

City of Hills and Dales
Minutes of the City Commission Meeting
Thursday, July 14, 2022
7:00 p.m.

The Commission met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Mayor Ralph Johanson at 3209 Mt. Rainier Drive. Present were Mayor Johanson, Commissioners Roger Owen and Barbara Rogers, and Treasurer Joan Taylor and City Clerk Jeanne Keats. Commissioners Michael Adair and Andreas Wokutch were absent. Mayor Johanson called the meeting to order.

Minutes

Mayor Johanson called for a motion to approve the June 9, 2022 Commission Meeting minutes. Commissioner Owen so moved, Commissioner Rogers seconded and the Commission approved by unanimous vote.

Resident Comments

There were no residents in attendance.

Treasurer's Report on Financials

Treasurer Taylor reported on financials through June 30, 2022. She said the Balance Sheet showed City assets of \$280,815.46 and the City has no liabilities. The Profit and Loss Detail showed total income for the month of June of \$306.55 and total expenses of \$4,127.69. Fiscal year 2021-2022 income was down slightly due to decreased insurance premium tax receipts and lower than anticipated interest income. However, expenses were in line with the budget.

Mayor Johanson called for a motion to accept the Treasurer's report on the financials. Commissioner Rogers so moved, Commissioner Owen seconded and the Commission approved by unanimous vote.

REGULAR COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration and Environment

No report.

Roads, Maintenance and Utilities

Road Transverse Cracks

Commissioner Owen told the Commission that ABC Paving completed the crack filling job and was paid \$2,500, the amount approved by the Commission at the June meeting. Mayor Johanson said a few of the larger cracks were not completely filled; however, Commissioner Owen said he would purchase several tubes of asphalt crack filler and take care of those few places.

Tree Removal

Commissioner Owen told the Commission about a large fir tree at the entrance which is mostly dead and leaning precariously. He went on to say there is a smaller dead tree leaning towards the City's power pole that would likely interrupt power if it fell. He obtained a quote from Lopez Tree Service of \$800 to remove the fir tree (and some bush honeysuckle behind the tree) and \$400 to remove the smaller tree. Mayor Johanson suggested that Commissioner Owen contact LG&E to remove the smaller tree.

After discussion, Mayor Johanson made a motion for Commissioner Owen to contact LG&E about removing the smaller tree, but if it appears LG&E will be unable to remove the tree in a timely manner, Commissioner Owen is authorized to contact the Lopez Tree Service to proceed with removal of both trees for \$1,200. Commissioner Rogers seconded the motion, and the Commission approved by unanimous vote.

Stormwater Drainage Project and Use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds

The Commission had a general discussion about how they will use a portion of its ARPA funds for infrastructure improvements – specifically, a comprehensive stormwater drainage project.

Treasurer Taylor stated that ARPA funds totaling \$18,961.82 have been budgeted for use in the City’s 2022-2023 budget, leaving a similar amount to be budgeted in the 2023-2024 budget. She told the Commission that all ARPA project costs have to be **incurred** before December 31, 2024; however, the Treasury is allowing cities until December 31, 2026 to complete larger projects.

Commissioner Owen then went on to discuss three facets of the City’s comprehensive stormwater drainage project.

Drainage Swale

Commissioner Owen told the Commission he will obtain a quote for reconfiguring the swale that passes through several properties along the Mt. Rainier hill that leads to U.S. 42. This swale has silted in and no longer provides an effective route for stormwater run-off and the result is unwanted erosion. This project would impact four properties and it would include three culverts and driveway drains.

Drainage Trench

He went on to tell the Commission that he will obtain a quote for clearing out the drainage trench that runs from the Ferg property at 3205 Mt. Rainier Drive down to the Goose Creek tributary at U.S. 42. Over the years, the trench has become blocked with plant debris, and it no longer provides an effective route for stormwater run-off and, again, the result is unwanted erosion.

Drainage at Entrance

Finally, he will obtain a quote for reconfiguring and replacing a small creek rock drain located adjacent to the City’s entrance sign at U.S. 42. This drain, too, no longer provides an effective route for stormwater run-off.

Technology Services and Community Security

Entrance Cameras

After the June meeting, the City’s cameras were repaired and once again made operational. However, this week, Commissioner Adair alerted the Commission that the cameras were out again. Since he was unable to attend this meeting, Commissioner Adair emailed the Commission saying that Unified Technologies identified the problem as overheating. He wrote that the heat sync in the component box was so hot it melted through the power cord to the network video recorder (NVR). Unified Technologies is going to install a new box with a vent ports and fans. There should be no charge to the City for this repair work since the cameras are under a service warranty with until the end of 2023.

Website Project

No report

Communications and Neighborhood

Louisville Metro Public Works and Assets Right-of-Way Guide

Commissioner Rogers told the Commission she was reviewing *The Louisville Metro Public Works & Assets Right-of-Way Guide and Utility Policy* (LMPWA), a guide developed for those seeking permission to perform work within public rights-of-way maintained by Louisville Metro. The City of Hills and Dales public roads rights-of-way are not maintained by Louisville Metro; however, in the absence of local ordinances on topics such as permitting, etc. for residents who wish to perform work within the right-of-way, Louisville Metro ordinances may apply. Commissioner Rogers will continue to research this issue and inform the Commission as she learns more.

Planning Committee Status

Commissioner Rogers discussed the vacancy left on the Planning Committee when Mark Feldkamp sold his home and moved from Hills and Dales. She told the Commission she spoke with Planning Committee member Marty Latter, and she and member David Daunhauer will meet to discuss an appointee to replace Mr. Feldkamp. Commissioner Rogers also reminded the Commission that the community will elect a new Planning Committee in December for a four-year term. There are no term limits, so Planning Committee members may run for re-election.

Newsletter Topics

Commissioner Rogers reviewed a list of topics for the summer newsletter. Topics include an article about the June 4 City Picnic; an article about voting for City officials on November 8; an article welcoming new neighbors; reminders about speeding, parking on the streets/grass and the leash law; information about the insurance premium tax and the homestead property tax exemption; the recent Rumpke contract renewal and more . . .

Legal and Governmental Relations

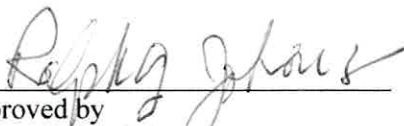
No report.

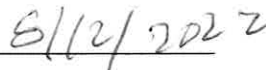
Other Business

No other business.

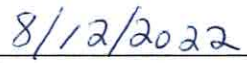
Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Mayor Johanson made a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Owen seconded and the Commission approved by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.


Approved by
Mayor, Ralph Johanson


Date


Submitted by
City Clerk Jeanne Keats


Date

NEXT MEETING

REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING - Thursday, August 11, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the home of Mayor Ralph Johanson at 3209 Mt. Rainier Drive unless otherwise notified.