

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

City of Hillsdale

July 21, 2025

7:00 P.M.

Regular Meeting

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Pro Tem Joshua Paladino opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Mayor Pro Tem Josh Paladino called the meeting to order. Clerk Price took roll call.

Council Members present:	Joshua Paladino, Ward 4 Mayor Pro Tem
	R Greg Stuchell, Ward 1
	Jacob Bruns, Ward 1
	William Morrissey, Ward 2
	Matthew Bentley, Ward 2
	Gary Wolfram, Ward 3
	Robert Socha, Ward 4

Council Members absent:	Bob Flynn, Ward 3
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Also Present: David Mackie (City Manager), Attorney Jack Lovinger, Katy Price (City Clerk), Jason Blake (DPS Director), Scott Hephner (HCPD/HCFD), Mark Hawkins (HCFD), Alan Beeker (Planning/Zoning), Brandon Janes (IT Dept), Melissa Conklin, Nick Fox, Scott Sessions, Cathy Kelemen, Larry Walworth, Zech Steiger, Matt Bell, Charles Yost and Mark Nichols.

Approval of Agenda

Mayor Pro Tem Paladino requested to add Electric Superintendent Jake Hammel's resignation letter to the agenda.

Motion by Councilman Socha, support by Councilman Bentley, to add Hammel's resignation letter to the agenda under Communication as item F.

Voice vote, approved unanimously.

Motion by Councilman Morrissey, support by Councilman Socha, to approve the amended agenda.

Voice vote, approved unanimously.

Public Comment

Matt Bell, Ward four, thanked Council for the work they do, and commented on the MI SFS Grant (Solar Project) award and the MDOT TAP Grant.

Zech Steiger, 36 E Fayette St., commented on the MDOT Tap Grant and traffic flow.

Jack McLain, Hillsdale Twp., commented on the Road Diet Plan and the Block Party application.

Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Bills
 - 1. City and BPU Claims of July 3, 2025: \$1,507,855.38
 - 2. Payroll of July 3, 2025: \$206,578.07
- B. City Council Minutes of July 7, 2025
- C. Finance Minutes of July 7, 2025
- D. Public Safety Minutes of July 1, 2025
- E. Election Commission Minutes of July 10, 2025
- F. Hillsdale College Homecoming TCO
- G. Hillsdale College Noise Variance Request

- H. HBA Light Up Parade Right of way Use Application
- I. BPU- AMP Master Services Agreement for Environmental Services
- J. BPU- Q-Mation/AVEVA SCADA Licensing/Maintenance Agreement
- K. BPU- Stack Testing

Motion by Council Member Morrissey, seconded by Council Member Socha to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Roll Call:

Councilman Bruns	Aye
Councilman Morrissey	Aye
Councilman Socha	Aye
Councilman Stuchell	Aye
Councilman Wolfram	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Paladino	Aye
Councilman Bentley	Aye

Motion passed 7-0

Communication/Petitions

- A. Perennial Park Senior Center Update
- B. Keefer Hotel Project -Verbal Update
- C. MI SFS Grant Award
- D. MDOT TAP Grant Emails
- E. Hillsdale County Commissioner Verbal Update – Doug Ingles
- F. Jake Hammel Resignation Letter

Nick Fox gave a brief report of work completed at the Keefer Hotel.

Mayor Pro Tem Paladino read Hammel’s resignation letter aloud. Discussion ensued on the interim plans.

Motion by Council Member Morrissey, seconded by Council Member Socha to accept Hammel’s resignation with regret.

Voice vote, approved unanimously.

The items of communications were received for informational purposes only.

Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances/Public Hearings

- A. Ordinance – Rezoning of 335 N West St, 337 N. West St. and 315 Summit St.

Alan Beeker, Planning/Zoning Administrator reported the owner of 335 N West, 337 N West & 315 Summit has requested a rezoning of his property. The intent is to rezone the property from RD-1, One and Two Family Residential District to C-1, College District. The Planning Commission recommended that Council approve the rezoning. A public hearing was held on July 16, 2025 by the Planning Commission.

Motion by Council Member Morrissey, seconded by Council Member Socha to adopt the ordinance to approve the rezoning of 335 N West, 337 N. West and 315 Summit Streets from RD-1 to C-1 as presented. **Ordinance 2025-04.**

Roll Call:

Councilman Socha	Aye
Councilman Stuchell	Aye
Councilman Wolfram	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Paladino	Aye
Councilman Bentley	Aye
Councilman Bruns	Aye
Councilman Morrissey	Aye

Motion passed 7-0

City Manager Mackie along with Council thanked Mr. Beeker for his service to the City and wished him well in his retirement as he retires the end of July.

Old Business

None

New Business

A. Block Party – TCO Street Closure Requests.

Hillsdale Renaissance, LLC had submitted an application for street closures and parking restrictions for a Community Building Block Party on August 23, 2025. Streets closed would be S. Howell St. between McCollum St. and Bacon St. and close McCollum St. between Broad St. and Howell St.

Motion by Council Member Socha, seconded by Council Member Bruns to approve TCO 2025-20.

Voice vote, approved unanimously.

B. Land Division request for 72 and 74 S. Broad Street

Motion by Council Member Morrissey, seconded by Council Member Socha to approve the land division of 72 S. Broad St. as requested with contingency of the divided lot be immediately combined to the adjacent lots and they become two larger lots.

Roll Call:

Councilman Stuchell	Aye
Councilman Wolfram	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Paladino	Aye
Councilman Bentley	Aye
Councilman Bruns	Aye
Councilman Morrissey	Aye
Councilman Socha	Aye

Motion passed 7-0

Councilman Socha asked Manager Mackie for examples of projects.

C. Renewal of Microsoft Licensing

Motion by Council Member Socha, seconded by Council Member Bentley for the renewal of Microsoft Licensing through Sonit Systems in the amount of \$9,197.00.

Roll Call:

Mayor Pro Tem Paladino	Aye
Councilman Bentley	Aye
Councilman Bruns	Aye
Councilman Morrissey	Aye
Councilman Socha	Aye
Councilman Stuchell	Aye
Councilman Wolfram	Aye

Motion passed 7-0

Miscellaneous Reports

- A. Proclamations – None
- B. Appointments- None
- C. Other - None

General Public Comment

Jack McLain, Hillsdale Twp., commented on the minutes of the Cemetery Board.

Cathy Kelemen, Ward three, commented on Mr. Beeker's retirement, Road Diet plan as a City plan not Mr. Beeker's plan and commented on the departure of a handful of key employees as well as retention possibilities.

City Manager Report

City Manager Mackie presented a written report which was in packet.

Council Comment

None

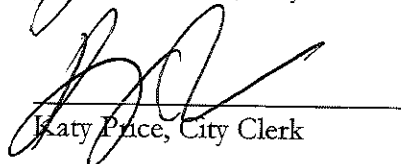
Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Socha, seconded by Councilmember Morrissey to adjourn the meeting.

By a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting Adjourned at 8:09 p.m.


Joshua Paladino, Mayor Pro Tem


Katy Price, City Clerk