

CITY OF HARTFORD
WORKSHOP/REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 16, 2009

The combined workshop/regular meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Mayor Ted Johnson

Members present: Austin, Dockter, Hall, Latus, Miller, Rios, and Johnson.

Staff present: Akinwale, Rodney-Isbrecht, Gray, Staunton and Beltran

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Motion by Rios, supported by Miller to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried

Guests:

- Mickey Bittner, Wightman & Associates – met with contractor to go over the punch list on the West Main Street re-surfacing. Three valve boxes and one man hole did not meet the spec's of the contract, the contractor will address the repairs in the spring. South Parking Lot re-construction, AEP is waiting for the lights to come in so they can be installed and the gate to the refuse enclosure has to be completed. Recommends contract modification 002 for \$32,684.43 and pay estimate 004 in the amount of \$150,886.53.

Public Comment: None

Communications were:

- a. Preparing for the 2010 Census, requesting residents who spend the winter in other states to let those states know they are to be counted as Michigan residents, our future funding depends on our population numbers.
- b. Proposed Van Buren County Dog Ordinance will be voted on December 15, please submit comments to the Board of Commissioners prior to the meeting.
- c. Commissioners requested a trash receptacle ordinance; trailer storage ordinance and an amended weed control ordinance, the manager suggested the mayor appoint a committee to make a recommendation to the full council. Miller, Latus and Dockter volunteered to sit on the committee.
- d. The Hartford Lions Club will present Christmas in the Park and lighted parade on December 12 at 5:30pm.
- e. A letter was received from a local business owner regarding her frustration over the current road construction projects and felt the monies could be better spent on the local streets in need of repair. There are seven major streets within the City which is not only traveled by local community traffic but is also an emergency route therefore the City is eligible for funding to complete the projects. The City's local streets are not eligible for those same funding sources and will have to be repaired through our limited funds or a millage request to fund those repairs. A one mill request would raise \$27,000 - \$30,000 and may be a burden on the tax payers at this time. The City will continue to look for funding to address the local street repair.

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Reports submitted:

- *Police Dept Report* –
- *Department of Public Works* – council would like a cost estimate on hiring an outside source to pick up leaves vs. paying our employees overtime to pick-up extra during the fall leaf season.
- *Waste Water Treatment Plant* –
- *Treasurers & Investment Report* –
- *List of Bills* - \$225,553.17
- *City Managers Report* – proposed water improvement project for 2010 on South & Oak Streets; Energy Efficiency and Conservation block grant; South Parking Lot Reconstruction; State Shared Revenue Update; 29 West Main Street

Approval of Commission Minutes:

Motion by Dockter, supported by Latus, to approve the minutes of the OCTOBER 26, 2009 regular meeting of the Hartford City Commission as presented and place them on file.

Motion carried

Goals/Objectives:

Information has been received from the state regarding a cut to state shared revenue. This will have an impact on our current budget if the cuts take place mid-year. Information has also been received from our assessor that the inflation rate multiplier will be a negative figure for the 2010 tax year along with a reduction in property values which will also impact our budget for next year. Currently looking for ways to bridge the gap based on the information we are receiving.

Approval of Reports:

Motion by Hall, supported by Rios, to approve the OCTOBER Departmental reports as presented and place them on file.

Motion carried

Motion by Hall, supported by Miller, to approve payment of the list of bills in the amount of \$225,553.17

Motion carried

Old Business:

Dockter requested an update on WODA's request for tax exemption status, no response from them or the State has been received.

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New Business:

Motion by Hall, supported by Latus, to approve pay estimate 004 to Northern Construction Services, Corp. for work completed on the South Municipal Parking Lot Project in the amount of \$150,886.53.

Motion carried

Motion by Latus, supported by Hall, to approve contract modification 002 to the South parking Lot Construction MEDC Project no. MSC 209001-CDI Contract in the amount of #32,684.43.

Motion carried

Motion by Hall, supported by Rios, to approve the purchase of a ham or turkey for each city employee.

Motion carried

Resolutions: None

Motion by Miller, supported by Rios, to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 P.M.

Motion carried

Respectfully Submitted,

RoxAnn Rodney-Isbrecht
City Clerk