

CITY OF HARTFORD  
PROPOSED BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 25, 2022

Commissioners Present: Ramon Beltran; Ron Burleson; Frank Dockter; Richard A. Hall; Helen Sullivan; Terry Tibbs

Members Absent: John Miller (Excused);

Staff Present: Akinwale; T. Beltran; Rodney-Isbrecht, 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 Burleson, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried 6 – 0

**Guests:** None

**Public Comment:**

1. Beach Grass Events, planning a Music & Cannibals Festival, August 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> to be held at 301 Bowie, Hartford Motor Speedway.
2. Tim Dibble, Hartford Motor Speedway, wanted to comment on the Planning & Zoning Public Hearing to rezone the property adjacent to his property. The Race Track is zoned as a Light Industrial property, which allows cannabis and has an existing cannabis business on a split property of the race track, he is worried on how the protentional development of a church on neighboring property will affect his business & future use.
3. Cressy Everett real estate representing Larry Darling property owner of adjacent property, if the sale does not go through the owner does not want the property rezoned to Community Facility.
4. John Spoula, Lions Club inquiring on what is needed to develop a trash transfer station in the City. Van Buren Conservation District does have funding available to begin this type of service. City is limited on space to have a transfer station; Township may have more space available.

**Communications:**

1. Seventh-Day Adventist Church notice of Literature Evangelists in the area – June 5 – August 10, 2022 10am-9pm.
2. HPS – Graduation Rates Published, this is good news and an asset for the Community.
3. Joint Meeting Notice – Fire Board, City of Hartford, Hartford Township, May 25, 2022 @ Hartford Fire Department at 7pm
4. Petitions for City Commission Board Seat, three (3), Available – Filing Deadline is July 26, 2022 at 4pm
5. City Wide Large Junk Pick-up April 27, 2022
6. Hartford Chamber – Strawberry Festival June 10 – 12, 2022
7. City Hall will be closed May 30, 2022 in Observance of Memorial Day
8. Van Buren Conservation District – 2021 Annual Report
9. Hartford Chamber After Hours May 16, 2022 6pm – Taqueria Y Mariscos El Primo 27 West Main St
10. Notice of Hearing Indiana Michigan Power Company May 12, 2022 at 10am Virtual.
11. Thank you for supporting the Senior Services Millage - From Senior Services Diane Rigozzi
12. National Crime Victim's Rights Week, April 24 – 20, 2022
13. Memorial Day Parade May 30, 2022 and Service in Ely Park 10:00am American Legion Post 533

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

- A. **Police & Ordinance** – Chief Beltran, Council requesting consistency in ordinance enforcement.
- B. **Fire Dept** – Chief Harting – received grants to purchase thermo-imaging cameras. Working on boat/ motor grant for water rescue on the Paw Paw River.

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- C. **Ambulance** – Bill Mears was present and provided some follow up information from last month, and mapping of vehicles when in-service.
- D. **Van Buren County** – Commissioner Chappell, hired Building & Grounds Director; Trust Fund Grant with Hartford Township & Southwest Michigan Planning Commission on a Kayak Launch Project. Approved Sale of County Property in Mattawan; Increase in wage to Marine Patrol Deputies; Approved the purchase of two properties in Paw Paw.
- E. **Public Works** – Superintendent Staunton, hydrant flushing this week.
- F. **Wastewater Treatment Plant** – recommended some changes to chemical use procedures.
- G. **Treasurers, Investment & List of Bills** – Treasurer is in training for the week.
- H. **City Manager** –Van Buren County Broad Band & Expansion Effort; Fiscal Year 2021 Adult – Use Marijuana Payment; Planning Commission’s Recommendation for Rezoning Request, things to consider when rezoning this property, a sewer lift station will be needed, and it must not conflict with current use in the surrounding area.

**Approval of Commission Minutes:**

Motion by Commissioner Sullivan, supported by Commissioner Dockter, to approve the minutes of the March 28, 2022 business meeting of the Hartford City Commission, as presented and place them on file.  
Motion carried 6 – 0

**Approval of Reports:**

Motion by Commissioner Dockter, supported by Commissioner Tibbs, to accept the March 2022 departmental reports as presented and place them on file.  
Motion carried 6 – 0

**Goals/Objectives:**

- 2022/2023 Budget

**Old Business:**

- Committee (Commissioners Beltran, Miller & Sullivan) Update – City Commission Rules of Order –  
  
Discussion: The draft was presented with the corrections recommended by the Committee, there were some additional changes/corrections suggested by the Clerk & City Manager. The Council was satisfied with the corrections. The Council will approve the final draft at the May business meeting.
- Ordinance no. 321 – 2022 Require Numbering Buildings – Council Discussion: concern regarding the Fire Department reflective signs which do not meet the requirement of the ordinance. These address signs should be considered to be supplemental to the required numbering of buildings ordinance, no action or changes were made, the Clerk was directed to publish the ordinance as read & adopted.

**New Business:**

- Renew Assessing Services Agreement

Motion by Commissioner Tibbs, supported by Commissioner Sullivan, to accept the Assessing Services agreement June 1, 2022 – May 31, 2025 with Angela Story, At a cost of 2022/2023 \$14,799.96; 2023/2024 \$15,399.96; 2024/2025 \$15,599.96.

Motion carried 6 – 0

- Rezoning Request for Parcel #80-52-816-024-10 (North Center St) From R-1 Single Family Residential To CF Community Facility.

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Motion by Commissioner Tibbs, supported by Commissioner Beltran, to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation to rezone Parcel #80-52-816-024 from R-1 Single Family Residential to CF Community Facility.

Motion failed 1 – 5 (Burluson; Dockter; Sullivan; Tibbs & Hall)

Discussion: Council would like additional information and Attorney's opinion on impact of rezoning on the adjacent properties. Council will discuss rezoning at the next Council meeting.

- Transend/PGHC, LLC 801 Prospect – Renewal MRTMA Marihuana Micro Business

Motion by Commissioner Dockter, supported by Commissioner Beltran, to approve renewal permit application for MRTMA Micro Business, Transend/PGHC, LLC operating at 801 Prospect St.

Motion carried 5 – 1 (Tibbs)

- Med Leaf, 301 West Main St – Renewal MRTMA Provisioning /Retail Center

Motion by Commissioner Burluson, supported by Commissioner Dockter, to approve renewal permit application for MRTMA Med Leaf operating at 301 West Main St.

Motion carried 4 – 2 (Beltran, Tibbs)

- Set Meeting Dates for 2022 Millage Rate, Public Hearing 2022 Truth in Taxation, and Public Hearing 2022/2023 Budget.

Motion by Commissioner Tibbs, supported by Commissioner Dockter, to call a special meeting to set the millage rate for May 5, 2022, 8am.

Motion carried 5 – 0 (Beltran out of commission room)

**Resolutions, Ordinance, Proclamation's:** None

**Adjournment:**

Motion by Commissioner Burluson, supported by Commissioner Dockter, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45pm.

Motion carried 6 – 0

Respectfully Submitted,

RoxAnn Rodney-Isbrecht, City Clerk