



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 14, 2023
MINUTES**

A meeting of the City Council ("Council") of the Village of The Hills ("the Village") was held in person and remotely. Mayor Wharton called the meeting to order, and the roll was called of the duly constituted officers and members of the Council to wit:

Present:

Greg Wharton, Mayor
Hilda C. Potsavich, Mayor Pro Tem
Sarah Carroll, Councilmember

Rick Van Dalen, Councilmember, Treasurer
Jim Vick, Councilmember, Secretary
Amy Ovlen Wharton, Councilmember

thus, constituting a quorum.

Also present were Gordon Pierce, Interim City Manager, Sonja De La Fuente, City Secretary, Village of The Hills, Luis Ozuna, Deputy Constable, and Tom Harrelson, The Hills POA.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular meeting was called to order at 9:01 A.M. The Council convened to Executive Session at 9:01 A.M.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Mayor and City Council may adjourn into Executive Session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any matters listed on the agenda, as authorized by the Texas Government Code including, but not limited to, Sections §551.071 (Consultation with attorney), §551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), §551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), §551.074 (Personnel Matters), §551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices), §551.087 (Economic Development), and as authorized by the Texas Tax Code including, but not limited to Section 321.3022 (Sales Tax Information).

- A. Government Code §551.074 Personnel Matters - City Manager Transition
- B. Government Code §551.071 Consultation with Attorney

The City Council reconvened the open meeting at 9:39 A.M. There was no reportable action.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPOINTMENTS

- A. Discuss, consider, and take any necessary action regarding the appointment of a City Manager.

The Mayor introduced Dean Huard, who shared his background with the Council and public.

Motion by Mayor Wharton to hire Dean Huard as the City Manager for the Village of The Hills with a tentative start date of February 27, 2023, and to adopt the Ordinance amending Texas Municipal Retirement System Benefits adopting: (1) Annually Accruing Updated Service Credits, and (2) an increase to the Employee Contribution Rate. Second by Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich. Motion carried 5-0.

- B. Discuss, consider, and take any necessary action related to the appointment of Leanne DuPay as the Official City Wildlife Advisor for The Hills.

The Mayor introduced Leanne DuPay, who shared her background with the Council and public, and recommended hiring her as the official City Wildlife Advisor, which would be an unpaid appointed position. He also requested an Interlocal Agreement be established with Lakeway Animal Control to provide services to The Hills.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich to appoint Leanne DuPay as the official City Wildlife Advisor for The Hills. Second by Councilmember Wharton. Motion carried 5-0.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes of the January 17, 2023, Special City Council Meeting
- B. Minutes of the February 7, 2023, Special City Council Meeting
- C. Finance/Treasurer's Report for January 2023

Councilmember Vick noted that the Architectural Rule Book was approved by the POA.

Councilmember Van Dalen advised he will be working with Beth to change the format of the Financial Report to increase transparency and comprehension. The Mayor requested he report back to explain the differences in the reporting. He reported that several line items are over budget but could balance out over the budget year.

Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich moved approval of the consent agenda; Councilmember Vick seconded the motion, which carried 5-0.

7. REPORTS

A. Law Enforcement

Deputy Constable Ozuna reviewed the written report. There was discussion regarding a stolen vehicle. He advised that coyotes have been seen in the area. It was noted that no soliciting is a POA rule.

B. POA Liaison

Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich reported that the POA held their annual meeting and there was an impressive turnout. Of the four proposals, two passed (short term rentals and cleanup of wording). The club initiative and allowing POA to change the fine structure did not pass. Sara Jenkins and James Cook were elected to the Board of Directors.

C. MUD Liaison

Councilmember Carroll's written notes from the January MUD Board meeting were provided to the Mayor and City Council. She also attended the February MUD Board meeting where they discussed the Dewdrop Cove work beginning next month. The check from Legacy Development has been received for the feasibility study. The MUD will work with their engineers. The Bookkeeper reported that TexPool is earning 4.3% interest. LCRA is revising rules and they will likely end voluntary water restrictions and assume a two-day watering schedule over the summer. She expressed gratitude for Jake and Blake's response during the winter storm.

D. YAC Liaison

Councilmember Wharton reported that a meeting was not held in February, but they will regroup on March 5, 2023.

Councilmember Wharton left the meeting at 10:15 A.M.

E. City Manager's Report

Interim City Manager Gordon Pierce provided a written report to the City Council.

F. Mayor's Report

The Mayor had nothing to report.

8. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. Discuss, consider, and take any necessary action related to storm recovery.

Discussion was held regarding the current and forecasted recovery efforts. Councilmember Carroll advised that Lakeway Tree Experts are doing wonderful job clearing out the park and it should only take another day or two to finish. She would like to push a volunteer opportunity for Thursday and Friday this week. Councilmember Vick is coordinating with LandCare. The park should be open by Thursday or Friday and then they will move to the guard house and Walking Trail. The Village is disposing through Lakeway Public Works. There are no current safety issues on Village property. It should take approximately 10 days to clear the brush with one truck. FEMA funding is not expected. Oak wilt was discussed, and it was mentioned to seal within three days to prevent oak wilt after a break. The Mayor advised he will issue communication. There was also discussion regarding the green belt areas.

B. Discuss, consider, and take any necessary action to amend Ordinance providing for participation in the Texas Municipal Retirement System and Supplemental Death Benefits Fund by Village of The Hills

See action listed under Item 4A.


9. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS

- New business items to be included on the next agenda.
 - Storm Recovery

10. ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Vick moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:47 A.M.; Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich seconded the motion, which carried 5-0.

Signed this 14th day of March 2023.



Greg Wharton, Mayor

(Seal)



ATTEST:



Sonja De La Fuente, City Secretary