

Hillsboro, Kansas
December 17, 2019

1. The city council met in regular session on Tuesday, December 17, 2019 in council chambers with Mayor Lou Thurston and Council members Brent Driggers, Renee Gehring, and Byron McCarty (arrived at 4:06 p.m.) present. Absent: Council member David Loewen.
2. Others Present: Collin Brown, Cayley Settle, Callie Arnold, and Olivia Jury, Students of Mr. Knoll's Government class; Robert Williamson, 311 N. Washington; Jim Hefley, 301 Floral Drive; Terry Unruh, 315 S. Cedar; Terry Ens, 48 Lakeshore Drive, Marion; Jonah Gehring, Marion Co. Commissioner; Josh Boehm, City Attorney; Phyllis Zorn, Hillsboro Star Journal; Laura Paulus, Hillsboro Free Press; Larry Paine, City Administrator; and, Jan Meisinger, City Clerk.
3. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Thurston called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.
4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – Mayor Thurston welcomed the Hillsboro High School students, from Mr. Knoll's Government class, who were in attendance.
5. **MINUTES** – Motion was made by Council member Driggers and seconded by Council member McCarty to approve the minutes of the 12-3-19 regular meeting and the 12-9-19 special 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 amount of \$266,212.74. Motion carried unanimously.
7. **2020 CEREAL MALT BEVERAGE LICENSES** – After doing background checks, Police Chief Kinning recommended to City Administrator Paine that the 2020 Cereal Malt Beverage licenses be approved for: The Hillsboro Golf Course; El Lorito Mexican Restaurant; Co-op/Ampride; Dollar General; and, Casey's General Store. These licenses are for one year. Motion was made by Council member Gehring and seconded by Council member McCarty to approve the 2020 Cereal Malt Beverage licenses for the Hillsboro Golf Course, El Lorito Mexican Restaurant, Co-op/Ampride, Dollar General, and Casey's General Store. Motion carried unanimously.
8. **ELCON INVOICES** – Motion was made by Council member McCarty and seconded by Council member Driggers to approve Elcon Invoices #11838 (\$112.50) service call at water treatment plant; #11850 (\$12.82) mercury vapor light for Electric Department; #11870 (\$65.25) conduit for Electric Department; #11871 (\$1,141.49) items for rewiring of street shop. Vote: Council member McCarty, yes; Council member Driggers, yes; Council member Gehring, abstained. Motion carried.
9. **SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLE ORDINANCE** – City Attorney Josh Boehm presented a revised draft of the Special Purpose Vehicle ordinance and reviewed the changes. Police Chief Kinning specifically wanted vehicles to have directional lights along with headlights and brake lights. We are recommending a \$50.00 annual fee to cover police and administrative costs. Some time is needed to get tags printed and forms for registration and inspection. Public comments: Jim Hefley felt the \$50.00 registration was too high. Mayor Thurston said he personally didn't feel \$50.00 was too high for the privilege to operate this type of vehicle because of the added burden on administration and law enforcement. Robert Williamson said he liked the requirement for lights. Terry Ens said Tabor College has been using golf carts for some time and he was in favor of this ordinance. They rarely drive them at night, and they may

have to adjust to some of the other requirements. There was a lot of discussion following about the regulations for golf carts. City Administrator Paine and City Attorney Boehm will:

- 1) Re-evaluate golf cart use for daytime only and require slow moving vehicle signs on golf carts.
- 2) Assure all of the other vehicles have proper lighting (directional, brake & headlight) for day and night-time use.
- 3) Ordinance will be effective February 1st.

This item was tabled until the January 7, 2020 city council meeting.

10. COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENTS – Motion was made by Council member Driggers and seconded by Council member McCarty to approve 2% cost-of-living raises for next year. Motion carried unanimously.

11. BOARD APPOINTMENTS – none

12. CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT –

City Administrator Paine reviewed the November dashboard.

KPP Energy rates will drop from 69.96 (2019) to 66.66 for 2020, and they will continue to decrease over the next 10 years. Part of the reason is the lower price of natural gas.

13. PBC MEETING TO APPROVE INVOICE FROM KLEND AUSTERMAN – At 5:04 p.m., council recessed into a Public Building Commission meeting to approve an invoice from Klenda Austerman, LLC regarding the hospital bankruptcy. The meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m. and the regular council meeting resumed.

Mayor Thurston announced that the hospital was out of bankruptcy and under new ownership. They have named a new (local) CEO, Mark Rooker. Mr. Rooker has worked for the El Dorado hospital for 20+ years and has been very involved in the community, and has served on our school board for many years.

14. ADJOURNMENT – Council meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

/s/
LOUIS THURSTON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

/s/
JANICE K. MEISINGER, CITY CLERK