



CITY OF HART
407 S. STATE ST.
HART, MI 49420
REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL - COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
July 23rd, 2024
MINUTES – Approved

PRESENT: Mayor Vicki Platt, Councilors Jim Cunningham, Dean Hodges and Amanda Klotz

ABSENT: Catalina Burillo, Jim Evans, and Kris Trygstad

OTHERS PRESENT: City Manager – Rob Splane, BioPure Superintendent – Paul Cutter, DPW Superintendent – Brad Whitney, Eric and Deana Fox and Cristina Juska

Mayor Platt called the meeting to order; following the roll call, then led the Council in the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

- A. Klotz motioned to approve Amended agenda and was supported by J. Cunningham
 - Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Absent: 3

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Eric Fox, Running for Probate Court Judge - Po Box 710, I’ve been at 111 state street since 2012, before that I was on the corner of state street and Polk Rd. I wanted to start by saying there is an election coming up and I’m on the ballot and would appreciate your support. And also, I want to thank the City for everything that they have done, I’ve been involved in 3 events the City has put on since I was here last, the historic tour that Paul Cutter helped put together, The Asparagus Festival despite the rain ended splendid, and Hart Sparks which is a great event. The City looks great, I appreciate everything as a property/Business owner. If you have any questions, I’d love to answer than for you.

CORRESPONDENCE, EVENTS, PRESENTATIONS:

- NONE

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Approval of minutes from July 9th, 2024
- Bills, Claims, Payroll
- Reports of Boards, Commissions, and Committees
- Department Reports – Police/BioPure/Public Works/Energy/C&E Dvlp
 - A. Klotz motioned to approve Consent Agenda and supported by J. Cunningham
 - Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Absent: 3

ACTION ITEMS:

- Resolution 2024-19 Appointed Officials Wage Rate
 WHEREAS, the City recognizes that highly trained, dedicated staff is necessary to conduct City operations with minimal staff; and
 WHEREAS, per the City Charter, City Council sets appointed officials pay rates; and
 WHEREAS, City policy has historically awarded annual union contract raises to non-union employees as to not penalize them due to their lack of collective bargaining; and
 WHEREAS, to secure the benefits of efficient self-government and to promote and protect our common interests and welfare, the City Council hereby declares;
 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

Authorizes and approves the following appointed officials pay rates to be effective as of July 1, 2024:

City Clerk/Treasurer: \$66,033 (\$62,296 current – last increase July 2023)
 City Of Hart Police Chief: \$81,513 (\$78,378 current – last increase July 2023)
 City of Hart City Manager: \$94,051 (\$90,434 current – last increase July 2022)

Further authorizes and approves a one-time 6 month retroactive payment using the July 2024 [ay rates due to increased workload due to absent central office staff member for the City Clerk/Treasurer (\$1,868.50) and Deputy City Clerk/Treasurer (\$930.44).

- A. Klotz motioned to Amend Resolution 2024-19 and give all officials a 4% raise across the board and approve the onetime bonus for office staff, and supported by D. Hodges
 - Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Absent: 3

- Resolution 2024-21 Authorize Construction of Parking Lot
WHEREAS, the City of Hart established a Tax Increment Finance Authority (TIFA) in 1983 to help catalyze public and private investment in a defines business district; and
WHEREAS, in 2021, the Hart TIFA board and City Council worked together to restate the TIFA plan; and
WHEREAS, one of the established goals included in the 2021 document was to repurpose the site of 211 E Main Street into a planned parking lot; and
WHEREAS, TIFA has budgeted for the project, worked with City engineers to develop proper design work, and sought competitive bids for the parking lot construction work; and
WHEREAS, to secure the benefits of efficient self-government and to promote and protect our common interests and welfare, the City Council hereby declares;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

Authorizes and approves the construction of Parking Lot 0 on City property parcel 020-209-005-00 (211 E Main Street) using TIFA funds.

- A. Klotz motioned to approve Resolution 2024-21 and supported by J. Cunningham
 - Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Absent: 3

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- NONE

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

Updates:

- Welcome Jim Cunningham!
- Meetings are being scheduled with water quality experts and local stakeholders to assist the City with reviewing and revising the EGLE imposed administrative consent order which enforces water quality standards of the Pentwater River which is classified as a cold-water trout stream.
- Hart Library board is working with the City to draft a service agreement to define ongoing expectations and if financial compensation is appropriate to offset the use of enterprise funds.
- The progress meeting was held at Hart BioPure to discuss current status and plan for the next phase of construction. Coming weeks/months will be tricky in respect to plant operations while accommodating project management.
- The new Parks and Recreation Department head will be meeting with staff and volunteers at the Hart Historic District next week to learn more about the facilities and discuss potential support that the department could offer to help with future operations.
- Audit prep work to begin next week with Brickley Delong staff on site.
- West Main Street bid opening is August 1st
- Hart Energy high-line project bid opening August 6th
- Veteran's Park bid opening August 7th

Legacy Topics:

- Safe Routes to School trail project – **Approved for bid letting in October' 24!**

Upcoming Topics:

- Adoption of 5-year Park and Rec Master Plan (Currently back and forth negotiation with MDOT)
- Council review of rental inspection policies, procedures, and implementation. Chief Salazar is delayed due to 2 employee resignations and 2 employees parental leave)

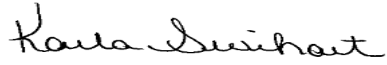
COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL:

- Mayor Platt will get with J. Cunningham regarding boards and committees he can join.

ADJOURN:

- There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned upon a motion by A. Klotz and supported by D. Hodges. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Aug 13th, 2024, at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karla Swihart".

Karla Swihart, City Clerk