

CITY OF HARTFORD
PROPOSED BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
JULY 26, 2021

Commissioners Present: Ron Bureson; Frank Dockter; Richard A. Hall; John Miller; Helen Sullivan; Terry Tibbs;

Members Absent: Dennis Goss;

Staff Present: Akinwale; Rodney-Isbrecht, Shultz

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 Miller, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Guests: Mickey Bittner, Wightman's, Update on:

- Wendell Ave, paving scheduled by August 20th, final project completion is by September 30, 2021, pay estimates to be approved are on the agenda.
- Prospect Street Construction Project, waiting on flaggers from the railroad, the Contractor has filed a claim for extension of completion date.
- DWAM, Dirking Water Asset Management Grant, acquired list of water customers, ran random selection choosing 20% for investigation, preparing RFP for bid. Rates will have to be raised in order to pay for the replacement of lead water lines.
- PFAS 100% State Grant awarded, Hartford Township – extension of the City's water service to township residents identified by EGLE with in the contaminated area. Railroad Crossing permits will be applied for right away because it takes the most time. Survey work has been started. Communication with residents is part of this project as it is partially on private property with connections to the homeowner service and plugging of their wells. Before the project can move forward there must be 50% of identified residents agreeing to water main connections.
- CDBG Clark & Linden Street improvements meeting kick off next Wednesday. Bid let 2022; RFP for grant administration, a requirement by MEDC. Engineering Services, contingent on MEDC approval. Once approved, there are many requirements, RFP for environmental and contractor's review per/agreement.
- SRF Application for Sewer Project, submitted project plan, the City qualifies as a disadvantaged community.

Public Comment: None

Communications:

- November 2, 2021 Election – Candidate Filings, two filed for mayor seat, two filed for commission seats leaving one seat vacant. Deadline for write-in candidates is October 22, 2021 at 4pm.
- Hartford Area Chamber of Commerce – Summer Newsletter, After Hours Event on August 19, 6pm at Vibrant Healing, 30 West Main St.
- Van Buren County 911 Service Plan Update for review.
- Van Buren County Senior Services, newsletter and update, if the Council would like to tour the new South Haven facility, please let Commissioner Tibbs know so that arrangements can be made.
- Van Buren County Historical Society & Poorhouse Museum is having an Ice Cream Social and free tour of the museum on August 22, 2021 from 1:00pm – 5:00pm.
- City Manager wanted to thank Commissioner Chappell for sending information on a grant for police officers body cameras, however there was not enough time to submit a grant before the deadline.

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

- A. **Police & Ordinance** – Chief on medical leave.
- B. **Fire Dept** – Chief Harting, Van Buren County Youth Fair went well, 26 Calls in the City for the month of July, passed annual ladder testing, Pride Care is all caught up on payments to the department, new truck will be in Indianapolis August 2 for the National Fire Show; Open House is planned possibly in October before the Pancake Breakfast. Assistant Chief McGrew passed his EMT test.
- C. **Ambulance** – No representative, report filed.
- D. **Van Buren County** – Commissioner Mike Chappell, new core generating plant, fighting on taxable value through the tax tribune since 2017. They have sold the plant for 810 million dollars transfer to Consumers Energy so this should help settle the dispute on value; Dispatch & Sherriff's Department approved payments for equipment; advisory panel mitigate the closing of Palisades Plant includes community members and commissioners.
- E. **Public Works** – Superintendent excused, Sewer Backup on East Main; 410 feet of sewer line on Wendell emergency collapse, repair is complete.
- F. **Wastewater Treatment Plant** – a contractor tore up the asphalt, they will repair.
- G. **Treasurers, Investment & List of Bills** – discussion on Nyler payment for Christmas Decorations
- H. **City Manager** – 5 West Main St, and lot at 1 W Main St once the lot is obtained by the County Treasurer the land bank is interested in combining the two properties; Water Related Infrastructure; Site Plan Review 210 W Main Street; State Revolving Loan Fund Update; C2R2/PFAS Grant; American Rescue Plan Act;

Approval of Commission Minutes:

Motion by Commissioner Miller, supported by Commissioner Tibbs, to approve the minutes of the June 28, 2021 business meeting of the Hartford City Commission, as presented and place them on file.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Approval of Reports:

Motion by Commissioner Tibbs, supported by Commissioner Dockter, to accept the June 2021 departmental reports as presented and place them on file.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Goals/Objectives:

- Category F Transportation Grant for East Main Street Project

Old Business:

- Site Plan Approval – 261 Heywood St – Variance – Nonconforming lot – property owner has not responded to the letter the City Manager sent. Questionable water/sewer line placements and where they would need to be connected to the main service line. Commission's requested additional information before a decision can be made.

New Business:

- TCF Communication – Discussion – Notice has been received that Huntington Bank has bought TCF and will be closing the Hartford branch in October. A decision will need to be made to continue business and leave City monies at TCF/Huntington or move the monies to another bank.
- Hartford Township – Hartford Recreation Council Communication – Discussion, the Township has submitted its intent to withdraw from the Recreation Council next year as required the current agreement. It was noted by the Mayor the Recreation Council has taken over the elementary school age

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basketball program, cheer, and rocket football programs. The majority of children served are in the Township.

- Wendell Ave Improvement Payment Application 1 - \$128,316.20

Motion by Commissioner Tibbs, supported by Commissioner Miller, to approve pay request no. 1 to Krohn Excavating in the amount of \$128,316.20 for the Wendell Ave Improvements.

Motion carried 6 – 0

- Wendell Ave Improvement Payment Application 2 - \$53,003.05

Motion by Commissioner Miller, supported by Commissioner Tibbs, to approve pay request no. 2 to Krohn Excavating in the amount of \$53,003.05.

Motion carried 6 – 0

- State Revolving Loan Fund – WWTP Improvements – Engineering Agreement

Motion by Commissioner Tibbs, supported by Commissioner Dockter, to accept Wightman’s engineering proposal for the State Revolving Fund Wastewater System Improvements Project as presented.

Motion carried 6 – 0

- Linden & Clark Project CDBG Engineering Agreement

Motion by Commissioner Miller, supported by Commissioner Dockter, to accept Wightman’s engineering proposal for the Linden/Clark Streets Improvement Project, Spaulding Street to Olds Avenue as presented contingent on MEDC’s approval.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Resolutions, Ordinance, Proclamation’s: None

Adjournment:

Motion by Commissioner Dockter, supported by Commissioner Miller, to adjourn the meeting at 8:51pm.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Respectfully Submitted,

RoxAnn Rodney-Isbrecht, City Clerk