



COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES  
TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2026

Mayor Zach Bender called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, June 9, 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 Tom Hotek. Randy Seeley arrived at 7:01PM.

Others present included: City Administrator Cory Isaacs, City Clerk Sara McDonald, Hillsboro Police Chief Pat Clark, Hillsboro Librarian Jacqueline Pysarenko, Mike Burch with the Hillsboro Street Department, Karri Barlet and Snapper Verbsky from the Hillsboro Chamber of Commerce, and Nicolette Nauman of the Hillsboro Sentry-Enterprise. City Treasurer Lisa Johnson arrived at 7:13PM.

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 May 12, 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 262 calls for service in the month of May. The Police Department was awarded a grant for \$9000 to install the Soft Interview Room as well as a separate grant to furnish the room. Chief Clark spoke of concerns he received from the Lakeside Tuesday event from differing food truck vendors concerned for public safety on the highway. Clark asked if Council would be willing to purchase "special event ahead" signs to help with visibility at events at Field Veteran's Park. Chief Clark asked for any questions or concerns he should be aware of from Council. Administrator Isaacs will research and order two signs.

Committee reviewed the Special Use Park Permit submitted by Emplify Health for their yearly fun run event.

Administrator Isaacs provided an update on another weather siren including an average purchase price near \$30,000. Committee discussed options on need and

possible locations. Seeley asked if there were any safety grants available, Administrator Isaacs will investigate grants and report results at a future committee meeting.

Administrator Isaacs updated on Land O Lakes crosswalk. The County Highway commission approved the crosswalk and will cover half the cost. Administrator Isaacs will investigate who will pay the remaining costs. The City Street Department would be able to install.

Seeley brought up items for Safety and Welfare regarding monthly calls for service of the police department and a further breakdown of each call such as which officer is responding. He would also like a printout of each officer's clock in and clock out times from the county. He further brought up police officers using squads outside of City limits. Chief Clark will investigate the ability to break down responses from each call and the extent to which officers are using cars outside of City limits. Further discussions will be moved to a future meeting.

### **Improvement and Services Committee Action Items**

Administrator Isaacs provided an update from the Recycling Event held on May 30, 2026. The turnout was lower than many previous events. Mayor Bender received a few complaints about the hours of the event and asked if we could adjust the hours to later in the day if possible.

Administrator Isaacs let us know a Department of Natural Resources (DNR) wastewater compliance engineer was in town today to inspect the rented Dewatering Unit. All went well with the inspection. Isaacs discussed asking for Council approval for a one-month extension of the rental to further see the benefits. Before buying and installing a unit of our own, the City will need to submit to DNR a comprehensive treatment plant facility plan and get DNR to approve the plan.

Administrator Isaacs reviewed the Compliance Maintenance Annual Report (CMAR). Our influent flow is high due to excessive water received from the industries. Isaacs has met with the industries and will continue to do so to work on these issues. The updated facility plan would also create a fiscally responsible, step-by-step approach to solve parts of the problem until it is completely corrected.

Isaacs thanked Greg Kubarski for removing the Hillsboro High School senior banners downtown and installing new banners in their place.

Seeley questioned if the U-Turn sign by First Home Realty could be moved higher or elsewhere. Chief Clark noted he could remove the sign if needed.

Administrator Issacs provided an update on the July 4<sup>th</sup> event. Hillsboro Library, Hillsboro Lions Club, Hillsboro American Legion, and the Hillsboro Historical Society all have items for the event. Isaacs and Mark Pysarenko have been certified and will be lighting off the fireworks for the event. Live music will start at 4:00 PM. Advertisements are in the paper and social media. Mayor Bender questioned the parking situation. Beyer asked if maybe Emplify would allow parking in their lots.

Administrator Isaacs provided a pool update with a scheduled opening date of Thursday, June 11, 2026. We have appropriate staff and supplies are ordered. Early swimming lessons and pass sign-ups will be on June 11 at City Hall.

Mayor Bender questioned how to proceed with concrete work that needs to be completed, especially curb and sidewalk repairs. The City could bid out by job, seasonally, or cost per foot for work. There is currently no person/company under contract.

Administrator Isaacs gave an update on water main break repairs and alley repairs throughout the City. Isaacs, Joe Haugh, and Cory Griffiths drove around and identified alleys most in need of repair. Griffiths will give an estimate.

Mayor Bender discussed stretches of streets that need to be patched and chip sealed. Administrator Isaacs received an estimate of \$116,801 for those areas. Discussion into the selection of streets was had and clarified that most of the streets in question were bid out and slated to be fixed last year, but last year's patch company couldn't get to Hillsboro before the chip sealer demobilized for the season.

Requests for Proposal (RFP) for tree removal were sent out to the Hillsboro Sentry Enterprise, put on the City's website and Facebook page, and posted in public locations around the City. Isaacs also emailed the RFP to 6 tree cutting services he has been in touch with. All trees in the RFP are tagged. RFP is due back by July 10, 2026. Mayor Bender answered questions on the trees selected and bid options included.

### **Finance and Personnel Committee Action Items**

Monthly Bills were reviewed and recommended for Council approval.

Motion by Lankey, seconded by Hotek to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote at 8:02pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02pm