

## Dillsboro Town Council

July 22, 2024

The regular meeting of the Dillsboro Town Council was opened by President, Doug Baker, with the pledge to the flag on July 22, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

Council present: Doug Baker, Becky Fryman, Tim Benning, Charlie Caldwell and Jerri Jackson.

Attorney present: John Watson

CM Jackson made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on July 8, seconded by CM Benning. All in favor, motion carried. CM Fryman made a motion to approve the minutes from the executive meeting on July 15, seconded by CM Caldwell. All in favor, motion carried.

Guest

Perry Parmar, Dillsboro Family Market, stated concerns regarding the proposed changes to the Main Street entrance for his store. CM Baker stated this is a Community Crossing Grant where the state pays 75% and the town 25%. The project is still in the planning stage, and this might be considered cosmetic and might not be considered. Recommends painting the lines and maybe add a stop sign at Rullman and Main Streets. Parmar recommends the painted lines. Parmar was told someone will stay in contact with him of what is planned.

### Clerk-Treasurer - Rita Stevens

- Sewer adjustments. Shayna Wood – 12700 North Street. Adjustment of \$108.50. Leak under the house. Becky Fryman – 9789 Central Avenue. Adjustment of \$45.89. The outside faucet was accidentally left on. CM Jackson made a motion to approve the sewer adjustments, seconded by CM Caldwell. All in favor, motion carried.
- Received a letter from Dillsboro Volunteer Fire Department inviting council to their Annual Retired Firefighters Dinner meeting on Monday, August 5 at 6:30 p.m.

### Utility Department – Matt Bauer

- Guys have been doing great. One of the younger seasonal employees is no longer working due to transportation issues. The other younger seasonal employee will be back in school starting the week of August 5<sup>th</sup>. The older seasonal employee will continue through the rest of the summer and maybe stay through the fall, until mowing is done, and we close the restrooms for the winter. He has been doing a great job and needs little guidance to get the job done, just like our great full-time employees.
- Had a leak on Rullman Drive near the Advocacy Center. This is a 6” cast iron main from the original 1959 system. The repair went smoothly.
- Leak at the sewer plant is fixed. Eric Graver started today bagging sludge. Material cost per bag is roughly \$780 per bag. Best Way cost is around \$2,000 per bag for disposal.
- Started cleaning lift stations. Pressure washing grease buildup on the concrete, floats and any buildup in the bottom. This is done once a year to help prevent pump problems and show IDEM we are keeping up with maintenance.
- Today was shut-off day. Had 13 and around the same last month. We were down to 3-7 a month so it is going up.

- Reading meters tomorrow. Meter reading usually occurs between the 23<sup>rd</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>. Depending on weekends and holidays.
- Planning to start on the soccer playground mulch and drainage Wednesday weather permitting.
- The backhoe has had some hydraulic leaks that are gradually getting worse. To keep it in good working order and safe to use. Bauer is planning to take it to Zimmer to get it looked over and fix any leaks they find. Don't have an estimate on cost as they may find more leaks once they begin inspecting it. Probably take it when we are done with the flags for Labor Day or possibly Veteran's Day.

CM Baker asked where the backhoe was purchased at? Bauer stated it was purchased from Zimmer. It is a New Holland and probably 20 years old, but still has life in it to serve the town's needs and we hope to keep it going along as we can.

#### Park – Town Manager Derek Walker

- We are hopefully completing the playground mulching this week while we still have the summer help.

#### Main Street – Kami Hamilton

- There is a Main Street 101 mandatory course that Executive Directors must attend from October 21-25. The Main Street board didn't know who pays for this and asked Hamilton to ask the council whether it is the Main Street or if the town is paying for this. Hamilton will be driving back and forth since it is in Madison, so no lodging expenses will be needed. Main Street does have money. CM Baker requested that Hamilton come back to the Council with more information.
- Working on the Heritage Days and Main Street is providing the food for the August summer concert.

CM Baker stated that Beacon needs someone to write the news from Dillsboro. Since Hamilton does all the advertising that she can do this. Just need a short article of the activities going on in Dillsboro. Hamilton and TM Walker can work on this together.

#### Attorney – John Watson

- The burn ordinance. The ordinance was reviewed by the council. A permit will be required from the fire department to burn brushes in town. Burn barrels were discussed, with concerns noted about burning trash. Maybe the best thing is to state no burn barrels in the ordinance. Fire pit standards were discussed and the times they are permitted were discussed as a concern. The council decided to review the ordinance and table a decision until the next meeting.

