

## **HILLSBORO CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**July 14, 2022**

At 7:00 p.m. Council President Tom Eichinger called the Hillsboro City Council meeting to order. The following were present for the meeting: Clerk Whitney Seitz, Public Works Superintendent Shawn Adkins, Police Chief Eric Daniels and Safety & Service Director Brianne Abbott.

### **ROLL CALL**

Don Storer, Dan Baucher, Patty Day, Mary Stanforth, Jason Brown and Adam Wilkin were present. Greg Maurer was absent and excused.

Mr. Eichinger led the Council in prayer and led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **MINUTES**

There were no corrections to the June 16, 2022 regular minutes. They were approved as submitted.

### **MONTHLY REPORTS**

The June 2022 monthly reports were read by title only: Income Tax Bureau, Police Department, Public Utilities (includes Street Department, Water and Sewer Maintenance), Treasurer's (includes Expense and Revenue), Water Meter Department, Water Office (includes Water/Sewer Sales), Water Treatment, Wastewater Treatment, Code Enforcement and Auditor.

**PUBLIC REQUESTS:** None

**COMMUNICATIONS:** None

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS:** Citizen Patrick Shanahan of 7339 Pea Ridge Road stood before council to address the national racism problem. Mr. Shanahan referenced a mass shooting that occurred in Buffalo, NY. Patrick Shanahan invited formal leaders such as council to a formal dialogue discussion.

### **SAFETY AND SERVICE DIRECTOR/PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT (Brianne Abbott)**

SSD Brianne Abbott brought attention and recognition to some very important work that has taken place in Hillsboro and Highland County. Brianne Abbott noted it is no secret that the drug epidemic in the community and beyond is a major problem. The individuals attending tonight are making huge strides through Operation Ice Breaker to help mitigate this issue and ensure the community is a safer place. SSD Brianne Abbott then turned it over to Highland County Prosecutor Anneka Collins to share some of the work that has been completed.

Highland County Prosecutor Anneka Collins shared progress made by the Highland County Task Force since 2019. Prosecutor Collins recognized the number of indictments and the charged offenses to date for operation ice breaker. Prosecutor Collins mentioned

the task force puts in countless hours and would continue great efforts with or without recognition. Anneka Collins thanked the City of Hillsboro for the acknowledgement.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR (Justin Harsha, Mayor)**

Mayor Justin Harsha was unable to attend the July council meeting. On behalf of Mayor Justin Harsha, Council President Tom Eichinger read a proclamation recognizing the Highland County Task Force.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE (Mary Stanforth, Chair)**

- Wage & Pay Scale review/recommendations for City employees, joint with Civil Service – Employee Relations
  - Meeting held 6-28-2022 at 6PM joint with Civil Service-Employee Relations

**PROPERTY MAINTENANCE AND RESTORATION (Don Storer Chair)**

No meeting. No questions asked.

**CIVIL SERVICE AND EMPLOYEE RELATIONS COMMITTEE (Dan Baucher, Chair)**

- Update Civil Service Manual
- Wage & Pay Scale review/recommendations for City employees, joint with Finance
  - Meeting held 6-28-2022 at 6PM joint with Finance. Dan Baucher read minutes from the joint committee meeting. See attachment #1.

**STREET AND SAFETY COMMITTEE (Adam Wilkin, Chair)**

No meeting. No questions asked.

**UTILITIES COMMITTEE (Greg Maurer, Chair)**

No meeting. No questions asked.

**ZONING AND ANNEXATION COMMITTEE (Jason Brown, Chair)**

No meeting. No questions asked.

**COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT (Patty Day, Chair)**

- Horizon – Randy Proehl
  - Meeting held 7-12-2022 at 6:30PM. Patty Day read minutes from the committee meeting. See attachment #2.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **PASSAGE OF ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS (THIRD READING): -**

Ordinance 2022-10 An Ordinance amending section 51.076 of the codified ordinances of the City of Hillsboro to increase the rates charged for water service for the City of Hillsboro

MOTION: Dan Baucher moved to approve and adopt Ordinance 2022-10, seconded by Adam Wilkin. Vote all yeas. Ordinance 2022-10 approved and adopted.

