

**COMMON COUNCIL
CITY OF HARTFORD CITY, INDIANA
MAY 4, 2020
MEETING MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME: Mayor Eckstein called to order a public hearing at 6PM May 4, 2020, which can be viewed by the public through ZOOM using this link: www.zoom.us meeting code 83888985803. This information is also on Hartford City Facebook page.

A recommendation has been made to the City's Common Council to award the public/private agreement to GM Development Companies LLC, of Springport, IN. Copies of the proposal and written explanation on the basis upon which the recommendation has been made are with the council and are available for public inspection and copying by requesting a PDF copy via email at warren@blackfordindiana.com. Warren Brown, Director of Blackford County Economic Development, commented that he is in agreement that GM Development team is the best choice for our city to take care of our Historic buildings down town.

The Council President, Jimmy Lytle, with no further discussion, brought the Public Meeting to a close at 6:20PM.

Ron Dudelston spoke on behalf of the Hartford City Redevelopment Commission to give their recommendation for services rendering the development, construction, operation, and transfer of the projects to GM Development Company.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2020-10, Indiana code 5-23, was made by Mr. Lytle; Seconded by Mr. Scaggs. Motion carried 5-0.

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME: Mayor Eckstein called to order the regular of Common Council at 6:25PM.

ROLL CALL: Members of the council present were Mayor Eckstein, Michael Wolfe, Dustin George, Tony Scaggs, Jimmy Lytle, and Ron Dudelston. Also present were Pam Fancher, Clerk Treasurer, and City Attorney Brandon Murphy.

BEAUSE OF THE CORONA VIRUS PANDEMIC, Public meetings are available to be viewed through ZOOM on-line. Information was given to the public prior to the meeting on the Hartford City Web Page.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The Agenda will be amended to remove item A from Old Business REQUEST TO VACATE AT END OF E. FIRST ST. – DUSTIN GEORGE, until further notice. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Lytle; Seconded by Mr. George. Approved as Amended 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: Mr. Dudelston made a motion to approve the April 6, 2020 Meeting Minutes; Seconded by Mr. George. Approved 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

A.) MOVE SEWER CREW BACK TO WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT- Board of Public Works & Safety approved as of June 1, 2020.

NEW BUSINESS:

A.) MICHELE RISINGER- MAIN STREET HISTORICAL PRESERVATION ORDINANCE- INDIANA LANDMARKS- Ms. Risinger requests this Ordinance to enable the creation of a commission to manage the Historical District. Michael Flowers, Director of Indiana Landmarks and Historical

Preservation, also commented on the advantages of this ordinance for future grant opportunities, as an Economic Development tool, and to protect the integrity of our Historic Buildings. Mr. Flowers has a contract with the city and will be assisting with the Historical Preservation. City Attorney Brandon Murphy suggested the council table this until next month so he can review the Ordinance. A motion to table was made by Mr. George; Seconded by Mr. Lytle. Request tabled 5-0.

B.) TRAVIS WILLIAMSON-

1. REPLACE MACERATOR- Plans to replace the macerator is already set in the budget. This is something that we have to do for regular up-keep of the WWTP. Motion to replace macerator was made by Mr. Lytle; Seconded by Mr. Dudelston. Motion approved 5-0.

2.) NEEDLERS PARKING LOT- Mr. Williamson made a request to hire Ramseyer Excavating to install a drainage line for Needler's parking lot. The city will provide paving to finish the project. Ramseyer was the best price after quotes were acquired. Mr. George made a motion to hire Ramseyer Excavating for this project; Seconded by Mr. Scaggs. Motion carried 5-0.

C.) TAX ABATEMENTS:

3M RESOLUTION 2020-11 SB-1/ PP Mr. George motion to accept, Mr. Wolfe Seconded.4-0 Approved; Mr. Lytle abstained.

NEW INDY CONTAINER Mr. Wolfe motioned; Mr. George Seconded, 5-0 approved

SHAYLEE OILS- 2020-12 CF-1 /REAL PROP Mr. Lytle motioned; Mr. Wolfe Seconded. Approved 5-0.

SHAYLEE OILS- 2020-13 CF-1/REAL PROP Mr. Lytle motioned; Mr. Wolfe Seconded. Approved 5-0.

SHAYLEE OILS-2020-14-CF-1 /PP Mr. Lytle Motioned; Mr. Wolfe Seconded. Approved 5-0.

MAYOR'S REPORT: City hall will remain closed to the public this week, but we are making plans to open next week. The County Courthouse will open to the public next week as well.

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT: A request was made that I post the Meeting Minutes on-line so that citizens who cannot attend public meeting can know what is going on in the city. Morgan Sands, Assistant to the Mayor, will be posting them on the City's website.

JEFF THOMAS- Mr. Thomas made a request to hire E&B Paving. After receiving quotes, they have the best price, which will enable the city to pave about five blocks more than expected. A motion to hire E&B Paving was made by Mr. Wolfe; Seconded by Mr. Scaggs. Motion carried 5-0.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Cheri Brown, Blackford County Extension Director/Educator, is pleased to announce that Blackford County was awarded an OCRA grant that will help with our increased need because of the COVID pandemic- this will provide aide to our local food pantry and PPE for First Responders. There is also help for small businesses. As of today, 18 have small businesses have responded. She hopes that more will respond to a survey that has been sent out.

Travis Williamson expressed his grief at the recent loss of Rick Rice. Rick had retired last year after 44 years of service in the Hartford City Waste water Department.

Ron Dudelston would like to thank Warren and Cheri Brown for all they did to help Hartford City to obtain an OCRA grant, and also for helping with the efforts to get people to wear masks when out in public places.

Dustin George and the Greenscape Committee planted 9 new trees on the Wyler lot downtown Saturday. Plans on the construction of an amphitheater on this lot should begin the first week of June. The BDC also has dumpsters for the Property Standards board to use. Mr. George also mentioned that the City Wide Auction did very well.

Mayor Eckstein expressed his gratitude for the amazing job Warren Brown has been doing as Blackford County Economic Director. He would like to assess the budget to see what funding can be provided to contribute to his salary.

Jimmy Lytle also commented on the great job Economic Director Warren Brown has done and would also like to address the next budget in September to allocate funds for Eco. Dir. Warren Brown. Dustin George is also very pleased with Warren Brown's work and expresses his thankfulness that he is here in Blackford County.

ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Eckstein **adjourned** the meeting at 7:55PM.

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