



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
JULY 10, 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	Rick Van Dalen, Councilmember, Treasurer
Hilda C. Potsavich, Mayor Pro Tem	Jim Vick, Councilmember, Secretary
Sarah Carroll, Councilmember	Amy Ovlen Wharton, Councilmember

**thus, constituting a quorum.**

**Also Present:**

Dean Huard, City Manager	Patty Akers, City Attorney
Sonja De La Fuente, City Secretary	Luis Ozuna, Deputy Constable
Tom Stiles, Hurst Creek MUD Board (via Zoom)	Tom Harrelson, POA Board (via Zoom)

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular meeting was called to order at 5:32 P.M. The City Council convened to Executive Session at 5:32 P.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. Personnel Matters – Discuss Interlocal Agreement with Hurst Creek MUD.**

The City Council adjourned Executive Session at 5:49 P.M. and reconvened open session at 6:00 P.M.

### **3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **4. APPOINTMENTS**

- A. Youth Advisory Commissioners – Simon Mager

*Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich moved to appoint Simon Mager to the Youth Advisor Commission; Councilmember Wharton seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.*

### **5. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dirk Van Landuyt thanked the Council for their after-the-storm clean-up efforts in the greenbelts. He advised the Club has had landscape contractors mowing and blowing beginning at 5:00 A.M. He also mentioned that the POA would be doing some asphalt repairs and some striping before school starts if the City was interested in possibly getting a good deal to have any work done while the contractor is here.

### **6. CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Minutes of the June 12, 2023, Regular City Council Meeting
- B. Finance/Treasurer's Report for June 2023

Councilmember Van Dalen reported that the City had another good month with \$826,000 in revenue for the year. Currently the City is over budget by about \$80,000 mostly due to storm clean-up, which is currently at about \$200,000 and expecting a bill from Lake Travis Fire Rescue for about \$45,000. Some line items will be under budget and/or due later in the Fiscal Year.

*Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich moved to approve the consent items; Councilmember Vick seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.*

### **7. REPORTS**

- A. Law Enforcement

Deputy Constable Ozuna reviewed the written report. He noted that he conducted 168 patrol hours in June. There was a structure fire at the beginning of the month. He recommended sending out a message to remind residents to remove items to lock their vehicles, as there was a recent theft from a vehicle. Discussion was held regarding the upcoming Coffee with a Constable event on July 25<sup>th</sup>.

## **B. POA Liaison**

Councilmember Vick reported that Joel Pafford has joined the POA Board. Sara Jenkins has replaced Brian Peters as Secretary. The Board's focus is aesthetics. They are waiting for panels to be replaced then they will be power washing the Fencecrete fence. They are also requesting insight regarding the main entrance intersection.

Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich reported that Joel Pafford is now on the Landscape Committee. They are looking at splitting up the landscaping contract into three (irrigation, plants, and mow and blow).

## **C. MUD Liaison**

Councilmember Van Dalen reported that he attended the June MUD Board Meeting. They discussed redeeming bonds and paying off \$100,000 of debt. Their finances appear to be in good shape. They rehired the same auditor this year. Drainage is in good shape. The MUD was able to increase water pressure to the fire hydrants to help distinguish the recent house fire and they indicated they could handle two fires at the same time.

## **D. Parks Liaison**

Councilmember Carroll reported there was not a quorum at last night's meeting. However, those that attended discussed events and dates. The Ice Cream truck was a good replacement event for the Mini Hills City Limits with approximately 200 attendees. They are looking at holding another one on July 30<sup>th</sup> and August 15<sup>th</sup>. They will be reaching out to former Commissioners Jenny and Amy regarding history on the Hills City Limits event, which is tentatively scheduled for November 5<sup>th</sup> from 2 or 3pm-6pm. Unfortunately, one Commissioner has not shown up to the last three meetings, which may result in them having to vacate their position. She mentioned that someone expressed their concern with Austin Energy servicing The Hills and would like to look into PEC servicing The Hills as an option for those residents.

## **E. YAC Liaison**

Councilmember Wharton reported that SplashFest was held on June 17<sup>th</sup> and had a successful turnout. There will not be a meeting in July due to travel, vacation, and summer schedules. They will restart in August.

