

Hillsboro, Kansas  
August 17, 2021

**1.** The City Council met in regular session via Zoom and in person, on Tuesday, August 17, 2021 at 4:00pm with Mayor Lou Thurston and Council members Brent Driggers, Renee Gehring, David Loewen and Byron McCarty participating.

**2. Others Participating:** Kimberlyn Gilchrist, City Attorney; Phyllis Zorn, Marion County Record; Laura Paulus, Hillsboro Free Press; Darin Neufeld, EBH & Associates; Ben Hannah, United Methodist Church Pastor; Matt Stiles, City Administrator; and Danielle Bartel, City Clerk. Additional City employees in attendance: Gary Andrews, Mona Hein, Dan Kinning, Jason Plett, Ed Richert and Doug Sisk.

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

**4. MINUTES:** Council member Loewen requested Council member McCarty's name be listed as seconding the motion to approve the Elcon invoices on the August 3 minutes. Council member Gehring motioned to approve the minutes with the correction and Council member McCarty seconded. Motion approved.

**5. VOUCHERS:** Motion was made by Council member Driggers and seconded by Council member Loewen to approve vouchers in the amount of \$502,820.11. Motion carried unanimously.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

## **7. BUSINESS**

**SERVICE AWARDS:** Administrator Stiles shared his appreciation for city employees and recognized the following for their years of service. Each was provided with an award:

2019 Awards	2020 Awards	2021 Awards
Gary Andrews – 25 years	David Funk – 20 years	Doug Sisk – 15 years
Morgan Marler – 20 years	Dan Kinning – 25 years	Jason Plett – 15 years
Ed Richert – 10 years	Mona Hein – 30 years	Ben Steketee – 20 years (Fire)
Jan Meisinger – 40 years		

Mayor Thurston shared his appreciation for the quality of service these individuals give to the community.

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR CMB LICENSE:** City Administrator Stiles reviewed the application and process. Mayor Thurston transitioned into a public hearing for the CMB License at Pizza Hut. Ben Hannah, pastor of the United Methodist Church spoke well of Pizza Hut staff and in favor of granting the license. The public hearing portion of the meeting was closed.

**ORDINANCE 1330:** Council discussed the decision. Administrator Stiles noted no written communication has been received. No Council members disqualified themselves due to a conflict of interest. The applicant was not present at the meeting. Administrator Stiles recommended to approve Ordinance 1330. Council member McCarty motioned to approve Ordinance 1330 and authorize the Mayor to sign. Council member Gehring seconded. Motion approved 4-0.

**ORDINANCE 1331:** Administrator Stiles reviewed the Ordinance which would add the fairgrounds to the list of public property where alcohol is allowed to be served, provided the proper licensing processes are followed. Council member Gehring motion to approve Ordinance 1331 and Council member McCarty seconded. Motion approved 4-0.

**ORDINANCE 1332:** Administrator Stiles reviewed the Ordinance which would eliminate the 25-firefighter cap. The department utilizes Active 911 in addition to radios for all firefighters, as radios are becoming harder to obtain. Budget will still be a restrictive factor in the number of firefighters, however removing the cap allows the department to create a pipeline of future firefighters. Council member McCarty motioned to approve Ordinance 1332 and authorize the Mayor to sign. and Council member Loewen seconded. Motion approved 4-0.

**ELCON INVOICES:** Administrator Stiles recommended approval of Elcon invoices totaling \$3,236.10 for ongoing work at the water plant and for supplies. Council member McCarty motioned to approve the Elcon invoices as presented and Council member Loewen seconded. Council member Gehring abstained. Motion carried.

**8. BOARD APPOINTMENTS:** None.

**9. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Darin Neufeld of EBH & Associates provided an update on the Highway 56 KDOT project noting the intersection will be fully open tomorrow.

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

- Housing Assessment
- Strategic Plan
- Code Enforcement
- Fiber Project
- Filled Positions
- League of Municipalities Conference
- KPP Bill

City Administrator Stiles also provided an update on the Deed for the EMS Building and informed the Council of upcoming bond payments.

Mayor Thurston stated the Housing Assessment Meeting was well attended.

**11. COUNCIL COMMENTS:** Council member McCarty requested dog waste stations be placed along the trail and another trash barrel at the end of the trail in order to keep it nice. Council member Loewen agreed the trail is well-used. Mayor Thurston encouraged the community to do their part as well to keep the community looking nice.

**12. ADJOURNMENT:** Council meeting adjourned at 4:43pm.

ATTEST:

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LOUIS THURSTON, MAYOR

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DANIELLE BARTEL, CITY CLERK