



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
TUESDAY, JULY 11, 2017
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Board of Aldermen ("the BOA") of the Village of The Hills ("the Village") was held at the Village Offices at 102 Trophy Drive, The Hills, Texas 78738. Mayor Eric Ovlen called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and the roll was called of the duly constituted officers and member of the Board to wit:

Eric B. Ovlen, Mayor
Hilda Potsavich, Secretary
Robert Smith, Alderman

J.R. Smith, Mayor Pro Tempore
Jim Nelson, Treasurer
George Spencer, Alderman

and all of said persons were present except George Spenser and Jim Nelson, thus constituting a quorum.

Also present were Wendy Smith, and Linda Lunney representing general management for The Hills; Earl Wood, representing Hurst Creek MUD; Terry Browder, Emergency Management and Officer Mike Jennings.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Secretary Hilda Potsavich led the pledge.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Regular meeting of June 13, 2017

Secretary Potsavich moved to approve the June 13 regular meeting minutes; Treasurer Nelson seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Law Enforcement

Constable Jennings introduced Deputy Russell who will patrol for a week while Constable Jennings will be in training. He then reviewed his written report showing: 30 traffic stops, 25 warnings and no citations.

2. Emergency Management Coordinator

Terry Browder reviewed CodeRed preparations with the Club and POA.

3. Hills Club Liaison

Mayor Ovlen discussed the continuing partnership with the Club.

4. Youth Advisory Commission Liaison

Wendy Smith reported that the YAC would meet on Sunday.

5. POA Liaison

Secretary Potsavich reviewed her written report including:

- James Walsh presented an updated version of the development plan for the Academy of Golf. The new plan includes one "emergency" gate in the fence along the Hills Drive. A second revision was requested.
- Terry Browder presented the Code Red program and requested that information be included in the next newsletter.
- Larry Mayo requested funds be approved to re-stripe the roads after the crack sealing project. The Board asked him to get some estimates for consideration.
- The July meeting has been canceled due lack of a quorum.

6. Park Liaison

The Board reviewed a presentation on the proposed dog park. Alderman Robert Smith discussed sponsorship and fund raising for HillsFest and the dog park.

Alderman Robert Smith moved authorization for the Park Commission to use any unused funds remaining in the budget and HillsFest for preliminary expenditures on the dog park; Alderman Spencer seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Alderman Smith then discussed plans for the 20th anniversary of The Hills.

7. Press Liaison

Wendy Smith reported that the goal is to have an article in a community paper each month.

8. Finance Report/Treasurer's Report for the Month of June, 2017

Wendy Smith and Treasurer Nelson reviewed the written report showing: \$340,290.77 in the General Fund and \$44,012.26 Solid Waste Fund.

Treasurer Nelson moved approval of the Bookkeeper's Report; Secretary Potsavich seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

9. Hurst Creek MUD

Earl Wood reported on the following:

- He will meet with James Walsh at GolfCorp regarding the proposed Academy development. The MUD engineers will review the processes of applying for an amendment to the discharge permit at GolfCorp's expense
- The presence of Zebra Mussels in Lake Travis and its possible impact will be discussed in the MUD meeting on Friday
- Mr. Wood commended MUD operators for the efficient repair of a burned out pump on 4th of July.

10. Village Manager

Ms. Smith reported on the preliminary figure of \$28,008 for the office renovation. The FEMA Flood Maps revision process is continuing and the properties involved will be receiving letters from FEMA.

11. Park and Youth Advisory Commission appointments

There currently are no appointments.

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Consideration and possible action regarding an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Budget

Wendy Smith reviewed the ordinance, covering the Village Manager's salary, adjusted Interlocal Agreement and office renovations.

Secretary Potsavich moved approval of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Budget; Treasurer Nelson seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

2. Consideration and discussion of the preliminary 2017-2018 Budget

Wendy Smith reviewed the preliminary budget for 2017-2018, explaining the restructuring of the budget.

3. Consideration and possible action regarding solid waste fees

Wendy Smith discussed the new increase to \$15.49 from \$15.20 and recommended an increase of rates to The Hills residents which would facilitate building reserves for storm cleanup, and household hazardous waste contributions.

Treasurer Nelson moved approval to increase to the rate to \$20 a month from \$18; Secretary Potsavich seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

4. Consideration and possible action regarding Oak Wilt.

Secretary Potsavich reviewed her report on the Oak Wilt Symposium of June 23, 2017 (copy attached). She expressed the need to educate residents on the proper prevention of the spread of Oak Wilt. Secretary Potsavich expressed the need for an ordinance as policy on Oak Wilt. The Board will revisit an ordinance the Village attorney prepared previously. An opportune time to educate the public on this matter may be during a "State of the Village" event in September.

The need for protocol on tree maintenance was also discussed. The Mayor asked that a plan be prepared for ordinance, signage and communication of this matter.

A five minute recess was declared at 11:10 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 11:15 a.m.

5. Consideration and possible action regarding the Walking Trail.

Wendy Smith gave a presentation of the continuation of the walking trail.

Mayor Pro Tempore J.R. Smith moved approval of the plan as shown with minor improvements as needed; Treasurer Nelson seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Ms. Smith will prepare education materials for the public.

