

HILLSBORO CITY COUNCIL MEETING

November 14, 2024

At 7:00 p.m. Council President Pro-Tem Greg Maurer called the Hillsboro City Council meeting to order. The following were present for the meeting: Safety and Service Director Brianne Abbott, Public Works Superintendent Shawn Adkins, Chief Eric Daniels, Law Director Randalyn Worley, City Auditor Dawson Barreras, and Pro Tem Clerk Lauren Walker.

ROLL CALL

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

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

MINUTES

There were no corrections to the October 17, 2024 regular council minutes. They were approved as presented.

MONTHLY REPORTS

The October 2024 monthly reports were read by title only: Income Tax Bureau, Police Department, Public Utilities (includes street, water/sewer maintenance) Treasurers (includes expense and revenue report), Water Meter Department, Water Office (including water/sewer sales), Water Treatment Plant, Wastewater Treatment Plant, Code Enforcement and Auditor.

PUBLIC REQUESTS: Mr. Maurer shared there was one public request received via email from Jackie Uhrig and confirmed no action will be taken due to the violation being remediated.

COMMUNICATIONS: Mr. Maurer shared the letter that was received from the Highland County Health Department in support of the National Fitness Campaign and that administration has been working with the Health Department to determine funding and partners a project. Administration will keep council apprised of new updates as they gather more information.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS: Richard Donley addressed council regarding the safety of SR73/N West Street curve and new Roberts Road Extension timeline of when it will be operational. Public Works Superintendent Shawn Adkins addressed Mr. Donley and explained N West Street will be widened from new intersection to Haukee Dragoo Avenue. Mr. Adkins also stated that Pea Ridge Road will be closed at the end closest to 73 and a cul-de-sac will be placed. Reducing cuts onto 73 will help with flow of traffic. The apartments off N West Street will have a new cut onto the road extension and access onto 73 will be closed, this too will help flow of traffic. The transformers for the project are in and within 3-4 weeks we will have electric to the lights and street lighting. Mr. Donley also asked if there will be another cut onto Fenner behind the hospital. Mr. Adkins responded, there will not. We weren't able to get access to that land for right of way purposes. Mr. Adkins stated that where the cut is now will be a trail head that connects to a future walking path but the extension to Fenner runs straight.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE MAYOR (Justin Harsha) Not present

REPORT OF THE SAFETY & SERVICE DIRECTOR/HILLSBORO PLANNING COMMISSION

Brianne Abbott shared,

Thank you, Mr. President. Good evening, City Council.

Be advised that we are still operating under a stage 2 water emergency in the city of Hillsboro. Again, be mindful with water usage while we are still dealing with implications of the drought.

For the month of October there were 15 commercial and 9 residential building permits. The Roberts Lane extension project is still underway with the last few items being finalized.

We have been meeting weekly with the design group on the Crossroads Park project and have put out an RFP for a construction manager for the project.

The Lead Service Line Project on N. High St. is complete.

The ODOT Grant Funded Downtown Pedestrian Project had its bid opening through ODOT this month and the contractor who was awarded the project was Filmore construction.

ODOT has recently conducted site visits for our Rails to Trails project. Preliminary drawings will be complete by the end of the year and this remains a 2026 project. We were recently awarded planning dollars from the county in the amount of \$141,975.00. This makes our cost of design significantly lower and with the TAP grant, we are responsible for just 5% of the overall construction costs.

The Beech and Railroad Street project bid came in less than the engineers estimate and the project was awarded to KT Holden. They plan to begin work by the end of this year. Another initiative that you've received literature on is the National Fitness Campaign that was put on our radar by the Highland County Health Department. More on that to come. Community Events happening in December include the Christmas Tree Lighting on 12/6/2024 @ 5pm and the Christmas Parade 12/7/2024 at 6pm. Planning Commission granted a variance to 165 Trenton St.

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)

- 2 Hour Parking
 - Meeting scheduled November 18, 2024 at 5:30pm

Adam Wilkin shared no meeting was scheduled prior the council meeting, but there is a scheduled meeting for Monday November 18, 2024 at 5:30pm.

UTILITIES COMMITTEE (Greg Maurer, Chair)

- Waste Collection

Chair Greg Maurer shared there was no meeting, but did want to clarify that all bids were being rejected for waste collection, and after more research his committee will determine if they will re-bid in the future.

ZONING AND ANNEXATION COMMITTEE (Jason Brown, Chair)

No meeting. No questions, no comments

COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT (Jo Sanborn, Chair)

- Regulations for amusement devices

Pro-Tem Mr. Maurer shared there was no meeting, but legislation from this committee is on its third read tonight.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

Ordinance 2024-50 An Ordinance amending and renumbering section 110 of the codified ordinances of the City of Hillsboro pertaining to licensing requirements for electronic gaming parlors operated within the City of Hillsboro

DISCUSSION: No discussion.

MOTION: Mr. Brown moved to approve and adopt Ordinance 2024-50, seconded by Ms. Stanforth. Vote: Mr. Baucher-yes, Mr. Brown-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes, Mr. Maurer-yes, Ms. Stanforth-yes, Mr. Storer-yes, Mr. Wilkin-yes Ordinance 2024-50 approved and adopted.

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

Ordinance 2024-52 An Ordinance vacating an unnamed alley between 134 East Pleasant Street and 126 East Pleasant Street

DISCUSSION: No discussion. Ordinance 2024-52 will move to third reading in December.

- **FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS –**

Executive Session 121.22 (G)(1) (1) To consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official, or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual, unless the public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual requests a public hearing.

Law Director Randalyn Worley requested Executive Session for the purposes of ORC 121.22 (G)(1). Alex Butler and Dawson Barreras were invited into the executive session.

