

Hills City Council Meeting  
October 14, 2019  
7:00 PM  
Hills Fire Station Meeting Room

The regular Hills City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Kemp at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, October 14, 2019 at the Hills Fire Station Meeting Room.

Present: Council members: Steve Harris, Merle Hill, Cathy Knebel, Christine Peters and Teresa Volk.  
Absent: None. Also, present: Cathy Fitzmaurice-Hill, City Administrator and Matt Pantel, PW.

**Consent Agenda:** A Motion was made by Hill and seconded by Peters to approve the consent agenda approving agenda, minutes from September 23, 2019 Council Meeting, scheduled list of claims, receipts from September 21, 2019 thru October 11, 2019, Treasurer's Report, Budget Report. Ayes:5. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Business:**

Mayor Kemp opened the Public Hearing for Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Amendment at 7:01 p.m. The amendment adds expenses for the park shelter, park stage and various updates to utility expenses anticipated to be completed during the fiscal year. Hearing no comments Mayor Kemp closed the public hearing at 7:05 p.m.

Domestic Violence Intervention Program provided information on the services offered including shelter programs, support for victims of violence and requested the City of Hills support this program by proclaiming October Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Mayor Kemp read a Proclamation so proclaiming and confirming the City's commitment to respect and support victims of domestic violence and to prevent future violence in our community. DVIP also requests support from communities in gathering supplies for victims, pets and children including gifts for upcoming holidays.

Resolution 2019-27 was presented amending the current Budget for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2020. A Motion was made by Knebel and seconded by Volk to approve Resolution 2019-27. Roll Call: Ayes: Knebel, Volk, Peters, Harris. Hill. Resolution 2019-27 approved.

Resolution 2019-28 was presented in support of an application to the Johnson County Board of Supervisors to request a Quality of Life Block Grant to build a park stage. A Motion was made by Peters and seconded by Volk to approve Resolution 2019-28. Roll Call: Ayes: Peters, Volk, Knebel, Hill, Harris.

Resolution 2019-29 was presented approving and authorizing the Mayor to sign letter of intent to prepay principal to the Iowa Finance Authority for the outstanding Sewer Revenue SRF Loan. The sewer fund currently has reserve funds that can be used to pay down on the outstanding loan in the amount of \$600,000. The IFA has agreed to a new amortization schedule that would reduce principal payments over the life of the loan, thereby reducing interest and fees. The annual payment would be reduced by approximately \$36,000 per year. The reduction in interest and fees would save approximately \$67,000 over the life of the loan. This payment would allow the Council to consider a reduction in the monthly sewer rate for residential customers. A Motion was made by Peters and seconded by Hill to approve Resolution 2019-29. Roll Call: Ayes: Peters, Hill, Knebel, Volk, Harris. Resolution 2019-29 approved.

A Motion was made by Hill and seconded by Knebel to set a public hearing on a Budget Amendment for the Sewer Loan payment on November 11, 2019. Ayes: 5. Motion carried.

Council discussed holding a work session to review and amend the Improvements Plan. A Motion was made by Hill and seconded by Harris to hold the session on Wednesday, December 18, 2019 beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Hills City Office. Ayes: 5. Motion carried.

Council received an estimate from ElanCity for the purchase of additional radar signs in the amount of \$5,829.00. The signs would be installed on Main Street for East travel. A Motion was made by Knebel and seconded by Volk to approve the purchase of 2 new radar signs. Ayes: 5. Motion carried.

**Reports:**

Attorney: No report.

Fire Chief: New truck specs should be ready in a few weeks. Kids will attend Fire Station Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>.

Maintenance: Splash pad has been turned off.

Sewer: Action completed sanitary and storm sewer jetting.

Water: Treatment plant was struck by lightning on October 5<sup>th</sup> causing damage to a transmitter. The system is operating but will need repairs. Insurance has been notified.

Administrator: Discussed Fund Balance Forecast to review projected balances for the current fiscal year.

Mayor: ICCSD has provided preliminary information on a new elementary school for Hills. It would include a joint project with the City for recreation facility and possible library usage. If approved construction would begin in 2022.

Council Comments: Knebel updated the Council on information from the Joint Entities Meeting.

A Motion was made by Harris and seconded by Hill to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m. Ayes:5. Motion carried.

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Tim Kemp, Mayor

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Cathy Fitzmaurice-Hill, City Administrator