



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

July 20, 2026

The Common Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Zach Bender on Monday, July 20, 2026, at 7:00PM.

All present stood and recited the Pledge of Alliance.

Mayor Bender asked for affirmation of proper public notice to which Administrator Isaacs confirmed the meeting did receive proper public notice.

Roll call was taken with Alderpersons Julie Erickson, Leanne Beyer, Tom Hotek, Mark Lankey, Pat Moen, Darrow Novy, Liz Parish, and Randy Seeley present.

Others in attendance were: City Administrator Cory Isaacs, City Treasurer Lisa Johnson, City Clerk Sara McDonald, Hillsboro Police Chief Pat Clark, Hillsboro Water/Sewer Employee Tom Stowell, Hillsboro Auditor Bill Molien of Johnson Block, Nicolette Nauman from the Hillsboro Sentry-Enterprise, and Al Picha. Others in attendance will be listed below with discussion on Tree Proposals.

Motion by Parish, seconded by Beyer to approve June 15, 2026, City Council Minutes as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

Motion by Beyer, seconded by Erickson to approve June 29, 2026, Special City Council Meeting as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

Registered Public Comment

There was no public comment

Committee Reports and Business

City Auditor Bill Moilien from Johnson Block & Company, Inc. presented and answered questions on the 2025 Financial Audit. Beyer requested to go on record to commend Treasurer Johnson for her preparedness on reports and filings of financials for the City. Both a short view and long view detail of the audit are available upon request. Moilien left at 7:13PM.

Motion by Lankey, seconded by Moen to approve the monthly bills for payment. Motion carried by voice vote.

Motion by Seeley, seconded by Moen to approve 700 Block of Shear Ave Street Use Permit for August 1, 2026. Motion carried by voice vote.



Motion by Beyer, seconded by Hotek to approve Hillsboro High School Class of 1986 Exclusive Park Use permit for September 5, 2026, at Field Veteran's Park. Motion carried by voice vote with Seeley abstaining.

Mayor Bender announced the top four bids for tree removal had representatives present for discussion and any questions. Those representatives were Hunter Saemisch from Saemisch's Tree Service, Caleb Dawley from Tree Sixty Tree Service, Greg Kubarski from Tree Handlers, and Gene Smart from Smart Cut Tree Service. Beyer announced she would be asking each representative the same four questions: How long have you been in business? How many trees do you cut in one week on average? How many people (or crews) would work on this job if you received this bid? What cities or municipalities have you worked with previously? Beyer asked Tree Handlers if they were dependent on working Sundays to which they replied yes. Beyer had no further questions for them, not completing all four questions asked to the other representatives. The representatives were also able to receive clarifications on any questions they had regarding the bids.

Motion by Seeley, seconded by Erickson to accept bid for Tree Sixty Tree Service. Roll call vote was called with Erickson, Novy, and Seeley voting yes; Beyer, Hotek, Lankey, Moen, and Parish voting no. Motion Failed.

Motion by Beyer to eliminate Tree Handlers due to their Sunday policy. The motion did not receive a second. Motion failed.

Moen proposed scheduling a special meeting to allow any bid adjustments regarding price. Those adjustments would need to be submitted by the weekend.

Al Picha provided an update on the Hillsboro Historical Society. The Historical cabin at Albert Field needs further repairs. There are two trees needing to be removed, landscaping needs, concrete work, and electrical work still needing to be completed. The Historical Society has invested \$17,000 for repairs until this point as well as an Eagle Scout project that was completed by Marty Stowell. Mayor Bender will meet with Picha at the Historical Society to evaluate needs and what guidance/help the City can provide.

Administrator Isaacs provided background on the nomination process for Wisconsin Rural Water Association Operator of the Year. Water/Sewer operator Tom Stowell was awarded this honor for 2026 and given a plaque showcasing this accomplishment. Mayor Bender and Council thanked Stowell and congratulated him on this award.

Administrator Isaacs provided an updated bid for the base needed in the alleys selected as needing repaired. Mayor Bender also surveyed the alleyways for the repair needs.



Motion by Seeley, seconded by Erickson to approve alleyway repair work. Motion carried by voice vote.

Motion to adjourn at 8:12 PM by Beyer, seconded by Moen. Motion carried by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 PM.