

CITY OF HARTFORD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 23, 2009

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

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Members present: Austin; Dockter; Hall; Keyser (7:35); Latus; Rios; and Johnson.

Members absent:

Staff present: Akinwale, Gray; Rodney-Isbrecht

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

Motion carried 6 – 0

Guests:

- Mickey Bittner, Wightman & Associates – the contractor and MDOT have been contacted to set a meeting date regarding the grading at the intersection; the package has been submitted to MDOT for the resurfacing of West Main Street, the grade inspection has been set for this Thursday at 10:00am, the railroad has been contacted they have no scheduled work on the crossing at this time; the conceptual plans are complete on the South Parking Lot and welcome comments and questions.
- Pat Vawter, Hartford Chamber of Commerce – unclear on what was owed to the Chamber for the replacement of the destroyed entrance sign to the City of Hartford. The City had informed the Chamber that if they would pay the \$1,000 deductible the City would order the replacement of the sign at the North entrance. The original signs were initiated by the Downtown Development Authority, invested in by the Chamber and the business's who paid to advertise. The Downtown Development Authority turned over the maintenance and collection of fees for the signs to the Chamber and they began paying the insurance. The monies collected from the insurance company for the damaged North entrance sign while the DDA insured it will be put towards a new sign when the sign is replaced and an invoice is received.

Public Comment: Emma Sefcik requested the link to www.hartfordmichigan.com for Hartford History and the Chamber be removed from the City's website. She has hard feelings about her contract as webmaster for the City not being renewed and how the situation was handled.

Communications were:

- a. RFP's for City wide trash removal will be published in the Herald Palladium, Kalamazoo Gazette and the Tri-City Record; bids are due April 15, 2009 at 2:00pm.
- b. Van Buren County Sportsman's Club has submitted a request to use Ely Park for their annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 11, no rain date will be scheduled.
- c. The City has signed a contract with MDOT for work to the North Center railroad crossing, the railroad has filed a protest and requested a hearing which has been scheduled for May 19 – 21, 2009.
- d. Due to the Memorial Day holiday, if there are no objections from the Council we will combine the Workshop and Regular Commission Meeting on May 18, 2009
- e. Commissioner Keyser felt it may be beneficial if the citizens began going to the Public Service Commissions hearing to protest Consumers 11% cost recovery increases.

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Approval of Commission Minutes:

Motion by Hall, supported by Rios, to approve the minutes of the **FEBRUARY 23, 2009** regular meeting of the Hartford City Commission as presented and place them on file.

Motion carried 7 – 0

Motion by Dockter, supported by Keyser, to approve the minutes of the **MARCH 10, 2009** special joint meeting of the Hartford City Commission, Hartford Township and Hartford Fire Board as presented and place them on file.

Motion carried 7 – 0

Motion by Latus, supported by Keyser, to approve the minutes of the **MARCH 16, 2009** workshop meeting of the Hartford City Commission as presented and place them on file.

Motion carried 7 – 0

Goals/Objectives: 2009/2010 preliminary budget should be ready for the next commission meeting.

Approval of Reports:

Motion by Rios, supported by Keyser, to approve the **FEBRUARY** departmental reports as presented and place them on file.

Motion carried 7 – 0

Motion by Hall, supported by Latus to approve payment of the list of bills in the amount of **\$133,158.93**

Motion carried 7 – 0

Old Business:

Motion by Hall, supported by Rios to approve the purchase of a 463 Bobcat skid-steer loader with a v-pow attachment in the amount of \$14,700.00 from Carlton Equipment Co.

Austin – No; Dockter – No; Hall – Yes; Keyser – Yes; Latus – Yes; Rios – Yes and Johnson – Yes

Motion carried 5 – 2

Motion by Rios, supported by Hall, to approve \$250 payment to the Hartford Float Committee.

Motion carried 7 – 0

Motion by Dockter, supported by Latus, to approve the Hartford Lions Club request to use City facilities for the Annual Strawberry Run on June 13, 2009.

Motion carried 7 – 0

Motion by Hall, supported by Keyser, to approve the Hartford Chamber of Commerce request to use City facilities for the Annual Strawberry Festival on June 12 & 13, 2009.

Motion carried 7 – 0

Motion by Rios, supported by Hall, to approve the recommended change to Ordinance 93.03 Motor Vehicle Accident & Fire Cost Recovery Amendment.

Motion carried 7 – 0

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New Business:

Motion by Keyser, supported by Rios to approve the use of Ely Park by the Sportsman's Club for their annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 11, 2009 at 1:00pm.

Motion carried 7 – 0

Resolutions:

Motion by Keyser, supported by Latus, to adopt resolution 2009 – 005 approving a Community Development Grant Application.

Motion carried 7 – 0

Motion by Hall, supported by Rios, to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 P.M.

Motion carried 7 – 0

Respectfully Submitted,

RoxAnn Rodney-Isbrecht, City Clerk