

City of Hills and Dales
Minutes of the City Commission Meeting
Thursday, August 11, 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 Michael Adair, Barbara Rogers, and Andreas Wokutch, and Treasurer Joan Taylor and City Clerk Jeanne Keats. Commissioner Roger Owen was absent. Mayor Johanson called the meeting to order.

Minutes

Mayor Johanson called for a motion to approve the July 14, 2022 Municipal Aid Road Fund Meeting Minutes and the July 14, 2022, Commission Meeting minutes. Commissioner Rogers so moved, Commissioner Adair seconded and the Commission approved by unanimous vote.

Resident Comments

City of Hills and Dales commissioner candidate, Bill Bowman, attended the meeting as an observer.

Treasurer's Report on Financials

Treasurer Taylor reported on financials through July 31, 2022. She said the Balance Sheet showed City assets of \$288,128.36 and the City has no liabilities. The Profit and Loss Detail showed total income for the month of July of \$13,879.91 and total expenses of \$6,567.01.

She told the Commission that she recently purchased some certificates of deposit and municipal bonds to take advantage of interest rates of 2.5%. She said the negative \$-5,957.60 which appears under Interest Income on the Profit and Loss Detail represents the penalty which would apply should the City make early withdrawals. This negative number will disappear as these investments reach maturity.

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

REGULAR COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration and Environment

Planning Committee Information (Election, Mid-Term Vacancy, Ordinance)

Upcoming Planning Committee Election. Mayor Johanson reminded the Commission that a City of Hills and Dales Planning Committee election will be held in November, and those elected will begin new four-year terms on January 1, 2023. Commissioner Rogers added that the Commission's only role in the election will be administrative, i.e., providing residents with information about the election, making candidate filing forms available to residents, distributing the election ballots, and opening and counting ballots submitted at the December 8 regular Commission meeting. She will provide the Commission with a timeline for these events at the September meeting.

Mid-Term Vacancy on Planning Committee. Commissioner Rogers went on to report that Planning Committee members Marty Latter and David Daunhauer told her that they had asked Lisa LeCompte to join the Committee to fill the vacancy left when Mark Feldkamp moved away. In addition to other property owners who may wish to run for the Planning Committee, these three current Planning Committee members are eligible to run for another term if they wish.

Planning Committee Ordinance. Commissioner Rogers went on to point out that the Planning Committee typically appoints a resident to fill any mid-term vacancies that occur. However, Planning Committee Ordinance 2018-1 passed by the Commission in April 2018 states that the Planning Committee will hold a special election to fill any mid-term vacancies that occur. The Commission briefly discussed amending the ordinance to reflect actual practices.

Mayor Johanson then called for a motion to amend Planning Committee Ordinance 2018-1 to state that the Planning Committee will appoint a resident to fill any mid-term vacancies that occur. Commissioner Wokutch so moved, Commissioner Adair seconded and the Commission approved by unanimous vote.

City Clerk Keats will prepare an amended Planning Committee ordinance for a first reading by the Commission at the September meeting.

Roads, Maintenance and Utilities

Commissioner Owen asked City Clerk Keats to tell the Commission that on August 23, Lopez Tree Service will remove the two trees discussed at the July Commission meeting. At the July meeting, the Commission gave Commissioner Owen authorization to accept the \$1,200 quote from Lopez Tree Service and move forward with the tree removal if LG&E could not commit to doing the work in a reasonable timeframe - and that turned out to be the case. Commissioner Owen said the \$1,200 should be paid from the regular Maintenance budget.

Technology Services and Community Security

Entrance Cameras

Commissioner Adair told the Commission that the entrance security cameras were again working, albeit a little slower than he would like. He said the network video recorder (NVR) was basically overheating, and a new larger box with a vent has been installed. The City has not been charged for any related repairs due to its Unified Care Complete service agreement which extends through December 31, 2023. Commissioner Wokutch suggested it might be worthwhile to look into an extension of the service agreement, and Commissioner Adair agreed.

Website Project

Commissioner Adair said he is still having difficulty getting quality photos to use on the City of Hills and Dales website. Commissioner Rogers said she has a high-quality camera and would take some photos for Commissioner Adair to review. In addition, Commissioner Adair said he would talk with resident Kathy Weisbach who has offered her assistance with the website project at no charge to the City. Apparently, she has some related experience.

(Commissioner Adair also wanted to discuss two non-agenda items. See "Other Business" below.)

Communications and Neighborhood

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

At the July meeting, 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.

Commissioner Rogers reported to the Commission she has continued to research guidelines for property owners who wish to perform work within the public roads right-of-way in the City of Hills and Dales. She has learned that a property owner must contact Metro Louisville regarding any permits/licenses required and, of course, call 811 – the utilities locator. She said Metro Louisville reviews permit applications and determines whether a property owner can proceed with a proposed project. However, when the project is in a Home Rule city like the City of Hills and Dales, the property owner may be referred back to the local government for permissions. She mentioned the City may want to obtain a release of liability from any City of Hills and Dales property owner who performs work in the public roads right-of-way.

Addition of Lisa LeCompte to Planning Committee

(See “Mid-Term Vacancy on Planning Committee” under **Administration and Environment** above)

Legal and Governmental Relations

No report.

Other Business

Deer Population in Hills and Dales

Commissioner Adair expressed concern about the increasing number of deer in our community. They cause damage to plants, flowers and trees; they wander across roads creating the risk of deer-vehicle collisions; and they are so tame that there is concern that young children may try to approach them. After discussion with the Commission, he said he would contact agencies such as the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife for suggestions.

Community Compost Area

Commissioner Adair suggested a community composting area somewhere in the woods along the Mt. Rainier entrance hill. The Commission expressed some concerns about how to educate residents about proper composting practices, regular management of the compost pile (turning, etc.) and the attraction of unwanted wildlife into the community.

Jefferson County League of Cities (JCLC) Special Meeting

Premium Pay: Suburban Fire & EMS Personnel

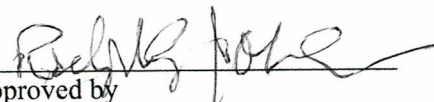
Mayor Johanson told the Commission that he received an announcement of a special meeting of the JCLC this Saturday, August 13. The purpose of the meeting to discuss various allocation options available for awarding a single Premium Pay to Suburban Fire Departments.

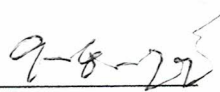
The meeting announcement included a memo from Metro Councilman Kevin Kramer. Councilman Kramer wrote that the Jefferson County Attorney has opined that the language in federal law determining the use of ARPA funds allows Home Rule cities to share their funds with other government agencies. He wrote further that the JCLC and the Suburban Fire Chiefs asked the Louisville Metro Council to determine a formula or a recommended amount to be funded for a single Premium Pay to Suburban Fire Departments by Home Rule cities. Ultimately, the Louisville Metro Council will pass an ordinance that outlines the amount and method of sharing in the Premium Pay distribution with Home Rule Cities.

While no member of the Commission plans to attend this meeting, this is an issue that the Commission will watch closely.

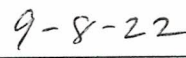
Adjournment

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


Approved by
Mayor, Ralph Johanson


Date


Submitted by
City Clerk Jeanne Keats


Date

NEXT MEETING-Thursday, September 8, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Mayor Ralph Johanson at 3209 Mt. Rainier Drive unless otherwise notified.