

## **HILLSBORO CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**April 16, 2025**

At 7:00 p.m. Council President Tom Eichinger called the Hillsboro City Council meeting to order. The following were present for the meeting: Safety and Service Director Brianne Abbott, Mayor Justin Harsha, City Law Director Randalyn Worley, Public Works Superintendent Shawn Adkins, Sgt Batts, and Clerk Lauren Walker.

### **ROLL CALL**

Dan Baucher, Jason Brown, Kathryn Hapner, Mary Stanforth, Don Storer, Adam Wilkin, were all present. Greg Maurer was absent.

**MOTION:** Ms. Stanforth moved to excuse Mr. Maurer's absence, seconded by Mr. Brown. Vote: Mr. Baucher-yes, Mr. Brown-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes, Ms. Stanforth-yes, Mr. Storer-yes, Mr. Wilkin-yes

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

### **MINUTES**

There were no corrections to the March 13, 2025 regular council minutes. They were approved as presented.

### **MONTHLY REPORTS**

The March monthly reports were read by title only: Income Tax Bureau, Police Department, Public Utilities (includes street, water/sewer maintenance), Water Meter Department, Water Office (Water/Sewer Sales), Water Treatment Plant, Wastewater Treatment Plant, and Code Enforcement.

### **PUBLIC REQUESTS**

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

OEDA- Policy Statement in Support of Issue 2

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Harsha expressed the city's support for Issue 2 and how it impacts our local projects. Mr. Eichinger asked council if they would be willing to endorse by voice vote. No-yeas. No-nays.

Ohio Department of Commerce- Retail Liquor Permit Renewal Objection

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Eichinger explained the correspondence and asked council if there are any objections. No objections.

DLZ – Water Rate Increase Letter of Support

Economic Development – Water Rate Increase Letter of Support

#### **CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

Olivia Zimmerman

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Eichinger explained the letter was a formal appeal for her water bill, due to unknown reasons of the water valve being turned on. Mr. Eichinger stated this request will be put into the Utilities Committee for review and recommendation back to council to determine status of the appeal.

## **COMMUNICATION FROM THE MAYOR (Justin Harsha)**

No communication

## **REPORT OF THE SAFETY & SERVICE DIRECTOR/HILLSBORO PLANNING COMMISSION**

Brianne Abbott provided an update on the Marriott Hotel Project. The City has recently received notice from the TIF Attorney that the project is progressing, with indications that financing is nearing completion. Mr. Spoor is scheduled to attend the May City Council meeting to present the related legislation. The Council Clerk will distribute the legislation early next week for review.

The forthcoming legislation will authorize the issuance of TIF bonds for the project. This legislation previously passed through Council in December 2019 and will be presented as an emergency measure at the upcoming meeting.

Council members with questions are encouraged to contact Mr. Spoor directly or reach out to Bree for his contact information.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

- Wage & Pay Scale review/recommendations for Elected Officials
- Wage & Pay Scale review/recommendations for employees

No meeting. No questions, no comments.

### **PARKS COMMITTEE (Don Storer Chair)**

No meeting. No questions, no comments

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

- Personal / Vacation Handbook

No meeting. No questions, no comments

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

- Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA)
- 3 Hour Parking
- Records Request Policy (Video Footage)

No meeting. Mr. Eichinger noted there are a couple items on the agenda that will have their third read this evening.

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

- Waste Collection
- Water Rates
  - Meeting 2-20-2025 at 6:00pm

Mr. Eichinger mentioned Mr. Maurer was not present but the minutes were provided for review. No questions, no comments.

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

No meeting. No questions, no comments

## **COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT (Kathryn Hapner, Chair)**

- National Fitness Campaign
  - Meeting 3-24-2025 at 6:00pm
  - Meeting 4-7-2025 at 6:00pm
  - Meeting 4-15-2025 at 6:00pm

Ms. Hapner mentioned their committee has been busy and she will provide minutes to the clerk. Ms. Hapner stated they will be getting with Ms. Worley about a proposal they have but there may be a delay if the project has to be bid out. They plan to move forward with a fitness project. No questions, no comments

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **• PASSAGE OF ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS (THIRD READING)**

Ordinance 2025-03 An Ordinance amending section 39.20 of the codified ordinances of the City of Hillsboro pertaining to the City's Records Request Policy

**DISCUSSION:** No questions, no comments

**MOTION:** Mr. Wilkin moved to approve and adopt Ordinance 2025-03, seconded by Mr. Storer. Vote: Mr. Storer-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes, Mr. Baucher-yes, Ms. Stanforth-yes, Mr. Wilkin-yes, Mr. Brown-yes. Ordinance 2025-03 is approved and adopted.

