

CITY OF HARTFORD
PROPOSED BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 26, 2020

Commissioners Present: Ron Burleson; Frank Dockter; Dennis Goss; Richard A. Hall; John Miller; Helen Sullivan; Terry Tibbs;
Members Absent: None
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 7 – 0

Guests:

- Abby Bristol, Van Buren Conservation District, gave a presentation on the proposed Native Prairie Garden at the Hartford Public Library. A lawn is different than a managed prairie garden. James Jonatzke, Library Board President is visioning the garden will be an educational piece and is seeking a variance in order to be in compliance with the City's noxious weed ordinance.

Public Comment:

- Judy Loomis, proposal on decorating City Hall and downtown planters for the Holiday Season.

Communications:

- Leaf pick up will begin October 26 through bad weather
- November 3 General Election, Polls Open 7am-8pm at the Vanderlyn Community Center
- The Clerk's Office will be open October 31, 8:30am-4:30pm to issue/receive absent voter ballots & voter registrations.
- Mayor & Commissioners expressed that residents who choose to participate in Trick or Treating use caution and should follow CDC & Health Department guidelines on COVID-19 safeguards.
- Van Buren/Cass District Health Department announced Drive –Thru Flu Clinics on October 27 in Paw Paw & October 30 in Lawrence.

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

- Police & Ordinance** – Ordinance enforcement - on Marion Ave, more junk is piling up.
- Fire Dept** – No representative, Firefighters received \$1,000 first responder's stipend for working through COVID. Commissioner Tibbs feels City Police Officers receive something for working during the pandemic.
- Ambulance** – No representative, Commissioner Sullivan is not happy with the response times of priority one calls. Mayor Hall suggested she call Bill Mears for an explanation.
- Van Buren County** – Commissioner Chappell, approved equalization service contract, master plan approved.
- Public Works** – After paving of Hilliard Street it is ponding worse in several areas.
- Wastewater Treatment Plant** – next meeting with Wightman's has not been set.
- Treasurers, Investment & List of Bills** – complaint on railroad crossing maintenance payments.
- City Manager** – Pokagon Hartford Area Revenue Sharing Board; Demolition of Blighted Tax Reverted Properties; Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CFSF): 2019/2020 Audit; City Property Sale.

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Approval of Commission Minutes:

Motion by Commissioner Sullivan, supported by Commissioner Miller, to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2020 business meeting of the Hartford City Commission as presented and place them on file.

Motion carried 7 – 0

Approval of Reports:

Motion by Commissioner Dockter, supported by Commissioner Sullivan, to accept the September 2020 departmental reports as presented and place them on file.

Motion carried 7 – 0

Goals/Objectives:

- Upgrading the City's Website with Municode
- Complete the contracted water connections along Red Arrow Hwy

Old Business:

New Business:

Motion by Commissioner Miller, supported by Commissioner Burleson, to acknowledge the Hartford Public Library plan to landscape a native prairie garden.

Motion carried 7 – 0

Motion by Commissioner Burleson, supported by Commissioner Tibbs, to accept grant funds from Center for Tech & Civic Life for the purpose of planning and operationalizing safe & secure election administration in the amount of \$5,000.00

Motion carried 6 – 1(Sullivan)

Motion by Commissioner Tibbs, supported by Commissioner Dockter, to accept grant funds for Corona Virus Supplemental Funding by Michigan State Police in the amount of \$4,488.00

Motion carried 7 – 0

Motion by Commissioner Sullivan, supported by Commissioner Miller, to renew Med Leaf, LLC Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility License at 301 West Main St.

Motion carried 6 – 1(Tibbs)

Resolutions, Ordinance, Proclamation's:

Motion by Commissioner Miller, supported by Commissioner Burleson, to adopt Resolution 2020- 015, Sale of City Property Hillsborough St, Parcel #80-52-816-045-00 in the amount of \$75,000.00.

Motion carried 7 – 0

Motion by Commissioner Dockter, supported by Commissioner Sullivan, to adjourn the meeting at 8:47pm.

Motion carried 7 – 0

Respectfully Submitted,

RoxAnn Rodney-Isbrecht, City Clerk