

Hills City Council Meeting
April 10, 2023 / 7:00 PM / Hills Community Center

The regular Hills City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem, Knebel at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 10, 2023 at the Hills Community Center.

Present: Council members: Goldsmith, Hill, Hudachek, Knebel, and Sommers. Absent: Mayor Kemp. Also present: Schlitz, City Administrator; Pantel, Public Works; Frembgen Kesner, Deputy Clerk, Building Inspector; Terry Goerd, Kevin Trom; City Engineer, and Mike Janecek; future City Engineer.

Consent Agenda: A Motion was made by Goldsmith and seconded by Hudachek to approve the consent agenda; approving the agenda, minutes from March 27, 2023 Council Meeting, scheduled list of claims, receipts from March 25, 2023 thru April 7, 2023, Treasurer's Report, and Budget Report. Ayes 5. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None.

Business:

Resolution 2023-14 was presented approving a professional services agreement with Shive-Hattery for city engineering services. Kevin Trom announced his retirement later this year and recommended the appointment of Mike Janecek as our new city engineer. A Motion was made by Hill and seconded by Sommers to approve Resolution 2023-14. Roll Call: Ayes: Hill, Sommers, Goldsmith, Hudachek, Knebel. Absent: None. Resolution 2023-14 approved.

Resolution 2023-15 was presented accepting proposal, awarding contract, and approving contract for the East Avenue Road Improvements Project. One bid was received: L.L. Pelling Company Inc., \$189,835.65. The bid was higher than originally expected but not surprising with recent price increases. City Engineer Shive-Hattery recommended accepting the bid from L.L. Pelling Company Inc. A Motion was made by Hill and seconded by Hudachek to approve Resolution 2023-15 awarding contract to L.L. Pelling Company, Inc. Roll Call: Ayes: Hill, Hudachek, Goldsmith, Knebel. Nays: Sommers. Absent: None. Resolution 2023-15 approved.

Council discussed the damage, clean-up effort and waiving utilities and building permit fees as a result of the March 31, 2023 tornado. Terry Goerd presented a list of properties that he inspected. There are several residential properties that are unsafe to occupy and several more that have major damage. There are also two commercial properties with major damage. Schlitz reported on damage to city property. The council discussed waiving utilities fees on the residences that are no longer occupied along with waiving building permit fees for the properties impacted by the storm. Staff will draft resolutions for both waivers and present at the next meeting.

Council discussed critical repairs to the MultiSmart units at the two lift stations along Oak Crest Hill Rd. SE. The units were damaged by the storm on 3/31/23. A motion was made by Goldsmith and seconded by Sommers to approve the estimate provided by Electric Pump in the amount of \$8,185/unit (\$16,370 total). Ayes 5. Motion carried.

Council discussed maintenance to the generator located at the water treatment plant and the portable generator for the lift stations. The generators have not been serviced in quite some time. A Motion was made by Sommers and seconded by Goldsmith to approved the estimate provided by Altorfer in the amount of \$4,894 to service both generators. Ayes 5. Motion carried.

Council discussed repairs to the pump at the fire station well. The well serves as a back-up water source if municipal water is compromised. Motion was made by Sommers and seconded by Hill to approve the estimate provided by Gingerich Well & Pump Services, LLC. in the amount of \$6,927.80. Ayes: 5. Motion carried.

Council discussed whether or not to repair or replace the generator at the Fire Station. The council reviewed estimates from Hawkeye Electric and asked staff to get an additional estimate and report back to the council at a future meeting.

A Motion was made by Sommers and seconded by Goldsmith to set a Public Hearing for FY23 Budget Amendment on May 8, 2023 beginning at 7:00 p.m. Proposed amendments to budgeted expenses will be related to storm damage. Ayes: 5. Motion carried.

Reports:

Attorney: No report.

Fire Chief: No report

Maintenance: No Report

Sewer: No report.

Water: No report

Administrator: Thanked the council for helping with storm response and clean up.

Council Comments: Councilmember Hill thanked the Hills Fire Department for the help they provided after the storm. Councilmember Sommers asked about reporting storm damage to insurance and whether or not repairs can be done immediately. The insurance company is aware of the critical repairs to the lift stations and sewer pumps and agreed that those need to be fixed now. Other repairs will have to wait.

A Motion was made by Sommers and seconded by Hudachek to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m. Ayes:5. Motion carried.