

HILLSBORO CITY COUNCIL MEETING

March 13, 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, Chief Eric Daniels, 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. Mr. Wilkin moved to excuse Greg Maurer, 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 February 13, 2025 regular council minutes. They were approved as presented.

MONTHLY REPORTS

The February 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

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Rocky Fork Detachment US Coast Guard Auxiliary, Flotilla 082-06-10

DISCUSSION: Council President Tom Eichinger introduced Detachment Leader Wayne Howard, who provided an overview of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Detachment's duties and services. Mr. Howard explained that the detachment, operating under Homeland Security, promotes safety for visitors to Rocky Fork Lake. Their services include vessel safety exams, equipment checks, and educational opportunities for obtaining state-issued certifications. Mr. Howard noted that the detachment currently has six members and is actively recruiting. He also extended an offer for the City of Hillsboro to serve as a visitor center location, where informational pamphlets and guides could be made available to the public. Mayor Harsha accepted the certificate and Mr. Howard presented City Council with a certificate of appreciation for serving as a visitor location. Council President Eichinger expressed gratitude for the detachment's efforts and presentation.

OPWC Fact Sheet – No discussion, no comments

COMMUNICATION FROM THE MAYOR (Justin Harsha)

Mayor Harsha provided an update on Crossroads Park, noting ongoing collaboration with Choice One and Verdantas. He informed council that he hopes to bring a presentation next month to share the latest developments on the park's progress.

REPORT OF THE SAFETY & SERVICE DIRECTOR/HILLSBORO PLANNING COMMISSION

Brianne Abbott shared,

"Thank you, Mr. President. Good evening, City Council. For the month of February there were 10 commercial and 10 residential building permits. Cleaned up and pavement marking are happening at Roberts Lane Project. The National Fitness Campaign, we have rescheduled a few meetings with their team. The next meeting scheduled is March 27th and we hope at that time to have an update from the committee to gauge interest on project that was presented by Health Commissioner Warner last month. The pedestrian safety project construction is schedule to begin on March 28th and expected completion by June 30th. The city is planning to construct three parking lots, in locations near or in the downtown area; N High, West Main, and Railroad Street. The Beech Street construction project is still underway. Monthly progress calls continue with the Marriot Hotel Developer. Shentel Fiber/GloFiber is set to begin construction at the end of the month. We are officially permitted to announce the opening of Aldi on Harry Sauner Road. The theater has been demolished, and Aldi's is expected to be open prior to Christmas of this year. The Farmers Market Opening Day is May 17th, 2025. Planning Commission did not meet last month."

Mary Stanforth asked a question in regards to the location of the barrels located on SR73 that allowed drivers to veer to the right to follow new road. Mr. Adkins in response explained that the markings worn off and Friday there will be new markings painted. Mr. Adkins also reported the new road may be open next week, starting with flashing mode for a couple weeks then will go into full operation. Pea Ridge will be closed simultaneously.

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 (Don Storer Chair)

No meeting. No questions, no comments

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

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)

- Meeting 2-21-2025 at 2:30pm
- Read minutes. No questions, no comments

UTILITIES COMMITTEE (Greg Maurer, Chair)

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

No minutes were provided. Mr. Eichinger stated they should be meeting again to make final decisions on water rates and waste collection.

ZONING AND ANNEXATION COMMITTEE (Jason Brown, Chair)

No meeting. No questions, no comments

COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT (Kathryn Hapner, Chair)

- National Fitness Campaign

Ms. Hapner stated she did not have a meeting, but plans to meet next Friday or following meeting and will get with the committee members after the meeting to discuss.

Mr. Eichinger stated the April 17th council meeting is Munday Thursday and there are several council members that would like to spend that evening with their church. Mr. Eichinger asked council if Wednesday April 16th at 7:00pm would be better suited. No objections. Clerk will reschedule meeting for April 16th at 7:00pm.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **PASSAGE OF ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS (THIRD READING)**
- **SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS**

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: Mr. Eichinger stated this Ordinance was discussed by Mr. Wikins' committee. No questions, no comments. Ordinance 2025-03 will move to third reading.

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. Eichinger stated this Ordinance was discussed in the Utilities committee, but they will meet to discuss one more time to hopefully have a recommendation prior to the next council meeting. No questions, no comments. Ordinance 2025-04 will move to third reading.