Mayor Pro Tempore J.R. Smith proceeded to show pictures of the most recent walking trail segment from Gentebrook to Hayden Ridge which shows a 15" to 20" drop from the trail to the drainage ditch. Discussion pursued on what could be done to ensure the safety of walkers.

Secretary Potsavich moved approval to spend \$7,250 to rework the drainage ditch on The Hills Drive; Treasurer Nelson seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Treasurer Nelson was asked to have the painting of the guard rail to match the signage throughout the Village to be priced.

6. Consideration and possible action regarding the municipal offices renovation.

This item was covered under the manager's report.

7. Consideration and possible action regarding wildlife control
Wendy Smith and Alderman Robert Smith will work together with Parks and Wildlife to monitor wildlife populations to determine the possible need for action.

8. Consideration and possible action regarding the Village of The Hills Strategic Plan
The target is to adopt a dynamic strategic plan prior to November.

9. Discussion regarding November Elections
Wendy Smith requested a special meeting on July 20th at 9:00 am to pass election related ordinances. The Mayor suggested holding a "State of the Village" event in September which would include education on election related issues.

10. Consideration and possible action regarding the August BOA meeting date
The August BOA meeting will remain on August 8th.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS

1. New business items introduced by members of the Board of Aldermen
There was no new business.

PUBLIC COMMENT FROM ATTENDING VISITORS AND GUEST

There were no visitors.

The meeting was adjourned for lunch at 12:19 pm

The meeting reconvened and went into Executive Session at 12:25 pm

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen 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 §441.071 (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), §418.183 (Deliberations about Homeland Security Issues), and as authorized by the Texas Tax Code including, but not limited to Section 321.3022 (Sales Tax Information).

1. Discussion regarding an Interlocal Agreement between the Village of The Hills and Hurst Creek Municipal Utility District (§551.074)

RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION AND TAKE ANY NECESSARY ACTION RELATING TO THE EXECUTIVE SESSION AS DESCRIBED ABOVE.

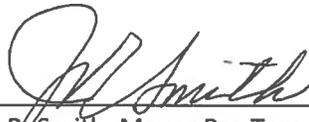
Open session was reconvened at 1:26 pm

No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:27 pm

Signed this 8th day of August, 2017.



J.R. Smith, Mayor Pro Tempore

(Seal)





Hilda Potsavich, Secretary

OAK WILT SYMPOSIUM

June 23, 2017

Synopsis of meeting hosted by Linda Anthony, Mayor Westlake Hills, Roxanne McKee, Mayor of Rollingwood and Clay Bales of the Texas Forestry Service:

- Clay Bales – there are currently 567 oak wilt “Hot Spots” in Travis County – (13 are new this year) for a total of 267 acres involved. The TFS has dug 9 new trenches. Because of federal budget cuts the total dollars that are available for cost sharing has been reduced. Information is on their website.
- Mayor Anthony brought us up to date on the Westlake Hills efforts to control their outbreak. Water District 10 was able to re-adjust their time-table and lay water pipe which involved digging a 5' deep trench along one side of the mortality area. The City and homeowners paid for the rest of the trenching to close the loop. They have re instituted an “Oak Wilt Fee” that is added to all building and construction permits . They have also begun using social media (Nabr network, Facebook & email blasts) and added signage at major arteries to educate residents about the proper time to trip oaks.
- Mayor McKee described Rollingwood's efforts to contain a 'Hot Spot” within her City, They determined that they can legally use public funds on private property for the “greater good” of the community. They had to get a “Trenching Permit – Easement”(I have a copy) from each affected resident for the trenching (59' on private property cost \$35K, 1800' along and across streets cost \$101K). They were able to use their own Parks Dept. for restoration.
- Emily King – City of Austin Forester and Josh Rudow, PhD., Community Tree Protection Division. They along with the Chris Dolan, City of Austin Arborist (not present) have been working on a better way to map oak wilt in Austin. Josh has his PhD in Geography from UT and is using ArcGS online to inventory and track all calls and reports from active (revisit every 3 years), Inactive (revisit every 6 years), Tree injections (revisit 18-24 months), suspicious red oaks (bi-annual monitoring). This map only shows City of Austin, not other incorporated cities and is not available to the general public. Emily & Josh would like to be able to integrate all of the oak wilt information and share it with the city management. They mentioned other future applications: Emerald Ash Borer (Arizona Ash) infestation, Tree permits, Post Oak loss and Ashe Juniper encroachment. Emily also said that the upcoming Special Session of the Legislature will be important to the protection of our trees. There is a new website: defendtexastrees.org to keep up with what is happening.
- Barton Creek West – This development of between 250-300 homes is an Austin ETJ. They discovered oak wilt in their green belt and one nearby residents property. With the aid of the TFS, the residents were able to trench and remove trees in the mortality zone and inject trees at their own expense, a very costly endeavor. Their HOA took an aggressive position and only one resident questioned the project. Their attorney advised the HOA that they COULD levy fines for trimming oaks out of season. They are using social media and signs to educate their residents.

THINGS FOR CONSIDERATION: We need to better educate our residents through social media, etc. and signs at all entrances. Possible pass and ordinance; archive all records and maps for future reference