



**CITY OF HART  
407 S. STATE ST.  
HART, MI 49420  
COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
NOVEMBER 10, 2020, 7:30 pm  
MINUTES - APPROVED**

**PRESENT IN PERSON OR VIA ZOOM:** Mayor Ron LaPorte, Councilors: Vicki Platt, Catalina Burillo, Rob Splane, Joe Frontiera, and Steve Hegedus

**ABSENT:** Jason La Fever

**OTHERS PRESENT** Reed City Manager – Ron Howell, Deputy City Clerk – Cheri Eisenlohr (via Zoom), City Clerk – Cheryl Rabe (via Zoom), Ms. Ladner was absent for this meeting. Jim Evans, Braxton Platt, Dean Hodges (via Zoom)

**SWEARING IN:**

- Due to audio difficulties with Ms. Rabe, Mr. Howell swore in the new Council members and the new Mayor.
- An appreciation gift was presented to former Mayor, Ron LaPorte in recognition of his years serving the City of Hart. Outgoing Council members, Frontiera, Hegedus, La Fever were also acknowledged for services rendered.

**PRESENT IN PERSON OR VIA ZOOM:** Mayor Platt, Councilors: Rob Splane Jim Evans, Braxton Platt, Dean Hodges (via Zoom)

**ABSENT:** Catalina Burillo

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

**AGENDA:**

- Mr. Splane motioned to approve the agenda, supported by Mr. Evans, all ayes, the motion carried.
  - Ayes: 5            Nays: 0            Absent: 2

**MINUTES:**

- Mr. Splane motioned to approve the minutes of the October 27, 2020 meeting, supported by Mr. Mr. Evans, all ayes, the motion carried.
  - Ayes: 5            Nays: 0            Absent: 2

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- Mayor Platt reminded the public that this portion of the meeting is for making statements – no questions.
  - Mr. George Sadler voiced concerns regarding Mr. La Fever not being allowed to run for Mayor due to rules referenced in the City Charter.
    - He would like an investigation to be conducted and the swearing of Ms. Platt as Mayor to be nullified until the investigation is complete. He distributed his request in writing to all Council members present.
      - Mr. Howell advised the Council to not comment and to seek legal advice.
      - An unnamed audience member stated that if Mr. Sadler wanted an investigation then he should pay for it himself.

**CORRESPONDENCE, EVENTS, PRESENTATIONS:**

- None

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

- *Police Chief, Juan Salazar:*
  - A written report was provided.
- *Energy Dept. Superintendent, Mike Schiller:*
  - No report in the packet.
- *BioPure Superintendent, Paul Cutter:*
  - No report in the packet.
- *DPW Superintendent, Brad Whitney:*
  - No report in the packet.
- *HEART Director, Nichole Steel:*

- A written report was provided.

**BILLS, CLAIMS, & PAYROLL:**

- Bills: \$113,713.93                      Payroll: \$58,296.76                      Grand Total: \$176,622.77
- Mr. Splane motioned to approve with the addition of the invoice from Emergency Services, supported by Mr. Evans, the motion carried.
  - Ayes: 5                      Nays: 0                      Absent: 2

**ACTION ITEMS:**

Mr. Howelll addressed the following Action Items:

- Ordinance 2020-02, ZONING ORDINANCE MAP AMENDMENT
  - First Reading
    - Mr. B. Platt motioned to approve, supported by Mr. Evans, the motion carried.
      - Ayes: 5                      Nays: 0                      Absent: 2
- Ordinance 2020-03, AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HART – 315 SOUTH STATE ST.
  - First Reading
    - Mr. Splane motioned to approve, supported by Mr. B. Platt, the motion carried.
      - Ayes: 5                      Nays: 0                      Absent: 2
- Resolution 2020-66 AUTHORIZE ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH AZAVAR AUDIT SOLUTIONS
  - Mr. Evans motioned to table this until Ms. Ladner is back in attendance, supported by Mr. B. Platt, the motion carried.
    - Ayes: 5                      Nays: 0                      Absent: 2
- Resolution 2020-67 ACCEPT RECOMMENDATION OF PARK COMMITTEE FOR CONTRACTED CAMPGROUND MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR 2021-2023 AND AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN THE CONTRACT.
  - Mr. Splane motioned to approve, supported by Mr. B. Platt, the motion carried.
    - Ayes: 5                      Nays: 0                      Absent: 2

**SPECIAL EVENTS PERMIT:**

- None

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- Declare Council vacancy and identify process for filling Council Term Vacancy created by election of Vicki Platt as Mayor
  - The Council agreed to advertise, accept applications, interview and appoint the new Council person. Mr. Evans stated that he would approach radio station 100.5 in Mears to promote the opening.
  - Mr. Splane reminded the Council that there is a time deadline in filling the position. The 30 days starts as of the date of this meeting.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:**

- None

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL:**

- Mayor Platt thanks the residents for voting for her.
- Mr. Splane welcomed the new members to the Council.

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm upon a motion by Mr. B. Platt and supported by Mr. Splane. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on November 24, 2020, at 7:30 pm, in the Hart Community Center.

Respectfully Submitted



Cheri Eisenlohr  
Deputy City Clerk