## **F. City Manager's Report**

City Manager Huard reported on the following items:

- Voyent has 326 people signed up as of last week. Banners will go up at both entrance gates. It is up on the City Website. There are also flyers in the POA office for the Community Manager to hand out when residents come in for RFID tags.
- Stillmeadow golf cart path – will provide dimensions to contractor.

- Walking Trail Extension – the Engineer came out and walked the bridge. He will provide scope of work and quote.
- Looking into a potential MOU with City of Bee Cave to provide municipal court services.
- Fencecrete has not confirmed a date they will begin the fence repair on Lohmans Crossing.
- Coordinating Coffee With the Constable with the Club.
- Received one quote for the additional mowing needed in the City that is not covered under the current contract with Brightview. Awaiting one more.
- The contractor who built the walking trail came out and will provide a cost estimate for walking trail maintenance.

Public Comment: Dirk Van Landuyt expressed his support for the bridge.

#### G. Mayor's Report

The Mayor reported that the families of the juveniles related to the investigation of damages at the park have been contacted and asked to contribute to the repairs at the park.

#### 8. BUSINESS ITEMS

- A. Discuss, consider, and take any necessary action to adopt an Ordinance repealing and replacing Ordinance 2020-004 amending Chapter 2, Administration and Personnel, Article 2.02, Mayor and Council, Section 2.02.001 Terms of Office; Enactment Provisions of the Village of The Hills Code of Ordinances; Reaffirming Staggered, Two-Year Terms of Office for the Mayor and Council Members; Providing for Repealing, Savings and Severability Clauses; and Providing for an Effective Date.

The City Attorney provided the report for this item. She explained that Councilmember Wharton has submitted her resignation effective upon election of a replacement in the November election. The Council will accept the resignation at the November Council Meeting. There will be three Councilmember seats open in the November election and two Councilmember seats and the Mayor seat will be open next year. Thereby satisfying the staggered terms of three seats each year.

*Councilmember Vick moved adopt Ordinance 2023-003 repealing and replacing Ordinance 2020-004 amending Chapter 2, Administration and Personnel, Article 2.02.001 Terms of Office; Enactment Provisions of the Village of The Hills Code of Ordinances; Reaffirming Staggered, Two-Year Terms of Office for the Mayor and Council Members; Providing for Repealing, Savings and Severability Clauses; and Providing for an Effective Date; Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.*

B. Discuss, consider and take any necessary action to adopt an Ordinance of the City Council of the Village of The Hills, Texas, Providing for a General Election to be Held on November 7, 2023, for the Purpose of Electing Three Council Members; and Establishing Procedures for the Conduct of Such Election.

Discutir, considerar y tomar cualquier acción necesaria para adoptar una Ordenanza del Concejo Municipal de Village of The Hills, Texas, que disponga que se celebren elecciones generales el 7 de noviembre de 2023, con el propósito de elegir a tres miembros del Consejo; y establecimiento de procedimientos para la realización de dicha elección.

The Mayor provided the report for this item.

*Councilmember Vick moved to adopt Ordinance 2023-004 an Ordinance of the City Council of the Village of The Hills, Texas, Providing for a General Election to be Held on November 7, 2023, for the Purpose of Electing Three Council Members; and Establishing Procedures for the Conduct of Such Election; Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.*

C. Discuss, consider, and take any necessary action to approve an Election Agreement with Travis County for the November 7, 2023, Election.

The Mayor provided the report for this item.

*Councilmember Vick moved to approve an Election Agreement with Travis County for the November 7, 2023, Election; Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.*

D. Discuss, consider, and take any necessary action to adopt an Ordinance Regarding the Village of The Hills' Texas Municipal Retirement System Benefits Adopting: (1) a Change in City Contribution to the Current Service Annuity Reserve on the Retirement of System Members Who were City Employees; and (2) Annually Accruing Updated Service Credits.

The Mayor provided the report for this item.

*Councilmember Vick moved to adopt Ordinance 2023-005 an Ordinance Regarding the Village of The Hills' Texas Municipal Retirement System Benefits Adopting: (1) a Change in City Contribution to the Current Service Annuity Reserve on the Retirement of System Members Who were City Employees; and (2) Annually Accruing Updated Service Credits; Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.*

E. Discuss, consider, and take any necessary action to adopt an Ordinance Amending Chapter 6, "Fire Prevention and Protection", Village of The Hills Code of Ordinances; Creating New Article 6.04, "Outdoor Burning"; Providing for Findings of Fact, Purpose, Definitions; providing for Jurisdiction; Providing for Relation to Other Ordinances; Providing for an Effective Date; Providing for Enforcement Including a Fine Not to Exceed \$2,000.