Ordinance 2025-04 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

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Brown stated his committee would like to table Ordinance 2025-04, and that they have completed research about the water rates. They look to have another meeting to discuss further.

**MOTION:** Mr. Brown moved to table Ordinance 2025-04, seconded by Mr. Storer.

Vote: Ms. Standforth-yes, Mr. Baucher-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes, Mr. Wilkin-no, Mr. Brown-yes, Mr. Storer-yes. Ordinance 2025-04 is tabled.

Ordinance 2025-05 An Ordinance expanding a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA)

**DISCUSSION:** No questions, no comments

**MOTION:** Mr. Wilkin moved to approve and adopt Ordinance 2025-05, seconded by Ms. Hapner. Vote: Mr. Wilkin-yes, Mr. Storer-yes, Ms. Stanforth-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes, Mr. Brown-yes, Mr. Baucher-yes. Ordinance 2025-05 is approved and adopted.

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

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

Ordinance 2025-11 An Ordinance creating section 35.061 of the codified ordinances of the City of Hillsboro pertaining to income tax regulations

**DISCUSSION:** Ms. Abbott shared that this legislation will add language to the code of ordinances to require landlords to provide a list of tenants to the city income tax office to

ensure registration. No comments, no questions. Ordinance 2025-11 will move to a second reading.

Ordinance 2025-12 An Ordinance authorizing the Safety and Service Director to enter into an agreement with ODOT for project PID 119779 and declaring an emergency

**DISCUSSION:** Brianne Abbott shared the legislation will allow the city to enter into agreement with ODOT for project PID 119779. This project is an ODOT funding project that repairs a bridge on US 62 near the Diamond Drive intersection in the City of Hillsboro. Suspension of the three-reading rule and passage by emergency is requested to execute and return to ODOT in order for them to being the project and meet their existing project deadlines.

**MOTION:** Mr. Wilkin moved to suspend the three-reading rule for Ordinance 2025-12, seconded by Mr. Storer. Vote: Mr. Baucher-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes, Mr. Storer-yes, Mr. Brown-yes, Ms. Stanforth-yes, Mr. Wilkin-yes. Ordinance 2025-12 three-reading rule suspended.

**MOTION:** Mr. Storer moved to approve and adopt Ordinance 2025-12 as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Wilkin. Vote: Ms. Stanforth-yes, Mr. Wilkin-yes, Mr. Brown-yes, Mr. Baucher-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes, Mr. Storer-yes. Ordinance 2025-12 is approved and adopted by emergency.

Ordinance 2025-13 An Ordinance accepting the dedication of a right-of-way from the Hillsboro Community Improvement Corporation to the City of Hillsboro, Ohio, and declaring an emergency

**DISCUSSION:** Brianne Abbott shared the legislation will allow the city to accept the Right of Way on the Roberts extension project from the Hillsboro Community Improvement Corporation. Suspension of the three-reading rule and passage by emergency is requested to allow the city to maintain the new roads and right of ways for this newly developed area.

**MOTION:** Ms. Hapner moved to suspend the three-reading rule for Ordinance 2025-13, seconded by Mr. Storer. Vote: Mr. Brown-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes, Ms. Stanforth-yes, Mr. Storer-yes, Mr. Baucher-yes, Mr. Wilkin-yes. Ordinance 2025-13 three-reading rule suspended.

**MOTION:** Mr. Storer moved to approve and adopt Ordinance 2025-13 as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Wilkin. Vote: Ms. Hapner-yes, Mr. Storer-yes, Ms. Stanforth-yes, Mr. Brown-yes, Mr. Wilkin-yes, Mr. Baucher-yes. Ordinance 2025-13 is approved and adopted by emergency.

Ordinance 2025-14 An Ordinance amending section 155.999 of the codified ordinances of the City of Hillsboro pertaining to zoning violation penalties

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Eichinger stated that Ordinance 2025-14 will be referred to the Zoning and Annexation Committee for review and feedback prior to the next council meeting. Ordinance 2025-14 will move to a second reading.

