



CITY OF HART
407 S. STATE ST.
HART, MI 49420
REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL - COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
March 11th, 2025
MINUTES – Approved

PRESENT: Mayor Amanda Klotz, Councilors, Catalina Burillo, Jim Cunningham, Dean Hodges, Andrew Mullen, Betty Root and Karen Thomson

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: City Manager – Rob Splane City Clerk – Karla Swihart, BioPure Superintendent – Paul Cutter, DPW Superintendent – Brad Whitney, Parks & Recs Superintendent – Chris TeHaar, Progressive Company – Rick Buteyn, Sharon Hallack, Christina Juska, Rolando Salgado, Emily Sigler,

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

- B. Root motioned to approve the agenda and was supported by K. Thomson
 - Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- None

CORRESPONDENCE, EVENTS, PRESENTATIONS:

- Correspondence: Open Meetins Act Training, April 24th, 2025 – MSU Extension
Location is at Oceana County Services Building, 844 S. Griswold and is offered at no cost with support from Oceana County Planning Commission. Instructor is Mary Reilly, AICP. MSU Extension. Members of government bodies engaged in decision-making and administrative professionals responsible for creating meeting notices, Boards subject to OMA include elected boards and appointed boards such as Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Board of Review, Council on Aging, and many other boards and committees who have been delegated authority to make governmental decisions. To register, contact Brittany Bostrom, Oceana County Administrator's office by phone (231)873-6703 or email bbstrom@oceana.mi.us
- Presentation Rob Splane – Administratice Consent Order Historical Review
- Presentation Rick Buteyn, Progressive Companies – Hart Lake Water Quality Improvement Plan

UNDERSTANDING THE PROJECT

The project, as we understand it, is to review and collect water quality and watershed characteristic data to better understand the water quality with the Lake and surrounding watershed. Using this data Progressive Companies will develop a list of practical improvement projects. Our understanding is that the City requests to satisfy recommendations from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), desires to make efforts to reduce phosphorus levels, lower water temperatures, and increase dissolved oxygen of water flowing from the Lake into the South Branch of Pentwater River.

SCOPE OF BASIC SERVICES

Based upon the above project understanding, we will provide the following scope of services:

Water Quality Sampling:

1. Identify strategic locations within the Lake and along the South Branch of the Pentwater River, Chippewa Creek, and Russell Creek to collect water quality samples.
2. Collect water quality samples to evaluate the present condition of the Lake. At a minimum, samples would be collected during spring and late summer at 10-foot intervals over the deepest portion of the Lake to measure temperature, dissolved oxygen, total phosphorus, and choldoride. In addition, surface water chlorophyll-a levels and water transparency would be measured during each of the aforementioned sampling periods.
3. Samples would be collected during two (2) high-flow and two (2) low-flow events to characterize stream flow and nutrient and sediment loading to the Lake from Russel Creek, Chippewa Creek and one (1) upstream site on the Pentwater River. Parameters sampled would be total phosphorus, total suspended soilds, chloride, temperature, and dissolved oxygen.

REPORTING AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Review historical and recent water quality data provided by the City.
2. Report and summarize water quality data collected and compare it to historical data.
3. Create a list of attainable projects to increase the water quality of the Lake.
4. Estimate costs of recommended projects.
5. Attend a City meeting to present findings.

SCHEDULE

Services will be provided October 2024 through December 2025

PROFESSIONAL COMPENSATION

Based upon the above identified scope of services, Progressive Companies proposes the following compensation:

The cost of the Water Quality Sampling services will not exceed \$7,000

The cost of the Reporting and Recommendations services will not exceed \$16,000

The total annual cost of the services is not to exceed \$23,000 (twenty-three thousand dollars).

Compensation will be billed on a time and materials basis at a quarterly rate and will be invoiced according to the attached Schedule of Invoice Rates.

Progressive Companies has prepared this proposal for the City of Hart and we request that it be treated as confidential and not copied or distributed for any reason other than evaluation for hire.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Approval of minutes from February 25th, 2025
- Bills, Claims, Payroll
- Reports of Boards, Commissions, and Committees
- Department Reports – Police/BioPure/Public Works/Energy/C&E Dvlp
 - J. Cunningham motioned to approve Consent Agenda and supported by B. Root
 - Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

ACTION ITEMS:

- Resolution 2025-07 Accept Proposal for Professional Water Quality Sampling and Reporting and Recommendations Services for Hart Lake Water Quality Improvement Plan
 WHEREAS, the City of Hart operates a municipal electric utility, Hart Energy; and
 WHEREAS, Hart Energy owns and maintains Hart Dam which generates hydro-electric energy from the impoundment it creates; and
 WHEREAS, in 2015 the City of Hart was required to enter into an Administrative Consent Order which implemented a series of projects and concessions that included a Long-Term Temperature Reduction Plan to bring the effluent from Hart Lake into the South Branch of the Pentwater River into Designated Cold Water Fishery water quality compliance; and
 WHEREAS, in the past ten years, the City has continued to take mandated steps to seek water quality compliance; and
 WHEREAS, in 2024, The Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) requested that the City update the existing LTRP and implement new measures seeking compliance; and
 WHEREAS, in order to secure the benefits of 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 from Progressive Companies in the not-to-exceed amount of \$23,000
Authorizes and directs the City Manager to accept and sign the proposal and implement the Water Quality Sampling, Reporting, and Recommendation program, in pursuit of developing a new Water Quality Improvement Plan.

- K. Thomson motioned to approve Resolution 2025-07 and supported by A. Mullen
 - Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Redevelopment Ready Community Review
In 2020 City of Hart received Redevelopment Ready Certification and now going for RRC Essential. Our Website has been updated for a developer or builder looking to come to the City of Hart. Website cityofhart.org under services, click on forms, publications and links.
- Special Event Permit – Zumba Class, Super Fitness Rosario Mendoza **(APPROVED)**

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

Updates:

- The City Council Retreat was a great day of information sharing, historical review, upcoming plans, learning more about our department operations, and established past goals. We look forward to reaffirming and establishing new goals as we restate our Master Plan and Recreation Plan.
- Michigan Municipal Risk Management Agency presented a new focus to strive for more civic engagement.
- Parks and Recreation Conference was full of useful information that we will be putting to work in coming months and years.
- Public comments can be tricky, depending on the topic. Going forward, when appropriate, City Council members will receive an email reviewing City Council meeting public comments with a description of the follow-up.
- City of Hart Clean-up Day March 25th – guidelines are on the City's website.

Legacy Topics:

- Safe Routes to School trail project – work with MDOT is on-going [meeting scheduled for Wednesday February 12 with MDOT]

Upcoming Topics:

- Redevelopment Ready Community re-certification in 2025
Adoption of 5-year Park and Rec Master Plan
Reaffirmation of the City Master plan
TIFA By-Laws
Zoning Drawings – add to ordinances
Adopt Zoning Board of Appeals By-Laws
Review proposal to have council members serve as ZBA
- Council review of rental inspection policies, procedures, and implementation.

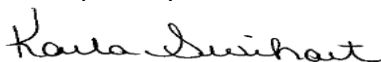
COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL:

- Mayor Klotz – Thank you Council Members and also Department heads for spending a Saturday for the council retreat. Lots of good information and discussion.

ADJOURN:

- There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Klotz adjourned the meeting at 8:41pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on March 25th, 2025, at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted



Karla Swihart, City Clerk