

**SPECIAL MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL
CITY OF HARTFORD CITY, INDIANA
OCTOBER 19, 2020
MEETING MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME: Mayor Eckstein called to order a Special Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Hartford City at 6PM.

ROLL CALL: Members of the council present, Michael Wolfe, Dustin George, Tony Scaggs, and Ron Dudelston. Mayor Eckstein, Attorney Brandon Murphy and Dana Whatley, Clerk-Treasurer were also present. Jimmy Lytle was absent.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mr. Dudelston made a motion to accept the agenda as submitted. Mr. Scaggs seconded. Vote to approve 4-0-1.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A.) BLACKFORD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION – NEWBERRY BUILDING/EDIT FUND** – Mayor Eckstein explained that the Blackford Development Corporation in conjunction with Blackford County are planning on investing in the revitalization of the Newberry Building that sits adjacent to the Weiler Lot. The funding will come from 50% EDIT fund from the city and 50% from Blackford County. He gave a brief snapshot of what this revitalization will look like. The basement will be drained of water and then back filled and covered in concrete. The main floor will be white boxed and made into two separate spaces for two potential businesses. The upper floors will be cleaned but not renovated. Mr. George stated that the roof has been fixed to prevent further leaking. He also stated that we need to move quickly to preserve this building before it would be beyond repair. The hope is to have an events coordinator on the east side of the building and that business will be in charge of booking events for the Weiler Lot Amphitheater.
- B.) GILLMAN PROJECT** - Mayor Eckstein said that INDOT has waived the bump out mandate. There has been a discussion that the city would like to lower the speed limit to 45 miles per hour all the way out to the Jr./Sr. High School which is an INDOT issue. There is one small issue that Mr. Warren Brown is looking into regarding the drive and its access. Hopefully in the next week or so Mr. Gillman will be signing the paperwork so that we can get started.
- C.) CARES ACT GRANT** – Ms. Whatley received news from the Indiana Finance Authority that Hartford City has been approved for the Cares Act Grant in the amount of \$187,070. Our desire is to save \$100,000 of this money in the general fund since the 2022 budget may be adversely affected by COVID-19 in 2020. Mayor Eckstein stated we wish to purchase some items that are currently needed (i.e. generator for Police Department & City Hall).
- D.) 2021 BUDGET DISCUSSION** - Ms. Whatley provided the council with a roughed out proposed 2021 salary ordinance, a copy of the 2020 adopted line item budget and the 2021 proposed line item budget for their personal review. She explained to council that all signed documents had been uploaded and submitted in Gateway and she is awaiting the 1782 notice from the DLGF. Based on what she'd been told, she expected to get it prior to November 2, 2020. Attorney Murphy said that he will draft the salary ordinance as presented by Ms. Whatley and changes can still be made if council deems it necessary to do so.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, Mayor Eckstein asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Scaggs made that motion and the meeting adjourned at 6:35pm

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