

**Minutes for Regular Session Council Meeting  
City of Hillcrest Village  
Monday, February 13, 2023**

Mayor Pro-Tem McGilvray called the Regular Session Council meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Present: Mayor Wilson (arrived late), Alderman McGilvray, Alderman Mondragon, Alderman Smith, Alderwoman Simoneaux, and Alderwoman Izard

**Pledge**

**Public Forum:**

Resident James Nash, 201 Ridgemont Dr, just wanted to make Council aware of a sewer line repair behind his house. He said the repair was done poorly, and he thinks there will be problems in the future.

Ann McGilvray, 119 E. Wildwinn, would like to put in a Little Library Box at the building. She said she has a volunteer to build it but just needs to know if the City can fund the project or will she have to come up with the funds.

**Reports/Recommendations from Contractors/Employees:**

- A. Johnny Bellamy – MUNICIPAL DISTRICT SERVICES – Johnny gave his monthly report.
- B. Shohn Davison – MARSHAL’S OFFICE – Marshal Davison gave his report. He provided Council with a Racial Profiling Report and a Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Agency Audit Report.
- C. Travis Hobbs – EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR – Travis updated Council on a few things such as pipeline awareness and the upcoming hurricane season.
- D. John Patterson – OPERATIONS ADMINISTRATOR – John gave his monthly report.

**Minutes:**

Alderwoman Izard and Alderman Smith motioned to approve the minutes for Regular Session Council Meeting January 9, 2023. All approved and the motion carried.

**Monthly Financial Statements:**

Alderwoman Izard and Alderman Smith motioned to approve the September, October, November, and December 2022 Financial Statements. All approved and the motion carried.

**New Business:**

- 1) REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP 23-01) WATER WELL PANEL REPLACEMENT BID OPENING.  
No bids received.

- 2) REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP 23-02) INSTALL POWER AND TRANSFER SWITCH TO CITY'S EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BUILDING BID OPENING.

No bids received.

- 3) CHRIS RICHARDSON WITH STRAWN & RICHARDSON, P.C. REGARDING POSSIBLE LEGAL SUPPORT FOR THE CITY.

Alderwoman Izard read an introduction and explanation as to why she invited Mr. Richardson. Mr. Richardson explained his background in water and sewer systems. He said that if we hired his firm, Hillcrest Village would be his first city client, but with all the overlap working with other cities on their water/sewer systems, it is not a far stretch for him to represent a city with their water/sewer infrastructure projects. Johnny Bellamy (MDS Account Manager) explained that he has worked with Hillcrest Village for many years, and the city has been in violation in the past for not following all law requirements for some water and sewer projects. He said that Mr. Richardson's firm could help prevent these violations and fines. Council asked Mr. Richardson questions regarding his legal support services. Mr. Richardson said he would put together a service rate sheet for Council to review.

- 4) RESIDENT LOWELL LAMORA, 202 W. LARKSPUR, REGARDING FLOODING IN THE EASEMENT BEHIND HIS HOUSE.

Mayor Wilson briefed the Council on a discussion that he and Mr. LaMora had the previous Saturday at a townhall meeting. He had explained to Mr. LaMora that an easement is owned by the property owner, and it is a misconception that cities own the easement. Utility companies, including the city, have a right to access the property but do not own it. The city does not want to get involved with repairing damage that we did not do because that then makes the city liable. Mr. LaMora had questions regarding adding sand to level the land because he fears it will make the flooding situation worse for his neighbors. Mayor Wilson said he will come take a look at the problem.

- 5) RESIDENT BRAD DAWSON, 102 E. CRESTMONT, REGARDING DRAINAGE ISSUES NEAR CREEKSIDE & WEST CRESTMONT.

Mr. Dawson explained to Council the hazards and potential for flooding because the ditch near Creekside Dr and West Crestmont Dr is full of debris. He asked if Council could budget better to keep the ditches throughout the city cleaned out by our contracted lawn service. Alderwoman Izard and Alderman Smith motioned to approve a quote for \$800.00 to have the ditch cleaned out. All approved and the motion carried.

