

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

City of Hillsdale
April 19, 2021
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. Clerk Price took roll call.

Council Members present: Adam Stockford, Mayor
R Greg Stuchell, Ward 1
Anthony Vear, Ward 1
William Morrissey, Ward 2
William Zeiser, Ward 3
Bruce Sharp, Ward 3
Robert Socha, Ward 4

Council Members absent: Raymond Briner, Ward 4
Cynthia Pratt, Ward 2

Also Present: David Mackie (City Manager), Attorney Tom Thompson, Katy Price (City Clerk), Scott Hephner (HCPD/HCFD), Kim Thomas (Assessor), Chris McArthur (BPU Director), Jake Hammel (DPS Director), Kristin Bauer (Engineer), Penny Swan, Doug Ingles, Sheri Ingles, Dennis Wainscott, Zak Garriss, Tim Kinney, Natalie Kinney, Desiree Howland, Brian Howland, Lance Lashaway and Ron Sweinhagen.

Council Member Briner, was in attendance and joined meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

City Manager Mackie requested to amend agenda and remove New Business item G. BPU: Industrial Substation Upgrades. Motion by Council Member Morrissey, seconded by Council Member Vear to amend agenda as requested.

By a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Morrissey, seconded by Council Member Sharp to approve the agenda as amended.

Roll call:

Council Member Briner	Aye
Council Member Vear	Aye
Council Member Morrissey	Aye
Council Member Sharp	Aye
Council Member Stuchell	Aye
Council Member Zeiser	Aye
Mayor Stockford	Aye
Council Member Socha	Aye

Motion passed 8-0.

Public Comment

None

Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Bills
 - 1. City and BPU Claims of March 18, 2021: \$729,776.31
 - 2. Payroll of March 18, 2021: \$171,393.75
- B. City Council Minutes of April 5, 2021
- C. Election Commission Minutes of April 13, 2021
- D. HBA Open Air Market Use Agreement
- E. Hillsdale College Alley Closure for Centralhallapalooza
- F. Hillsdale College Gina Relays Parking
- G. Hillsdale College Commencement Street Closure Request

Motion by Council Member Morrissey, seconded by Council Member Socha to approve the Consent agenda as presented.

Roll call:

Council Member Vear	Aye
Council Member Morrissey	Aye
Council Member Sharp	Aye
Council Member Stuchell	Aye
Council Member Zeiser	Aye
Mayor Stockford	Aye
Council Member Socha	Aye
Council Member Vear	Aye

Motion passed 8-0.

Communications/Petitions

- A. CAPA 5k Glow Run
- B. Hillsdale County Commissioner Doug Ingles- Verbal Update

County Commissioner Ingles reviewed the County Commissioners budget item that contributes to Lifeways Community Mental Health, which also utilizes Domestic Harmony services.

All items presented for the purpose of information only.

Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances/Public Hearings

- A. Public Hearing: Special Assessment District 2021-03

Mayor Stockford opened podium at 7:14 p.m.

Desiree Howland, 2 Elm Court, stated she was not in favor of the special district project. She and her husband have a small family, she is currently a college student and they are living on one income and cannot afford the additional special assessment payment and believes that paying the taxes should help with the roads.

Mrs. Howland also brought a letter from her neighbor that couldn't make the public hearing that are declining and not in favor of the special assessment.

Council Member Socha stated he spoke with a few residents in that district on Elm Court and stated that Mr. Kinney was not in favor of the special assessment.

Council Member Stuchell asked about the mention of contribution in a previous meeting from Council Members Socha and Morrissey to help with this project.

Attorney Thompson stated that Council Members would have to designate the gift and restrict its use to specific projects, etc if they choose to contribute.

Kristin Bauer, Engineer, reviewed the work that BPU is currently scheduled to do on Elm Court. The contractors will be directed to only pave the trenches for all the infrastructure work (water and Sewer) to be done below the road. There will be crumbling of pavement around the work.