The Mayor provided the report for this item. It was recommended to remove "public or private parks" under Section 6.04.002.

*Mayor Wharton moved to adopt Ordinance 2023-006 an Ordinance Amending Chapter 6, "Fire Prevention and Protection", Village of The Hills Code of Ordinances; Creating New Article 6.04, "Outdoor Burning"; Providing for Findings of Fact, Purpose, Definitions; providing for Jurisdiction; Providing for Relation to Other Ordinances; Providing for an Effective Date; Providing for Enforcement Including a Fine Not to Exceed \$2,000 with the recommended change; Councilmember Van Dalen seconded the motion, which carried by a vote of 5-1, with Councilmember Carroll voting against.*

F. Discuss, consider, and take any necessary action regarding the City Council's Budget Priorities for Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

The City Manager provided the report for this item. He reviewed anticipated budget increases with the City Council. The final draft of the budget will be presented in August.

Public Comment: Dirk Van Landuyt advised legislation just passed may reduce property tax income for the City.

*There was a consensus of the Council to hold a special meeting between now and the August meeting to review the budget.*

G. Discuss, consider, and take any necessary action to approve the Audit Engagement Letter with Singleton Clark & Company for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

The City Manager provided the report for this item.

*Councilmember Vick moved to approve the Audit Engagement Letter with Singleton Clark & Company for Fiscal Year 2022-2023; Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.*

H. Discuss, consider, and take any necessary action regarding the Walking Trail Extension.

This item was not discussed, as the City Manager advised that he covered this item under the City Manager Report.

- I. Discuss, consider, and take any necessary action regarding the Parks Preliminary Master Plan.

Councilmember Carroll provided the report for this item.

The Mayor recommended getting approximate costs and forming a committee for the design element.

*There was a consensus of the Council to appoint Councilmembers Carroll, Vick, and Wharton to a Parks Master Plan Design Committee and Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich will serve as an alternate.*

- J. Discuss, consider, and take any necessary action to approve Regulations Pertaining to Conduct in City Parks and Recreation Areas.

Councilmember Vick provided the report for this item.

The Mayor requested the City Attorney put the Ordinance in order for the City Council to adopt at the next meeting. Councilmember Carroll explained that she does not think it is necessary for the City to adopt an ordinance.

*Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich moved to bring the Ordinance to Council for consideration at the next regular City Council meeting; Councilmember Wharton seconded the motion, which carried by a vote of 5-1, with Councilmember Carroll voting against.*

- K. Discuss, consider, and take any necessary action regarding maintaining The Hills' Perimeter Fence.

Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich provided the report for this item. She recommended a budget line item for perimeter fence inspections and maintenance, including the metal fence.

## **9. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS**

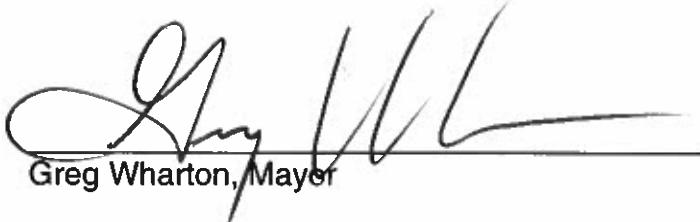
- A. New business items to be included on the next agenda.

- Parks Ordinance
- Joint Committee with POA re: Lohmann's intersection
- Notification to Residents re: Status of Clean-Up
- Parks Preliminary Master Plan
- Google Fiber Update
- Signage
- Golf Cart Registration sample ordinance
- Club License - Treehaven

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

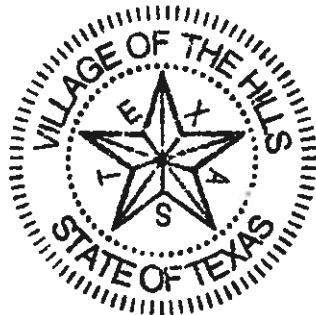
*Councilmember Vick moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 P.M.; Councilmember Van Dalen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.*

Signed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of August 2023.



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Greg Wharton, Mayor

(Seal)



ATTEST:



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Sonja De La Fuente, City Secretary