

Hills City Council Meeting
November 13, 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, November 13, 2023 at the Hills Community Center.

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

Consent Agenda: A Motion was made by Volk and seconded by Sommers to approve the consent agenda; approving the agenda, minutes from October 23, 2023 Council Meeting, scheduled list of claims, receipts from October 21, 2023 through November 9, 2023, revised treasurer's report for September, treasurer's report, and budget report. Ayes 5. Motion carried.

Public Comment: D. Strabala questioned the process for residents who find strays. (The City has a contract with Muscatine Humane Society, a no-kill shelter.) The Mayor stated that residents can take a stray to the MHS shelter, noting that strays are rare. D. Strabala responded she thought it should be the City's responsibility to transport the animal, and requested the process be revisited; in the meantime, notify the public of the process. R. Aikin questioned the extent of the City's debts, and the length of the loans. The Mayor stated the City's debts totaled approximately \$4 million, with 20-year loans taken out in the mid-2010's to fund the water project. (Note: Upon review, debts total \$3.4 million.) R. Aikin questioned the City's assets. Hill read off numbers from the Treasurer's Report, with funds and CDs totaling \$3.6 million.

Business:

Resolution 2023-43 was presented authorizing payment to Electric Pump for repairs to a sewer lagoon pump damaged by the March 31, 2023 tornado/storm. A Motion was made by Sommers and seconded by Knebel to approve Resolution 2023-43 and authorize payment to Electric Pump in the amount of \$28,433.25. Roll Call: Ayes: Sommers, Knebel, Hill, Hudachek, Volk. Absent: None. Resolution 2023-43 approved.

Resolution 2023-44 was presented authorizing payment to Pyramid Services Inc. for purchase of a lawnmower and deck. A Motion was made by Knebel and seconded by Sommers to approve Resolution 2023-44 and authorize payment to Pyramid Services Inc. in the amount of \$6,800.00. Roll Call: Ayes: Knebel, Sommers, Hill, Hudachek, Volk. Absent: None. Resolution 2023-44 approved.

Reports:

Attorney: No report.

Fire Chief: Pantel indicated he would be requesting approval for annual first responder stipends at the next City Council meeting.

Maintenance: No report.

Sewer: Pantel reported that Action Sewer would be jetting sewer mains on the south side of town later this month.

Water: Pantel reported that Flake indicated that Gingerich Well would be repairing well #1 shortly. The well is currently shut down, but the water system is functioning effectively without it.

City Administrator: Frembgen Kesner reported, in a follow up to a question from the prior City Council meeting, that although the Code states that no more than three (3) unrelated adults are allowed to reside in a single family residence, due to a 2017 change in Iowa law eliminating limits, the Code could not be enforced.

Mayor: No report.

Council Comments: No comments.

A Motion was made by Knebel and seconded by Volk to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 p.m. Ayes: 5. Motion carried.

Tim Kemp, Mayor

Tam Frembgen Kesner, Deputy Clerk