

City of Hills and Dales
Minutes of the City Commission Meeting
Thursday, February 8, 2024
7:00 p.m.

The Commission met in regular session on Thursday, February 8, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Treasurer Joan Taylor, 3300 Mt. Rainier Drive. City officials present were Commissioners Michael Adair, Bill Bowman and Roger Owen, Treasurer Joan Taylor and City Clerk Jeanne Keats. Mayor Andreas Wokutch and Commissioner Barbara Rogers were absent. Mayor Pro Tem Owen called the meeting to order.

Minutes

Mayor Pro Tem Owen called for a motion to approve the January 11, 2024 Regular Commission Meeting minutes. Commissioner Adair so moved, Commissioner Bowman seconded and the Commission approved by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report

Financials

Treasurer Taylor reported total City assets as of January 31, 2024 of \$333,699.35. Income and expenses through January 31 were in line with the budget. She noted that \$1,824.56 was paid to Unified Technologies for the 3-year renewal of Unified Care, the maintenance agreement for the entrance security cameras .

After brief discussion, Mayor Pro Tem Owen called for a motion to approve the financials through January 31, 2024, Commissioner Adair so moved, Mayor Pro Tem Owen seconded and the Commission approved by unanimous vote.

Treasurer Taylor went on to remind commissioners to bring their preliminary budget numbers for fiscal year July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 to the March 14 commission meeting for review.

REGULAR COMMITTEE REPORTS

Municipal Governance and Legal

In Mayor Wokutch's absence, Mayor Pro Tem Owen reminded commissioners that their terms will end December 31, 2024 and those wishing to run again will need to submit their candidate paperwork to the Board of Elections no later than June 4 at 4:00 p.m.

Maintenance, Utilities and Beautification

Hebel Irrigation Contract Renewal

After discussion, Mayor Pro Tem Owen called for a motion to approve the renewal of the Hebel Irrigation maintenance contract for the period April 1, 2024 through November 1, 2024 at same cost as the 2023 season or \$481.07. Commissioner Adair so moved, Commissioner Bowman seconded and the Commission approved by unanimous vote.

He then signed the contract and gave one copy to Treasurer Taylor for payment and one to City Clerk Keats for the files.

Spring Cleanup

Mayor Pro Tem Owen said he would contact Willy Thiel of GreenUp, LLC shortly to arrange for the annual spring cleanup of the city's common areas.

Removal of Entrance Forsythia

Mayor Pro Tem Owen said he would like to have GreenUp also remove the forsythia bushes at the City's entrance. He said these plants are in poor condition, no longer bloom in the spring and require a lot of maintenance.

After discussion, Mayor Pro Tem called for a motion to approve the removal of the forsythia bushes. Commissioner Adair so moved, Commissioner Bowman seconded and the Commission approved by unanimous vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Owen said that after the forsythia have been removed, the Commission can discuss options including letting the existing periwinkle fill in the area or planting a hardy plant such as juniper in the area.

Woods Clean Up

Mayor Pro Tem told the Commission he will get a separate quote from GreenUp for doing a general cleanup of the entrance woods from the upper end down to where the curb begins. This would involve cleaning up the area from the edge of the paved road over to and around the drainage channel. This work would constitute completion of this past summer's drainage improvements project and would be eligible for ARPA funds.

Roads, Snow Removal and Signage

Commissioner Bowman said from all accounts, Nalley did a good job of clearing and salting the roads during January snow events. He also reported that the January snow removal bill has been paid – at the same rates as last season.

Technology Services and Community Security

Security Cameras

Commissioner Adair told the Commission there are no issues with the entrance security cameras.

Homeless Encampment

Commissioner Adair said he and others in the community have observed a homeless camp on the other side of U.S. 42 not far from the entrance to our community. He told the Commission that he has followed proper procedures and reported the camp using Metro311.

After discussion, City Clerk Keats agreed to send a notice to residents about the camp letting them know that the Commission has filed a Metro311 report. City Clerk Keats said she would

also draft a letter for Mayor Wokutch's signature to the property owner who may not be aware of the camp since it is on 22 acres of undeveloped land behind her house.

Communications and Neighborhood

New Website Page - "Resident Reminders"

In Commissioner Rogers' absence, City Clerk Keats told the Commission about the new "Resident Reminders" page on the website. Commissioner Rogers said the purpose of the page was to draw attention to routine reminders about neighborhood security, vehicle safety/parking, neighborhood pets, the Planning Committee and other miscellaneous topics. Prior to the website, these reminders were included in newsletters.

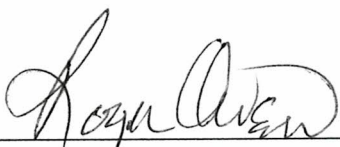
City Clerk Keats also told the Commission that after the holiday gathering, Commissioner Rogers sent an abbreviated reminder flyer by email to residents which directed them (several times) to the website for this and other types of community information.

Other Business

There was no other business.

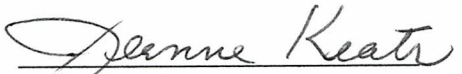
Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Mayor Pro Tem Owen called for a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Adair so moved, Mayor Pro Tem Owen seconded and the Commission approved by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.



Approved by
Mayor Pro Tem Roger Owen

3/14/24
Date



Submitted by
City Clerk Jeanne Keats

3-14-24
Date

MARCH 14
NEXT COMMISSION MEETING - Thursday, ~~February 8~~, at 7:00 p.m.
At the home of Treasurer, Joan Taylor, 3300 Mt. Rainier Drive