



CITY OF HART
407 S. STATE ST.
HART, MI 49420
REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL - COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
May 14th, 2024
MINUTES – Approved

PRESENT: Mayor Vicki Platt, Councilors Justin Adams, Catalina Burillo, Jim Evans, Dean Hodges, and Amanda Klotz

ABSENT: Kris Trygstad

OTHERS PRESENT: City Manager – Rob Splane, BioPure Superintendent Paul Cutter, Hart Police Chief Juan Salazar, Hart PD Officer Sean Robb, Dwight Fuehring, Ryan Good, Kendra Gilcrist, Sharon Hallack, and Dick Huntington

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

- C. Burillo motioned to approve the agenda and was supported by J. Evans
 - Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Absent: 1

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Ryan Good, Hesperia, wanted to introduce myself as I am running for Probate Judge in Oceana County,
- Dick Huntington 115 Creeks Drive, wanted to find out when the amendments for the Creeks property will be completed.
- Sean Robb, Newest member of the Hart Police Department and wanted to introduce himself and talk about what has been happening within the City.

CORRESPONDENCE, EVENTS, PRESENTATIONS:

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Approval of minutes from April 9th, 2024 and April 23rd, 2024
- Bills, Claims, Payroll
- Reports of Boards, Commissions, and Committees
- Department Reports – Police/BioPure/Public Works/Energy/C&E Dvlp
 - J. Adams motioned to approve Consent Agenda and supported by J. Evans
 - Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Absent: 1

ACTION ITEMS:

- Resolution 2024-01 Approve Hart Area Fire Administrative Board Agreement
WHEREAS, the City of Hart participates in an interlocal multi-party agreement for the provision of fire protection services; and
WHEREAS, the Hart Area Joint Fire Administrative Board has identified that the existing operating agreement will expire on June 30, 2024; and
WHEREAS, a new agreement has been drafted to begin on July 1, 2024 and remain in effect through June 30, 2034. The new agreement is materially similar to the existing agreement.
WHEREAS, The proposed new agreement allows budget shares of each party equivalent to a milage which shall not exceed 2 mils of taxable value, to be approved through an annual budget; and
WHEREAS, in order to secure the benefit of efficient self-government and to promote and protect our common interests and welfare
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL
Accepts and approves July 2024 proposed Hart Area Joint Fire Administrative Board Agreement and directs the Mayor and City Clerk to sign on behalf of the City of Hart
Allocates the equivalent of up to two (2) mils of property taxes to the Hart Area Fire Department beginning in FY24 budget year.
 - A. Klotz motioned to approve Resolution 2024-01 and supported by J. Adams
 - Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Absent: 1
- Resolution 2024-10 Authorize Budgeted Ventrac Purchase.
WHEREAS, the City of Hart operates and maintains streets as well as electrical, water, and sewer utilities; and

WHEREAS, in pursuit of operations, specific equipment is necessary to accommodate various tasks, and
 WHEREAS, the fiscal year 2024 budget has allowed for the purchase of a steep incline mowing machine; and
 WHEREAS, City department staff has identified the Ventrac machine as the best tool for mowing steep incline areas specifically at the Hart Dam, the Ventrac may also be used as a commercial sweeper and several other tasks; and

WHEREAS, the typical bidding process becomes difficult as this one solution provider has no competitors; and
 WHEREAS, the City Council desires to secure the benefits of efficient self-governance and to promote and protect our common interests and welfare; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL

Authorizes the purchase of the budgeted Ventrac unit and selected attachments in the amount of \$45,379, not including any necessary delivery or supplemental charges. The purchase can be made through the Sourcwell purchasing contract ensuring the City of Hart receives the lowest possible cost without seeking competitive bids.

- J. Adams motioned to approve Resolution 2024-10 and supported by J. Evans
 - Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Absent: 1

- Resolution 2024-11 Approve Engineering to Resurface West Main St.

WHEREAS, the City of Hart is responsible for the maintenance and repair of City streets; and
 WHEREAS, the City of Hart has funding available in Major Streets 202 Fund to cover the cost of resurfacing West Main Street; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the City to obtain a qualified engineering entity to properly oversee the design and construction of this infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, Prein and Newhof being very familiar with City infrastructure is best suited to design and oversee this resurfacing project and any related improvements during this effort; and

WHEREAS, in order 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

Accepts the proposal for engineering services from Prein and Newhof not to exceed \$29,000 to provide professional engineering services for the design and construction phases of resurfacing West Main Street.

The Council authorizes the City Manager to sign and execute any related contractual agreement.

