

**City of Hills and Dales**  
**Minutes of the City Commission Meeting**  
**Thursday, April 10, 2025**  
**7:00 p.m.**

The Commission met in regular session on Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Commissioner Roger Owen, 3315 Mt. Rainier Drive. City officials present were Mayor Andreas Wokutch, Commissioners Jeff Burnett, Roger Owen, Barbara Rogers and Kathy Weisbach, and Treasurer Joan Taylor and City Clerk Jeanne Keats. Mayor Wokutch called the meeting to order.

**Approval of March 13, 2025 Commission Meeting Minutes**

*Mayor Wokutch called for a motion to approve the March 13, 2025, Regular Commission Meeting minutes. Commissioner Owen so moved, Commissioner Burnett seconded, and the Commission approved by unanimous vote.*

**Resident Comments**

There were no residents in attendance.

**Treasurer's Report**

Financials

Treasurer Taylor reported total City assets as of March 31, 2025 of \$355,392.49 and the City has no liabilities. The City's total income for March was \$132.59. Total expenses were \$3,168.23.

*Mayor Wokutch made a motion to approve the financials through March 31, 2025, Commissioner Rogers seconded, and the Commission approved by unanimous vote.*

First Reading - Property Tax Ordinance for fiscal year July 1, 2025 thru June 30, 2026

City Clerk Keats said she should receive our city's 2025 total property assessment information from the PVA shortly. With that information, the Commission will be better able to determine whether or not the current property tax rate of \$.20 cents/\$100 of assessed property value will be sufficient to cover 2025-2026 budgetary needs. At the May 8 Commission meeting, the Commission will have the second reading of this Ordinance and discuss the tax rate further.

First Reading – Budget Ordinance for fiscal year July 1, 2025 thru June 30, 2026

The Commission discussed the preliminary budget numbers for all income and expense categories. At the May 8 Commission meeting, the Commission will have the second reading of this Ordinance and discuss the budget further.

**REGULAR COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Municipal Governance and Legal**

Mayor Wokutch reminded the Commission that Carla Sandusky, Director of State Government Affairs, will attend the May 8 Commission meeting to discuss renewal of the City's franchise agreement with Charter Communications which expires in September 2027.

## **Roads, Snow Removal, and Signage**

### Status – Post Winter Road Repairs

Commissioner Burnett reported that, in the coming days, he and Commissioner Owen will be applying asphalt patch to the pothole on the wooded side of Mt. Rainier Drive and to other smaller areas as needed.

### Road Depression in front of 3311 Mt. Rainier Drive

During the budget discussion, the Commission bought up the road depression in front of 3311 Mt. Rainier Drive noting that it is getting worse. Commissioner Owen said that MSD made repairs at this site several years ago. Commissioner Burnett said he would contact MSD and ask them to check the site to determine if this is a recurrence of the original problem or something new.

## **Maintenance, Utilities and Beautification**

### Status – Invasive Honeysuckle Containment Project (ARPA funded)

Commissioner Owen reported that there are 24 man hours remaining on the contract between the City of Hills and Dales and Green Up LLC for the project to remove invasive honeysuckle in the entrance woods. He said he will ask Green Up to use these hours to remove honeysuckle located between Goose Creek and U.S. 42. The work on this project will likely be completed this spring.

### Status – General Spring Cleanup and Lawn Repairs along Entrance Road

Commissioner Owen told the Commission that in the next several weeks, Green Up LLC will perform the annual spring entrance cleanup and will also repair the areas where snow removal equipment damaged the lawn.

### Report on Boundary Issues

Commissioner Owen reminded the Commission about the boundary disagreement between Louisville Metro Public Works and the City of Hills and Dales in October 2024 that involved the maintenance jurisdiction for the first 300 feet of Mt. Rainier Drive beginning at U.S. 42.

Commissioner Owen said his friend and retired professional surveyor, Kent Speer, reviewed the Hills and Dales plat map which was certified on May 8, 1956, and the legal Judgment dated September 20, 1976 which established Hills and Dales as a sixth-class city in Jefferson County, KY. Mr. Speer said he found some inconsistencies between the boundaries shown and described in these two documents, but that the inconsistencies seem to have been corrected by Ordinance Nos. 1, 2, and 3 enacted by the City Commission in 1977.

In short, Commissioner Owen said that the legal boundaries of Hills and Dales (and, subsequently, the City of Hills and Dales) are those that are shown on the Hills and Dales plat map which was certified on May 8, 1956 by the Louisville and Jefferson County Planning and Zoning Commission and duly recorded in the County Clerk's office, Subdivision Book 14, Page 22. And, that plat map **does** include the first 300 feet of Mt. Rainier Drive beginning at U.S. 42.

## **Technology Services and Community Security**

### Status – Security System Issues and Equipment Needs

Commissioner Weisbach reported that she has worked with technical support from Unified Technologies and is now able to get readable images of license plate numbers in black and white

and vehicle descriptions in color. She said she is able to capture these images both day and night. Based on these results, she said she does not believe the city needs to invest in new license plate reader cameras at this time.

However, she went on to say that the cameras go down frequently due, possibly, to the LG&E utility relocation project in our area. Therefore, she said that reliable battery backup is an absolute necessity. The Commission agreed she should follow-up with Unified Technologies to determine if the current battery backup is working or if it needs to be replaced.

Status – Updates to [contact@hillsanddales.city](mailto:contact@hillsanddales.city)

Commissioner Weisbach reported that [contact@hillsanddales.city](mailto:contact@hillsanddales.city) has been updated by adding the names and email addresses of the new Commissioners (Burnett and Weisbach) and deleting the names of those who are no longer on the Commission (Adair and Bowman).

### **Communications and Neighborhood**

#### Planning Committee

Commissioner Rogers and the Commission had a general discussion about the Hills and Dales Planning Committee and how it operates within the confines of the Hills and Dales 1968 Amended Declaration of Restrictions. She said she will continue to remind residents about the important work the Planning Committee does for our community. In addition, she will work with other members of the Commission and legal counsel to develop a plan whereby the City Commission and the Planning Committee can work together to achieve their shared goals of a safe and attractive neighborhood.


#### **Other Business**

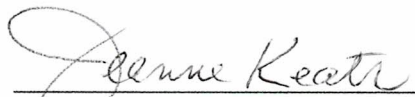
Commissioner Burnett proffered the idea of a junk collection day specifically for residents of Hills and Dales, assuming the costs and logistics make sense. Commissioner Owen reminded the Commission that residents do have the option of contacting Rumpke, who will collect larger items by appointment.


#### **Adjournment**

*There being no further business to come before the Commission, Mayor Wokutch made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Rogers seconded, and the Commission approved by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.*

  
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Approved by Mayor Andreas Wokutch

  
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Date

  
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Submitted by City Clerk Jeanne Keats

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

***NEXT COMMISSION MEETING  
Thursday, May 8, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.  
At the home of Commissioner Roger Owen, 3315 Mt. Rainier Drive***