

**CITY OF HARTFORD
PROPOSED BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
MAY 24, 2021**

Commissioners Present: Frank Dockter; Dennis Goss; Richard A. Hall; John Miller; Helen Sullivan; Terry Tibbs;

Members Absent: Ron Burleson;

Staff Present: Akinwale; Rodney-Isbrecht, Staunton

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

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Motion by Commissioner Dockter, supported by Commissioner Tibbs, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Motion by Commissioner Miller, supported by Commissioner Tibbs, to recess the business meeting of the Hartford City Commission to hold a public hearing on the State Revolving Loan Fund.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Public Hearing: Michigan Department of the Environment Great Lakes and Energy State Revolving Fund Project Plan for the City of Hartford Wastewater Collection Plan:

Ashley Powers & Mickey Bittner, Wightman's, presentation on the needs of the sewer system exposed by the SAW grant and prioritized the need to repair or replace the critical infrastructure. Some of the system is beginning to fail, no action is not a solution to resolve the problems. Applying for a loan through the SRF program as a disadvantaged community, the City may be eligible for principal loan forgiveness based on the City's eligibility. User fees may need to increase up to 38% increase to repay the 30-year loan. The waste water treatment plant recommend upgrades are a cost of \$456,800 in projects. The collection system recommended lining & replacement of lines at a cost of \$2,484,600.00. The total project financing budget is \$3,949,000. A detailed transcript of the public hearing is available in the Clerk's office and is required as part of the application package.

Motion by Commissioner Tibbs, supported by Commissioner Miller, to close the public hearing and resume the business meeting of the Hartford City Commission.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Motion by Commissioner Miller, supported by Commissioner Goss, to recess the business meeting of the Hartford City Commission to hold a public hearing on a CDBG Application for Clark & Linden Street Improvement Project.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Public Hearing – CDBG Application Clark & Linden Street Improvement Project:

This project was going to be included in the SRF loan program but this grant became available and if the application is approved this project can be taken out of the loan application. Due to the emergency nature of this system failure, it was decided to apply for this program to make the necessary upgrades to the system. This program offers some flexibility to make the necessary repairs plus allow for other necessary upgrades in the area. The program will fund water, road reconstruction, sewer, storm system, sidewalks, and curb & gutter. The total project is at a cost of \$2,155,750.00. The grant application request is \$1,835,900.00 with the City's match of \$318,950.00. The project application is also asking MEDC for lead service line replacement in the house and the project has budgeted funds to replace lines if they are found. This application is due May 31st awards will be made on or about June 15th.

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Motion by Commissioner Dockter, supported by Commissioner Miller, close the public hearing and resume the business meeting of the Hartford City Commission.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Motion by Commissioner Tibbs, supported by Commissioner Miller, to recess the business meeting of the Hartford City Commission to hold a public hearing on the 2021/2022 Budget

Motion carried 6 – 0

Public Hearing – 2021/2022 Budget:

The budget will be starting with a fund balance of \$703,287.00. Revenue has been budgeted at \$1,285,465.00. The American rescue plan act is a two-year program that will impact the City's revenue but the rules of how to spend it have not been released. General fund expenditures have been budgeted at \$1,387,573.00. The City Manager will be happy to answer any questions the Council may have.

Motion by Commissioner Dockter, supported by Commissioner Miller, close the public hearing and resume the business meeting of the Hartford City Commission.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Guests: None

Public Comment: None

Communications:

- Notice from Hartford Public Schools Superintendent Search
- Mayor & Council Nominating Petition Forms Available in the Clerk's Office Due July 20, 2021 to have name placed on the November 2, 2021 ballot.
- Memorial Day Service & Parade – the American Legion did not plan to have service or parade.

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

- A. **Police & Ordinance** – Jim Coleman has retired as Ordinance Officer; the City Manager is posting the position internally first. City Manager: Officers on duty will be doing ordinance enforcement in the interim.
- B. **Fire Dept** – No Representative
- C. **Ambulance** – No discussion
- D. **Van Buren County** – Veteran's service officer resigned; St Joseph County is taking care of the phone calls & emails until someone is hired; Van Buren Public Transportation is offering rides for veterans for free; Van Buren County Health Department offering dental program for veterans. Email domains for county are changing. Current County administrator has moved to oversee the Palisades Nuclear Plant closing. Frank Hollister will be the new county administrator.
- E. **Public Works** – No discussion
- F. **Wastewater Treatment Plant** – No discussion
- G. **Treasurers, Investment & List of Bills** – No discussion
- H. **City Manager** – Michigan Department of Transportation: Transportation Economic Development Fund, Category F Transportation Grant; Consolidation & Contamination Risk Reeducation (C2R2) PFAS Grant; 2021 Community Development Block Grant Water Related Infrastructure (WRI) Grant Application

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Approval of Commission Minutes:

Motion by Commissioner Tibbs, supported by Commissioner Miller, to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2021 business meeting of the Hartford City Commission, as presented and place them on file.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Motion by Commissioner Dockter, supported by Commissioner Miller, to approve the minutes of the May 6, 2021 special meeting of the Hartford City Commission as presented and place them on file.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Approval of Reports:

Motion by Commissioner Dockter, supported by Commissioner Miller, to accept the April 2021 departmental reports as presented and place them on file.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Goals/Objectives:

- D1 - Drinking Water Asset Management Project – Identifying Lead Lines

Old Business:

- Commissioner Tibbs feels that the public works department & police department worked during COVID and needs to be compensated.

New Business:

Motion by Commissioner Goss, supported by Commissioner Miller, to approve Med Leaf permit renewal for a commercial adult use recreational marihuana facility provisioning/retail center.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Resolutions, Ordinance, Proclamation's:

Motion by Commissioner Dockter, supported by Commissioner Miller, to adopt Resolution 2021-005 setting the Tax Millage Rate

Motion carried 6 – 0

Motion by Commissioner Tibbs, supported by Commissioner Miller, to adopt Resolution 2021-006 adopting the 2021/2022 Budget

Motion carried 6 – 0

Motion by Commissioner Tibbs, supported by Commissioner Goss to adopt Resolution 2021-007 CDBG Grant Linden & Clark Street Infrastructure Project.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Adjournment:

Motion by Commissioner Dockter, supported by Commissioner Goss, to adjourn the meeting at 9:03pm.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Respectfully Submitted,

RoxAnn Rodney-Isbrecht, City Clerk