

CITY OF HARTFORD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MAY 24, 2010

Mayor Ted Johnson called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Members present: Rodney Austin; Frank Dockter; Rick Hall; Leo Latus; and Ted Johnson.
Members absent: John Miller; John Pleyer (Both called to be excused)
Staff present: Akinwale; Rodney-Isbrecht

Motion by Hall, supported by Dockter, to approve the agenda as amended to add appointment to library board, adoption of grass/weed ordinance, and Frank Thompson under guests.

Motion carried 5 – 0

Public Hearing

Motion by Hall, supported by Latus, to recess the regular meeting of the Hartford City Council to hold a public hearing on the 2010/2011 budget.

Motion carried 5 – 0

The millage rate is staying the same for tax year 2010. General Fund Revenue: supported by real property taxes, personal property tax, state shared revenue and other sources, the interest income has been reduced by \$30,000; \$68,116.00 cops grant has been added; 3.16% increase in revenue due to the renaissance zone expiring. Expenditures: 75% of expenditures budgeted labor costs, fixed expenditures set by DPW and Police contract. Police contract will expire June 30, 2011, decreased health insurance costs by switching health care insurance provider. Sewer fund: expenditures have been reduced by 2% to compensate for a decrease in revenue and no capital improvements are planned. Water Fund: expenditure of \$70,000 for the City's share of the Oak/South Street water improvement project. Road Fund: Act 51 funds approx \$146,000.00 of which only \$48,000 can be used for local streets. Building Authority: no change in the budget. DDA: will have a small reduction due to decrease in property values.

Motion by Hall, supported by Dockter, to close the public hearing.

Motion carried 5 – 0

Guests:

- ✓ Mickey Bittner – Wightman & Associates – West Main Street resurfacing project, contractor needs to address a few corrections to water box's and man hole covers. South/Oak Street project, water main is complete on South Street; the gas company is projecting to be done by mid June. The first pay estimate will be submitted at the June meeting. Recommending a change to the resurfacing of South/Oak Streets which will increase the contract by approx \$7,000.
- ✓ Frank Thompson – Candidate for the 80th District Representative.

Public Comment:

- ✓ Kathleen Jenks, North Center Street – wants the ordinance to mow grass/weeds be put on the ballot to be voted on by residents.
- ✓ Bill McLaughlin, East Main Street – in favor of an ordinance to enforce the mowing of grass/weeds.

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Communications were:

- a. Stoddard Post 93 American Legion is organizing the Memorial Day Parade on May 31 at 10:30am
- b. Van Buren County Commission will conduct a Public Hearing on August 9 at 4:30pm to discuss the City of South Haven's piece app on the 911 Service Plan and whether the City should receive any compensation for maintaining the piece app.
- c. The State smoking ban law effective May 1st has forced smokers onto Main Street which is in conflict with the City's loitering ordinance.
- d. WODA has submitted application to the State for payment in lieu of taxes, PILOT, the State should be making a decision soon.
- e. Consumers Energy has submitted an application to the MPSC for cost recovery a public hearing has been scheduled for June 7 @ 9:00am at the MPSC in Lansing.
- f. AEP has submitted an application to the MPSC for cost recovery a public hearing has been scheduled at the MPSC in Lansing.

Approval of Commission Minutes:

Motion by Latus, supported by Austin, to approve the minutes of the **April 26, 2010** regular meeting of the Hartford City Commission as presented and place them on file.

Motion carried 5 – 0

Motion by Hall, supported by Austin, to approve the minutes of the **May 17, 2010** workshop meeting of the Hartford City Commission as presented and place them on file.

Motion carried 5 – 0

Goals/Objectives:

- a. Council discussed the condition of local streets and funding for repair.

Approval of Reports:

Motion by Dockter, supported by Austin, to approve the **April** departmental reports as presented and place them on file.

Motion carried 5 – 0

Motion by Hall, supported by Latus, to approve payment of the list of bills in the amount of **\$133,586.23**

Motion carried 5 – 0

Old Business:

Second Reading of the proposed grass, noxious weed & harmful vegetation ordinance.

Motion by Dockter, supported by Austin, to adopt ordinance no. 307 – 10 to regulate the dispensing of medical marijuana.

Motion carried 5 – 0

Motion by Latus, supported by Dockter, to adopt Ordinance no. 308 – 10 to regulate grass, noxious weed & harmful vegetation.

Motion carried 5 – 0

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Motion by Austin, supported by Hall, for the City Manager to negotiate a contract for the sale of 115 Mary Street.

Motion carried 5 – 0

Motion by Hall, supported by Dockter, to sponsor the Hartford Lions Club Strawberry Run in the amount of \$300.00

Motion carried 5 – 0

New Business:

Motion by Hall, supported by Austin, to approve change order no. one in the amount of \$47,277.00 on the South/Oak Street project.

Motion carried 5 – 0

Motion by Hall, supported by Dockter, to accept the audit proposal from Gerbel and Co. in the amount of \$18,200.00 for the 2009/2010 audit.

Motion carried 5 – 0

Motion by Dockter, supported by Hall, to accept Vada Langston's resignation and appoint Sarah Manning to the library board as City Representative.

Motion carried 5 – 0

Resolutions:

Motion by Latus, supported by Hall, to adopt resolution no. 2010 – 008 approving the 2010/2011 budget.

Motion carried 5 – 0

Motion by Hall, supported by Austin, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

RoxAnn Rodney-Isbrecht, City Clerk