

CITY OF HARTFORD
PROPOSED BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 24, 2022

Commissioners Present: Ramon Beltran; Frank Dockter; John Miller; Helen Sullivan; Terry Tibbs; Mayor Richard A. Hall;

Members Absent: Ron Burleson;

Staff Present: Akinwale; Rodney-Isbrecht; Ryan; Shultz;

Mayor Richard A. Hall called the business meeting to order at 7:30pm.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Motion by Commissioner Tibbs, supported by Commissioner Miller, to approve the agenda with date of meeting corrected.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Guests: None

Public Comment:

- Nancy Spoula, 112 Bennett Ave, would like to know more about the candidates who are running, would like an open forum to get to know them. Also has concerns about a vulgar sign in a yard, near a candidate's home. Also has some concerns about railroad ties at the recreation council
- Mark Little, thanked the council for fixing some things that needed attention.
- Charlie Weeden, 517 W Main St, concerns about the condition of neighbor's yard. Weeden has had his property surveyed and has improved his property tremendously.

Communications:

1. Van Buren Conservation District Update September 2022
2. 21st Annual Christmas in Hartford & Lighted Parade December 10, 2022, sponsored by Hartford Chamber & Library.

Reports of Officers, Boards & Committees; Routine Monthly Reports from Departments:

- A. **Police & Ordinance** – LT Prince, Interim Chief, Ordinance Officer has been working hard to clean up some properties, the Manager wants DPW to clean up the properties as hiring outside company is very expensive. Commissioner Tibbs is concerned about several properties that have been on the list all summer. Hired James Ivy as a full-time officer. Still seeking part-time officers, to fill the gaps.
- B. **Fire Dept** – Assistant Chief McGrew – Firefighters Physicals done today, spooktacular and trucks will be traveling through the City on Halloween, finishing yearly training & inspections. Fire Prevention Week Pancake breakfast was a success.
- C. **Ambulance** – No Representative Present –
- D. **Van Buren County** – Mike Chappell – Approved vehicle replacement for sheriff's department, veterans grand opening went very well. Filled the County Administrator Position. Approved sheriffs increase in budget to send officers through school.
- E. **Public Works** – Justin Ryan, Superintendent, brush picked up, working on leaves by section, please be patient it takes about three days to get through the city.
- F. **Wastewater Treatment Plant** – Tom Strand is going to retire on November 15th. Mayor & City Manager have met with IAI who have submitted proposal for two operators for six-months and then drop to 1 & ½ time employees. They are asking for a five-year contract with a 90-day cancellation. The Mayor is calling for a special meeting for next week to discuss & vote on the proposal. Iron & Tannins are a problem and need to be resolved in order to get the UV system working. The Bio-disk system is a very efficient good system.

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- G. **Treasurers, Investment & List of Bills** – First Quarter Budget Adjustments will be on the December Agenda for approval.
- H. **City Manager** – Pokagon Hartford Area Revenue Sharing Board, City received \$102,055.94 revenue funds were lower this year compared to last year; Wastewater Treatment Plant, Operator Tom Strand is retiring, after 15 years of service, effective November 15, 2022; 1 & 5 West Main Street Development & Stabilization, VBC Treasurer & Land Bank are working on funding to correct concerns & stabilize the building; City Manager's Job Posting, posted on Michigan Municipal Leagues website, two applications have been received; Interlocal Fire Agreement Arbitration Update, Council has selected John Allen & he has started the next steps in the process.

Approval of Commission Minutes:

Motion by Commissioner Dockter, supported by Commissioner Beltran, to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2022 business meeting of the Hartford City Commission, as presented and place them on file.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Approval of Reports:

Motion by Commissioner Sullivan, supported by Commissioner Beltran, to accept the September, 2022 departmental reports as presented and place them on file.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Goals/Objectives:

- Funding source has come available for water improvement, lead line replacement. The notice of intent is due by November 1st.

Old Business:

- Commissioner Dockter, chairman of the Loan Closet. Transferred The Loan Closet Monies \$10,000, from Huntington Bank to an Honor CD at 3.25%. Loan Closet is doing well and helps a lot of residents.

New Business:

- City Manager's Resignation & Appoint A Committee –

Motion by Commissioner Dockter, supported by Commissioner Beltran, to accept the City Manager, Yemi Akinwale's resignation effective December 31, 2022.

Motion carried 6 – 0

- Appoint City Manager Search Committee

Mayor Hall appointed Himself, Commissioner Miller, & Commissioner Beltran as the Committee to review applications. Applications will be accepted until November 11th at 4pm. The Committee will meet the week of the 14th to review the applications. If after interviews there is not a successful candidate the position will be re-posted.

Resolutions, Ordinance, Proclamation's:

- Resolution 2022 – 018 Resolution 2022 – 018 to Authorize Issuance of Sanitary Sewer System Junior Lien Revenue Bonds, Series 2022B

Motion by Commissioner Sullivan, supported by Commissioner Beltran, to adopt resolution 2022 – 018 to authorize issuance of sanitary sewer system junior lien revenue bonds series 2022B.

Motion carried 6 – 0

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- Resolution 2022 – 019 Resolution 2022 – 018 to Authorize Issuance of Sanitary Sewer System Junior Lien Revenue Bonds, Series 2022B

Motion by Commissioner Miller, supported by Commissioner Beltran, to adopt resolution 2022 – 019 establishing & adopting the capitalization value a depreciation method & estimated useful life of fixed assets.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Adjournment:

Motion by Commissioner Dockter, supported by Commissioner Beltran, to adjourn the meeting at 8:18pm.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Respectfully Submitted,

RoxAnn Rodney-Isbrecht, City Clerk