- J. Adams motioned to approve Resolution 2024-11 and supported by J. Evans
 - Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Absent: 1

- Resolution 2024-12 Review Crop Management Bids and Award Contract

WHEREAS, the City of Hart owns and operates a municipal wastewater treatment plant and an irrigation site on crop land where it is desirable to manage the land in a manner that mutually benefits the City of Hart and the agricultural community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hart has successfully operated the irrigation site in a similar manner for years, but does not have the proper equipment or expertise to perform the crop management work; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to secure the benefits of efficient self-governance and to promote and protect our common interests and welfare; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

Accepts the following bids for Crop Management Services in 2024-2028:

Name of Bidder	2024- Rate	2025-Rate	2026-Rate	2027-Rate	2028-Rate
Forner Farms LLC	\$6,000	\$6,500	\$7,000	\$7,500	\$8,000
Robert Porter	\$8,505	\$8,505	\$8,505	\$8,505	\$8,505

City Council awards the contract to Forner Farms LLC w/ Matching the higher bid of \$8,505 and directs the City Manager and Hart BioPure Superintendent to work with the chosen bidder to oversee the crop management program on behalf of the City of Hart

- J. Evans motioned to approve Resolution 2024-12 and supported by C. Burillo
 - Ayes: 5 Nays: 1 Absent: 1

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Special Event Permit – Approved- Veteran’s Day Event
- Special Event Permit – Approved- Lakeside Comprehensive Rehab Parade
- Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Review
FY 2024 and FY 2025 Goals and Priorities

Department	Goal	Estimated Expenditure	Notes
City Hall	Continued Security Enhancement	\$22,000	In cooperation with the 2022 Hart City Hall threat assessment
Police	New Vehicle	\$40,000	2026
Energy	Line Pulling equipment	\$51,000	For system study improvements
DPW/Energy	Mini Excavator/Ventrac	\$97,000	To be shared between departments
DPW	Dump Truck	\$250,000	Will entertain used/reconditioned model
All Depart	Industrial Vacuum Truck	\$250,000	Uses Jet lines, catch basin, storm drains, hydro excavation
Streets	Construct New Parking Lot #0	\$140,000	Old Walkers site (TIFA board to Fund)
Parks	Veteran’s Park Planned Construction	\$800,000	\$300,000 grant + \$500,000 local Match
Parks	John Gurney Park 5 yr plan	\$18,500	2025 work to develop a 5-yr growth plan
Parks	Refresh Disc Golf Course	\$14,000	2025
DPW	Backhoe	?	??
Energy	Backyard Machine	\$120,000	2026 detachable bucket for boom- auger- carries poles
Energy	Refer to GRP CIP	\$950,000	
Energy	New indoor/covered storage	\$100,000	Potential Move of building from ceres property to energy site
BioPure	Gator/Golfcart	\$9,500	
BioPure	Hose for pump and add fittings	\$12,000	Used primarily in Biopure
BioPure	Lawnmower		Replace old handmedown
BioPure	Biosoilds application alternative	\$20,000	Consultant/engineer

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

Updates:

- A New City Hall Employee started work last Monday providing much needed support at the City filling a role that has been open since late October, Lindsay Brown is the City of Hart’s new Administrative Assistant and will be assuming utility billing responsibilities. Lindsay will also assist City Hall staff and City leadership with professional support.
- Hydro-Corp has finished phase one of the cross-connection inspection and water meter upgrades. The project is officially a success with phase two coming in June to help tie up any remaining loose ends including addressing “snowbird” houses that could not be accessed in early spring. The project helps the City to comply with State mandated safe drinking water rules, reduces City cost for meter reading, helps ensure proper metering for our water customers, and was a learning exercise in identifying locations of some aging City water infrastructure components.
- Plummers Environmental has started their “potholing” project which was funded by a state grant. The work is exploratory to identify water service line materials to help the City asset management planning. The information

will be coupled with material data collected inside the home. Ultimately this will help us to follow state mandates to eliminate lead materials from our drinking water system in coming years.

- The Starting Block Board met to create a strategic plan with the intentions of increasing revenues to help make the entity self-sufficient there was also lots of discussion revolving around how the Starting Block could add more value to the community in the future.
- City Treasurer has completed the three-year training at the Michigan Treasurers Institute with the Michigan Certified Professional Treasurer designation pending.

Legacy Topics:

- Safe Routes to School trail project – pending State Approval projected bid spring 2024.

Upcoming Topics:

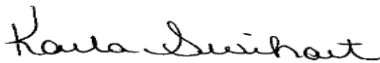
- Adoption of 5-year Park and Rec Master Plan (Currently back and forth negotiation with MDOT)
- Council review of rental inspection policies, procedures, and implementation. Chief Salazar is delayed due to 2 employee resignations and 2 employees parental leave)

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL:

- J. Evans – Historical District members are getting up there in age and with President Lee announcing retirement, it would be encouraging to see new/younger individuals who would like to carry on the role to help ensure the Historic district stay going actively.
Also, when would Mr. Huntington be hearing on the amendments to the deed for the Creeks?
- C. Burillo would like the email regarding the creeks forward to her, also regarding the letter from Mika Meyer, the City needs to be consistent across the board on where the line is drawn on reimbursement's.

ADJOURN:

- There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned upon a motion by J. Adams and supported by J. Evans. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on May 28th, 2024, at 7:30 pm.
Respectfully Submitted



Karla Swihart, City Clerk