

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

City of Hillsdale

March 20, 2023

7:00 P.M.

Regular Meeting

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Stockford opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Mayor Stockford called the meeting to order. Clerk Price took roll call.

Council Members present: Adam Stockford, Mayor
Greg Stuchell, Ward 1
Anthony Vear, Ward 1
William Morrissey, Ward 2
Cynthia Pratt, Ward 2
Bruce Sharp, Ward 3
Gary Wolfram, Ward 3
Robert Socha, Ward 4

Council Members absent: Josh Paladino, Ward 4

Also Present: Attorney Tom Thompson, Katy Price (City Clerk), Scott Hephner (HPD/HFD), Jason Blake (DPS Director), Ginger Moore (Airport Manager), Ted Jansen, Sheri Ingles, Doug Ingles, Penny Swan, Korey King, Tim Voorheis, Hannah Jordan, and Dennis Wainscott.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Council member Morrissey, seconded by Council member Vear to approve the agenda as presented.

By a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Ted Jansen, 104 Hillsdale St., commented on his letter under communications.

Dennis Wainscott, 34 Garden St., commented on the Comcast letter and asked the City to look into other avenues for its residents as fees continue to increase.

Tim Voorheis, Ward 3, commented on Ted Jansen's letter and requested council to consider to remove Council Member Paladino from the Library board as a potential conflict of interest.

Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Bills
 - 1. City and BPU Claims of March 2, 2023: \$784,790.11
 - 2. Payroll of March 2, 2023: \$218,306.91
- B. City Council Minutes of March 6, 2023
- C. Finance Committee Minutes of March 6, 2023
- D. BPU Minutes of February 14, 2023
- E. Ratification of Signatures for Pub & Grub Agreement
- F. Hillsdale County Farmers Market Street Closure Agreement
- G. WWTP North RAS Pump

Motion by Council member Morrissey, seconded by Council member Pratt to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Roll call:

Council Member Pratt	Aye
Council Member Sharp	Aye
Council Member Socha	Aye
Council Member Stuchell	Aye
Council Member Vear	Aye
Council Member Wolfram	Aye
Mayor Stockford	Aye
Council Member Morrisey	Aye

Motion passed 8-0

Communications/Petitions

- A. Comcast Letter
- B. Keefer House Construction Quarterly Update
- C. Letter from Ted Jansen

Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances/Public Hearings

None

Old Business

None

New Business

- A. Domestic Harmony Contract

The City has supported Domestic Harmony for more than 20 years. They provide victims of domestic violence and their children vital services such as: crisis intervention, 24-hour supportive counseling, and transportation, temporary shelter, housing placement assistance, information and referrals in legal and financial matters. These services are free of charge to those who reside in Hillsdale County.

Hannah Jordan, the Executive Director of Domestic Harmony, reviewed the services and what has been accomplished in the past year due to contracts of services. She asks the City to continue their support for fiscal year 2023-24 in the amount of \$6000.00.

Motion by Council member Socha, seconded by Council member Pratt to approve Domestic Harmony Service Contract in the amount of \$6000.00 beginning in the fiscal year 2023-24.

Roll call:

Council Member Pratt	Aye
Council Member Sharp	Aye
Council Member Socha	Aye
Council Member Stuchell	Aye
Council Member Vear	Aye
Council Member Wolfram	Aye
Mayor Stockford	Aye
Council Member Morrisey	Aye

Motion passed 8-0

- B. Bid Award- City Hall Painting

Jason Blake, Public Services Director, reported city staff developed and requested bids for drywall

repairs and painting throughout all of 1st floor at City Hall in addition to miscellaneous touch up work and repairs on 2nd and 3rd floor.

The city received two bids:

Contractor

Industrial Painting	\$39,800
RNC Paint Systems	\$18,138

Funds for this project were budgeted in the FY 22-23 budget. Completion date for this project is scheduled for June 2, 2023.

Motion by Council member Vear, seconded by Council member Sharp to approve the bid award to the lowest bidder; RNC Paint Systems in the amount of \$18,138.00.

Roll call:

Council Member Pratt	Aye
Council Member Sharp	Aye
Council Member Socha	Aye
Council Member Stuchell	Aye
Council Member Vear	Aye
Council Member Wolfram	Aye
Mayor Stockford	Aye
Council Member Morrissey	Aye

Motion passed 8-0

C. Truck Purchase -- DPS and Water/Sewer Departments

Jason Blake, DPS Director reported his department is in need of replacing a 2003 GMC truck from the fleet, staff went out to bid for replacement. Staff recommended approving the purchase of a 2023 GMC 1500 Dbl Cab Pickup from the lowest bidder, Hillsdale Buick GMC in the amount of \$41,981.00.

Hillsdale GMC	\$41,981.00
Hillsdale Dodge/Cronin GMC	\$43,471.50
Todd Wenzel Buick GMC	\$43,890.25
Frank Beck Chevrolet	\$44,550.00
Stillwell Ford	\$44,992.52

Motion by Council member Socha, seconded by Council member Sharp to approve the purchase of of two 2023 GMC 1500 Dbl Cab Pickup from Hillsdale Buick GMC in the amount of \$41,981.00 for both the Public Services Department and the Board of Public Utilities Water/Sewer Departments.

