

Hills City Council Meeting  
March 11, 2024 / 7:00 PM / Hills Community Center

The regular Hills City Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Kemp at 7:00 PM on Monday, March 11, 2024 at the Hills Community Center.

Present: Council Members: Hudachek, Knebel, Rummelhart, Sommers, Volk. Absent: None. Also present: Sedlacek, City Admin; Frembgen Kesner, Deputy Clerk; and Pantel, Public Works/Fire Chief.

**Consent Agenda:**

Knebel motioned to approve consent agenda items (February 26, 2024 meeting minutes, scheduled claims list and receipts from February 22, 2024-March 7, 2024, treasurers report and budget report) and Hudachek seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** Residents spoke on the issues and their concerns regarding the possibility of the Hills Elementary closing. Those who spoke were S. Henderson, J. Cambridge, B. Dutka, J. Coon, R. Stutsman, K. Becker, J. Bailey, A. Moncada, D. Septer, and N. Acheson. The residents that spoke expressed how upset they were with the school possibly closing and the impact this could have on the children, the community and the growth of our community. They would like to know where our tax dollars will go if the school were to close. Residents brought up concern about what will happen to the land and the school if it were to close and some wondering how hard it would be to have Hills leave the Iowa City School district and join another school district. Concerned residents are wanting a school board member and superintendent to come down and talk to the Hills community, they say that the school owes them an explanation. Some wondering how 2 years ago it was agreed upon to build a new school with SAVE money and now 2 years later they are voting on closing the school. R. Stutsman also mentioned that to his understanding only one person was approached about selling land to build a new school but the school board mentioned multiple people were approached on selling land. He also mentions that Stutsman's was never approached to sell land to the school district for a new school. It was mentioned that David Kron was the superintendent for Iowa City School District for 20 years and he may have more information of the deed transaction of the land and school that was done in 2012.

**Business:** Volk motioned to set Budget Public Hearing for 7PM on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 and Rummelhart seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

CIT Solutions bill was tabled for the March 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Knebel motioned to approve the LL Pelling bid for the amount of \$15,003.60 and having Iowa Street changed to Al Ruby and Sommers seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

Discussion on adding one more no parking spot on 1<sup>st</sup> Ave in front of where the Songbird Sanctuary Park will be to make more room for food trucks. Will propose a resolution at the March 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Reports:** Attorney: No report.

Mayor: Reminded the public that Open Heartland will be having a meeting at the Community Center on March 12<sup>th</sup> at 6PM regarding the possibility of Hills Elementary closing. Reminded public to keep sending letters and emails to the school board as well.

Maintenance: No report.

Fire Department: Pancake breakfast will be on May 12<sup>th</sup>. Hog raffle tickets are available until May 5<sup>th</sup>.

City Administrator: New door has been ordered for the City Office. Updated on donations that the city has received for Music in the Park.

Water: No report.

Sewer: No report.

**Council Comments:** Hudachek expressed that we should advocate and invite a school board member down to Hills to give an explanation to the Hills Community of the possibility of

closing the Hills Elementary. Sommers asked about the speed zones for Oakcrest Hill Rd and Kemp said he would reach out to see where we are with that.

Sommers motioned to adjourn and Hudachek seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

Adjourned at 7:46 PM

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Tim Kemp, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Adriane Sedlacek, City Administrator