

CITY OF HARTFORD
PROPOSED BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 26, 2021

Commissioners Present: Ron Burleson; Frank Dockter; Richard A. Hall; Helen Sullivan; Terry Tibbs;
Members Absent: Dennis Goss; John Miller;
Staff Present: Akinwale; Rodney-Isbrecht

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 5 – 0

Guests: None

Public Comment: None

Communications:

- Van Buren County Senior Services Newsletter
- Clerk's Office Open Saturday, May 1, 2021 8:30am-4:30pm for Voter Registration & Absentee Voting
- Election May 4, 2021 Polls open 7am – 8pm @ the Vanderlyn Community Center/Library
- City Wide Large Junk Pickup April 28, 2021
- Brush Pickup Week of May 3-7, 2021
- Leaves Pickup Week of May 10-14, 2021
- No Permit Needed Rummage Sale Weekend May 20-22, 2021
- Water Shut off Moratorium was not renewed by the State, the City will resume water shut off policy for past due collection.

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

- A. **Police & Ordinance** – Discussion: Blight Ordinance, Repeat Offenders are becoming a problem again especially the property on Marion Ave/Prospect Street.
- B. **Fire Dept** – No representative, discussed resuming representation now that some of the COVID restrictions have been lifted.
- C. **Ambulance** – Bill Mears, National EMS & EMT Shortage, sent 5 students to Paramedic School in Indiana, should have 9 new paramedic's this year. Offering a free EMT class if approved by the State. Mr. Mears became certified Paramedic and is also taking shifts to fill in. Paramedic's and EMT wages have increased due to the shortage and agencies are competing for qualified employees. With additional staff they will be able to add an additional two vehicles. They are always working to improve the system. Response times are still below the average for a rural community. Commissioner Sullivan expressed concern that the City was not getting the coverage Pride Care promised. Pride Care is relying on mutual aid to do the best they can. He expressed appreciation for the service of the First Responders of the Hartford Fire Department.
- D. **Van Buren County** – Commissioner Mike Chappell, the board approved the medical examiners service through Western Michigan University; renewed agreement to house Federal Prisoners; approved treasurer request of up to 7million dollars for the 2020 delinquent tax revolving loan fund, approved 2022 transit budget; veteran's medical transportation available.
- E. **Public Works** – Discussion on large junk pick up.
- F. **Wastewater Treatment Plant** – Meeting with Matt from Wightman's, the WWTP staff will be following the recommendations to bring the UV lighting system back online.

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G. **Treasurers, Investment & List of Bills** – No Discussion

H. **City Manager** – Drinking Water Asset Management Grant Application; Wastewater Treatment Plant UV Light Update; 5 West Main Street Update; Contamination & Contamination Risk Reduction Grant (C2R2), the State has approved it but at a reduced amount, the City is waiting on final approval. Commissioner Tibbs requested information on the latest Federal Stimulus monies but the City is waiting on instructions on what spending is allowed.

Approval of Commission Minutes:

Motion by Commissioner Dockter, supported by Commissioner Burleson, to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2021 business meeting of the Hartford City Commission, as presented and place them on file.
Motion carried 5 – 0

Motion by Commissioner Tibbs, supported by Commissioner Burleson, to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2021 special meeting of the Hartford City Commission as presented and place them on file.
Motion carried 5 – 0

Approval of Reports:

Motion by Commissioner Dockter, supported by Commissioner Tibbs, to accept the March 2021 departmental reports as presented and place them on file.
Motion carried 5 – 0

Goals/Objectives:

- 2021/2022 Budget,
- Category F Grant for East Main reconstruction from Center St to Olds Ave requiring a 20% match.

Old Business:

Commissioner Dockter requested the status of development:

- Marion Ave property grow facility, the property owner is working towards state licensing & renovation of the building.
- Prospect Property micro grow is waiting on occupancy approval to complete their state license.

New Business:

Discussion: Budget 2021/2022 – Presented a Draft Budget, waiting on Millage Rate from the County's Equalization Department. Discussion on employee training and flower box planting along downtown area.

Motion by Commissioner Tibbs, supported by Commissioner Burleson, to set a Public Hearing for State Revolving Loan Fund for May 24, 2021 at 7:30pm
Motion carried 5 – 0

Motion by Commissioner Tibbs, supported by Commissioner Dockter, to set a Public Hearing for CDBG Application – Clark & Linden Street Improvement Project for May 24, 2021 at 7:45pm.
Motion carried 5 – 0

Motion by Commissioner Tibbs supported by Commissioner Dockter, to set a Special Meeting to set the 2021 Millage Rate for May 6, 2021 at 6:00pm.
Motion carried 5 – 0

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Motion by Commissioner Tibbs supported by Commissioner Dockter, to set a Public Hearing for 2021 Truth in Taxation for May 20, 2021 at 6:00pm.

Motion carried 5 – 0

Motion by Commissioner Dockter supported by Commissioner Burleson, to set a Public Hearing for 2021/2022 Budget for May 24, 2021 at 8:00pm.

Motion carried 5 – 0

Resolutions, Ordinance, Proclamation's: None

Adjournment:

Motion by Commissioner Dockter, supported by Commissioner Burleson, to adjourn the meeting at 8:32pm.

Motion carried 5 – 0

Respectfully Submitted,

RoxAnn Rodney-Isbrecht, City Clerk