

Hills City Council Meeting
September 13, 2021
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, September 13, 2021 at the Hills Community Center.

Present: Council members: Jonathan Goldsmith, Merle Hill, Cathy Knebel, and Guy Sommers. Absent: Teresa Volk. Also present: Kelley Schlitz, City Admin., Matt Pantel, PW/Fire Chief, Tamara Frembgen Kesner, Deputy City Clerk.

Consent Agenda: A Motion was made by Hill and seconded by Sommers to approve the consent agenda including the agenda, minutes from August 23, 2021 Council Meeting, scheduled list of claims, receipts from August 21, 2021 – September 10, 2021, Treasurer's Report, and Budget Report. Ayes: 4. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None.

Business:

Chris Hoffman, Moxie Solar, discussed the financial benefits of power purchase agreements (PPA). The Council is considering PPAs for solar power installation at the water treatment plant and sewer lagoon.

Mayor Kemp opened the Public Hearing on the FY22 Budget Amendment at 7:42 pm. Schlitz provided information on amended expenses and revenues. Hearing no comments or further discussion Mayor Kemp closed the Public Hearing at 7:45 pm.

Resolution 2021-37 was presented amending the current Budget for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2022. A Motion was made by Sommers and seconded by Goldsmith to approved Resolution 2021-37. Roll Call: Ayes: Sommers, Goldsmith, Knebel, Hill. Absent: Volk. Resolution 2021-37 approved.

Mayor Kemp opened the Public Hearing for the Hills Splash Pad Parking Improvements Project Bid Acceptance at 7:46 pm. Hearing no comments or further discussion Mayor Kemp closed the Public Hearing at 7:46 pm.

Resolution 2021-38 was presented accepting proposal, awarding contract, and approving contract for the Hills Splash Pad Parking Improvements Project. Two quotes were received: Midwest Concrete, Inc. \$51,673, and All-American Concrete, Inc. \$53,300. City Engineer Shive-Hattery recommended accepting the bid from Midwest Concrete Inc. A Motion was made by Sommers and seconded by Goldsmith to approve Resolution 2021-38 awarding contract to Midwest Concrete, Inc. Roll Call: Ayes: Sommers, Goldsmith, Knebel, Hill. Absent: Volk. Resolution 2021-38 approved.

Resolution 2021-39 was presented authorizing signatories for Hills Bank and Trust Accounts. A Motion was made by Knebel and seconded by Sommers to approve Resolution 2021-39. Roll Call: Ayes: Sommers, Knebel, Goldsmith. Absent: Volk. Resolution 2021-39 approved.

Resolution 2021-40 was presented setting amount to be paid to eligible employees under a Qualified Small Employer Health Reimbursement Arrangement (QSEHRA) for Calendar Year 2022. Single at \$5,250 and Family at \$10,600. A Motion was made by Sommers and seconded by Knebel to approve Resolution 2021-40. Roll Call: Ayes: Sommers, Knebel, Goldsmith, Hill. Absent: Volk. Resolution 2021-40 approved.

The Council discussed tree branches that hang over streets and block sidewalks. Pantel is concerned about the snow plow and fire trucks hitting branches. Property owners are required to keep trees trimmed so that all branches be at least fifteen feet above the surface of the street and eight feet above the sidewalk. Council asked staff to discuss with attorney on how to proceed.

The Council discussed cleaning the community center. Staff received estimates from two commercial cleaning companies to clean the building once per month and a local resident to clean as needed.

COVID-19 update: Reminder: face coverings are required in the Hills City Office.

Reports:

Mayor: A letter was sent to the owners of 120 E. Main about the recent survey of property and sidewalk.

Attorney: No Report

City Administrator: Exit audit interview went well. The council will receive final reports once they are provided. Venteicher will be installing a new heating and cooling unit in the office. McCreedy Ruth submitted an updated estimate for upgrades to the Community Center. Work will begin soon. Eagle Point Solar will present to the Council on 9/15/21.

Maintenance: Staff is looking for a new city truck. Inventory is limited and prices have gone up.

Fire Chief: The FD would like to use the shipping container for training purposes. Council agreed.

Sewer: No Report

Water: No Report

Council Comments: None

A Motion was made by Hill and seconded by Sommers to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m. Ayes:4. Motion carried.