

Hillsboro, Kansas
January 21, 2020

1. The city council met in special session on Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in council chambers with Mayor Lou Thurston and Council members David Loewen, Byron McCarty, Renee Gehring, and Brent Driggers present.

2. Others Present: Ben Stekete, Fire Chief/Building Inspector; Jesse Campbell, Prospective Volunteer Firefighter; Dan Kinning, Police Chief; Phyllis Zorn, Hillsboro Star Journal; Josh Boehm, City Attorney; Jonah Gehring, County Commissioner; Larry Paine, City Administrator; and, Jan Meisinger, City Clerk.

3. CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Thurston called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS – none

5. MINUTES – Motion was made by Council member Gehring and seconded by Council member Driggers to approve the minutes of the 1-7-2020 regular meeting as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

6. VOUCHERS – Motion was made by Council member McCarty and seconded by Council member Driggers to approve the vouchers in the total amount of \$364,114.38. Motion carried unanimously.

7. FIREFIGHTER – Fire Chief Ben Stekete introduced Jesse Campbell, who would like to become a member of the Fire Department. Chief Stekete said Jesse has exceeded all of the requirements of a prospect for the Fire Department on his own, he took and passed Firefighter One training, which is 440 hours. Motion was made by Council member Driggers and seconded by Council member McCarty to hire Jesse Campbell as a firefighter on the Hillsboro Volunteer Fire Department. *City Clerk's Note: This is subject to him passing the range of motion test and drug screen. Motion carried unanimously.

8. SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLE ORDINANCE – The final draft of the Special Purpose Vehicle ordinance was presented by City Attorney Boehm. All forms of vehicles have the lighting requirement included. The College Zoning District (S-1) is exempt from the requirements. Motion was made by Council member Driggers and seconded by Council member Gehring to approve Ordinance 1307 – (*AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE OPERATION OF WORK-SITE UTILITY VEHICLES, MICRO UTILITY TRUCKS, ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES AND GOLF CARTS ON THE STREETS WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF HILLSBORO, KANSAS PROVIDING FOR RELATED MATTERS, INCLUDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF AND PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ORDINANCE NO. 1184 AND 1185 SECTIONS 114.1, 114.2 114.4 AND 114.5 OF THE 2019 STANDARD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE AS ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE NO. 1305*). Council was polled with the following vote: Council member Loewen, yes; Council member McCarty, yes; Council member Gehring, yes; and Council member Driggers, yes. Motion carried unanimously.

9. ELECTION CHARTER ORDINANCE REVISION – Charter Ordinance 21 changes the date of the swearing in of newly elected officials to the first Tuesday in January. If the first Tuesday is New Year's Day, swearing in will be January 2nd. A change was also made to Section 5. It adds the appointment of a public hearings officer to the list of officers appointed by the mayor. This charter ordinance will require publication once a week for two consecutive weeks in the city's official newspaper. It will become effective 61 days following the last publication. Motion was made by Council member Driggers and seconded by Council member Loewen to approve Charter Ordinance 21 – (*A CHARTER ORDINANCE*

REPEALING AND REPLACING CHARTER ORDINANCE 19 EXEMPTING THE CITY OF HILLSBORO, KANSAS, FROM THE PROVISIONS OF K.S.A. 14-201 AND K.S.A. 1-204 RELATING TO THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS, THEIR TERMS OF OFFICE, TRANSITIONS TO NOVEMBER ELECTIONS AND THE APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS; AND, PROVIDING SUBSTITUTE AND ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS ON THE SAME SUBJECT; AND UPHOLDING THE REPEAL CHARTER ORDINANCE NO. 13 AS ORIGINALLY FIRST DONE IN CHARTER ORDINANCE 19). Council was polled with the following vote: Council member Loewen, yes; Council member McCarty, yes; Council member Gehring, yes; Council member Driggers, yes. Motion carried unanimously.

