

**HILLSBORO CITY SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING May 18, 2020**  
**Remote Teleconference meeting pursuant to H.B.#197 meeting at 6:30 p.m.**

At 6:30 p.m., Council President Tom Eichinger called the Hillsboro City Council meeting to order. The following were present for the meeting: Clerk Kimberly Newman, Brianne Abbott; Safety and Service Director, Mayor Justin Harsha, Auditor Alex Butler.

**ROLL CALL**

Ann Morris, Mary Stanforth, Adam Wilkin, Dane Allard, Patty Day, Claudia Klein and Brandon Leeth were present.

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

**MINUTES**

There were no minutes submitted.

**PASSAGE OF ORDINANCES**

**Ordinance 2020-06** An Ordinance to enter into a purchase agreement for the sale of the three parcels to the Hillsboro Area Economic Development Corporation or to the CIC of Highland County for Development and to declare an emergency. Motion: Claudia Klein moved, seconded by Brandon Leeth to suspend the three-reading rule. Vote all yeas.

Motion: Ann Morris moved, seconded by Claudia Klein to approve and adopt and to declare an emergency. Vote all yeas. Approved and adopted as an emergency.

**DISCUSSION:** Mayor Harsha explained that 119 West Main Street, Fettro property was acquired by the city at auction, before the auction Helen Walton had agreed to sell her 117 West Main Street property to the city if the Fettro property was acquired.

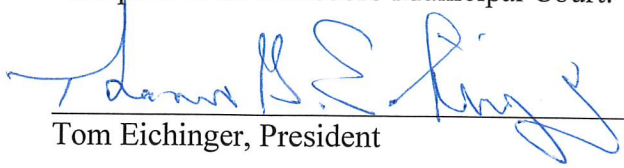
Brianne Abbott explained further that the city owned 115 West Main-Slow & Low and 119 West Main- Fettro property was obtained for what the city had in it with the demolition, which was around \$29,000.00. The ordinance would allow the city to transfer the three parcels to the city HAEDC/CIC or to the Highland County CIC, which would then transfer the properties to a local investor in agreement with the purchase agreement. The HAEDC or CIC will then collect and disburse the proceeds of sale back to the city to be placed in the general fund. Mayor Harsha stated this will be a super opportunity for the city, the developer has asked to remain anonymous at this point, but soon everyone would know who they were.

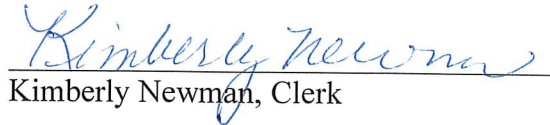
SSD Abbott stated the reason for the passing of the ordinance as an emergency is due to the interested purchaser/developer being eager to get started and the city is eager to recoup the funds. Ann Morris asked for the total amount, Ms. Abbott answered for all three properties, just shy of \$72,000.00.

Brandon Leeth said he thought everything seems okay in this for the city to move forward. Patty Day asked if there was a conflict of interest for those purchasing the properties. President Tom Eichinger stated that Law Director Fred Beery had reviewed all involved and was very comfortable with the deal. Ms. Day then asked if the purchaser wants it badly, maybe the city should get a profit rather than what the city had in it. President Eichinger and Ann Morris both expressed that although profit makes sense, the city needs economic development. The BP property had been for sale for a long time with only a few interests, so this was a great opportunity. The city would certainly gain income from this sale by means of property tax and income tax gained.

**ADJOURN** Motion: Brandon Leeth moved, seconded by Claudia Klein. Council adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Hillsboro City Council is Monday, June 8, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Hillsboro Municipal Court.

  
Tom Eichinger, President

  
Kimberly Newman, Clerk