



**CITY OF HART
407 S. STATE ST.
HART, MI 49420
COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
August 23rd, 2022
MINUTES – Approved**

PRESENT: Mayor Vicki Platt, Councilors: Catalina Burillo (late), Jim Evans, Dean Hodges, Amanda Klotz, Fred Rybarz, and Kris Trygstad

ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: City Manager – Rob Splane, City Clerk – Karla Swihart, BioPure Superintendent – Paul Cutter, Energy Superintendent – Mike Schiller, Police Chief – Juan Salazar, Sharon Hallack, Carol Keck, George Sadler, Dick Huntington, and Brian Hosticka.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

- F. Rybarz motioned to approve the agenda and was supported by J. Evans
 - Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Sharon Hallack 112th Hart Mi wanted to share a historic article she found about the City of Hart Dated May 3rd, 1921
Civic Pride Has Made Hart One of State's Model Villages
Located in the midst of an excellent farming and fruit country among the hills of Oceana County. Hart is one of the beauty towns of Western Michigan. Like Pentwater it is a town of many shade trees well-kept lawns and pretty homes, and the civic spirit here has done much to improve the village.
The main business street is paved, and Hart people take much pride in keeping their homes and other property in good repair. The town has about two miles of paved streets and is in good financial condition. During the present year it plans to pave tow more through-fares. Church and Lincoln streets. The City has its own water plant. The water supply comes from artesian wells and like all other towns in this section the village boasts of its excellent water. The town has good firefighting equipment, including motor chemical apparatus. Hart, like the other towns, obtains its electric power from the Stearns company of Ludington. Hart, Shelby, Pentwater, Mears, Scottville, and Ludington are all provided with electricity by the Ludington Company. Hart at one time had a municipal lighting plant but it was abandoned. Now the City purchases the power and resells it.
What is more, Hart is exceedingly alive to the needs of the town and every effort is being made to improve the village. The merchants here are progressive and there is something of a metropolitan atmosphere about the place.
- Dick Huntington 115 Creeks Drive, I have been here several times with lots of concerns, as your aware they started construction on a duplex, and using the same plan as what is in the master plan so that part is good. I wanted to say everything seems to be going along well.
- Brian Hosticka democratic representative for State representative 102 district which runs from Whitehall, Montague area along the lakeshore all the way up to Manistee. And just wanted to stop in and introduce myself and leave contact information.
- Paul Cutter 3709 N 140th Ave Frank Lloyd is retiring and there will be a retirement party for him in Liberty Park behind City Hall from 2pm-6pm, Frank has been with the City for 24 years. Frank has done a tremendous job for the City of Hart.
- George Sadler 4800 W Monroe Rd (owns property 18-28 State, 209-211 E Main, here tonight to ask Council to consider doing something with the Alley, there has been continuous problems, it is starting to wash out again right about the drain. Now that the City has been notified if there is any damage done to vehicles the City's insurance company is going to be liable. Also, there are animals living back there. Last two meetings ago I was called out of order, so I printed out a Point of Order sheet id like to make sure gets put on record.

Point of order parliamentary procedure, a Point of Order occurs when someone draws attention to a rule's violation in a meeting of a deliberative assembly. In Roberts Rules of Order Newly revised (RONR), a point of order may be raised if the rules appear to have been broken. This may interrupt a speaker during debate, or anything else if the breach of the rules warrants it. The point is resolved before business continues.

- Caroline Keck 213 South Apple, not sure who put the article in the paper about Clancy, but it was a wonderful article. I had an issue on my road and went to City Hall talked to the girls in the office, today when I got home from work the DPW crew was there working and getting the issue fixed, so thank you for your prompt response.

CORRESPONDENCE, EVENTS, PRESENTATIONS:

- Review of Utility Financial Solutions proposal and Q&A – Dawn Lund
Utility Financial Solutions, LLC (UFS) is pleased to submit a proposal to provide a comprehensive financial projection and rate track for the City of Hart (Hart Energy).
UFS is an internationally known firm with a long-standing relationship and history of assisting municipalities with financial analysis and are recognized experts in the utility field. Our group and the project team assigned to this engagement are composed of highly qualified, experienced, and knowledgeable professionals who remain current on issues facing municipal utilities. We are regularly requested speakers at seminars at the regional and national level for the American Public Power Association, American Water Works Association, and the Institute of Public Utilities.
UFS will provide you with the highest quality service within an agreed-upon timeframe and has the personnel available to meet your needs. We would like to be a resource to you and your financial assessment needs. Our success is dependent on the quality and timeliness of the services provided to you and we are committed to the utility's complete satisfaction. Our experience in providing the requested services allows us to conduct a cost-efficient study.