DISCUSSION: Jason Brown requested an update with the consultant, SSD Brianne Abbott will check with Kirby Ellison for the update.

### **SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS --**

Ordinance 2022-12 An Ordinance amending sections 91.40, 91.43 and 91.99 of the codified ordinances of the City of Hillsboro to ban the use of consumer-grade fireworks in the City of Hillsboro

DISCUSSION: Jason Brown asked Chief of Police Eric Daniels if there were any issues over the fourth of July holiday. Police Chief Eric Daniels advised there were calls, but officers were unable to act. Third reading August 11, 2022.

### **FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS:**

Ordinance 2022-15 An Ordinance to change the zoning classification of a certain parcel and modify the zoning map

DISCUSSION: Council President Tom Eichinger placed in the Zoning and Annexation Committee, second reading August 11, 2022.

Ordinance 2022-16 An ordinance amending sections 155.072, 155.092 and 155.166 of the codified ordinances of the City of Hillsboro, Ohio

DISCUSSION: Council President Tom Eichinger placed in the Zoning and Annexation Committee, second reading August 11, 2022.

Ordinance 2022-17 An Ordinance to set the salary of the city auditor and declaring an emergency

MOTION: Adam Wilkin moved to suspend the three-reading rule, seconded by Patty Day. Vote: Patty Day-yes, Jason Brown-yes, Dan Baucher-es, Adam Wilkin-yes, Don Storer-yes, Mary Stanforth-yes. Ordinance 2022-17 three-reading rule suspended.

MOTION: Mary Stanforth moved to approve and adopt Ordinance 2022-17, seconded by Don Storer. Vote all yeas. Ordinance 2022-17 approved and adopted.

DISCUSSION: Mary Stanforth discussed the importance of the legislation being passed as an emergency. The current city auditor Alex Butler is running for county auditor and the current pay does not attract qualified candidates.

Ordinance 2022-18 An Ordinance to repeal all previous ordinances regarding the compensation for non-union city employees, and ordinance establishing the schedule of authorized non-union city employees and declaring an emergency.

DISCUSSION: Mary Stanforth expressed the urgency to pass Ordinance 2022-18 prior to the upcoming budget. Jason Brown noted the lack of comfort, and would feel more comfortable seeing it go through the three readings. Council President Tom Eichinger placed the legislation back into committee as there were clerical errors within the legislation.

Ordinance 2022-19 An Ordinance making supplemental appropriations for the City of Hillsboro, Highland County, Ohio

MOTION: Adam Wilkin moved to approve and adopt Ordinance 2022-19, seconded by Don Storer. Vote all yeas. Ordinance 2022-19 approved and adopted.

DISCUSSION: SSD Brianne Abbott made mention this is a reimbursement grant, requiring a payment first.

Resolution 22-28 A Resolution approving a 'then and now' certification by the City Auditor, pursuant to R.C. 5705.41(d)(1), for the payment of storm sewer construction costs and to declare an emergency.

MOTION: Patty Day moved to suspend the three-reading rule, seconded by Dan Baucher. Vote: Dan Baucher-yes, Jason Brown-yes, Patty Day-yes, Mary Stanforth-yes, Don Storer-yes, Adam Wilkin-yes. Resolution 22-28 three-reading rule suspended.

MOTION: Mary Stanforth moved to approve and adopt Resolution 22-28, seconded by Dan Baucher. Vote all yeas. Resolution 22-28 approved and adopted.

DISCUSSION: SSD Brianne Abbott noted of an outstanding invoice. The invoice was before a purchase order was obtained.

Resolution 22-29 A Resolution to enter into a contract with DLZ Ohio Inc. for the contract administration and construction observation of the N. West Street Water Line Improvement Project and declare an emergency.

