

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

City of Hillsdale  
Council Chambers  
September 4, 2018  
7:00 P.M.

Regular Meeting

**Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Adam Stockford opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call**

Mayor Adam Stockford called the meeting to order.

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| Council Members present: | Adam Stockford, Mayor<br>R. Gregory Stuchell, Ward 1<br>Timothy Dixon, Ward 2<br>Bruce Sharp, Ward 3<br>William Zeiser, Ward 3<br>Raymond Briner, Ward 4 |
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| Council Members absent: | William Morrissey, Ward 2<br>Matthew Bell, Ward 4 |
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Also present were: City Manager David Mackie, City Attorney John Lovinger, Attorney Thomas Thompson, Scott Hephner (HCPD & HCFD), Chris McArthur (BPU), Jake Hammel (DPS), Bonnie Tew (Finance), Kay Freese (HR), Mary Hill (Library), Julia Mullins (Hillsdale Collegian), Cole McNeely (Hillsdale Collegian), Scott Pienta, Don Tippner, Kevin Hicks, Dennis Wainscott, Jack McLain, Joseph Hendee.

**Council Member Excused**

Mayor Stockford reported Council Member Bell would not be able to attend the meeting due to a work obligation and Council Member Morrissey would not be able to attend the meeting as he was out of town.

Council Member Briner, seconded by Council Member Zeiser, moved to excuse the absence of Council Member Dixon and Council Member Morrissey from the meeting. By a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Agenda**

Council Member Briner, seconded by Council Member Sharp, moved to approve the September 5, 2018 agenda as presented.

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| Roll call: | Council Member Briner   | Aye |
|            | Council Member Dixon    | Aye |
|            | Council Member Sharp    | Aye |
|            | Council Member Stuchell | Aye |
|            | Council Member Zeiser   | Aye |
|            | Mayor Stockford         | Aye |

Motion passed 6-0.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Joseph Hendee, 181 Rea Street, questioned if the purchase of the Dawn Theater and Keefer House by the Tax Increment Finance Authority (TIFA) violated the provisions of the Home Rule City Act.

Mr. Jack McLain, 1251 South Bunn Road, requested the board and commission meeting agendas and packets be posted on the city’s website, so the public can be educated on the issues being discussed by the boards and commissions.

Mr. Kevin Hicks, 104 Williams Court, encouraged Council to deny future noise variance requests from Hillsdale College when the events are held during the week. Mr. Hicks stated a noise variance event that Council approved for August 27<sup>th</sup> lasted until 1:00 a.m. and was very disruptive in the neighborhood.

Mr. Scott Pienta, 41 Highland, stated he was the engineer-in-charge of the August 27<sup>th</sup> event at Hillsdale College, and the event was held within the approved parameters of the city.

**Consent Agenda**

- A. Approval of Bills
  - 1. City Claims of August 24, 2018: \$534,124.57
  - 2. BPU Claims of August 24, 2018: \$305,958.42
  - 3. City Payroll of August 24, 2018: \$ \$172,023.99
- B. City Council Minutes
  - 1. July 16, 2018
  - 2. August 6, 2018
  - 3. August 20, 2018
- C. St. Anthony Church’s Use Agreement for Mrs. Stock’s Park
- D. Planning Commission Minutes of July 17, 2018
- E. Hillsdale College Noise Variance & Road Closure Requests for Sept. 22, 2018

Mayor Stockford encouraged residents who have complaints about noise levels around Hillsdale College to contact the city’s Police Department or Hillsdale County Sheriff’s Department.

Council Member Briner, seconded by Council Member Dixon, moved to approve the Consent Agenda.

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| Roll call: | Council Member Briner   | Aye |
|            | Council Member Dixon    | Aye |
|            | Council Member Sharp    | Aye |
|            | Council Member Stuchell | Aye |
|            | Council Member Zeiser   | Aye |
|            | Mayor Stockford         | Aye |

Motion passed 6-0.

**Communications/Petitions**

- A. Request for Proposals (RFP) for Residential Trash/Recycling Collection

City Manager Mackie reported the RFP was included in the Council packet for informational purposes, as the issue had been discussed a number of times in the past few months. City Manager Mackie stated the results would be presented to the Operations and Governance Committee for a recommendation in the upcoming weeks.

**Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances/Public Hearings**

There were no ordinances or public hearings on the agenda.

