

CITY OF HARTFORD
WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 15, 2010

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

Members present: Rodney Austin, Frank Dockter, Rick Hall, Leo Latus, John Pleyer, and Ted Johnson.

Members absent: John Miller (Excused due to illness)

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

Motion by Hall, supported by Pleyer, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried

Guests:

- Mickey Bittner, Wightman & Associates – Bid opening for the South/Oak Street Water Improvement project will be March 17, 2010, 2:00pm at City Hall and should be able to award the contract at the March 22, 2010 Council Meeting. There is a possibility of getting a good bid by bidding out early so have prepared a few alternatives in case there is extra monies to work with. Proposed start date would be May 10 to be completed no latter than September 3, 2010. Once the contractor begins they have 55 consecutive working days to complete the project. DEQ has already issued us the necessary permits which puts the City in a good position to get the project bid out early.
- Suzanne Pscholka, Michigan Blood – provided information to the council regarding their non-profit organization.
- Judy Peterson, Van Buren County Seniors – asking the council to approve putting a ¼ millage proposal for senior services on the August ballot.

Public Comment: None

Communications were:

- a. Fire Board has requested a joint meeting on March 8, 2010, 7:00pm at the fire station 436 East Main St, to approve the Fire Departments budget.
- b. Two designated Renaissance Zones, Doranne Green at Pleasant and West Main Street and Mann Metal at Prospect Street, will be expiring in 2011.
- c. 2010 Census is very important to the City; State and Federal monies are based on Census Numbers. It is important for those who have second homes outside the state to make sure they specify Michigan as their home state.
- d. The use of Medical Marijuana was approved by the voters at the November 2009 election. The City has been contacted by an individual who is interested in opening a store front to educate the public on Medical Marijuana use, grow, distribute and to sell paraphernalia under the umbrella of a church. Prior to this meeting the individual had found property/building elsewhere and has withdrawn his request. The City Manager would like direction from the Council on how to proceed in keeping the City's zoning intact. Currently there is no direction form the County or State on regulation. The Michigan Municipal League is referring the communities back to their legal council for advice. The Council requested additional information from the attorney on how to proceed.

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Goals/Objectives

- 2010/2011 Budget

Reports submitted:

- ***Police Dept & Ordinance Report*** –Officer Simpson will be taking over Danny Day’s shift when he retires in March, there are no plans to replace Day at this time due to budget constraints.
- ***Department of Public Works*** – good job on snow removal.
- ***Waste Water Treatment Plant*** –
- ***Treasurers & Investment Report*** –
- ***List of Bills*** - \$146,256.05
- ***City Managers Report*** – Proposed Ely Park Development; South/Oak Street water improvement project; Theatre Building update; Façade Improvement Project; Waste Water Treatment Plant Assessment

Old Business:

- Van Buren County Solid Waste Plan Resolution
- First Reading, Ordinance no. 306 – 09, an ordinance limiting the duration of use of temporary trash, garbage receptacles, roll off construction dumpsters or other similar units and assessing fee.
- Second Reading, Ordinance no. 305 – 09, an ordinance regulating use of temporary storage units, commonly know as Pods, including semi-trailers to comply with health, safety and aesthetics objectives of the City.

Comments: Jeff Fuller, 24 Mary St, Harry Fuller, 24 Mary St, Kathy Burnett, 22 East St, encouraged the council not to pass the ordinances.

Terry Tibbs, Paras Hill Dr, Mike Banic, Prospect St and Ben Chambers, Hart St not in favor of the dumpster ordinance with a time frame of 15 days.

New Business:

- ✓ Resolution to approve putting a ¼ millage on the August Ballot for Senior Services.
- ✓ Petition to repeal Ordinance no. 174 an Ordinance relative to weed control

Motion by Hall, supported by Latus, to adjourn the meeting at 9:33 P.M.

Motion carried

Respectfully Submitted,

RoxAnn Rodney-Isbrecht, City Clerk