

CITY OF HARTFORD
PROPOSED SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 6, 2025

Commissioners Present: Peter Aranda; Jane Danger; John Miller; Lindsay Morsaw; Nancy Spoula; and Mayor Richard A. Hall;

Commissioners Absent: Charles Weeden

Staff Present: Pulluam (formally Brown); Rodney-Isbrecht;

Members of the Township Board & Fire Board were present.

Mayor Richard A. Hall called the special meeting to order at 7:00pm.at the Hartford Fire Station located at 436 East Main Street.

New Business:

- Discuss & Consider – Presentation of Future Apparatus Needs & Fleet Composition of the Hartford Fire Department.

Assistant Chief McGrew gave a power point presentation on the current fire department equipment & cost to maintain that equipment. The Fire Board is proposing to sell the ladder truck which has a life expectancy of 25 years (2033) and estimated replacement cost of \$2.2 million. Maintenance costs are approximately \$4,000 per/year & will require tire replacement in 2026 at an approximate cost of \$10,000. Current millage rate will not support the cost to replace the ladder truck. There is high demand for used fire trucks, potentially recouping 50-85% of the original purchase price. Insurance Services Office (ISO) play a role in assessing the capabilities of fire departments and impacts homeowners' insurance rates. Not having a ladder truck can affect the overall rating of four (4) the fire department receives but potentially could be increased in other areas. The Fire Board is also recommending the sale of the SUV used for medical runs as it has reached its life expectancy of 15 years, needing replacement in 2025. This vehicle is the most used in the fleet, responding to all medical calls & vehicle accidents, averaging 2000 miles per/year.

- Discuss & Consider – Purchase of a Mini Pumper Fire Truck

The Fire Board is proposing the purchase of a 2024 mini-pumper fire truck for \$380,000, offered by Lake Township Fire Department. The cost to outfit with graphics, radio, and direct hose/pump mount will be approximately \$5,000. The mini-pumper will be used for medical calls & fire runs, replacing the ladder truck & SUV. There are other mutual aid agreement departments with-in a 20-mile radius that have ladder trucks, decreasing the need for HFD to have a ladder truck. The advantages of a mini-pumper to the department, better maneuverability than the ladder truck, decrease overall equipment and maintenance/testing costs.

Motion by Commissioner Miller, supported by Commissioner Spoula, to accept the Fire Boards recommendation to purchase the mini-pumper with millage funds and sell the ladder truck & SUV.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Adjournment:

Motion by Commissioner Miller, supported by Commissioner Morsaw, to adjourn the meeting at 8:10pm.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Respectfully Submitted,

RoxAnn Rodney-Isbrecht, City Clerk

County of Van Buren, State of Michigan, 19 West Main St, Hartford, MI 49057