



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

TO: Mayor Hall and the Hartford Commission

FROM: Nicol Brown, City Manager

DATE: July 22, 2024

RE: Right of Way at the end of Reynolds Street

ITEM BEFORE THE COMMISSION:

The item before the Commission is not to vacate the right of way at the end of Reynolds Street.

DISCUSSION:

The city manager received two requests from two property owners at 211 Church Street and 302 Spaulding Street. The owner, located at the corner of Church and Reynolds Street, has been maintaining the Right of Way because it's located in front of his home, and he has been using the portion of the Right of Way as his driveway. The law states the city can vacate its right of way to the owners on each side, split 50/50 down the center line. The land could be offered to the property owner at 211 Church Street and Hartford Public Schools, the property owner on the other side of the city's right of way. If it were vacated, the City could not offer the property owner at 302 Spaulding Street access to the right of right.

The property owner at 211 Church Street should stop maintaining the right of way at the East end of Reynold's Street and allow the City to maintain its right of way. I have sought guidance from the City Attorney on this matter.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Hartford City Commission does not vacate Reynolds Road at the Right of Way at the East end of Reynolds Street (Reynolds Addition) because only one property owner requesting the city to vacate the right of way would benefit.