

Hills City Council Meeting
March 28, 2022 / 7:00 PM / Hills Community Center

The regular Hills City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Kemp at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 28, 2022 at the Hills Community Center.

Present: Council members: Goldsmith, Hudachek, Knebel, and Sommers. Absent: Hill. Also present: Schlitz, City Admin., Pantel, Public Works, Erek Sittig, Attorney, V Fixmer-Oraiz, Astig Planning, Asmita Poudel, Astig Planning, and Cydney Lovell, ITC.

Consent Agenda: A Motion was made by Sommers and seconded by Knebel to approve the consent agenda, including the agenda, minutes from March 14, 2022 Council Meeting, scheduled list of claims, receipts from March 12, 2022 thru March 25, 2022, and seasonal public works approval of Emmitt Kron. Ayes: 4, Motion carried.

Public Comment: None.

Business:

V Fixmer-Oraiz and A. Poudel presented information on the Inclusive Economic Development Plan they are working on for Johnson County. Information on the project and ways to participate will be included in the next city-wide newsletter.

C. Lovell with ITC presented a request for an electric transmission franchise in town. Lovell agreed to add language to the agreement that ITC will present to the city prior to any improvements. Lovell will update agreement and attorney Sittig will review.

Mayor Kemp opened the Public Hearing on the Second and Third Street Road Improvements Project at 7:31 pm. Bids will be accepted on Tuesday, April 5th at 10:00 am at the Hills City Office. Hearing no comments or further discussion Mayor Kemp closed the Public Hearing at 7:35 pm.

Resolution 2022-12 was presented authorizing Alliant Energy to install six street lights. A Motion was made by Hudachek and seconded by Sommers to approve Resolution 2022-12. Roll Call: Ayes: Hudachek, Sommers, Goldsmith, Knebel. Absent: Hill. Resolution 2022-12 approved.

Resolution 2022-13 was presented authorizing the Hills Butterfly Garden Reimbursement Program and adopting policy for program administration. A Motion was made by Knebel and seconded by Hudachek to approve Resolution 2022-13. Roll Call: Ayes: Knebel, Hudachek, Goldsmith, Sommers. Absent: Hill. Resolution 2022-13 approved.

Resolution 2022-14 was presented setting salaries and wages for Seasonal Employees for Fiscal Year 2021-2022. Wages for seasonal employee, Emmitt Kron, set at \$13/hour. This will be Kron's second summer with the city. A Motion was made by Sommers seconded by Goldsmith to approve Resolution 2022-14. Roll Call: Ayes: Sommers, Goldsmith, Hudachek, Knebel. Absent: Hill. Resolution 2022-14 approved.

Resolution 2022-15 was presented in support of an application to T-Mobile to request a Hometown Grant to fund a mural project on Main Street. A Motion was made by Sommers and seconded by Hudachek to approve Resolution 2022-15. Roll Call: Ayes: Sommers, Hudachek, Goldsmith, Knebel. Absent: Hill. Resolution 2022-15 approved.

Council discussed LL Pelling's recommendation for FY22 street work. Pantel highlighted streets in need of repair. Council will review and take action at the next meeting.

The Council discussed the First Monday trash pickup service. Johnson County Refuse can provide a similar service. Concern was raised over staff safety and the increased number of items being placed out for first Monday. Many residents enjoy this convenient service. Council will discuss further at the next meeting.

Reports:

Mayor: Met with ICCSD about the new Hills Elementary School and transition plans. A work session with representatives from the district will be set for April 11, 2022 at 6:00 pm.

Attorney: No Report

City Administrator: The East Central Iowa Council of Governments (ECOIG) is exploring a Hometown Pride partnership with other small communities in the area. If Hills would like to be included, a contract will be presented to the council. Sharon Telephone provided two banner styles for the Council to choose from for recent Smart Rural Community designation. DNR conducted a tree inventory. A representative from the DNR will present findings at the next meeting.

Maintenance: Installation of ground mounted solar panels at the H2O Plant and Sewer Lagoons has begun.

Fire Chief: Open burning set to begin April 1, 2022.

Sewer: No Report

Water: No Report

Council Comments: There has been an accumulation of trash on the empty lots across from the Hills City Park. Staff was asked to contact owner.

A Motion was made by Goldsmith and seconded by Knebel to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 pm. Ayes:4. Motion carried.