



City of Hartford * County of Van Buren * State of Michigan

TO: Mayor Hall and the Hartford Commission

FROM: Nicol Brown, City Manager 

DATE: February 24, 2025

RE: APPOINTMENT OF BUILDING OFFICIAL

ITEM BEFORE THE COMMISSION:

The item before the Commission is to approve the appointment of Randall Aldering as the city of Hartford's building official.

DISCUSSION:

The city, residents, and contractors have not been satisfied with Safebuilt's services. The city has received multiple complaints from contractors, residents, and our elected officials regarding Safebuilt's services. The city has challenges with Safebuilt's billing and receiving the 10% administrative fees. The city manager sent Safebuilt a 90-day notice that the city is discontinuing its contract as of March 23, 2025.

The city manager met with multiple building inspectors; unfortunately, we could not contract with any inspectors who worked for Safebuilt for six months, limiting the city's choices of building inspectors. RoxAnn and I met with Randall Aldering, a building official for Bangor Township and Bloomingdale. I received outstanding reviews on Mr. Aldering. We have negotiated that the inspector will receive 70% of the fees invoiced, with the city retaining 30% to maintain building department records and provide administrative and management support.

The city shall receive fees directly from applicants or residents for the building department activity.

RECOMMENDATION:

The City of Hartford City Commission approves Randall Aldering's appointment as the city's building official. Adopt the new fee schedule for the building department, and Mr. Aldering will receive 70% of the building fees invoiced. The approval is contingent upon the completion and execution of the professional service agreement.