Old Business – Town Manager Derek Walker

- Stellar Pathways – The Stellar Steering Committee will be hosting a Stellar Week for public input. This will be the week of August 19<sup>th</sup>. Recommend at the Civic Center. HWC has also requested that the town begin sharing our project ideas, TM Walker will be sharing the project we've been working on and is open to new ideas if someone has anything in mind that they would like to be considered in the SIP. The council decided a possible date would be Monday, August 19 in the evening.
- DCRSD (Dearborn County Regional Sewer District Agreement). DCRSD has received the capacity certificate from the town and should have everything they need from us to submit permits. The DCRSD board is requesting a wholesale treatment rate through a formal request that has not been made but appears to be accepting of everything else.
- Right-of-Way Ordinance. Need to have a proposed ordinance to require notice and permission before performing work on town property. TM Walker proposed to require things such as bonding and insurance in the event damage is done so that the town can file claims against the contractor's insurance and not be burdened with the bill or damaged property. TM Walker will take some more time to rework this ordinance but recommend regulations need to be in place.
- Façade Improvement Matching Grant (FIMG). Asking the council if they were still interested in this. TM Walker recommends a minimum of a \$10,000 grant and budget between \$30,000 to \$50,000 from Riverboat. CM Benning stated maybe not this year but next year. TM Walker stated can be budgeted in the 2025 budget. Possibly receiving fall applications for projects in 2025 to help applicants plan farther in advance.
- Grace Quinlain/Katie Robinson sign. The council discussed the colors of the sign and decided that the "Welcome to Dillsboro" would be a blue background with yellow lettering. The rest of the sign would be white background with blue lettering outlined in yellow. The 4 locations would be on North Street across from Slone's property, 262 & Rullman Drive, 62 coming from Friendship and Short Street on the curve. CM Fryman made a motion to approve the purchasing of the signs for \$950.00 from Riverboat. CM Jackson seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.
- Main Street Sewer Issues. There are questions regarding who is responsible for the infrastructure that's causing issues to the sanitary sewer and the adjoining property. Regardless of responsibility, this is an issue that needs to be addressed. Storm water is going straight to the town's sewer. Old records of private sewer laterals show 2 locations where a private lateral is coming out of the same house. There are some substantial sink holes around this property in question. There is also an old concrete pipe that appears tied to the town's sanitary sewer. This pipe is failing and draining storm water off the field directly into the town sanitary sewer. It is not clear that this pipe is the town's responsibility, an old subdivision plat from the 1900's

notes that the farmer would retain an easement for drainage through these properties. Attorney Watson stated there could have been drainage problems in the past but cannot find any easements. CM Baker stated the town needs to have something signed legally if the town would happen to fix this that the property owner cannot come back on the town. TM Walker stated the town sewer camera is being repaired after which we can verify where the connection is and determine the scope of the repair. The Council tabled action on this until the sewer camera is fixed and better cost estimates are prepared.

#### New Business – Town Manager Derek Walker

- Community Crossing Matching Grant. The engineered cost estimates for the proposed roadwork have been completed. TM Walker is working on putting the grant application together and will need a financial commitment from Council. The new estimates include a new concept for the Main Street and Rullman Drive intersection, with a stop sign on Main Street and on Rullman Drive where the 2-way entrance is to the IGA. An alternative option would be stripping the pavement with paint rather than making the more permanent improvements with hard surface. This project could still be completed if combined with crack sealing and is estimated to cost \$65,000 with a \$16,500 match by the Town. The council agrees on the stripping option. Other projects included in the grant application were Guion Street and Western Row. CM Benning made a motion for CM Baker to sign the financial commitment letter and approving up to \$165,000 match grant from Riverboat. Seconded by CM Fryman. All in favor. Motion carried.
- LWCF/Stage Financial Commitment & Public Input. The engineer cost estimate for the stage has been drafted at \$1.2 million. This would require a \$615,000 commitment on the grant application. Right now, \$130,000 has been committed from the civic club and another \$150,000 in grant funds have been identified as potential sources. The town would still be looking at a \$335,000 match. If the Town is supportive of this project and the grant application, the council will need to make a financial commitment before the application is due at the end of the month. TM Walker recommended spreading the match over the 2025, 2026 and 2027 budgets. TM Walker presented the preliminary results of the Public Survey, the deadline for the public to respond is July 24. The council discussed what to eliminate and keep. The community has shown support for a splash pad, and there are concerns about the utility cost of a splash pad that doesn't have recirculating features. TM Walker is to get some figures of how much a splash pad would cost. The council decided to schedule a Special Meeting on July 29 at 6:00 p.m. to determine a financial commitment and decide what to eliminate or keep. TM Walker will have some utility cost for a splash pad. There is a Public Input Meeting scheduled for July 24 at 6:00 p.m.
- Security Camera Change Order. Council previously approved \$5,000 for security cameras around the fuel tanks. They were installed but 2 of the cameras didn't have a zoom capability for capturing information on license plates. These cameras would increase the quote by \$780.00. CM Benning made a motion to extend the contract of \$780.00. Seconded by CM Jackson. All in favor. Motion carried.

CM Baker asked if the council members have received any calls on the EMS? None has. The council needs to approve Attorney Watson to do some legal research regarding the EMS. CM Benning made a motion to approve the request. Seconded by CM Jackson. All in favor. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Andrea Shuter, President of Aurora EMS. Wanted to introduce herself. EMS has done 33 runs in June to Dillsboro. Year-to-date runs is 222 to Dillsboro. Doing our best. Just got their 2<sup>nd</sup> squad back from repair. Do have a new squad on order and will be getting it next year. Aurora EMS are trying their best to cover Dillsboro.

CM Baker thanked TM Walker and CT Stevens for the minutes from the last special meeting. Important for the council to support the county in getting the life squad back. We have made a statement about educating people about what we are doing. Dillsboro EMS is holding a Public Meeting on July 25.

Being no further business. CM Jackson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Seconded by CM Fryman. All in favor. Motion carried.



Rita Stevens, Clerk-Treasurer

