

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

City of Hillsdale

August 4, 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
	Bob Flynn, Ward 3
	Robert Socha, Ward 4

Council Members absent:	Gary Wolfram, Ward 3
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Also Present: David Mackie (City Manager), Attorney Tom Thompson, Katy Price (City Clerk), Jason Blake (DPS Director), Travis Stebleton (Airport Manager), Brandon Janes (IT Dept), Maggi Monroe, Sheri Ingles, Doug Ingles, Lance Lashaway, Jill Hardway, Scott Sessions, Adam Bentley, Parker Hjelmberg and Mark Nichols.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Councilman Morrissey, support by Councilman Bruns, to approve the agenda as presented.

Voice vote, approved unanimously.

Public Comment

Jack McLain, Hillsdale Twp., commented on Alan Beeker and naming a street after him as well as the Road Diet project.

Lance Lashaway, Adam Bentley (ward two), David Hambleton (ward four), Jill Hardway (ward one) commented on Road Diet project.

Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Bills
 - 1. City and BPU Claims of July 17, 2025: \$260,301.54
 - 2. Payroll of July 17, 2025: \$209,467.34
- B. City Council Minutes of July 21, 2025
- C. Finance Minutes of July 21, 2025
- D. Public Services Minutes of July 21, 2025
- E. Board of Review Minutes of July 22, 2025
- F. Hillsdale Renaissance Block Party Street Closure Agreement
- G. Hillsdale College Homecoming Activities Street Closure Agreement

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

Roll Call:

Councilman Bruns	Aye
Councilman Flynn	Aye
Councilman Morrissey	Aye

Councilman Socha	Aye
Councilman Stuchell	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Paladino	Aye
Councilman Bentley	Aye

Motion passed 7-0

Communication/Petitions

- A. Perennial Park Senior Center Update
- B. Fall 2025 City Newsletter
- C. SP Global Ratings Report
- D. Hillsdale County Commissioner Verbal Update – Doug Ingles

Maggi Monroe, Hillsdale Senior Center Executive Director, gave a brief report of services and items offered at the Center.

Hillsdale Commissioner Ingles gave a brief report on Annex building and District Court.

The items of communications were received for informational purposes only.

Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances/Public Hearings

None

Old Business

- A. Revised TAP Grant Estimates

Sam Fry, Economic Development and Jason Blake DPS Director gave an update on the TAP Grant Estimates and reviewed the specific scenarios and cost of each that was presented to Council.

Lengthy discussion ensued on specific items that are eligible for the TAP funds and what is not.

More information will be presented at the next Council meeting after City staff has a meeting with MDOT for final clarification.

No action taken.

New Business

- A. Light Up Parade

The Hillsdale Business Association submitted a Right-of-Way for their Annual Light Up Parade. The Permit request is to utilize the downtown area as prior to 2024. The traffic control order was reviewed and approved at the July 21, 2025 Council Meeting.

The Light Up Parade is a city sponsored event and receives a 50% reduction of all permitting, traffic control rental, labor and equipment rental. Permit fees, in addition to labor, traffic control, etc., for this event, (with 50% reduction) is estimated at \$1,025 (\$2,050 without 50% reduction).

After conversation with representatives from the HBA, the estimated cost with the 50% reduction may be cost prohibitive to return the Light Up Parade to the City's Downtown Area.

Motion by Council Member Flynn, seconded by Council Member Socha to approve the HBA right of way permit in the amount of \$275.00 for the Light Up Parade for the 2025 calendar year.

Roll Call:

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

Motion passed 7-0

B. Airport Tractor Purchase – Grant Funded

The Airport received a 100% grant for the purchase a new tractor. The tractor will be used for snow removal, mowing and other maintenance activities at the airport. Two local quotes were requested on the equipment (attached). The low quote was received from Redline Equipment of Litchfield, Michigan in the amount of \$93,900. Once the equipment is received the City will received two equal payments from MDOT Aero totaling \$93,900.

Motion by Council Member Morrisey, seconded by Council Member Socha to approve the purchase of a 2024 Case IH 110 Cab tractor, snow blade and self-leveling bucket not to exceed the amount of \$93,900 to Redline Equipment of Litchfield.

Roll Call:

Councilman Flynn	Aye
Councilman Morrisey	Aye
Councilman Socha	Aye
Councilman Stuchell	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Paladino	Aye
Councilman Bentley	Aye
Councilman Bruns	Aye

Motion passed 7-0

Travis Stebleton, Airport Manager briefly discussed airport hangers and rental revenue starting in October 2025 as well as Fuel sales report.

Councilman Socha requested the information be added to the next meeting as it was not on the agenda.

C. Letter of Permission – St. Joe’s Pizza, LLC

St. Joe’s Pizza, LLC, dba St. Joe’s Café, 92 N. Broad Street, Hillsdale, requested a Temporary Authorization by the Michigan Liquor Control Commission to allow outdoor sales/consumption of alcohol on municipally-owned property during a special event. St. Joe’s Pizza, LLC desires to participate in Hillsdale Renaissance’s Summer Block Party community event on August 23, 2025 by operating a tented and cordoned off area with seating where alcoholic beverages will be served. The Summer Block Party will be held in the public right-of-way on N. Howell Street, between E. Bacon Street, and McCollum Street, in downtown Hillsdale. A Traffic Control Order for this event was approved by Council on July 21, 2025.

Motion by Council Member Bruns, seconded by Council Member Socha to approve the letter of permission for the St. Joe’s Pizza for a temporary authorization from the Liquor Control Commission for outdoor sales/consumption for the Summer Block Party on August 23, 2025.

Roll Call:

Councilman Morrisey	Aye
Councilman Socha	Aye
Councilman Stuchell	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Paladino	Aye
Councilman Bentley	Aye
Councilman Bruns	Aye
Councilman Flynn	Aye

Motion passed 7-0

Miscellaneous Reports

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

General Public Comment

Jill Hardway, ward one, commented on road diet, TIFA Board and special assessments.

Lance Lashaway, commented on road diet and Councilman Stuchell.

Scott Sessions, 102 Coldsprings Cir., wished all Mayoral candidates luck on election and asked residents to get out and vote.

Jack McLain, Hillsdale Twp., commented on road diet.

David Hambleton, ward four, commented on road diet and special assessments.

Josh Mincio, 92 N. Broad St., thanked Council for giving the letter of permission for the Block Party event on August 23, 2025. Mincio also commented on the road diet and parking issues the city has.

City Manager Report

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

Council Comment

Discussion about rerouting semi-trucks (truck route).


Adjournment

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

By a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting Adjourned at 8:42 p.m.


Joshua Paladino, Mayor Pro Tem


Katy Price, City Clerk