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

DISCUSSION: Mr. Eichinger stated this Ordinance is in Mr. Wilkins' committee and asked if there were any questions or comments. Mr. Brown asked Chief Daniels if there have been any issues in regards to the DORA. Mr. Daniels responded, "no". Ordinance 2025-05 will move to third reading.

• **FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS**

Resolution 25-05 A Resolution authorizing the Safety and Service Director to enter into a contract for painting of the Tower Drive Water Tower

DISCUSSION: Ms. Abbott stated the legislation will allow the city to enter into contract with LC United Painting Company, the lowest and best bidder for the water tower painting on Tower Drive. Suspension of the three-reading rule is requested to ensure the tower is painting in a timely manner during the warmer months. Ms. Stanforth asked for bid amount. Mr. Adkins stated there were three different options in the bid and believes the total was around \$96,000. Mr. Brown asked how it is determined when it needs painted. Mr. Adkins stated there is an inspection done on the tower and explained the last time it was painted he believes was prior to the bi-centennial. The other tower will need to be painted in the next year or two. Mr. Eichinger stated the tower cannot be painted black due to the warming issues it caused.

MOTION: Mr. Wilkin moved to suspend the three-reading rule, seconded by Mr. Storer. Vote: Mr. Baucher-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes, Mr. Brown-yes, Mr. Storer-yes, Ms. Stanforth-yes, Mr. Wilkin-yes. Resolution 25-05 three-reading rule suspended.

MOTION: Mr. Wilkin moved to approve and adopt Resolution 25-05, seconded by Ms. Hapner. Vote: Mr. Storer-yes, Ms. Stanforth-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes, Mr. Baucher-yes, Mr. Brown-yes, Mr. Wilkin-yes. Resolution 25-05 is approved and adopted.

Ordinance 2025-08 An Ordinance modifying the zoning classification of certain parcels and repealing Ordinance 2024-47

DISCUSSION: Ms. Abbott stated this legislation, public hearing, and recommendation from Planning Commission was presented and voted on prior however the parcel numbers were not included on original legislation. This legislation repeals the previous legislation and pass an ordinance with the parcels numbers included as an exhibit. Suspension of the three-reading rule is requested to allow the city to complete the process of rezoning this section of the city in a timely manner.

MOTION: Mr. Brown moved to suspend the three-reading rule, seconded by Mr. Storer. Vote: Mr. Storer-yes, Mr. Baucher-yes, Mr. Brown-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes, Ms. Stanforth-yes, Mr. Wilkin-yes. Ordinance 2025-08 three-reading rule is suspended.

MOTION: Ms. Stanforth moved to approve and adopt Ordinance 2025-08, seconded by Mr. Brown. Vote: Mr. Brown-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes, Mr. Storer-yes, Mr. Wilkin-yes, Ms. Stanforth-yes, Mr. Baucher-yes. Ordinance 2025-08 is approved and adopted.

Ordinance 2025-09 An Ordinance making supplemental appropriations for the City of Hillsboro, Highland County, Ohio

DISCUSSION: Ms. Abbott stated this Ordinance will appropriate funds to spend the remaining grant dollars for the Drive to Succeed grant program.

MOTION: Mr. Wilkin moved to approve and adopt Ordinance 2025-09, seconded by Mr. Storer. Vote: Mr. Brown-yes, Ms. Stanforth-yes, Mr. Baucher-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes, Mr. Storer-yes, Mr. Wilkin-yes. Ordinance 2025-09 is approved and adopted.

Ordinance 2025-10 An Ordinance making supplemental appropriations for the City of Hillsboro, Highland County, Ohio

DISCUSSION: Ms. Abbott stated this Ordinance will appropriate funds received from OWDA for the Beech and Railroad Street construction project to allow us to pay bills on the project.

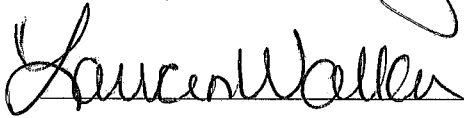
MOTION: Mr. Brown moved to approve and adopt Ordinance 2025-10, seconded by Mr. Storer. Vote: Ms. Stanforth-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes, Mr. Brown-yes, Mr. Wilkin-yes, Mr. Storer-yes, Mr. Baucher-yes. Ordinance 2025-10 is approved and adopted.

NEW BUSINESS:

ADJOURN: Mr. Storer moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Wilkin. Council adjourned at 7:28 p.m. The next scheduled meeting of the Hillsboro City Council is Thursday April 16, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, 130 North High Street.



Tom Eichinger, President



Lauren Walker, Clerk