

City Council
City of Hillsboro, Texas
Minutes of Regular Meeting
April 18, 2023

Present were:

Andrew Smith, Mayor
Eric Fleming, Councilmember
Dana Robinson, Councilmember
Frances Zarate, Councilmember
Mayor Pro-Tem, Scott Johnson

Megan Henderson, City Manager
Dale Snyder, Finance Director/HR
Christi Ward, Acting City Secretary
Tony Cain, Asst. City Manager

Councilmembers Larry Lloyd and Leann Richmond were absent.

Others present:

Shannon Cottongame, Reporter
Officer Lambert Jefferson, Hillsboro Police Department
Evah Montes, Human Resources Coordinator
Delisa Burnell-Smith, COO of NeighborWorks

Mayor Smith called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
Councilmember Fleming led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Hear Statements from Persons Wishing to Address Council.
No attendees addressed Council.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Smith informed Council that agenda numbers five (5) through ten (10) require no formal public hearing and are subject to being approved in a single motion. However, any City Councilmember or the City Manager may remove an item from the Consent Agenda to allow discussion and voting on the item individually.

(Agenda Item #5)

Deliberate and Act on Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting on April 4, 2023

(Agenda Item #6)

Act on the Approval of Bills.

Consent Agenda Items. There were no responses. On a motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson and second by Councilmember Robinson, Consent Agenda Items #5 through #6 were accepted and approved.

On roll call, the following votes were cast:
Ayes: Fleming, Robinson, Zarate, Johnson

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Nays: None Absent: Lloyd, Richmond

Regular Agenda

(Agenda Item #7)

Deliberate and Act on a Resolution to Authorize the City's Participation in NeighborWorks Loan Program for Employees and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute All Necessary Documents

Evah Montes, Human Resource Coordinator, introduced Delisa Burnell-Smith, COO of NeighborWorks out of Waco, Texas. Ms. Burnell-Smith discussed the Community Loan Center project. This a program that would make affordable small-dollar loans available through payroll deductions. Ms. Burnell-Smith went over the below-listed items:

- History of the Community Loan Center
- Program Origin
- Partnering with Employers
- Loan Terms
- Statistics

Staff recommended approval of the program due to the benefits it offers employees, including rates preferable to payday lending and the program's supporting features, including credit counseling.

On a motion by Councilmember Robinson and second by Councilmember Fleming, the resolution was accepted and approved.

On roll call, the following votes were cast:

Ayes: Fleming, Robinson, Zarate, Johnson

Nays: None Absent: Lloyd, Richmond

Agenda Item #8

Hear and Deliberate on City Manager's Report

a. Update on Strategic Goals 5-8

i. Build Better Infrastructure

- Formally assess the conditions of street, water, and sewer infrastructure
- Implement projects that will improve the conditions
- Implement processes that will improve the conditions
- Projects:
 - Utilities + Streets: Park/OBR/Walnut/Church/Sweeney
 - The water meter project is complete.

vi. Deliver Essential Services

- Human Resources:
 - Street department staff, including temporary workers, up to 12

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- people
- Activities held for Employee Appreciation Day, including t-shirts with new logo

vii. Boost Economic Development

7.1 Business Attraction

- Glaser Retail working on prospects for Outlet Mall

7.2 Business Retention/Expansion

- All existing Outlet Mall tenants plan to stay

7.3 Entrepreneurship and Small Business

- Sweet Joy, candy/ice cream/soda; has opened and the hours are 3-8 pm
- Four new businesses on Elm Street expected soon:
 - Vinyl craft shop
 - Cowgirl Bogue, sign approved
 - Two more not yet announced
 - The French restaurant has apparently dropped out

7.6 Pursue redevelopment of the Outlet Mall

- Fielding questions and working on possible tenants

viii. Enhance Quality of Life

- Recreation
 - Baseball/softball season is getting underway, opening day April 1, 2023, with thousands of people at Wallace Park
- Facilities improvements
 - Clean up around both Wallace Park and Old City Park
 - The Splash pad should be ready to open next month
- Community glow-in-the-dark Easter egg hunt was held on April 7, 2023, 20,000 eggs- was the most successful one so there.
- Library
 - Facilities Improvements: fundraising continues for expansion
- Programming:
 - Staff was out for training this week

b. Recent and Upcoming Staff Activity and Events

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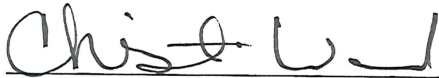
- Street department – up to 13 employees
- Water/Sewer crew – up to 10 employees
- DPS added 1 new firefighter who will also be going to the police academy
- Art Mann is out with health issues; we are monitoring his recovery
- Vance Lipsey, Community Development Coordinator, is taking on new task
- Allyson Cliett, Director of Special Projects, is making fantastic progress with the Eclipse planning

Mayor Smith said with no further business to address, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.



Andrew L. Smith, Mayor

ATTEST:



Christi Ward, Acting City Secretary