We appreciate the opportunity to submit this proposal and look forward to discussing it with you.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Approval of minutes from August 9th, 2022.
- 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 K. Trygstad
 - Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

ACTION ITEMS:

- Resolution 2022-28 Accept UFS Proposal and Authorize Hart Energy Financial Study
WHEREAS the City of Hart owns and operates an electric distribution system and
WHEREAS previous electric system financial planning documents are antiquated and in need of updating and
WHEREAS Utility Financial Solutions has prepared a proposal to begin financial planning work to include future financial projections and
WHEREAS the Hart Energy Superintendent and Power Board recommend moving forward with the proposed budgeted project and
WHEREAS the 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 and approves the recommendation to proceed with UFS Financial Projection project.
Authorizes and directs the City Manager to sign and execute the proposal for an estimate fee of \$12,500, on behalf of the City of Hart
 - F. Rybarz motioned to approve Resolution 2022-28 Accept UFS Proposal and Authorize Hart Energy Financial Study and supported by A. Klotz
 - Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Absent: 0
- Resolution 2022-38 Accept Competitive quotes and award work for Hart Energy Building Improvements
WHEREAS the City of Hart operates a municipal electric utility; and
WHEREAS Hart Energy requires a secure and efficient building to store equipment and provide as a base operation; and

WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the City to provide continual maintenance of City property including projects that identify efficiency measures that may include a return on investment to the City and rate paying customers; 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 competitive quotes to perform insulation and siding construction from Blackmer Construction in the amount of \$47,756 and Stovall Construction in the amount of \$80,655. Council awards the work to low-bidder Blackmer Construction and directs the City Manager to Sign and execute all related documentation.

- F. Rybarz motioned to approve Resolution 2022-38 Accept competitive quotes and award work for Hart Energy building improvements and supported by K. Trygstad
 - Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Special events permit – Gospel Revival, In the street ministries.
- Special events permit – Special performance. Miss Natalie’s Haven of Dance

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

- Hanson road construction in process next to Department of Public Works building, concrete to be poured this week. This will require some equipment relocation, but all City services will continue without interruption.
- New construction s in progress in the Creeks Subdivision for the first time in over a decade! One new offer was received on a single-family home lot (total of 4 so far).
- Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority annual meeting concluded Sunday morning. Several topics were covered with significant takeaways including:

Cyber-criminal activity against municipalities has doubled each year for the last 4 years. Through this cyber insurance coverage continues, insurers are increasingly difficult to find, and underwriting scrutiny will continue.

Highest Exposure to Casualty claims in 2022 was Law Enforcement related:

- 9 Excessive Force (4 officer involved shootings)
- 5 Death in custody
- 2 Employee practices
- 1 Wrongful arrest/conviction

36 total open litigated claims:

- 17 Law Enforcement
- 8 Public Official
- 6 General Liability
- 4 Auto Liability
- 1 Sewer

- Work is ongoing to implement a guest survey system following all stays at John Gurney Park to ensure above average satisfaction.
- Dunk Tank at Fair to raise money for the H-Art Project.
- Hart Historic District Heritage Days Labor Day Weekend
- August 23rd Governor News Release: City of Hart awarded \$2.9 million in funding for water related infrastructure improvements to support the food processing industry.
- August 23rd Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Project Priority List released: If funding remains solid at the State level, Hart has been scored to receive two principal forgiveness grants totaling: \$5,437,500.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL:

- J. Evans wanted an update on the Code Enforcement Officer, CM R. Splane indicated still waiting on the Village of Shelby and Shelby township to commit, but if the City does not hear anything from them soon the CEO is a budgeted item this fiscal year so the City can move forward on its own to hire one.
- Mayor Platt couldn't be prouder the news the City of Hart received today being awarded the grants.

Also, I walked through JGP (John Gurney Park) and talked to campers in the park who all were satisfied campers and all positive comments, I did hear from one couple that there is a broken shower head in the men's bathroom and in the handicap area there was small issue so, even though the council receives letters occasionally from unhappy campers there is a lot of happy campers that stay at the park.

- J. Evans, as part of the Cemetery board I wanted to pass on information from the last meeting. The cemetery is going to purchase two crematory towers, they are towers made of granite which is not affected by the weather. They are 4 high by 4 across each one can hold two urns of cremains, for the same square foot of one grave you can put 96 urns. The Cemetery is going to start out with two, but eventually there maybe a section of the cemetery just for these towers as about 65% of the people ask to be cremated with 35% asked to be buried.

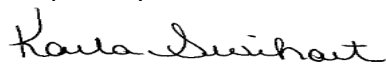
I also passed out to my fellow councilors information regarding a suggestion I made at the last council meeting about municipal civic award, I went down to a shop I have done business before, and they will come up with a plaque to hang on the wall for around \$300.00 and would be nice to honor people going above and beyond around the City.

- C. Burillo as I attend the music on the commons, I noticed a lot of moss on the turf and was wondering if there is something you can put on there to take care of the moss before it takes over the turf.
Last Thursday I attended Council on Aging meeting who was discussing housing for seniors as there is a lack of housing in the arena for seniors. They are just starting discussions about housing, and it would be nice to have representation from City Council at these meetings as they have more meetings regarding senior housing.
- F. Rybarz reached out to Mark who ran Muskegon Wastewater Plant who had to put on a big addition to their plant when Sappy added on a big addition, asking if him if they reached out to their big industrial users asking them to help with the cost of the addition, which he did say yes defiantly reach out to your big users.
- Hart Historic District is having their Heritage Days which is held Labor Day weekend, also the districts historic doll collection was up against 6 other doll collections around the country and the City's was chosen 2nd, and a video will be presented at Art Prize located at the Gerald R Ford Museum.

ADJOURN:

- There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at upon a motion by C. Burillo and supported by K. Trygstad. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on September 13th, 2022, at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted



Karla Swihart, City Clerk