

Hillsboro, Kansas
March 17, 2020

1. The city council met in regular session on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 in council chambers with Mayor Thurston and Council members David Loewen, Byron McCarty, Renee Gehring, and Brent Driggers present. Absent: City Attorney Boehm.

2. Others Present: Phyllis Zorn, Hillsboro Star Journal; Laura Paulus, Hillsboro Free Press; Anthony Roy, Economic Development Director; Larry Paine, City Administrator; and, Jan Meisinger, City Clerk.

3. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Thurston called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – none

5. **MINUTES** – Motion was made by Council member McCarty and seconded by Council member Loewen to approve the minutes of the 3-3-2020 regular meeting as distributed. Motion carried unanimously.

6. **VOUCHERS** – Motion was made by Council member Loewen and seconded by Council member McCarty to approve the checks in the amount of \$94,942.78. Motion carried unanimously.

7. **IMA INSURANCE RENEWAL** – Due to travel restrictions, Kathy McNeil, the city's IMA insurance agent, participated in the meeting via phone. Insurance premiums have increased from \$101,845.00 last year to \$116,969.00 this year (4-1-2020 to 4-1-2021). This is mostly due to the insurance market in property and auto coverage, plus we've added the rescue boats and a couple of trucks. Some adjustments need to be made on the type of coverage for the two newest trucks. After further discussion, motion was made by Council member Driggers and seconded by Council member Loewen to approve the renewal of the city's insurance with IMA. Motion carried unanimously.

8. **PAY ESTIMATES – VOGT'S PARGA AND HETT CONSTRUCTION** – Motion was made by Council member McCarty and seconded by Council member Loewen to approve Pay Estimate #6 to Vogt's Parga Construction, in the amount of \$58,062.51, for waterline street improvements. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Council member McCarty and seconded by Council member Driggers to approve Pay Estimate #9 to Hett Construction, in the amount of \$49,932.59, for street improvements. Motion carried unanimously.

9. **ELCON INVOICE** – Motion was made by Council member McCarty and seconded by Council member Driggers to approve Invoice 12003 to Elcon Services in the amount of \$152.20. Vote: Council members Loewen, McCarty, & Driggers, yes; Council member Gehring, abstained. Motion carried.

10. **STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW** – The Strategic Plan has 9 priorities. Mayor Thurston divided those into 4 major areas. Council then discussed objectives that City Administrator Paine has added since the last council meeting. City Administrator Paine said he still needed input from council members. We will have another review at the next council meeting.

11. **BOARD APPOINTMENTS** – none

12. CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT –

Corona Virus – Yesterday, due to the declared pandemic, the front door to the city office was locked. Customers can still come to the window, put payments in the drop box, and pay bills by phone using their credit card. Information about COVID-19 is being shared by the League and many other sources.

City Administrator Paine said he would be closely watching our sales tax revenues and fund cash balances. Governor Kelly has made an executive order that cities cannot disconnect utilities for non-payment with the idea that some people are losing their jobs. The governor has also closed all public schools for the rest of the school year. Mayor Thurston said we were in unchartered territory and he was extremely proud of the people of Hillsboro for remaining calm, taking each day as it comes, because the Good Lord has promised to never give us more than we can handle.

13. ADJOURNMENT – Council meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

/s/
LOUIS THURSTON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

/s/
JANICE K. MEISINGER, CITY CLERK