

Hills City Council Meeting
August 14, 2023 / 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, August 14, 2023 at the Hills Community Center.

Present: Council members: Hill, Hudachek, Knebel, Sommers, Volk. Absent: None. Also present: Pantel, Public Works and Frembgen Kesner, Deputy Clerk.

Consent Agenda: A Motion was made by Knebel and seconded by Hudachek to approve the consent agenda; approving the agenda, minutes from July 24, 2023 Council Meeting, scheduled list of claims, receipts from July 22, 2023 thru August 11, 2023, July 2023 Treasurer's Report, and Budget Report. Ayes: 5. Motion carried.

Public Comment: T. Brockert informed the council that open burning was occurring, and that when she called the Johnson County Sheriff's Office, their response was to send out a firefighter, not a deputy. Staff will contact the sheriff's office to request a deputy respond to such calls as it is a municipal infraction.

Business:

The new City Administrator was in attendance to introduce herself.

Resolution 2023-36 was presented approving setting salaries for City Administrator for FY24 beginning November 1, 2023. A Motion was made by Sommers and seconded by Volk to approve Resolution 2023-36.

Roll Call: Ayes: Sommers, Volk, Hill, Hudachek, Knebel. Resolution 2023-36 approved.

Resolution 2023-37 was presented approving the Annual Financial Report for fiscal year July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. A Motion was made by Hill and seconded by Sommers to approve Resolution 2023-37. Roll Call: Ayes: Hill, Sommers, Hudachek, Knebel, Volk. Resolution 2023-37 approved.

Reports:

Attorney: No report.

Fire Chief: Pantel reminded council of the fundraising dance on August 19, 2023 at the Old 218 Tap.

Maintenance: Pantel reported that construction on East Avenue was to begin August 21, 2023. Street closure expected to last one week to 10 days.

Sewer: Pantel reported he has not received a second quote for the East Ave/2nd and 3rd Streets sewer project. Stated work could wait until Spring 2024.

Water: No report

Administrator: Frembgen Kesner reported a complaint was received regarding a bat roost on an unoccupied property, and complainant requested that bats be destroyed, and shed and garage torn down. Iowa law protects bats, and the property owners are not in violation of any city codes. Resident will be notified that the city will not be taking action. Old 218 Tap requested the use of 8–10 picnic tables for September 23, 2023, as they had last year. Mayor and Deputy Clerk received good comments from the Johnson County REAP Committee, and the grant application for the pocket park would be submitted on August 15, 2023. Negotiations are underway for Johnson County Refuse to provide a bulky waster pick up day in October.

Mayor: Kemp reported Transition Ecology informed the City of S&G Materials to expand sand and gravel mine operations north of town, and it would appear on the next agenda.

Council Comments: Hill inquired as to the status of the new school. Kemp reported that the school district was attempting to contact the land owner regarding purchase of land, but had so far not received a response. Sommers asked whether the City had received an insurance check for the tornado damage. Frembgen Kesner replied we had not.

A Motion was made by Hill and seconded by Hudachek to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m. Ayes:5. Motion carried.

Tim Kemp, Mayor

Tam Frembgen Kesner, Deputy Clerk