

CITY OF HARTFORD  
PROPOSED BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES  
AUGUST 25, 2025

Commissioners Present: Peter Aranda; Jane Danger; John Miller; Lindsay Morsaw; Nancy Spoula; Mayor Richard A. Hall  
Commissions Absent: Charles Weeden  
Staff Present: Matthews; Clark, Pulluam (formerly Brown); Rodney-Isbrecht;

Mayor Hall called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Motion by Commissioner Spoula, supported by Commissioner Aranda, to approve the agenda as amended to include setting a date for joint meeting to discuss the fire interlocal agreement.

Motion carried 6 – 0

**Guests:**

- Stephanie Daniels, Hartford Public Library – Fall Programs Update, Fall Festival & Christmas in Hartford on December 6.
- Terry Tibbs, Van Buren Senior Services – Provided Information on Upcoming Programs & Services
- Mickey Bittner, Wightman - Updates on projects, Drinking Water Asset Management (DWAM); 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue Sidewalk Extension; Water System Improvements; W. Main Street Improvements – Center Street to West City Limits

**Public Comment:**

- Dan Evert – Concerns on Retirement Flag Etiquette
- Kristen Dixon, Benton Hartford – Concerns on the placement of the Eagle Scout Flag Burning Project
- Jan Kelly, Hartford – Concerns on the placement of the Eagle Scout Flag Retirement Project
- Dan Danger, Hartford – Concerns on the placement of the Eagle Scout Flag Retirement Project

**Communications:**

- Labor Day, September 1, 2025 City Hall Closed in Observance of Labor Day
- Notice of Public Hearing, Consumers Energy on September 9, 9am MPSC
- Comcast Programing Change Advisory

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

- Van Buren Conservation District – July Program Updates
- A. **Police & Ordinance** – Chief Brian Matthews, report on file, Video Camera System Updates; Working with groups for festival coordination; Short Staffed; Blight Process; Policy Manual Updates; Training; No Active Reserve Program Due to Staffing;
- B. **Fire Department** – no representative, report on file; mini-pumper was not purchased
- C. **Ambulance** – report on file
- D. **Van Buren County** – no representative
- E. **Public Works** – Ricky Ricks Supervisor, report on file, new employee
- F. **Iron Removal Plant** – Quinton Clark, report on file, working on water quality
- G. **Wastewater Treatment Plant** –Quinton Clark, report on file, working on IPP compliance
- H. **Treasurers, Investment & List of Bills** – List of Bills \$
- I. **City Manager** –report on file – Center & Main Street; Met with Eric Blocker and the Hartford Legion on the placement of flag retirement project; Audit; BSA Conversion & Training; Spark Grant; Master Plan; DPW staff changes; Surf Internet; Casey’s, work has begun, Mayor requested a groundbreaking ceremony.

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**Approval of Commission Minutes:**

Motion by Commissioner Morsaw, supported by Commissioner Miller, to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2025 business meeting of the Hartford City Commission, as presented and place them on file.

Motion carried 6 - 0

Motion by Commissioner Danger, supported by Commissioner Aranda, to approve the minutes of the August 6, 2025 special joint fire business meeting of the Hartford City Commission, as presented and place them on file.

Motion carried 6 - 0

**Approval of Reports:**

Motion by Commissioner Spoula, supported by Commissioner Miller, to approve the August 25, 2025, 2024/2025 list of bills in the amount of \$5,238.06.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Motion by Commissioner Spoula, supported by Commissioner Miller, to approve the August 25, 2025 2025/2026 list of bills in the amount of \$243,475.52.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Motion by Commissioner Danger, supported by Commissioner Aranda, to accept the July 2025 reports of Officers, Boards & Committees and place them on file.

Motion carried 6 – 0

**Goals/Objectives:**

- City Manager submitted updated 2025/2026 goals.

**Old Business:** None Discussed

**New Business:**

- Discuss & Consider – Design Engineering Agreement for the Water Related Infrastructure (WRI) Project.  
Discussion: Recommended approval for engineering services not to exceed \$418,000.00.
- Discuss & Consider – Council Set Special Meeting Date – Week of September 8, West Main Street Project Awards; Pending Litigation; Interlocal Agreement Discussion  
Discussion: September 8, 2025 at 3:30 to award contracts for the WRI project; September 8, 2025 at 4pm to consider pending litigation closed session; Committee of Miller & Hal, meeting for interlocal fire agreement, committee will reach out to Township representatives to set a date to meet.
- Discuss & Consider – Field Monitoring Equipment Purchase  
Discussion: Current equipment has exceeded its useful life, and needed to be in compliance with EGLE requirements. Recommended the approval for the purchase of the Hach DR 1900 for \$5,408.09.
- Discuss & Consider – WWTP – Replacement of Sludge Valves & Purchase of DR 3900 Spectrophotometer  
Discussion Recommended the approval for the purchase of the Hach DR 3900 Spectrophotometer for \$6,845.70.

**Resolutions, Ordinance, Proclamation's:**

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

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- Discuss & Consider – Proposed Ordinance no. 345 – 2025 Amending General Provisions Chapter 130 Prohibit Camping on Public Property – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading  
Discussion: adopting the ordinance will assist with enforcement on public property

Motion by Commissioner Miller, supported by Commissioner Spoula, to adopt Ordinance no. 345 - 2025, amending General Provisions Chapter 130 Prohibiting Camping on Public Property.

Motion carried 6 – 0

- Discuss & Consider - Resolution 2025 – 059 – Building Permit Fee Schedule

Motion by Commissioner Miller, supported by Commissioner Spoula, to adopt Resolution 2025 – 059, Adopting Building Permit Fee Schedule as recommended.

Motion carried 6 – 0

- Discuss & Consider – Resolution 2025 – 060 – Design Engineering Agreement for WRI Project

Motion by Commissioner Miller, supported by Commissioner Aranda, to adopt Resolution 2025 – 060, awarding the water related infrastructure grant project engineering agreement to Wightman's in the amount not to exceed \$418,000 and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement.

Motion carried 6 – 0

- Discuss & Consider – Resolution 2025 – 061 – WWTP Equipment Purchase

Motion by Commissioner Danger, supported by Commissioner Morsaw, to adopt Resolution 2025 – 061, approving the purchase of WWTP equipment Hach DR 3900 Spectrophotometer from USA Blue Book in the amount of \$6,872.75 and replacement of Four (4) gravity wasting valves in the sludge pits from IAI Mechanical Services in the amount of \$5,488.00.

Motion carried 6 – 0

- Discuss & Consider – Resolution 2025 – 062 – Purchase of Field Monitoring Equipment.

Motion by Commissioner Danger, supported by Commissioner Aranda, to adopt Resolution 2025-062, approving the purchase of field monitoring equipment Hach DR 1900 from USA Blue Book in the amount of \$5,408.09.

Motion carried 6 – 0

**Adjournment:**

Motion by Commissioner Miller, supported by Commissioner Morsaw, to adjourn the meeting at 7:08pm.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Respectfully Submitted,

RoxAnn Rodney-Isbrecht, City Clerk