Ordinance 2025-15 An Ordinance amending sections of the codified ordinances of the City of Hillsboro and adopting the City of Hillsboro Standard Drawings Manual and Design Criteria Manual

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Eichinger stated that Ordinance 2025-15 will be referred to the Street and Safety Committee for further review. The ordinance outlines updated

specifications and a revised approach to water and sewer infrastructure for future developments. Ordinance 2025-15 will move to a second reading.

Resolution 25-06 A Resolution authorizing the Safety and Service Director to solicit bids and accept the lowest and best bid for demolition of certain parcels within the City of Hillsboro and declaring an emergency

**DISCUSSION:** Brianne Abbott shared the legislation will allow the city to solicit and accept the lowest and best bid for the demolition of the Gross Feibel property.

Suspension of the three-reading rule and passage by emergency is requested to allow the city who recently accepted ownership of the property to immediately demolish the property to abate the public nuisance and ensure public safety. Mr. Brown inquired about a recent newspaper article referencing the contractor selected for a demolition project. Mr. Harsha clarified that an initial quote was obtained, which is standard practice. He also noted that the city had reached out to the Land Bank to explore a cost-sharing opportunity for the demolition. However, as the project exceeded the bid threshold, it was required to go through a formal bidding process, therefore, the contractor mentioned in the article was only referenced as the quote.

**MOTION:** Ms. Stanforth moved to suspend the three-reading rule for Resolution 25-06, seconded by Mr. Wilkin. Vote: Mr. Brown-yes, Mr. Storer-yes, Mr. Wilkin-yes, Ms. Stanforth-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes, Mr. Baucher-yes. Resolution 25-06 three-reading rule is suspended.

**MOTION:** Mr. Storer moved to approve and adopt Resolution 25-06 as emergency, seconded by Mr. Stanforth. Vote: Ms. Stanforth-yes, Mr. Baucher-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes, Mr. Wilkin-yes, Mr. Storer-yes, Mr. Brown-yes. Resolution 25-06 is approved and adopted by emergency.

Resolution 25-07 A Resolution to solicit bids and accept the lowest and best bid for paving Harry Sauner Road and declaring an emergency

**DISCUSSION:** Brianne Abbott shared the legislation will the city to bid and accept the lowest and best bid for paving of Harry Sauner Road. Suspension of the three-reading rule and passage by emergency is requested to ensure sufficient time for bidding and contract award during the paving season with favorable weather conditions.

Ms. Stanforth inquired why Harry Sauner Road was selected over other roads. Mr. Adkins explained that the street crew has applied crack sealing over the past three years, but the cracks can no longer be effectively sealed. Additionally, the center striping is no longer visible and the road now requires milling. He noted that it is the most heavily traveled non-state route in the city and has not been resurfaced in some time.

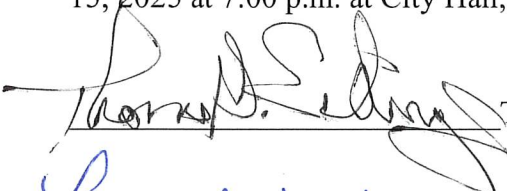
Ms. Hapner recalled a court order regarding the installation of a turn lane near the hotel and Peoples Bank. Ms. Abbott requested that Ms. Hapner send her the related documents.

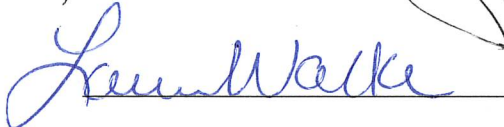
**MOTION:** Mr. Wilkin moved to suspend the three-reading rule for Resolution 25-07, seconded by Mr. Storer. Vote: Mr. Wilkin-yes, Mr. Storer-yes, Ms. Stanforth-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes, Mr. Brown-yes, Mr. Baucher-yes. Resolution 25-07 three-reading rule suspended.

**MOTION:** Mr. Storer moved to approve and adopt Resolution 25-07 as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Wilkin. Vote: Mr. Baucher-yes, Mr. Brown-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes, Ms. Stanforth-yes, Mr. Storer-yes, Mr. Wilkin-yes. Resolution 25-07 is approved and adopted by emergency.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Ms. Stanforth requested that Mr. Barreras provide the Auditor's Reports, noting that they have not received one in several months. Mr. Barreras acknowledged the request and stated he would send them out.

**ADJOURN:** Mr. Storer moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Wilkin. Council adjourned at 7:27 p.m. The next scheduled meeting of the Hillsboro City Council is Thursday May 15, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, 130 North High Street.

 Tom Eichinger, President

 Lauren Walker, Clerk