MOTION: Adam Wilkin moved to suspend the three-reading rule, seconded by Don Storer. Vote: Dan Baucher-yes, Adam Wilkin-yes, Don Storer-yes, Jason Brown-yes, Mary Stanforth-yes, Patty Day-yes. Resolution 22-29 three-reading rule suspended.

MOTION: Dan Baucher moved to approve and adopt Resolution 22-29, seconded by Patty Day. Vote all yeas. Resolution 22-29 approved and adopted.

DISCUSSION: SSD Brianne Abbott mentioned the legislation is for the North West Street waterline project. The contract was awarded in May. Emergency measures are requested as the project is expected to begin this month.

Resolution 22-30 A Resolution approving a 'then and now' certification by the city auditor, pursuant to R.C. 5705.41(D)(1), for the payment of ODOT paving PID 109825, and declaring an emergency.

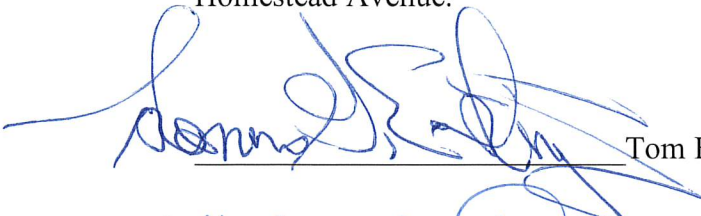
MOTION: Don Storer moved to suspend the three-reading rule, seconded by Dan Baucher. Vote: Adam Wilkin-yes, Don Storer-yes, Mary Stanforth-yes, Patty Day-yes, Jason Brown-yes, Dan Baucher-yes. Resolution 22-30 three-reading rule suspended.

MOTION: Don Storer moved to approve and adopt Resolution 22-30, seconded by Dan Baucher. Vote all yeas. Resolution 22-30 approved and adopted.

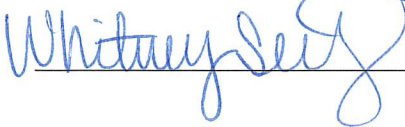
DISCUSSION: SSD Brianne Abbott advised the bids came in higher for the N West St paving project. ODOT invoiced the difference.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**ADJOURN:** Mary Stanforth moved to adjourn, seconded by Adam Wilkin. Vote all yeas. Council adjourned at 7:41 p.m. The next scheduled meeting of the Hillsboro City Council is Thursday August 11, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at Municipal Courtroom 130 Homestead Avenue.

  
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Tom Eichinger, President

  
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Whitney Seitz, Clerk

The Finance and Civil Service Committees held a joint meeting on June 28<sup>th</sup> at the city building to discuss the current pay ordinance. The meeting was called to order at 6:12 pm with the following committee members in attendance: Adam Wilkin, Dan Baucher, Don Storer and Greg Maurer. Mary Stanforth could not attend. Also in attendance were Shawn Adkins and Jason Brown.

The meeting started with discussion on the current pay scale of elected and appointed officials. A motion was made to bring the following pay ranges to council for approval – first by Greg Maurer and second by Adam Wilkin. All in favor.

SSD \$75,000 - \$90,000

Tax Commissioner \$50,000 - \$60,000

Waste Water Superintendent \$65,000 - \$70,000

Utility Office Manager \$50,000 - \$60,000

Public Works Superintendent \$75,000 - \$80,000

Auditor \$57,500

Don Storer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Greg Maurer seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dan Baucher

Civil Service/Employee Relations Chair

Attachment #1

## Community Enhancement Committee Meeting Minutes

**Date & Time:** 7/12/2022 at 6:30 PM

**Place:** 130 North High Street Upstairs Conference Room, Hillsboro, OH

**In Attendance:** Committee Members: Dan Baucher, Jason Brown and Patty Day. Others in attendance included Tom Eichinger, Shawn Adkins, Horizon Representative: Randy Proehl and Herb Day.

