



COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2024

Mayor Greg Kubarski called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, August 13, 2024. Committee members present at the time the meeting was called to order were Alderpersons Leanne Beyer, Rick Hanke, Mark Lankey, Pat Moen, Darrow Novy, Elizabeth Parish, and Randy Seeley. Tom Hotek was absent.

Others present included: City Administrator Josh Finch, City Treasurer Lisa Johnson, Police Chief Pat Clark, Nicolette Nauman from the Hillsboro Sentry Enterprise, Street Employee Mike Burch, and citizen Alex McDonough.

Mayor Kubarski asked if this meeting received proper public notice to which Administrator Finch confirmed the meeting did receive proper notice.

Motion by Hanke, second by Beyer, to approve the July 9, 2024, Committee of a Whole Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

Via phone call-in, City Auditor, Bill Moilien presented the committee with the 2023 Financial Audit overview. Overall Moilien reported on all city funds and utilities. Moilien stated overall the city financially is in good shape. Following Moilien, City Treasurer Lisa Johnson presented her annual financial report to the committee.

There were no registered public comments.

Street Employee Burch reported the need to update the signage at the city's disc golf course. Administrator Finch stated he would pursue options for the project.

Safety and Welfare

Chief Clark presented the chief's report. Stated the police department coordinated a rapid response training with area first responders held at the Hillsboro School District and was well received. Alderperson Novy expressed his concerns with speeding in the city. Chief Clark stated there has been an increase in traffic citations and will continue to address the concern.

Chief Clark updated the committee regarding the number of dog bites and stated tickets have been issued. The police department will continue to address dogs running at large. Alderperson Seeley also stated his concern with a bobcat that has been seen in the city, Chief Clark will also follow-up with Seeley on the concern.

The committee discussed the current curfew time of 10:00 PM with ATV/UTV's use in the City of Hillsboro. The committee agreed with removing the curfew, it would allow drivers/passengers of ATV/UTV's to patronize the city's businesses longer.

Chief Clark said he had no problem in removing the current times of 10:00 PM-6:00 AM with no ATV/UTV use in the City of Hillsboro.

Improvement and Services

Administrator Finch updated the committee on the plans and the need for a parking lot to be constructed behind City Hall. The plan is to add an additional 8-10 parking lanes to be used by the public. Along with the parking lot, there is a need to replace the deteriorating retaining wall behind City Hall and along City Hall on Mechanic Street. Administrator Finch will provide an update at the next meeting.

The committee discussed the Water Avenue water main replacement project. Administrator Finch is meeting with the city's engineers on options to do a water main replacement no-dig trench option versus a full-dig water main replacement.

Motion by Moen, seconded by Hanke to allow a recess at 8:05 PM from the Committee of the Whole for a Special Common Council Meeting scheduled at 8:00 PM on Tuesday, August 13, 2024. Motion carried.

Motion by Moen, Hanke to reconvene the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 8:11 PM on Tuesday, August 13, 2024. Motion carried.

Finance and Personnel

The committee reviewed the monthly bills and recommended the bills for council approval.

Administrator Finch announced he received two financing Request For Proposals (RFP) for the 2024 Budget Street Reconstruction Project. The RFP terms were \$150,000 general obligation loan, with quarterly payments, and no prepayment premium or penalty. Farmers State Bank quoted a 4.75% fixed interest rate for 18- or 24-months repayment options and Royal Bank quoted a 5.49% fixed interest rate for 18- or 24-months repayment options. The committee recommended approval of the 18-month 4.75% loan through Farmers State Bank at the next council meeting.

Administrator Finch announced the city is in the final stages of the Public Service Commission full water rate case. The city is expecting a 24.65% increase in water rates. The committee discussed the rates becoming effective February 1, 2025, and billed on the March 2025 utility bill.

Administrator Finch presented a 2025 budget timeline to the committee.

Motion by Lankey, seconded by Hanke to go into closed session pursuant to Sec. 19.85 (1)(e), Wis. Stats., permits the use of closed sessions where governmental bodies are deliberately or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a close session. -Childcare Land and Funding Development Discussion. Motion carried at 8:30 PM.

Motion by Seeley to enter back into open session at 9:54 PM, seconded by Beyer. Motion carried.

Motion by Moen, seconded by Hanke to adjourn at 9:54 PM. Motion carried.