- 6) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ORDINANCE 2023-01, PROVIDING FOR THE HOLDING OF A GENERAL ELECTION ON MAY 6, 2023.

Alderwoman Simoneaux and Alderman Smith motioned to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2023-01, providing for the holding of a general election on May 6, 2023. All approved and the motion carried.

- 7) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ORDINANCE 2023-02, PROVIDING FOR THE HOLDING OF A GENERAL ELECTION ON MAY 6, 2023, FOR THE ADOPTION OF ONE AND ONE-HALF PERCENT SALES AND USE TAX.

Alderwoman Simoneaux and Alderman McGilvray motioned to approve Ordinance 2023-02, providing for the holding of a general election on May 6, 2023, for the adoption of one and one-half percent sales and use tax. All approved and the motion carried.

### **Follow-Up Business:**

- 1) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING SINK HOLE ON RIDGECREST CT.  
Alderman McGilvray and Alderwoman IZARD motioned to approve a quote from MDS in the amount of \$13,200 to repair this sink hole. All approved and the motion carried.
- 2) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON HAVING A TOWNHALL MEETING REGARDING A POSSIBLE BOND ELECTION.  
Council discussed how they need to get a team together to guide us on the bond election process including legal support and an engineer before we have a public townhall meeting. Alderwoman Simoneaux and Alderwoman IZARD motioned to remove this item from the agenda. All approved and the motion carried.
- 3) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING FENCE AND LIGHTING AROUND THE LIFT STATION ON KARLIS.  
Alderwoman IZARD and Alderman McGilvray motioned to approve the quotes to have the lighting and fences repaired/replaced around the lift station on Karlis. All approved and the motion carried.

### **Correspondence/Announcements:**

ALDERMAN MCGILVRAY – Reiterated the need to make sure to follow through on getting water/sewer infrastructure replaced.

ALDERMAN MONDRAGON – We need to work closer with Johnny Bellamy/MDS on these water and sewer projects since they are our contracted water/sewer service provider.

ALDERMAN SMITH – Thanked Marshal Davison and Mayor Wilson for hosting a safety townhall meeting.

ALDERWOMAN SIMONEAUX – Asked if the City has a contract with current accounting firm. Clerk confirmed that there is not a contract with the accounting firm. Mayor Wilson had met with Joel Marin of Joel J. Marin, CPA (accounting firm) and Mr. Marin had no problem with reviewing a contract with the City. Mr. Marin also told Mayor Wilson that the firm would make sure the financial reports were submitted in a timely manner. He suggested that the Council think about having their monthly meetings the third Monday of each month.

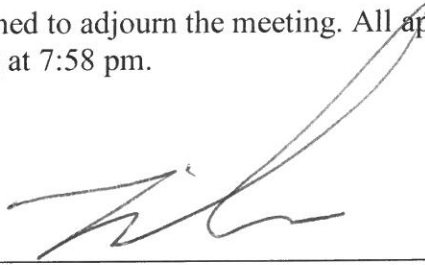
ALDERWOMAN IZARD – Submitted an application for a grant available to the cities in Brazoria County. She also said she will resubmit the RFP's since we did not receive any bids for these projects.

CITY CLERK – Ask Council if we could have a special session council meeting on 2/20/23 to read ordinances for the upcoming general election.

MAYOR WILSON – Asked when the spring heavy trash clean-up would be. Clerk will call AmeriWaste to schedule. He also encouraged everyone to contact and use our local state representative Ed Thompson's office for issues/questions regarding city business.

**Adjournment:**

Alderswoman Simoneaux and Alderman Smith motioned to adjourn the meeting. All approved and the motion carried. Mayor Wilson adjourned the meeting at 7:58 pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Wilson', written above a horizontal line.

Tom Wilson, Mayor

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rashelle Casas', written above a horizontal line.

Rashelle Casas, City Clerk