



COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2026

Mayor Zach Bender called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, May 12, 2026.

Committee members present at the time of the meeting was called to order were Julie Erickson, Leanne Beyer, Mark Lankey, Pat Moen, Darrow Novy, Elizabeth Parish, and Randy Seeley. Tom Hotek was absent.

Others present included: City Administrator Cory Isaacs, City Clerk Sara McDonald, Hillsboro Police Chief Pat Clark, Hillsboro Librarian Jacquelline Pysarenko, Mike Burch with the Hillsboro Street Department, and Nicolette Nauman of the Hillsboro Sentry-Enterprise. Residents present were Jeremy and Dana Stanek, Becky Bender, Greg and Jean Kubarski, and Mark Postel.

Mayor Bender asked if this meeting received proper public notice to which City Administrator Isaacs confirmed the meeting did receive proper notice.

Motion by Parish, second by Beyer, to approve April 14, 2026, Committee of a Whole Meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

Registered Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Safety and Welfare

Police Chief's Report was given by Chief Clark with 265 calls for service in the month of April. There was an increase in Sexual assault calls. Chief Clark has applied for further grants for a Soft Interview Room. Currently the department has secured a company to furnish the room for at no cost if walls are built. The department participated in the Vernon County Youth Shoot with good turnout. May 13, 2026, at 9:30am, officers will be escorting Hillsboro 4th grade students on their annual bike ride.

Committee reviewed the Special Use Park Permit submitted by Emplify Health. Becky Bender provided information on the plans for the event. The permit was recommended for Council approval.

Committee reviewed the Sidewalk Use Permit submitted by Next Home Real Estate to facilitate building maintenance and recommended for Council approval.

Administrator Isaacs provided information from Land O'Lakes about their desire for a flashing crosswalk sign near their business for employee crossing safety. Isaacs will gather further information needed to provide installation and cost estimates.

Improvement and Services Committee Action Items

Administrator Isaacs provided an update on the dewatering pilot at the Wastewater Plant. The unit arrived last week, an engineer from the company has come twice to provide necessary training. Currently the unit is working as designed. Wisconsin DNR is on board for continual use if the pilot goes well.

Mayor Bender provided information on mulch delivery for the City Park playgrounds. The City was able to accept and store a semi-load delivery eliminating the need for multiple trips and promoting cost effectiveness.

Administrator Isaacs provided an update on the CDA meeting which occurred immediately prior to the Committee meeting. Sign grants were approved for The Venue and Whitaker's Market. The CDA committed to better monitoring of housing units.

Administrator Isaacs provided an update on the stage plan at Field Veteran's Park. Currently the concrete pad has been poured, and the stage is on the way for installation. The stage is a project facilitated by the Hillsboro Chamber of Commerce.

Administrator Isaacs provided an update on the City Pool acknowledging a good number of returning and new guards as well as applicants for pool manager. There will need to be more insight into pool function to get it up and running.

Administrator Isaacs provided information on curb work being performed within the City. S&S Concrete is replacing curb near the eye clinic and a section on Klondike Ave. Mayor Bender, Administrator Isaacs, Alderman Novy, and the Hillsboro Street Department viewed a demonstration on spray emulsion as an option for longer lasting patch work. Further discussion on a possible pilot area to see benefit and cost effectiveness long term will continue in the future. Administrator Isaacs will also be researching and applying for a grant to hopefully correct German Valley Road.

Mayor Bender spoke on prioritizing and removing trees within the City. Currently there is a list of 35 trees needing removal. Conversation ensued and a decision to seek bids for differing degrees of removal was made.

Administrator Isaacs spoke on the progress of the Habitat for Humanity Houses. Currently the insides are completed, and work is being done to finish the outside of the first four houses. The building process is behind the schedule of all housing being completed by January 1, 2027.

Administrator Isaacs spoke of being approached by the owners of 836 Water Ave to develop a parking lot behind the building if the land could be provided. Discussion will continue with more data being needed to make an informed decision.

An update on the July 4th event was given by Administrator Isaacs. Fireworks training has been completed, the Library will be putting on a play, there will be live music, and other events are being finalized. The event will be set up as family friendly and with the ability to come and go.

Finance and Personnel Committee Action Items

Monthly Bills were reviewed and recommended for Council approval.

Procedural

Mayor Bender stated his desire and expectation for standing committees to have more regular meetings when applicable to the committee. He would also prefer a slight bit more detail to meeting minutes.

Motion by Lankey, seconded by Beyer to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote at 8:32pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32pm