Mayor Stockford asked for the count of letters which is two in favor and three against the special assessment. The three letters in objection were submitted to Clerk Price.

Mayor Stockford closed podium at 7:23 p.m.

Motion by Council Member Socha, seconded by Mayor Stockford to approve the Special Assessment District 2021-03.

Roll call:

Council Member Sharp	No
Council Member Stuchell	No
Council Member Zeiser	No
Mayor Stockford	No
Council Member Socha	No
Council Member Briner	No
Council Member Vear	Aye
Council Member Morrissey	No

Motion failed 1-7.

B. Public Hearing: Vacation of portion of public right-of-way lying west of platted lots 206, 207, and 208 of Joel McCollum’s North Addition and allowing for a 66-foot-wide right-of-way for Union Street and allocation of the survey cost by special assessment

Mayor Stockford opened podium at 7:25 p.m.

Kim Thomas reviewed the vacation of the public right of way and the allocation of the survey costs by special assessment.

Zak Garriss, 13 Vine Street commented on the use of the property that will be assessed to his property and asked the assessor if he could build a building or fence on the property.

Assessor Thomas stated yes that he would have to review proper dimensions and go through proper zoning requirements through the planning and zoning administrator.

Mayor Stockford closed podium at 7:30 p.m.

Motion by Council Member Socha, seconded by Council Member Briner to approve the vacation of portion of public right-of-way lying west of platted lots 206, 207, and 208 of Joel McCollum’s North Addition and allowing for a 66-foot-wide right-of-way for Union Street and allocation of the survey cost by special assessment and resolution. **Resolution #3450.**

Roll call:

Council Member Briner	Aye
Council Member Vear	Aye
Council Member Morrissey	Aye
Council Member Sharp	Aye
Council Member Stuchell	Aye
Council Member Zeiser	Aye
Mayor Stockford	Aye
Council Member Socha	Aye

Motion passed 8-0.

Old Business

None

New Business

A. Set Public Hearing for OPRA application 28 N. Howell Street

Motion by Council Member Briner, seconded by Council Member Socha to set public hearing for May 17, 2021 for OPRA application for 28 N. Howell Street.

By a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

B. 2021 Local Street Projects – Contract Award

Motion by Council Member Morrissey, seconded by Council Member Vear to approve the local street project for paving and other work of Hillcrest and Riverdale Court areas and award contract to Michigan Paving in the amount of \$543,650.00 with a contingency amount of \$56,350.00.

Roll call:

Mayor Stockford	Aye
Council Member Socha	Aye
Council Member Vear	Aye
Council Member Morrissey	Aye
Council Member Sharp	Aye
Council Member Stuchell	Aye
Council Member Zeiser	Aye
Council Member Briner	Aye

Motion passed 8-0.

C. MDOT Contract for Airport Taxiway C Extension and Connector

Motion by Council Member Stuchell, seconded by Council Member Vear to approve the resolution for the MDOT Contract for Airport Taxiway C Extension and Connector. **Resolution 3449.**

Roll call:

Mayor Stockford	Aye
Council Member Socha	Aye
Council Member Vear	Aye
Council Member Morrissey	Aye
Council Member Sharp	Aye
Council Member Stuchell	Aye
Council Member Zeiser	Aye
Council Member Briner	Aye

Motion passed 8-0.

D. July 5, 2021 Council Meeting

Motion by Council Member Socha, seconded by Council Member Briner to change the meeting to Tuesday, July 6, 2021 as City Hall will be closed on Monday, July 5, 2021 to observe Independence Day.

By a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

E. Hillsdale College Right of Way Use Application and Noise Variance

Police Chief Hephner went over the request for right of way use application and noise variance the city received from Hillsdale College for their "Blue and White" weekend event starting on May 21, 2021 located on the open lot between 180 and 204 Hillsdale Street.

