

Hillsboro, Kansas  
August 3, 2021

**1.** The City Council met in regular session via Zoom and in person, on Tuesday, August 4, 2021 at 4:00pm with Mayor Lou Thurston and Council members Byron McCarty, David Loewen and Renee Gehring participating.

**2. Others Participating:** Kimberlyn Gilchrist, City Attorney; Madeline Reida, Marion County Record; Phyllis Zorn, Marion County Record; Laura Paulus, Hillsboro Free Press; Blake Beye; Darin Neufeld, EBH & Associates; Matt Stiles, City Administrator; and Danielle Bartel, City Clerk.

**3. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Lou Thurston called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

**4. MINUTES:** Council member Loewen requested his name be removed from those attending as he was not present at the meeting. Council member McCarty motioned to remove Council member Loewen's name from those in attendance, and to approve the minutes of the July 21 special session. Council member Gehring seconded. Motion approved.

**5. VOUCHERS:** Motion was made by Council member McCarty and seconded by Council member Loewen to approve vouchers in the amount of \$145,859.79. Motion carried.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None at this time.

## **7. BUSINESS**

**EBH AGREEMENT, LAGOON IMPROVEMENTS:** Darin Neufeld shared following the City Administrator's report.

**RESOLUTION 2021-05:** Intention to exceed Revenue Neutral Rate.

Motion was made by Council member McCarty and seconded by Council member Loewen to adopt the resolution as presented. Resolution was approved 3-0.

**LIBRARY AIR CONDITIONER REPLACEMENT:** Library HVAC units are original to the building and approximately 45 years old. The units need to be replaced and a proposal has been received from Flaming's at a cost of \$16,860. Administrator Stiles explained the City owns the building and is responsible for the upkeep, and that CIP funds would be used for this expense. Council member Loewen motioned to hire Flaming's to replace the HVAC system at the library for a cost of \$16,860. Council member Gehring seconded. Motion carried.

**KANSAS WATER OFFICE PURCHASE AGREEMENT:** The current 40-year contract to purchase raw water from the Kansas Water Office (KWO) expires in December 2021. The next 40-year contract will expire in 2061. Administrator Stiles explained that KWO manages the quantity of the water, not the quality. The contract price for raw water will increase from the current 10 cents for every 1,000 gallons to 45.5 cents per 1,000 gallons. The cost to treat the water is currently \$1.95 per 1,000 gallons.

Administrator Stiles provided a projection for the next 40 years of water usage noting the City currently uses about 130 Million gallons of the 300 Million gallons allocated. He recommended the City continue with the 300 Million allocation annually. Council member McCarty motioned to proceed with a 300-Million-gallon water contract with Kansas Water Office. Council member Loewen seconded. Motion carried.

**ELCON INVOICES:** City Administrator reviewed one invoice from Elcon in the amount of \$478.10 for work done on the blowers at the water plant. Council member Loewen motioned to approve the invoice and Council member seconded. Council member Gehring abstained. Motion carried.

**WATER DEPARTMENT CARBON PURCHASE:** Administrator Stiles reported that due to the extended treatment of the blue-green algae, the request for a bulk order of carbon for the water department is in front of the Council earlier this year than usual. He recommended purchase of a full order of carbon as requested by the water department. Council member McCarty motioned and Council member Loewen seconded to authorize the bulk purchase of carbon needed to treat the water. Motion carried.

**8. BOARD APPOINTMENTS:** Mayor Thurston requested Leroy Just be reappointed to the Museum Board as his term expired. Council member McCarty motioned and Council member Gehring seconded to reappoint Leroy Just to the Museum Board. Motion carried.

**9. CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** City Administrator Stiles reported on the following:

- Board of Zoning Appeals meeting
- League of Municipalities conference
- Public Power Week
- Fiber project update

- Community Plaza project update
- Employee service awards
- Solar Policy
- Open positions

Mayor Thurston shared that he is pleased with the new staff at City Hall.

**DARIN NEUFELD, EBH & ASSOCIATES:** Darin provided an update on the project at US 56 & Industrial. KDOT has provided access management allowing additional work to be completed with only 5% of the cost, approximately \$1,200, to be the City's responsibility. Tomorrow the cracked panels will be repoured and late next week the permanent striping crew may be onsite. Darin noted traffic control has been an issue with excessive speeding by truckers. Thank you to Administrator Stiles and the Police Department for assisting Andale Construction with this issue. He noted Andale has done well adjusting while working with KDOT.

Council inquired about the entrances to Hillsboro at Orchard Drive and at Ash Street, as those are similar to the Sante Fe entrance off of US 56. The two entrances were not selected for this round of funding from KDOT.

Darin also provided an update on the Lagoon Improvement Project and reviewed the City's contract with EBH. The aerator is built but the floats are not yet available. The baffles will arrive later this month. McCarty motioned to approve the Lagoon Improvement Project contract with EBH and authorize the Mayor to sign. Council member Loewen seconded. Motion carried.

**10. COUNCIL COMMENTS:** Council member McCarty inquired about some houses being cleaned up before the Arts and Crafts Fair. Administrator Stiles noted several code enforcement violations. No additional Council comments.

**11. ADJOURNMENT:** Council meeting adjourned at 4:52pm.

ATTEST:

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LOUIS THURSTON, MAYOR

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DANIELLE BARTEL, CITY CLERK