

Town of Hillsboro

Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2009

Members Present: John Hill, Sandy Gladwell, Lois Wilfong, Janice Good, James Johnson, Richard Workman, Anne Walker, Sandy Simmons

Mayor Workman called the meeting to order at 7:31 pm.

Minutes from March 10, 2009 meeting were passed out and read by members of the council. Lois Wilfong moved to accept the minutes as written. John Hill seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Minutes from the public hearing on the Small Cities Block Grant Program held on March 24, 2009 were passed out and read. Sandy Gladwell moved to accept the minutes as written. Janice Goode seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Minutes from the public hearing held on April 7, 2009 on the Small Cities Block Grant Program were passed out and read. Sandy Gladwell moved to accept the minutes as written. Janice Goode seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Sandy Simmons passed out the Treasurer's Report from March 2009. Jim Johnson moved to accept the report as written. John Hill seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Under old business, Anne Walker updated the council on the progress of the website and how well Nancy Martin and her class were doing updating the website.

Mayor Workman informed the council that John McCollum was not able to accept the sewer/water operator position due to health problems. Since the next sewer class would be held in July, he told the council that another person would need to be hired before then. Advertising for the position would need to take place again to fill the position. Mayor Workman stated he had received an inquiry concerning the job during the first advertisement but it had occurred passed the closing date. Lois Wilfong asked if the sewer operators could work without going to training. Mayor Workman stated the OIT for the trainee for water could be sent in immediately once a person is hired. Anne Walker asked the council how they wanted to hire the new person. Jim Johnson and Lois Wilfong stated they wished to discuss it further at May's meeting. Sandy Gladwell asked the cost of the ads. Anne Walker stated she thought they were not too expensive. Mayor Workman stated the ad needed to be clear that the position is part and the pay rate and hours to work needed to be included.

Next on the agenda was the discussion concerning the sidewalks project. Mayor Workman received an estimate from Mr. Garber concerning the cost. The estimate was for 5000 ft with run offs for a total cost of \$250,000. Mayor Workman estimated that with grant money or \$100,000 the town could repair or replace approximately 2000 ft of sidewalk along 219 beginning at the Hillsboro Elementary School to the corner of Rt. 219 and Denmark Road and on the west side of the highway past the Methodist Church. He stated that once the grant money is confirmed that the job would need to put on public bid. John Hill asked about the sidewalk on either side of Dick Burns' parking lot. Mayor

Workman stated that wheel chair access will need to be constructed on each side of the asphalt. He went on to state that the sidewalks will require at least 6 inches of concrete in most areas while some areas that will require 4 inches. The sidewalks will be 5 feet wide except in front of the Hillsboro Bank. Anne Walker asked the council to pass the resolution to submit the application for grant money for the Small Cities Block Grant Program. Jim Johnson moved submit the application for consideration. John Hill seconded the motion. Motion carried. Anne went on to ask the council to approve \$5000 of town monies to be put toward the grant. Jim Johnson moved to put \$5000 of town monies toward the project. Lois Wilfong seconded the motion. Motion carried.

On the agenda next was the mowing for the town. Currently, George Gladwell has the contract for mowing the alleys, sewer pond and water tower. Mayor Workman stated that Dave Walton is to have community do some mowing but he has not followed up on the request. He recommended that George continue with the current contract since George was the only bid received during last year's advertising. Mayor Workman stated that George had mowed the alley ways and the ditches between the street and sidewalks. John Hill moved to continue the mowing contract with George Gladwell. Janice Goode seconded the motion. Motion carried. Sandy Gladwell abstained from voting on the motion.

The phosphorus plant for sewer operation was discussed next on the agenda. Mayor Workman stated that the town has 3 years to have the phosphorus removal plant installed and operating to be in compliance with the town's permit. He stated it will take several hundred thousand dollars to construct. Operating the plant once built is also labor intensive and will cost approximately \$12/month/household. A third person will need to be hired to operate the phosphorus plant during the months of April through October as required by DEP. There will be a considerable hike in sewer rates for the town's citizens in order to build and to operate the plant. Mayor Workman contacted Ray Tilly of Roberts Engineering concerning an estimated cost of the plant. Currently the cost is unknown. Jim Johnson asked if the town was not in compliance with the permit concerning phosphorus levels. Mayor Workman explained that this is a new requirement by the Public Service Commission and the DEP. There is no current level to maintain, as phosphorus is only reported each month. DEP is imposing the level of 0.50 (a 90% reduction) from the current level the town is discharging of 5. The town will then have 20 years to bring the level to 0.01, as there is no technology currently available to bring the phosphorus level down to this level, so the plant will need to be updated again in 20 years. Mayor Workman stated that the town will have 6 months to submit a plan of action from the date of the permit issue. A discussion of the money available to pay for the project took place. Mayor Workman stated that the current stimulus money offered by DEP is in the form of loans. Mayor Workman further explained that the sewer plant permit allows for 34,000 gallons per day to be discharged. The town is discharging approximately half of that amount. He also stated that it will cost larger towns an estimated one million dollars to construct the plant. Anne Walker stated that at the current debt level, the town cannot afford to make payments on another outstanding debt. She suggested the town try to secure as much grant money as possible to pay for the construction of the plant.

Jim Johnson asked if the council would like for him to obtain an estimate from Donnie Rose for spraying the duckweed on the sewer pond. He will try to get it before the next meeting.

Lois Wilfong updated the council on the plastic post covers. She stated they should arrive next week and she has been able to speak with the Odd Fellows to help put up signs. Mayor Workman stated he would need to estimate the cost of Sakrete to anchor each post. Anne Walker asked the council if they were still interested in constructing flower boxes around the posts for town beautification. The council wished to discuss it when the signs are erected.

Concerning the Pearl Buck/Town Sign, Mayor Workman stated Leverne McCoy will need to contact the state sign man to come see where the signs may be located. Richard has had no response yet. He will contact Leverne again.

Janice Goode moved to adjourn the meeting. Lois Wilfong seconded the motion. Motion carried.

_____ Date: _____ Time: _____
Richard Workman, Mayor

_____ Sandy Simmons, Treasurer
Anne Walker, Recorder

Council Members:

_____ John Hill

_____ Jim Johnson

_____ Lois Wilfong

_____ Janice Goode

_____ Sandy Gladwell