

# **Holly Hills SBD**

## **Board Meeting Minutes**

### **6.17.25**

#### **Meeting Opening**

- The meeting began at 6:35 pm
- Board members in attendance briefly introduced themselves. Members included:
  - Brooks Goedeker, Christy Street, Nick Hartzler, Brett Reinert, Mechelle Minden
  - Jill Pace was absent
- Motion to approve 5.22.24 minutes – Nick Hartzler
  - Second motion to approve – Brett Reinert
  - Motion unanimously approved
- Motion to approve 5.30.24 minutes – Mechelle Minden
  - Second motion to approve – Christy Street
  - Motion unanimously approved

#### **Treasurer's Report**

- Nick Hartzler served as spokesperson and reported on the following:
  - Current balance is \$482,555.00
  - Total delinquent tax balance due is \$10,074.02
  - Interest garnered – About \$1,400
  - Not a lot of official business during the month
- Motion to approve Treasurer's Report – Christy Street
  - Second motion to approve – Mechelle Minden
  - Motion unanimously approved

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT (FIRST SESSION)**

Comment 1: Submitted email read. Should move more funds into security and deprioritize traffic calming

Comment 2: Submitted email read. Variance in meeting times makes it difficult for neighbors to attend. Speed bumps should not be prioritized and are risk of damaging emergency vehicles and inconvenience for the neighborhood. Questions regarding how the Board of Alderman bill came to be.

Comment 3: Submitted email read. Correction to language in minutes regarding comments about the community garden and any potential interaction with the HHSBD.

Comment 4: Calling attention to the Stellar Hog for their support of tornado victims in STL. Raised a question about the Lyle House.

Comment 5: Regarding proposal to mow greenways, why pay for this when the city is supposed to do this work?

Comment 6: Regarding speed humps and traffic calming. Do not like how this discussion has come about.

Comment 7: Arendes and Holly Hills is a problem, but more about wrong way drivers than speed. Is any money designated for the park? Planters not needed at this time as trees are our biggest asset. Median maintenance of both grass and trees is important.

Comment 8: Is security allowed to get out of their vehicles?

Comment 9: What is happening with the house renovation on Holly Hills?

Comment 10: Appreciate the work of the SBD, reassured that decisions are not made in secret and encouraging all attendees to attend committee meetings during the month.

## **Beautification & Landscaping Committee**

- Angie Butz served as spokesperson and reported on the following:
  - Entry markers have been installed. Required the moving of some of the plants within each planter, but successfully accomplished.
  - There is an ongoing tree trimming discussion and the committee has been trying to get a group together with the Forestry Division and MO Dept. of Conservation. One meeting had to be rescheduled because of the tornado and is now scheduled for Friday, June 20. The goal is to develop a comprehensive plan for the care and maintenance of neighborhood trees. It is possible that a MODoC grant could help fund this initiative. Regardless, no activity regarding tree trimming until fall/winter to avoid damaging the trees.
  - Peggy Meyer presented the committee's proposal to contract for services to mow neighborhood greenways. The committee solicited three bids and is recommending the low bid with Focal Pointe for \$10,170.00. This will keep the greenways maintained throughout the summer. Discussion on whether this is something the city should be doing. Also, Mechelle Menden raised a question regarding the inclusion of the Community Garden in this work. Since the lease is held for that property by the Holly Hills Improvement Association, is there a question of liability for work occurring on that property?
  - Brooks Goedeker presented the committee's proposal for decorative planters for placement at strategic areas of the neighborhood. The committee is coordinating with the city and property owners to ensure that locations are acceptable and that volunteers will be able to maintain and water these planters once in place. No planters will be placed until those issues are resolved. The vendor selected for this project is Long Shadow, which has a good selection of commercial planters (weigh about 1000 lbs, and are approximately 4 feet high). The goal is to place planters at:
    - Dental offices at Loughborough and Morganford
    - Morganford and Bates
    - Grand and Bates
    - Wilmington and Grand
- Motion to approve purchase of mowing services for greenways – Nick Hartzler
  - Second motion to approve – Christy Street
  - Vote 5 in favor, 1 opposed
  - Motion approved
- Motion to purchase planters, not to exceed \$15,000.00 – Brett Reinert
  - Second motion to approve – Nick Hartzler
  - Motion unanimously approved

## **Safety & Security Committee**

- Nick Hartzler served as the spokesperson and reported on the following:

- The contract with City's Finest was approved at May board meeting. Includes a 2 year contract with an option for a 1 year extension. It is now signed with a July 1, 2025 start date.
- Have already received a customized crime report for the SBD district boundaries. Will receive these continually as part of the monthly reporting from the company, and these can be posted to the website.
- Discussion regarding GPS and Phone costs associated with this contract. Old contract required additional costs to provide GPS. This is not an issue with City's Finest. GPS is affixed to their vehicle. Also have dash cams. And data from these resources will be used to compile the monthly report.

## **Public Infrastructure Committee**

- Mechelle Menden served as the spokesperson and reported on the following:
  - Recent board bill including speed humps was incorrect. 8 is the correct number originally submitted, but additional conversation with park and bike race personnel will reduce the official number to 7, as one in the park has been eliminated
  - Morganford and Bates intersection will be a focus for our alderperson and planning is currently underway. As the plan begins to take final form, the Infrastructure Committee will look for ways to work with the city on improving that intersection.
  - Painting and signage are a priority with any remaining funds in the fiscal year.
  - Regarding speed humps
    - Alderperson has sent notification via mail to impacted residents to solicit feedback. She has received only one negative response to date.
    - The city does not have a formal petition process for the placement of speed humps. The system in use for Ward 1 (which includes the SBD) is to have residents petition if they want one. However, speed humps have and continue to be authorized by board bill. Similar activity with 70 speed humps in the Soulard neighborhood SBD. The process for adding speed humps may differ from ward to ward.
    - Concerns about the May 30 special meeting were raised. Alderperson explained that the need arose from the timeline associated with the board bill.
    - Mechelle also pointed out that she has documentation verifying the 24 hour notification for the May 30 meeting and that all notification requirements were met.

## **Other Business**

- Nick Harztler again raised the requirement to submit a tentative budget to the city by July 1. This is a requirement for the SBD, but recognizes that the budget may not be final. This tentative document has been posted on the website. Officially submitting this document will keep the SBD in compliance with all requirements.
- Motion to approve budget for submission – Christy Street
  - Second motion to approve – Mechelle Menden
  - Motion unanimously approved

## **Public Comments (SECOND SESSION)**

- Comment 1: Confusion around meeting last month, appreciate the challenges this makes for everyone. Wanted to point out Dennis Jenkerson for all his help cleaning up tornado damage
- Comment 2: Want to ensure contractors are insured for grass cutting.
- Comment 3: Concerns about emergency vehicles and speed humps and concrete bump outs to impede traffic. These provide challenges to vehicle staff and are frequently unmarked. Hitting these in the dark is detrimental to good service. Opposed to speed humps but would ask that any in the neighborhood are clearly marked. Opposed to concrete bump outs.
- Comment 4: Agrees that speed humps are a detriment to emergency crews. Particularly hard to see at night and in the winter.
- Comment 5: Concerned about emergency vehicles and thanks for reading emailed letter.
- Comment 6: Agrees with concerns about speed humps. Painting for night vision is important.
- Comment 7: Neighborhood businessman, from Afghanistan, introduced himself and made the meeting aware of his efforts to bring a market to the south grand area very near the SBD.

## **Adjournment**

- 8:05 pm
- Motion to adjourn – Nick Hartzler
- Second motion to approve – Mechelle Minden
- Motion was unanimously approved