Motion by Council Member Briner, seconded by Council Member Morrissey to approve the request for Hillsdale College right of way use application and noise variance.

By a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

F. BPU: Vegetation Management Services

Motion by Council Member Socha, seconded by Council Member Briner to award the contract for vegetation management for three years with fourth year option to the low bidder Wright Tree Services.

Council Member Zeiser stepped out of meeting at 7:48 p.m.

Roll call:

Mayor Stockford	Aye
Council Member Socha	Aye
Council Member Vear	Aye
Council Member Morrissey	Aye
Council Member Sharp	Aye
Council Member Stuchell	Aye
Council Member Briner	Aye

Motion passed 7-0.

G. BPU: Drinking Water Asset Management Grant Acceptance

Motion by Council Member Briner, seconded by Council Member Socha to accept the grant agreement with EGGLE for grant funds upon acceptance of a revised grant amount.

Roll call:

Mayor Stockford	No
Council Member Socha	Aye
Council Member Vear	Aye
Council Member Morrissey	Aye
Council Member Sharp	Aye
Council Member Stuchell	Aye
Council Member Briner	Aye

Motion passed 6-1.

Council Member Zeiser returned to meeting at 7:52 p.m

H. BPU: Arbor and Elm Court Water and Sewer Mains

Motion by Council Member Vear, seconded by Council Member Socha to award contract for Arbor and Elm Court water and sewer mains project to RJT Construction Company of Jackson, MI in the amount of \$190,000.00.

Roll call:

Mayor Stockford	Aye
Council Member Socha	Aye
Council Member Vear	Aye
Council Member Morrissey	Aye
Council Member Sharp	Aye
Council Member Stuchell	Aye
Council Member Zeiser	Aye
Council Member Briner	Aye

Motion passed 8-0.

Miscellaneous Reports

A. Proclamation – Arbor Day

Mayor Stockford read the proclamation aloud and declared the April 30, 2021 as Arbor Day in the City of Hillsdale.

B. Appointments—Library Board – Karen Hill
BPU Board – Jeremiah Jason Hodshire

Council Member Briner, seconded by Council Member Socha motioned to approve appointments as presented.

By a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

C. Other – None

General Public Comment

None

City Manager’s Report

Manager Mackie stated that the next Council budget workshops with department heads will be April 28, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

There is a freeze warning in effect for Wednesday and Thursday of this week.

Recreation update for baseball there is 142 sign ups.

Recreation boat dock spaces the city has 111 spaces and 110 are filled.

Thanked all that came out for the Day of Service and worked at Stock’s Park and other areas of the City.

Council Member Stuchell stated that Heather Tritcka thanked the City in the collaboration for the Day of Service.

Mayor Stockford asked City Manager Mackie about the testing requirements for Covid-19 for baseball/softball for children over 13. Mackie stated he is checking into the health

department to see if that will be required for baseball/softball.

Council Member Socha thanked all for Day of Services for their work. He also mentioned he is not in favor of the Covid-19 testing of children over 13 to be able to play baseball/softball through the recreation department.

Council Comments

Council Member Socha asked the clerk to put numbers by agenda items.

Manager Mackie stated that the agenda has hyperlinks attached to get to the items easier to navigate electronically.

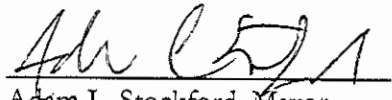
Council Member Zeiser stated that there was a Public Services Committee report on the last meeting and will have the report out soon for the code enforcement and blight issues.

Adjournment

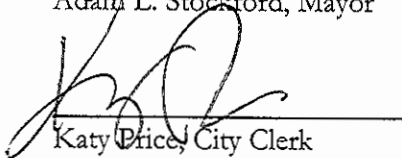
Council Member Socha, seconded by Council Member Morrissey moved to adjourn the meeting.

By a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.



Adam L. Stockford, Mayor



Katy Price, City Clerk

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