10. TC WIRELESS MOU – The City has a memorandum of understanding between us and TC Wireless to provide fiber cable internet (1 GB) to the entire town and Industrial Park. They are asking the City to issue Economic Development Revenue bonds. Mayor Thurston said this would be a multi-million dollar project. TC Wireless is also working with the City of Marion, and he felt this would be better if we coordinated this project together. Mayor Thurston has been in contact with JT Klaus, the City's bond attorney; and there are a couple of things that need to be addressed in the memorandum. (They want the City to pay for issuance costs, which would be approximately \$50,000.00.) This item will be on the next council meeting agenda.

11. WATER PROJECT CHANGE ORDER – The Water Department received a request to replace a master meter with individual (7) meters at the apartments on Jefferson Street. In doing so, they discovered a problem with the condition of the pipe and propose replacing the pipe for the whole block on Jefferson. Mike Younger, EBH Engineers, asked KDHE if this could be included in our loan project (cost estimate \$67,785.00). They have tentatively agreed. Change Order #2 adds this to the cost of the project. Since the project is coming in under budget, City Administrator Paine said we had room to do this. Motion was made by Council member McCarty and seconded by Council member Driggers to approve Change Order #2 to authorize Goins Enterprises to install a new water pipe on Jefferson Street, between Grand and First Street, in the amount of \$67,785.00. Motion carried unanimously.

12. BOARD APPOINTMENTS – RECREATION COMMISSION – Mayor Thurston reappointed Clint Corby to his 2nd 4-year term on the Recreation Commission. Motion was made by Council member McCarty and seconded by Council member Driggers to approve this reappointment. Motion carried unanimously.

13. CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – SAFETY CENTER – City Administrator Paine said he attended the County Commission meeting today because the county ambulance service is wanting to buy a piece of property and move the ambulance out of the city building. He wanted to let the county know that part of Hillsboro's Strategic Plan is to build a safety center for the police, fire, and ambulance service within the next 5 years. At the present time, the EMT's covering Hillsboro are housed in an apartment across the parking lot from City Hall. Commissioner Novak suggested City Administrator Paine come back to the Commission meeting next week with a written letter of intent. After further discussion, motion was made by Council member McCarty and seconded by Council member Driggers to authorize City Administrator Paine to create a letter to the County Commission expressing our desire to work with emergency services and develop a plan to build a safety center in the next 5 years. Motion carried unanimously.

Hiring – City Administrator Paine felt since the authorization to hire was given to the city administrator for employees, it should include approving volunteer firefighters. After discussion, council agreed. Motion was made by Council member McCarty and seconded by Council member Gehring to approve

hiring of all employees, including volunteer fire fighters, to the city administrator. Motion carried unanimously. Council would like all new employees to attend a council meeting so they can meet them.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Motion was made by Council member Loewen and seconded by Council member Driggers to recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters of non-elected personnel pursuant to KSA 75-4319(b)(1). The open meeting will resume in council chambers at 8:05 p.m. Also present in executive session: City Administrator Paine and City Attorney Boehm. The council meeting resumed at 8:05 p.m. No action was taken.

City Administrator Paine announced his plans to retire at the end of June, 2020. He thanked former Mayor Dalke, Mayor Thurston, council members, and staff for their support over the past 12 years. He said he was not retiring due to health reasons, and has been blessed with good treatments the past 2 years. Health insurance is a factor in his decision, because the city’s renewal is July 1st. If he would wait longer, he could potentially have to pay two out-of-pocket maximum amounts. Mayor Thurston said he felt Hillsboro was beyond blessed to have experienced Larry’s leadership these past 12 years. It will be a challenge to keep the momentum going to the next level. Mayor Thurston said “from the bottom of my heart, thank you”.

Mayor Thurston said recruiting the right person is more than critical. He would like to see the council hire Osenbaugh Consulting to help the city select the next city administrator. The cost would be \$10,000.00 and not to exceed \$500.00 for expenses. The process would begin early next month. They would seek candidates and assist in the interview process. Mayor Thurston has asked JT Klaus and Greg Vahrenberg to be involved as well. Motion was made by Council member McCarty and seconded by Council member Loewen to approve engaging Osenbaugh Consultants to search for and recommend the next city administrator. Motion carried unanimously.

15. ADJOURNMENT – Council meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

_____/s/_____
LOUIS THURSTON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

_____/s/_____
JANICE K. MEISINGER, CITY CLERK