

CITY OF HARTFORD
PROPOSED BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
MAY 23, 2022

Commissioners Present: Ramon Beltran; Ron Burleson; Frank Dockter; Helen Sullivan; Mayor Richard A. Hall;
Members Absent: John Miller (Excused); Terry Tibbs (Excused)
Staff Present: Akinwale; T. Beltran; Rodney-Isbrecht; Shultz; Staunton

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 Beltran, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried 5 – 0

Guests: None

Public Comment: None

Communications:

1. Van Buren Conservation District Program Updates
2. Thank you from Van Buren County Historical Society for the City's sponsorship of their programs.
3. City Hall will be Closed May 30 in Observance of Memorial Day
4. Joint Meeting Notice – Fire Board, City of Hartford Commission & Hartford Township Board May 25, 2022 7PM @ Hartford Fire Department.
5. Petitions for City Commission Board Seat Available – filing deadline is July 26, 2022 4PM
6. Hartford Chamber - Strawberry Festival June 10-12, 2022
7. Memorial Day Parade and Service May 30, 2022 in Ely Park 10:00am American Legion Post 533

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

- A. **Police & Ordinance** – Chief Beltran, New Officer Matt Kuzma has graduated academy and is working. Congratulations to Officer Kuzma. Council requesting consistency in ordinance enforcement, especially on Marion Ave. Some citations have been issued for those who have not complied with the warning. The ordinance officer has been sick the past week but will be addressing the habitual offenders when he returns to work.
- B. **Fire Dept** – Chief Harting – Presentation to pre-schools at Redwood. Purchased a boat/ motor for water rescue on the Paw Paw River with a grant, June 19th training for proper use of the boat and procedures.
- C. **Ambulance** – Bill Mears was present and provided some information of expanding services and staffing of those two trucks will be done outside of the area, these two ambulances will be in service for contracts outside of our service area.
- D. **Van Buren County** – Commissioner Chappell, not present. Wishing his family well as they are recovering from an accident.
- E. **Public Works** – Superintendent Staunton, short staffed, in need of applicants to fill position. The position has been published in the Tri-City Record, and Herald Pallidum. Van Buren County (Owner) will purchase black dirt to fill 1 West Main St lot, DPW will spread & seed the lot to make the downtown area more appealing.
- F. **Wastewater Treatment Plant** – Commission is requesting a monthly report from IAI on what has been accomplished or the changes that have been made. The City Manager will follow-up with the contractor.
- G. **Treasurers, Investment & List of Bills** – Commissioners had some complaints on the cleanliness of City Hall, the City Manager will follow-up with the those being paid to clean the building.
- H. **City Manager** –Work Force Shortage, Mayor requested the position be published on Social Media; Request from VBC Land Bank to Reduce 5 West Main Street from five units to one unit until they can

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sell the property; Linden/Clark Street Project Update, bid opening on May 25, 2022 at 10:30am; PFAS Hartford Township Water Extension Project, letters have been sent out to affected property owners; Rural Development Small Business Development Grant, the City has applied for \$99,000 for downtown street scape project, awards should be next week;

Approval of Commission Minutes:

Motion by Commissioner Dockter, supported by Commissioner Burleson, to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2022 business meeting of the Hartford City Commission, as presented and place them on file.

Motion carried 5 – 0

Approval of Reports:

Motion by Commissioner Burleson, supported by Commissioner Dockter, to accept the April, 2022 departmental reports as presented and place them on file.

Motion carried 5 – 0

Goals/Objectives:

- 2022/2023 Budget, Street Projects include Prospect Street (450 feet) & Woodside Drive (60th-School)

Old Business:

- Rezoning Request for Parcel #80-52-816-024-10 (North Center St) From R-1 Single Family Residential To CF Community Facility.
Discussion: Larry Darling, owner of property was present and asked the City Commission to table the discussion, the Church may want to withdraw their offer. The Attorney's for the City & Church have been in discussions, so waiting for a decision from the Church if they want to proceed. Mr. Darling would like to have a list of requirements on what is allowable if it were to be zoned CF or Commercial.
- Discussion – Fire Department 2022/2023 Budget, Arbitration Update: The Fire Department Operating Budget is about a 10% increase to the City over last years budget. There has not been an update or new information on Arbitration.
- City Commission Rules of Order –

Motion by Commissioner Dockter, supported by Commissioner Burleson, to approve the 2022 Commission Rules of Order.

Motion carried 5 – 0

New Business:

- Special Use Permit – 301 Bowie

Motion by Commissioner Burleson, supported by Commissioner Dockter, to approve the Special Use Permit for HSR Inc at 301 Bowie St Tax ID #80-52-256-004-20.

Motion carried 5 – 0

- Van Buren County Land Bank/Treasurer Request

Motion by Commissioner Dockter, supported by Commissioner Burleson, to approve the request from the Van Buren County Land Bank to reduce the Water/Sewer Utility Billing from Five Units to One unit at 5 West Main St.

Motion carried 5 – 0

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- Discussion – Concert/Cannabis Event –
Beach Grass Events, planning a Music & Cannibals Festival, August 26th & 27th to be held at 301 Bowie, Hartford Speedway. The Organizers were requested to fill out Exhibit A of the Special Use Permit that was approved by Council to have on file.

Resolutions, Ordinance, Proclamation's:

Resolution 2022 – 007 Establishing Tax Millage for 2022/2023

Motion by Commissioner Sullivan, supported by Commissioner Burleson, to adopt Resolution 2022 – 007 Establishing tax millage for 2022/2023.

Motion carried 5 – 0

Resolution 2022 – 008 Adopting Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Budget

Motion by Commissioner Dockter, supported by Commissioner Burleson, to adopt Resolution 2022 – 008 adopting the fiscal year 2022/2023 budget.

Motion carried 5 – 0

Adjournment:

Motion by Commissioner Burleson, supported by Commissioner Beltran, to adjourn the meeting at 8:19pm.

Motion carried 5 – 0

Respectfully Submitted,

RoxAnn Rodney-Isbrecht, City Clerk