### **Old Business:**

- NO previous follow up agenda items to be addressed.

### **New Business:**

**Subject:** Fiber to Home Options to be Offered by Horizon Telecom in the Community

**Discussion:** Committee Chair: Patty Day requested that Randy Proehl, Site Acquisition Specialist for Horizon Telecom provide the details of the proposal for City Council's consideration. Mr. Proehl began his presentation by giving some background about the company which was formally known as the Chillicothe Phone Company. Mr. Proehl also provided the committee with his years of experience in working as an Engineer and Site Acquisition Specialist for the company. He was part of the team responsible for the 50X50 Horizon Project Hub Site located on State Route 73 near Walmart. This site currently provides broadband services to the schools, local hospital and library. This Initiative was paid for by the Southern Ohio Broadband Initiative Grant in 2010. Mr. Proehl reported that fiber to home will require a much smaller space instead of the 50X50 that is located on State Route 73. The space needed will only be 20X20. The Cabinet around the 20X20 site will be approximately 6 by 4 feet and it will be surrounded by a 20 feet fence just to keep people out and keep the equipment safe. The preference is to keep it close to the Main Hub located on State Route 73 near Walmart. The Private Equity Firm plans to bring broadband service to 150 towns who already have a main Hub placed. They want to bring services to communities that welcome them and want the services they can offer. Because there is already a main hub located in Hillsboro the Private Equity Firm wants to expand services to the home in the Hillsboro community. Their services will provide a much faster internet services, allow for streaming videos without buffering and offer residents a choice in providers. Horizon plans to offer different types of packages including streaming packages to residents. Mr. Proehl discussed the criteria for site location selection which includes: must be out of flood plain, must be close to main hub, can't be near any large antenna structures, good grounding plain, zoning must be Industrial E and it must be easy access for the company technicians. Once the company engineers visit the potential site and they make the final selection the company moves forward with discussions with the owner of the property. The current location that Horizon Telecom believes that meets all these needs is located on Beech Street behind the Fire Department. Horizon Telecom is requesting 400 square feet of this location. The company's goal would be to offer service to residents by Christmas, but it may take longer especially if legislation goes through the three readings. Just as FYI Mr. Proehl stated that Darbyville town just went live with Horizon Telecom's option for Fiber to Home and 75% of their residents signed on immediately to their services. The first three markets launched were in Greenfield, WCH and Circleville and Hillsboro will be in the next six markets to be completed from the 150 locations total to be completed by the Private Equity Firm. The deal with the city and Horizon Telecom would be for an easement with a 20-year term limit for \$20,000 paid upfront. Horizon Telecom will also landscape the location. Shawn Adkins, Public Works Superintendent discussed that the storm sewer is also located in the area being considered and this may create an issue. Discussion continued and the decision was made to go after committee meeting and evaluate whether the storm sewer location would eliminate the chosen location as an option. Council President Tom Eichinger reminded the Committee that the Imagine Hillsboro Plan recognized that "Connectivity" was listed as an item to focus on and that in a recent review of the plan and in looking at Census 2020 data Hillsboro remains as one of the lowest cities regarding connectivity. Mr. Proehl responded that the Hillsboro Community Project will be a 2 million dollar build for the Private Investor Firm.

Attachment #2

**Recommendations/Actions:** Patty Day make motion that the Community Enhancement Committee recommend to City Council to proceed with the request from Horizon Telecom to bring Fiber to Home in Hillsboro Community provided the storm sewer issues discussed would not interfere with the chosen location. Patty also recommended that the committee recommend to City Council that if the location will work that the 3-reading rule be eliminated to avoid further delay in bringing this service to Hillsboro Community. Dan Baucher seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion passed with both Patty and Dan voting to proceed. Jason Brown voted NO voicing concerns with making the recommendation to City Council to proceed with project with eliminating the 3-reading rule.

**Follow Up:** None further needed by this Committee

Dan Baucher made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 PM and Jason Brown seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted by Chair Patty Day