MOTION: Ms. Stanforth made the motion to move into executive session, seconded by Mr. Storer. Vote: Mr. Baucher-yes, Mr. Brown-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes, Mr. Maurer-yes,

Ms. Stanforth-yes, Mr. Storer-yes, Mr. Wilkin-yes. Executive session was entered at 7:15pm. Pro-Tem Mr. Maurer declared entrance of regular session at 7:42pm.

Ordinance 2024-55 An Ordinance authorizing payment of attorney fees under the moral obligation doctrine and declaring an emergency

DISCUSSION: No discussion.

MOTION: Mr. Wilkin moved to suspend the three-reading rule for Ordinance 2024-55, seconded by Ms. Stanforth. Vote: Mr. Storer-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes, Mr. Baucher-yes, Mr. Wilkin-yes, Mr. Brown-yes, Mr. Maurer-yes, Ms. Stanforth-yes. Ordinance 2024-55 three-reading rule suspended.

MOTION: Mr. Storer moved to approve and adopt Ordinance 2024-55, seconded by Mr. Wilkin. Vote: Mr. Maurer-yes, Ms. Stanforth-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes, Mr. Storer-yes, Mr. Brown-yes, Mr. Wilkin-yes, Mr. Baucher-yes. Ordinance 2024-55 is approved and adopted.

Ordinance 2024-56 An Ordinance authorizing a repayment plan in accordance with R.C. 9.24(B)(2) and declaring an emergency

DISCUSSION: No discussion.

MOTION: Mr. Wilkin moved to suspend the three-reading rule for Ordinance 2024-56, seconded by Mr. Storer. Vote: Mr. Brown-yes, Mr. Maurer-yes, Mr. Storer-yes, Mr. Baucher-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes, Ms. Stanforth-yes, Mr. Wilkin-yes. Ordinance 2024-56 three-reading rule suspended.

MOTION: Ms. Stanforth moved to approve and adopt Ordinance 2024-56, seconded Mr. Wilkin. Vote: Ms. Stanforth-yes, Mr. Wilkin-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes, Mr. Brown-yes, Mr. Baucher-yes, Mr. Storer-yes, Mr. Maurer-yes. Ordinance 2024-56 is approved and adopted.

Ordinance 2024-57 An Ordinance transferring real property to the Hillsboro Community Improvement Corporation and declaring an emergency

DISCUSSION: SSD Brienne Abbott stated this legislation will transfer the real property, as shown in the exhibit, to the Hillsboro CIC. Suspension of the three-reading rule and passage by emergency is requested for development purposes. Ms. Hapner asked where the property is located. Ms. Abbott explained the location of parcel and reasoning for transfer.

MOTION: Mr. Wilkin moved to suspend the three-reading rule for Ordinance 2024-57, seconded by Mr. Storer. Vote: Mr. Brown-yes, Ms. Stanforth-yes, Mr. Wilkin-yes, Mr. Baucher-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes, Mr. Maurer-yes, Mr. Storer-yes. Ordinance 2024-57 three reading rule suspended.

MOTION: Mr. Storer moved to approve and adopt Ordinance 2024-57, seconded by Ms. Stanforth. Vote: Mr. Baucher-yes, Mr. Brown-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes, Mr. Maurer-yes, Ms. Stanforth-yes, Mr. Storer-yes, Mr. Wilkin-yes. Ordinance 2024-57 is approved and adopted.

Resolution 24-35 A Resolution authorizing the mayor to take the necessary steps to purchase auditor's parcel number 25-27-001-036.00 and declaring an emergency

DISCUSSION: SSD Brienne Abbott stated this legislation will allow the city to purchase 212 N. High St. for the purpose of creating a municipal parking lot. This acquisition is consistent with the Imagine Hillsboro Plan, specifically page 23 and will help boost local


economy, assist downtown businesses, improve accessibility, mobility and safety. Suspension of the three-reading rule and passage by emergency is requested to acquire the property and make plans for construction of the parking lot. Ms. Hapner asked Ms. Worley if someone else is signing off on the transaction because of the relationship between the current property owner and the mayor. Ms. Worley explained that the negotiations were done by herself with councils' permission, and the mayor is able to sign paperwork upon council authorization of the legislation presented.

MOTION: Mr. Wilkin moved to suspend the three-reading rule for Resolution 24-35, seconded by Mr. Storer. Vote: Mr. Maurer-yes, Mr. Wilkin-yes, Mr. Storer-yes, Ms. Stanforth-no, Ms. Hapner-yes, Mr. Brown-yes, Mr. Baucher-yes. Resolution 24-35 three-reading rule is suspended.

MOTION: Mr. Wilkin moved to approve and adopt Resolution 24-35, seconded by Mr. Storer. Vote: Mr. Brown-no, Mr. Maurer-yes, Ms. Stanforth-no, Mr. Wilkin-yes, Mr. Storer-yes, Mr. Baucher-yes, Ms. Hapner-yes. Resolution 24-35 is approved and adopted.

NEW BUSINESS: Pro-Tem Mr. Maurer stated there is no new business but wanted to discuss the December council date. Council will need to have a special meeting for the TIF District legislation after the 19th, and after speaking with the council president it was suggested to ask council to cancel the regular meeting date and just have one council meeting in December. Council members decided December 23, 2024 will be the next regular council meeting date, and will cancel the December 12, 2024 regular meeting date.

ADJOURN: Don Storer moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Maurer. Vote all yeas. Council adjourned at 7:54 p.m. The next scheduled meeting of the Hillsboro City Council is Monday December 23, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, 130 North High Street.


Tom Eichinger, President


Lauren Walker, Pro Tem clerk