



**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 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:

Greg Wharton, Mayor	Rick Van Dalen, Councilmember/Treasurer (via Zoom)
Hilda Potsavich, Mayor Pro Tem	Sarah Carroll, Councilmember
Jim Vick, Councilmember/Secretary	Amy Wharton, Councilmember

**and all said persons were present thus constituting a quorum.**

Also present were Gordon Pierce, Interim City Manager, Sonja De La Fuente, City Secretary, Waheeda Yousofzoy Emergency Management Coordinator, Eric Williams, Texas Division of Emergency Management, and Thomas Harrelson, POA Liaison.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

**2. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Council went into Executive Session at 9:03 a.m.

*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), §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).*

**A. §551.074 Personnel Matters: City Manager Transition**

Councilmember Rick Van Dalen left the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

The City Council reconvened the open meeting at 10:12 a.m. There was no reportable action.

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

The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

### **5. BUSINESS ITEMS**

- A. Discuss, consider, and take any necessary action related to an Order and Proclamation Terminating a Declaration of Local Disaster by the Mayor of the City of The Hills, Texas.
- B. Discuss, consider, and take any necessary action related to the Local Declaration of Disaster by Greg Wharton, Mayor of the City of The Hills, Texas, pursuant to the authority vested in him under Section 418.108 of the Texas Government Code.

The Mayor provided the report regarding these items. He requested the Council extend the Disaster Declaration to March 30, 2023. He also requested the Council give him the authority to do debris removal projects without calling a special meeting up to a cap of \$200,000.

*Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich moved to extend the Disaster Declaration to March 30, 2023, to be in line with Emergency Management partners and authorize the Mayor to conduct debris removal projects without calling a special meeting in an amount not to exceed \$200,000; Councilmember Carroll seconded the motion, which carried 4-0. Councilmember Van Dalen was absent.*

Eric Williams with Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) introduced himself and let the Mayor and Council know that he is the City's advocate with FEMA and is available to provide assistance and guidance as needed during events such as the recent freeze. He emphasized the importance of documentation of any work or expenses incurred during emergencies that may be reimbursable. He pointed out that reimbursement is not guaranteed, but if there is no documentation there will definitely be no reimbursement.

Waheeda, the EMC Coordinator for the cities of Lakeway, Bee Cave and The Hills, noted that she needs the City's estimate of damages to submit by February 8<sup>th</sup>.

The Mayor opened public comment.

Mike Clark, resident, thanked the Council and staff for their efforts in removing debris from the streets. However, he has noticed that there are large oak trees with things that have fallen or are ready to fall.

Seeing no further comments, the Mayor closed public comment.

Councilmember Carroll pointed out that residents could report their storm damages to [www.damage.tdem.texas.gov](http://www.damage.tdem.texas.gov).

- C. Discuss, consider and take any necessary action related to tree trimming and other disaster clean-up operations in The Hills.

Councilmember Vick provided an update regarding progress made. Triage has been focused on the walking trail proximity, which has been completed through Club Estates greenbelt. He and Councilmember Carroll are in discussion with the contractor and the park will remain closed until the area is cleared. This is expected to last two weeks or more. The greenbelt will be taken care of after the park.

The Mayor requested a spreadsheet from Steven listing what needs to be addressed in order of priority.

The Mayor advised he will put out a communication to residents to formulate a list of residents who are unable to help themselves. He reminded the public that the City and POA want to provide as much service as possible, but ultimately residents are responsible for their private property. He noted that Waste Connections will be doing a brush only pick up day on Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>.

The Mayor opened public comment.

Hayden Alvey requested brush pick up at the homes in The Masters.

Seeing no further comments, the Mayor closed public comment.

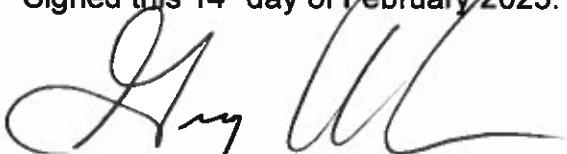
## **6. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS**

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

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

*Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich moved to adjourn at 11:06 a.m.; Councilmember Wharton seconded the motion, which carried 4-0. Councilmember Van Dalen was absent.*

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



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Greg Wharton, Mayor

(Seal)



ATTEST:



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Sonja De La Puente, City Secretary