

CITY OF HARTFORD  
WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 21, 2009

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

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

Members absent:

Staff present: Akinwale, Rodney-Isbrecht, and Staunton

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

Motion carried

**Guests:**

- Mickey Bittner, Wightman & Associates – 1. The signs have been installed with the City logo at the intersection of Main Street and Center Street. 2. South Parking Lot - Recommends paying Northern Construction pay estimate no. 2 for \$21,127.28 for work completed to date. Consumer's Energy has put the contractor a week and ½ behind schedule. Water Main and Storm Sewer has been installed there were some issues of abandoned water lines that were not turned off and some old valves that needed replacement. There will be some change orders to cover the costs of these unforeseen items of repair. AEP will be relocating the poles and lines over the parking lot on Wednesday. There will a fence replacement at 12 South Center because of the change in grade of the parking lot. The Commissioners will allow a two week extension due to the delay from Consumers Energy and there were some replacements of water valves that were not in the original contract. The extension will be granted until 10/15/2009. 3. West Main Street Construction began today by getting signage in place and saw cutting sidewalks and gutters. All ramps have to be in compliance with current ADA standards. Curb work should begin on Thursday and sidewalks will begin right after and begin milling and resurfacing next week.

**Public Comment:** None

**Communications were:**

- a. Received an opinion from the City's attorney about the law regarding pilot request from WODA requested by Commissioner Austin.
- b. Rural Development has announced they are offering development seminars to be hosted around the state. The City has requested to be a host site for one of those seminars. The 1<sup>st</sup> seminar will be September 29 at 11:00am at Schuler's restaurant in Marshall Michigan.
- c. October 7, 7:30am has been set for the Walk to School Day in coordination with the National Walk 2 School day.
- d. Comcast has announced they are adding new channels to their line up.
- e. I – 94 Corridor meeting has been set for September 24 at 7:30pm at the Hartford Township Hall.
- f. Commissioner Dockter would like to request the Police patrol the area around Red Arrow School where parents are parking, the school is already trying to address the issue and have met with the DPW and Police Dept. also children are walking in the streets, it has been announced in the City's newsletter and the information will be shared with the school to be

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passed along to the parents and students.

**Goals/Objectives**

- Working with the MEDC to get the contracts signed for the façade improvements and pushing the urgency to get started on the buildings in town.
- Finishing the work on the partnership for change grant to move along with the I – 94 Corridor project.

**Reports submitted:**

- *Police Dept Report* – Chief of Police unavailable due to illness
- *Department of Public Works* –
- *Waste Water Treatment Plant* –
- *Treasurers & Investment Report* – Treasurer on vacation
- *List of Bills* - \$118,090.06
- *City Managers Report* – Discussion on Master Plan Update; Van Buren County Solid Waste Amended Plan Update; Doranne Greene-payment in lieu of Taxes request; I – 94 Corridor Joint Master Plan update; South Parking Lot Reconstruction; West Main Street Reconstruction; and Downtown Façade Improvement Project.

**Old Business:**

- Commissioner Dockter would like the dumpster removed from the vacant lot at 41 West Main Street and repairs made to the building at 35 West Main Street to improve the look of the downtown area. Also requested researching an ordinance on how long a dumpster can be on commercial and residential property.

**New Business:**

- ✓ Pay estimate no.002 to Northern Construction for \$21,127.28 on work completed to date.
- ✓ Agreement establishing the I – 94 Fruitbelt Community Joint Planning Commission
- ✓ Agreement establishing the I – 94 Fruitbelt Corridor Development Council
- ✓ Introduction of Ordinance no. 306 – 09 to establish a joint planning commission among the City of Hartford, Hartford Township, The City of Watervliet, and Watervliet Charter Township to be known as the I – 94 Fruitbelt Community Joint Planning Commission.
- ✓ Appoint Brian Garland, Arrowhead Bar & Grill and Tim Hildebrand, Harding’s to the Downtown Development Authority.
- ✓ Appointment to the Planning & Zoning Commission to fill Joye Rathgeb’s term.

Motion by Hall, supported by Rios, to adjourn the meeting at 9:42 P.M.

Motion carried

Respectfully Submitted,

RoxAnn Rodney-Isbrecht, City Clerk