**Unfinished Business**

There was no Unfinished Business on the agenda.

**Old Business**

There was no Old Business on the agenda.

**New Business**

A. Design Engineering and Bidding Services for Hallett Street

DPS Director Hammel presented a staff recommendation to approve the design engineering and bidding services for the reconstruction of Hallett Street from Reading Avenue to the west city limit. Director Hammel stated the contract with Fleis & Vandenbrink would total \$34,000, with the total project budget totaling \$380,500. Director Hammel stated the completion of the design engineering would also aid the city's rail safety grant that would fund additional safety improvements to the Hallett St. railroad crossing. Director Hammel stated the only infrastructure improvements within the project would be the increasing of storm water drain pipe from Three Meadows.

Council Member Dixon, seconded by Council Member Stuchell, moved to approve a Design Engineering and Bidding Services contract with Fleis & Vandenbrink at a total of \$34,000 for the Hallett Street reconstruction project.

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| Roll call: | Council Member Briner   | Aye |
|            | Council Member Dixon    | Aye |
|            | Council Member Sharp    | Aye |
|            | Council Member Stuchell | Aye |
|            | Council Member Zeiser   | Aye |
|            | Mayor Stockford         | Aye |

Motion passed 6-0.

**Miscellaneous Reports**

Council Member Zeiser, seconded by Council Member Dixon, moved to appoint Mr. Michael Clark, re-appoint Ms. Cindy Bieszk, and re-appoint Ms. Debra Kaman to the Tax Increment Financing Authority (TIFA). By a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**General Public Comment**

Mr. McLain questioned if the city had plans to install electronic car charging stations in the area.

Mr. Kevin Hicks thanked Council for their response regarding the noise variance requests and noted he would contact the police with any future concerns.

Mr. Joseph Hendee echoed Mr. McLain's earlier comments and noted the many agendas and packets from advisory boards and commissions that were not available on the city's website.

**City Manager's Report**

City Manager Mackie:

1. Reported the city's Police Department had a decibel reader to document any noise complaints.
2. Stated the BPU Board had discussed the possibility of installing electric car charges in the area.
3. Indicated the city had received four responses to an RFP for municipal investment services. City Manager Mackie stated those responses would be presented to the Finance Committee in the near future for a recommendation.
4. Invited everyone to attend the third-annual Patriot's Day Fly-In at the Hillsdale Municipal Airport on Sunday, September 9, 2018. City Manager Mackie detailed the many events planned for the day including the Exchange Club breakfast, car show, airplane rides, a military fly-by, and various static displays.
5. Reported himself and BPU Director McArthur would attend a conference of the Michigan Municipal Electric Association during the week of September 10<sup>th</sup>.
6. Stated the Recreation Department would have a report detailing the Fields of Dreams and Sandy Beach events at the September 17<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

DPS Director Hammel provided an update on the street and infrastructure projects on-going in the city. Director Hammel stated the street preservation project on Bacon Street continued with plans to chip seal and fog the entire length of Bacon Street in 2019.

DPS Director Hammel also updated Council on the Garden, Vine, Mead, and Rippon Street project and reported a number of homes in the area had been connected to the new water main that had been installed. Director Hammel stated a number of unexpected problems forced the city to keep a section of Hillsdale Street closed through the holiday weekend. Director Hammel reported a crew would be diverted to Rippon Street later in the week to begin connecting water and sewer laterals to the homes in that area. Director Hammel stated the construction schedule remained on-track with project completion scheduled for late October 2018.

DPS Director Hammel stated city staff communicated daily with the school systems in regards to road closures and school bus routes.

Council Member Sharp requested the Public Services Committee consider a city-wide bulk trash pickup event in lieu of a leaf pickup scheduled for October of each year.

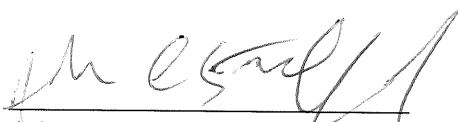
**Council Comments**


Council Member Briner invited everyone to attend the Fly-In event at the airport on Sunday, September 9, 2018 from 7:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Council Member Briner also noted the Exchange Club had installed new pickle ball courts at the Hillsdale College tennis court complex.

**Adjournment**

Council Member Briner, seconded by Council Member Sharp, moved to adjourn the meeting. By a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

  
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 Adam L. Stockford, Mayor

  
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 Stephen M. French, City Clerk