



**CITY OF HART**  
**407 S. STATE ST.**  
**HART, MI 49420**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL - COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**  
**September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**MINUTES – Approved**

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

**ABSENT:** Kris Trygstad

**OTHERS PRESENT:** City Manager – Rob Splane, City Clerk – Karla Swihart, BioPure Superintendent – Paul Cutter, Hart PD Chief Juan Salazar, Sharon Hallack, and Bill Volpp

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

- J. Admas motioned to approve the agenda and was supported by A. Klotz
  - Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Absent: 1

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- None

**CORRESPONDENCE, EVENTS, PRESENTATIONS:**

- i.) Community Listening Session – Mural artist listening session Hugo Claudin  
With a Grant awarded to the City of Hart, Artist Hugo Claudin will be painting a mural on the north side of LaFiesta Resturant that depicts the stories and lived experiences of our immigrant and migrant workers.  
We Want To Hear From You! The purpose of this mural is to celebrate and honor our Hispanic culture, contriburtions, and stories in our community. Join the meeting and share your experiences with the artist & inspire him as he creates a large mural for downtown!

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- Approval of minutes from August 8<sup>th</sup> , 2023.
- Bills, Claims, Payroll
- Reports of Boards, Commissions, and Committees
- Department Reports – Police/BioPure/Public Works/Energy/C&E Dvlp
  - A. Klotz motioned to approve Consent Agenda and supported by J. Adams
    - Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Absent: 1

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- Mayoral Appointment – Cynthia Fout – Planning Commission.  
Having to replace two seats on the Planning Commission Cynthia Fout showed interest in filling a seat.
  - A. Klotz motioned to approve application for Cynthia Fout to fill vacant seat on Planning Commission and supported by J. Adams
    - Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Absent: 1

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- Review of 2023 City Council Retreat with updates on identified projects.  
City Manager Splane touched base with Council members on projects that have been completed within the City since the Council Retreat in January.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:**

**UPDATES:**

- Audit in progress, auditors from Maner Costerisan are on site this week.
- Griswold Street and Polk Road Utility Improvement projects are in process. Griswold Street, the first phase closure is nearing phase end. Prein and Newhof are maintaining a website for construction updates.
- The National Brownfields Training Conference in Detroit was beneficial. New contacts have been made that will be helpful as the City proceeds with new development projects. The Oceana County Brownfield Authority approved a \$50,000 grant that will be used to do a residential level environmental assessment. This will help

make the Ceres Property more attractive as we move to the visioning and planning phases of the project prior to seeking a developer.

- The MMRMA Conference was successful with the City of Hart being awarded just over \$11,000 in grant funds to help reimburse the City for expenses related to risk reduction efforts. This year's focus was again on cyber-crime. The City will need to focus on risk mitigation efforts in the next 2-3 years to bolster our ability to recover electronically from a potential attack or catastrophic failure. Many of these efforts are eligible for grant funding that will be pursued.
- 2017 plan to automate electric and water meters is ready to move forward again. Water nodes were not available until this year. City Council will be reviewing a proposal soon to deploy the meters to every home in Hart.

**Legacy Topics:**

- The Charter review committee has met with the City attorney. The City Attorney is working on verbiage to be approved by Council, the attorney general, and the governor. The amendments will be processed for ballot approval at the next general election.
- Safe Routes to School trail project – pending state approval projected start date June 2024.

**Upcoming Topics:**

- Adoption of 2022-2026 Park and Rec Master Plan
- Veteran's Memorial Park final design approval
- Water, Wastewater, and Energy rate studies
- Council adoption of code enforcement policies, procedures, and implementation.
- BioPure biosolids hauling contract RFQ

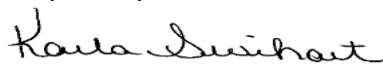
**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL:**

- J. Evans, Historic District held its last Heritage Days after 34years. It would be a shame to see this go away, without any younger volunteers stepping up to take over and help. It would be nice to put the word out and see if anyone would be willing to step up and continue this tradition.
- Mayor Platt, stated she knows a young group that is willing to step up and support the Heritage and will invite them to attend the September meeting. Also attended the Powwow held at the fair grounds over Labor Day weekend and it was beautiful.

**ADJOURN:**

- There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned upon a motion by C. Burillo and supported by J. Evans. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted



Karla Swihart, City Clerk