Roll call:

Council Member Pratt	Aye
Council Member Sharp	Aye
Council Member Socha	Aye
Council Member Stuchell	Aye
Council Member Vear	Aye
Council Member Wolfram	Aye
Mayor Stockford	Aye
Council Member Morrissey	Aye

Motion passed 8-0

D. RS&H New Terminal Design Agreement

David Mackie, City Manager mentioned at the March 6th City Council meeting the City was awarded \$2.5M to construct a new airport terminal. The project is on a fast track, given FAA funding requirements. This means that the project must be designed and put out to bid, with bids in-hand prior to July 1st, 2023. To achieve this goal the City’s aviation engineer RS&H needed to start on the project immediately. After speaking to the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem about the timing of the project they approved allowing the Airport Manager and myself to sign the contract prior to Council approval. The City would, potentially, be responsible for up to 2.5% of the contract costs, which is \$7,441. Attached is our standard MDOT approved agreement to facilitate this work. The contract may be cancelled if Council doesn’t confirm its approval.

Motion by Council member Sharp, seconded by Council member Wolfram to approve the RS&H New Terminal Design Agreement and authorize the City Manager and Airport Manager to sign on behalf of the City.

Roll call:

Council Member Pratt	Aye
Council Member Sharp	Aye
Council Member Socha	Aye
Council Member Stuchell	Aye
Council Member Vear	Aye
Council Member Wolfram	Aye
Mayor Stockford	Aye
Council Member Morrissey	Aye

Motion passed 8-0

E. Culvert Replacement CDS Request

City Manager David Mackie, reported in 2021, the City of Hillsdale applied for a Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) Community Development Block Grant-Water Related Infrastructure to assist with the replacement of several culverts that are rated poor condition. The City was unsuccessful in obtaining that funding. After making some revisions to the project, staff have submitted it through U.S. Senator Gary Peters’ office as a Congressionally Delegated Spending Request (Earmark) for possible federal funding. To be considered for funding, there must be demonstrated community support for the request. As such, staff are requesting a resolution of support from the local unit of government.

Motion by Council member Morrissey, seconded by Council member Sharp to approve the Culvert replacement CDS Request at Galloway Drive and Hillsdale Street. **Resolution #3544.**

Roll call:

Council Member Pratt	Aye
Council Member Sharp	Aye
Council Member Socha	Aye
Council Member Stuchell	Aye
Council Member Vear	Aye
Council Member Wolfram	Aye
Mayor Stockford	Nay
Council Member Morrissey	Aye

Motion passed 7-1

F. Police Vehicle Purchase

Scott Hephner, Police Chief reported the Hillsdale Police Department was approved to purchase a new Patrol Vehicle for the 2023 – 2024 budget year. During budget meetings I was requested to make this purchase utilizing the Fire Department and Public Safety Equipment, Vehicle, and Capital Improvement Millage fund. Expenditures are approved by the Public Safety Committee to move to full council for discussion and vote.

Because of the elevated costs and narrow ordering windows the commercial vehicle market is experiencing Hephner checked outside of our normal purchasing. Berger Chevrolet sells commercial vehicles for government use at state purchasing contract price. He was advised there had been a 24 hour window which 2023 Chevrolet Tahoe’s could be ordered and that they had ordered extra to sell through their dealership and currently have one that meets our needs on their lot. The quote for a 2023 Chevrolet Tahoe 4wd Police Package is \$40,619. Hephner contacted the company that outfits our vehicles and requested a quote on outfitting a 2023 Tahoe, they had just built two and compared our quote for the Ford Explorer and theirs for the Tahoe’s and stated they could outfit the Tahoe for approximately \$2,000 less than the quote for the Explorer.

Chevrolet Tahoe 2023	Ford Explorer 2024
\$40,619.00 purchase	\$45,000 minimum purchase
\$11,822.50 outfitting	\$13,822.50 outfitting
<hr/>	<hr/>
\$52,441.50	\$58,822.50

Motion by Council member Sharp, seconded by Council member Morrissey to approve a 2023 Chevrolet Tahoe 4wd Police Package vehicle from Berger Chevrolet for the purchase price of \$40,619.00.

Roll call:

- Council Member Pratt Aye
- Council Member Sharp Aye
- Council Member Socha Aye
- Council Member Stuchell Aye
- Council Member Vear Aye
- Council Member Wolfram Aye
- Mayor Stockford Aye
- Council Member Morrissey Aye

Motion passed 8-0

Miscellaneous Reports

- A. Proclamation – None
- B. Appointments- Election Commission – Melissa DesJardin, Penny Swan

Council member Stuchell asked City Clerk Price what the Election Commission is responsible for.

City Clerk Price informed Council what requirements and duties are on the Election Commission.

Motion by Council member Vear, seconded by Council member Morrissey to approve Melissa DesJardin and Penny Swan to the Election Commission.

By a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

- C. Other- None

General Public Comment

None

City Manager's Report

Update on the Capital Improvement Plan amount that was requested by Council member Socha at last meeting was for the Scat Systems for BPU systems in the amount of \$200,000.00.

Budget presentation will be at the April 3rd, 2023 Council meeting.

Gier Elementary Schools were hosting March is Reading month and City Staff read books to students last week. The City hosted a touch the truck (equipment) event at the end of that week for the students.

Council Comments

Council member Socha requested information on the spring cleanup.

Mayor Stockford apologized for not attending the last meeting as he was feverish and ill. He reviewed the library appointment process with council and residents.

Council member Morrisey stated he enjoyed running the last meeting.

Council member Sharp stated that the library is a community library and should remain that way.

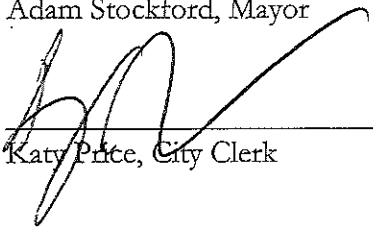
Adjournment

Motion by Council member Sharp, seconded by Council Member Socha moved to adjourn the meeting.

By a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.



Adam Stockford, Mayor



Katy Price, City Clerk