

City of Hills and Dales
Minutes of the City Commission Meeting
Thursday, March 9, 2023
7:00 p.m.

The Commission met in regular session on Thursday, March 9, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Treasurer Joan Taylor, 3300 Mt. Rainier Drive. City Officials present were Mayor Andreas Wokutch and Commissioners Bill Bowman, Roger Owen and Barbara Rogers. Treasurer Joan Taylor and City Clerk Jeanne Keats also attended. Commissioner Michael Adair was absent. Mayor Wokutch called the meeting to order.

Minutes

Mayor Wokutch called for a motion to approve the February 9, 2023 Regular Commission Meeting minutes. Commissioner Rogers so moved, Commissioner Owen seconded and the Commission approved by unanimous vote.

Resident Comments

No residents were in attendance.

Treasurer's Report

Financials

Treasurer Taylor reported on financials through February 28, 2023. She told the Commission the Balance Sheet showed City assets of \$322,279.93 and the City has no liabilities. The Profit and Loss Detail showed total income for the month of November of \$3,721.29 and total expenses of \$4,491.10. The Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual report showed that revenues and expenses were in line with the budget.

Mayor Wokutch called for a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report on February financials. Commissioner Bowman so moved, Mayor Wokutch seconded and the Commission approved by unanimous vote.

Preliminary Discussion – Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Tax Rate and Budget

Treasurer Taylor and the Commission discussed selected revenue and expense items in preparation for the first reading of the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 tax and budget ordinances at the April Commission meeting.

Property Taxes Revenues. Treasurer Taylor and the Commission talked about the pros and cons of raising the City's property tax rate vs. leaving it the same. Treasurer Taylor told the Commission that tax revenues for the 2023-2024 year will depend on the Commission's decision re: the tax rate and whether or not the PVA makes changes to the overall property valuations in our community. No action was taken.

Security System Expenses. Commissioner Rogers reported that renewing the camera maintenance agreement (Unified Care Complete) for one year starting January 1, 2024 would cost \$653.96 and renewing it for three years would cost \$1,824.56 (or an average of \$608.19 per year). She also said the wireless service is now through EPICi0 (formerly Broad Sky), and information is needed from them regarding future costs for wireless service. No action was taken.

Commissioner Rogers noted that insurance for the camera equipment is another cost consideration. Treasurer Taylor said these costs are included in the City's overall commercial insurance package.

REGULAR COMMITTEE REPORTS
Municipal Governance and Legal

Ethics Ordinance

Mayor Wokutch called on City Clerk Keats to talk about the City of Hills and Dales Ethics Ordinance and the Kentucky League of Cities' ethics code template. A brief discussion ensued. No action was taken.

Maintenance, Utilities and Beautification

Tree Stump Removal

Commissioner Owen reported that a tree stump in the entrance common area was recently removed by Dale's Stump removal for a cost of \$125. The Commission approved this expense at its January meeting.

Weather Related Damage to Plants at Entrance

Commissioner Owen reported that the rhododendrons, and perhaps other plants, may have to be replaced due to damage they sustained during the summer drought and winter deep freeze. He will continue to monitor the plants in the coming weeks.

Spring Cleanup

Commissioner Owen told the Commission that Green Up LLC (Willy Thiel) will perform the annual spring cleanup of the entrance in the next week or so.

Electric Line Upgrade Project

Commissioners Bowman and Owen reported on obstacles related to the project to upgrade the electric line that runs from the utility pole near 3202 Mt. Rainier Drive to the entrance lights and cameras. A major obstacle is cost. One boring estimate was over \$100,000. Mayor Wokutch suggested looking into possible solar solutions, and Commissioner Owen said he would make some inquiries. The purpose of upgrading the line is to reduce the number of electrical outages

Commissioner Owen asked about the timeline for using the City's ARPA funds for this (or any other ARPA approved) project. Treasurer Taylor said costs for ARPA funded projects must be incurred by December 31, 2024, and projects must be completed by December 31, 2026. The City has ARPA funds of about \$37,400.

Roads, Snow Removal and Signage

Snow Removal

Commissioner Bowman reported there were no snow events or costs in February.

Technology Services and Community Security

No report.

Communications and Neighborhood

Renewal - Security System Agreements

See "Treasurer's Report – Security System Expenses" above.

Website – Next Steps

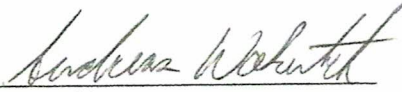
Commissioner Rogers talked with the Commission about the status of the City's draft website noting that Commissioner Adair has succeeded in creating a functional website structure with some content. Based on the Commission's comments, desired next steps are the addition of design/visual elements and possible feedback from residents. Once the Commission has signed off on the final website, it will be formally launched and announced to the community.

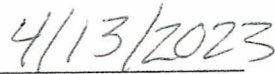
Other Business


None.

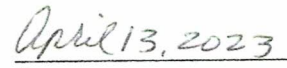
Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Mayor Wokutch called for a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Bowman so moved, Commissioner Owen seconded and the Commission approved by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.


Approved by
Mayor Andreas Wokutch


Date


Submitted by
City Clerk Jeanne Keats


Date

***NEXT COMMISSION MEETING
Thursday, April 13, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.
Home of Treasurer Joan Taylor at 3300 Mt. Rainier Drive***