mr. Chambers said, "I think there's some confusion on this. When we looked at this; this was supposed to have been taken down the same as.....over a three year period." President McCreight asked Mr. Beery if it could be modified and Mr. Walker said that it did not need to be modified; it would be taken care of. They had to have a meeting. Mr. Steve Pence said they had

told him the same thing about his education. The resolution had its first reading.

ORD. 2005-25 – TEMPORARY ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE- The clerk read this ordinance by title only for a first reading. A motion to accept the ordinance was made by Mr. Donley and seconded by Mrs. McClellan. Ordinance passed.

RES. 05-41 – A RESOLUTION PERMITTING THE AUDITOR TO PAY ALL EMPLOYEES WEEKLY- The clerk read this resolution in full for a first reading. A motion to waive the three-reading rule was made by Mr. Walker and seconded by Mr. Chambers. All members voted yea. A motion to accept the resolution was made by Mrs. Norris and seconded by Mr. Dodds. All members voted yea. Resolution adopted.

RES. 05-42 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH HIGHLAND COUNTY TO PROVIDE COUNSEL TO INDIGENT DEFENDANTS- The clerk read this resolution in full for a first reading. A motion to waive the three-reading rule was made by Mr. Dodds and seconded by Mr. Donley with all members voting yea. A motion to pass the resolution was made by Mr. Walker and seconded by Mr. Chambers. All members voted yea. Resolution passed.

RES. 05-43 – A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CONTINUANCE OF THE EXISTING FIRE LABOR CONTRACT WITH MODIFICATIONS- The clerk read this resolution in full for a first reading. A motion to waive the three-reading rule was made by Mr. Walker and seconded by Mrs. Norris. All members present voted yea. A motion to accept the resolution was made by Mr. Dodds and seconded by Mr. Walker with all members present voting yea. Resolution adopted.

RES. 05-44 – A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CONTINUANCE OF THE EXISTING POLICE LABOR CONTRACT WITH MODIFICATIONS- The clerk read this resolution in full for a first reading. A motion to waive the three-reading rule was made by Mr. Walker and seconded by Mrs. Norris and all members voted yea. A motion to pass the resolution was made by Mrs. Norris and seconded by Mr. Walker. All members present voted yea. Resolution passed.

ORD. 2005-26 – AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE WATER LOAN PROCEEDS TO PAY DEBT- The clerk read this ordinance in full for a first reading. The amounts in the ordinance are \$2,400,000 and \$560,000 respectively. A motion to waive the three-reading rule was made by Mr. Dodds and seconded by Mr. Pence and all members voted yea. A motion to pass the ordinance was made by Mrs. Norris and seconded by Mr. Dodds with all members of council voting yea. Ordinance adopted.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Walker asked if there was any way that council members could receive their packets earlier and President McCreight said that it would be difficult without the legislation. It was suggested this might be addressed by the new council. President McCreight took a few minutes to thank each member of council as he will no longer be President of Council after the first of the year.

Mr. Beery said that there was an additional matter that was necessary and that was a transfer of \$10,000 from Contingency to the Income Tax Bureau to cover expenses incurred with mandatory reporting. Mr. Donley made the motion to transfer and Mr. Dodds seconded the motion. All members present voted yea.

Mr. Donley said that he would like to acknowledge the work that Mr. McCreight had put in to his position as President of Council and expressed his appreciation for that effort. Mr. Dodds made a motion to go in to executive session to discuss non-union employee's salaries. Mr. Donley seconded the motion and all members voted yea. Executive session began at 8:05 p.m. and council came out of executive session at 8:35 p.m.

Mr. Marc Bayless (Fire Department) thanked the council for approving the new life squad vehicle and thanked them for their work on council over the years.

With no further business to come before the council; a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Pence and seconded by Mrs. McClellan. Meeting adjourned.

Beverly Brown, Clerk of Council