

**City of Hartford
Planning Commission Meeting
September 8, 2025 Proposed Minutes**

Call to Order:

T. Kling, Chairman called the Planning Commission regular meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Members Present:

Steve Ackerman, Dan Danger, Gage Gardner, Jenine Kling, Tim Kling, Adolfo Morales

Members Absent: Joseph Lehnert

Staff Present: Nicol Pulluam (formally Brown),

Guests Present: Alfonso Espinosa – General Contractor for 302 West Main Street

Approval of the Agenda:

Motion by Gardner, supported by Danger, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried, 6 – 0

Public Comments:

- Gage Gardner suggested a historic district, he had seen Vicksburg's historic district and thought it would add something to Hartford.
- City Manager gave an update on current City projects.

Approval of Commission Minutes:

Motion by Ackerman, supported by Gardner, to approve the August 11, 2025 minutes.

Motion carried, 6 – 0

New Business:

- Discuss & Consider – Site Plan Review - 302 West Main Street
Discussion: Mckenna gave a recommendation that the proposed use complies with existing requirements. Alfonso Espinosa the General Contractor for 302 West Main Street was available to answer questions.

Motion by Gardner, supported by Danger, to approve the site plan for 302 West Main Street as recommended.

Motion carried, 6 – 0

- Discuss & Consider – Proposed Billboard Regulations
Discussion: Different from sign ordinance, should billboards be allowed, currently do not have an ordinance that covers billboards, size may dictate location; consensus was billboards should be out by the highway and not within the City. Discussion on what guidelines or policy would be needed for billboards vs. murals.

- Should billboards be allowed within City limits at all? If so, only on I-94, or also on Center/Main/Red Arrow? Answer: Nothing in Town, by the highway ok.
 - Should spacing or distance rules be stricter (between billboards, or from homes/schools/churches)? Answer: n/a
 - Is the proposed size (300 sq ft) and height (20 ft) appropriate, or should they be smaller/lower? Answer: Proposed size is acceptable.
 - Should illuminated or digital/LED billboards be allowed? Yes
 - Should billboard appearance (supports, landscaping, maintenance) be regulated for visual quality? Yes
 - Is the Planning Commission interested in a follow-up memo outlining the proposed signage recommendations (beyond just billboards)? Yes
- Discuss & Consider – Architectural Standards Regulations
Discussion: Look of downtown, wider sidewalks for ADA compliance. Discussed patios out in front of the businesses. Discussed Social Districts. Commission will continue to review and discuss at the next meeting.

Adjournment:

Motion by Gage supported by Adolfo to adjourn the meeting at 6:51pm
Motion carried 6 – 0

Respectfully submitted by: Jenine Kling, Secretary