CITY OF HART
407 S. STATE ST.
HART, MI 49420
REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL - COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
APRIL 8TH 2025
MINUTES – APPROVED

PRESENT: Mayor Amanda Klotz, Councilors, Jim Cunningham, Dean Hodges, Andrew Mullen, and Betty Root
ABSENT: Catalina Burillo and Karen Thomson
OTHERS PRESENT: City Manager – Rob Splane City Clerk – Karla Swihart, BioPure Superintendent – Paul Cutter, Hart Energy Superintendent – Mike Schiller, Hart Police Chief – Juan Salazar, JGP Superintendent – Chris TerHaar, Tim Collins, Sharon Hallack, and Christina Juska

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

- J. Cunningham motioned to approve the 1st Amended Agenda and was supported by B. Root
  - Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 2

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Tim Collins - 88th Ave Hart Mi, Recently sold home and is renting a seasonal camp site at JGP. They have to be moved out of home by April 15th which they chose this date due to the Park opening up prior years on April 15th. But recently I found out that new policy and procedures for JGP was adopted in December and now the Park does not open until May 1st. Would like the City Council to consider this one-time amendment and allow the park to open on April 15th.

CORRESPONDENCE, EVENTS, PRESENTATIONS:

- Presentation – Ross Simpson, Eden Lakes Innovative Water Solutions –
  Ross, did a presentation on new alternative to get rid of bio soilds rather than having to haul them out every year.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Approval of minutes from March 25th, 2025
- Bills, Claims, Payroll
- Reports of Boards, Commissions, and Committees
- Department Reports – Police/BioPure/Public Works/Energy/C&E Dvlp
  - B. Root motioned to approve Consent Agenda and supported by A. Mullen
    - Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 2

ACTION ITEMS:

- Resolution 2025-09 – Resolve to Decertify/Vacate Hanson Street East
  WHEREAS, the City of Hart receives State Revenue sharing funds through ACT51 to maintain local and major streets within the City boundaries; and
  WHEREAS, any roads that are not open to public traffic are not subject to receive State funding; and
  Whereas, approximately 300 ft of Hanson Street that is owned privately for private access to a parcel 020-337-002-20 at or about 828 Griswold Street does not meet State criteria of a public right-of-way; and
  WHEREAS, the City shall decertify that portion of road to align with ACT51 criteria; and
  WHEREAS, in order to secure the benefits of efficient self-government and to promote and protect our common interest and welfare, the City Council hereby declares:
  NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:
  The Hart City Council does wish to decertify/vacate a portion of Hanson Street.
  The decertification/vacation of Hanson Street is located between Griswold Street and Oceana Drive for a total decertification/vacation length of 300 ft.
  - J. Cunningham motioned to approve Resolution 2025-09 and supported by B. Root
    - Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 2
- Resolution 2025-10 Re-Adopt Master Plan

WHEREAS, the City of Hart is required to review and update its Master Plan periodically as required by the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, PA33 of 2008; and
WHEREAS, the City is currently a MEDC Redevelopment Ready Certified Community affording the community access to various grants and support not available to communities that do not hold this designation; and
WHEREAS, maintaining RRC status requires several standards including a 5-year review of the Master Plan; and
WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has recommended that City Council reaffirm and extend the existing Master Plan to help the City retain RRC designation; and
WHEREAS, a 42-day review period allowing the public and area agencies to offer comments on the proposed extension was performed as required to extend Master Plan; and
WWHEREAS, in order to secure the benefits of self-government and to promote and protect the common interests and welfare, the City Council hereby declares:
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

Has reviewed the existing Master Plan and readopts the document with the minor proposed date and expectation updates:

The Master Plan is now effective immediately and may serve as a standing reference through April 2030.

- A. Mullen motioned to approve Resolution 2025-10 and supported by B. Root
  - Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 2

- Resolution 2025-11 Re-Adopt Recreation Plan
  WHEREAS, the City of hart is required to review and update its Recreation Plan every four years to remain eligible for DNR Trust Fund Grants and other funding opportunities; and
  WHEREAS, the City is currently a MEDC Redevelopment Ready Certified Community affording the community access to various grants and support not available to communities that do not hold this designation; and
  WHEREAS, maintaining RRV status requires several standards including a 4-year review of the Recreation Plan; and
  WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has recommended that City Council reaffirm and extend the existing Recreation Plan to help the City retain RRC designation; and
  WHEREAS, in order to secure the benefits of self-government and to promote and protect the common interests and welfare, the City Council hereby declares:
  NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

  Has reviewed the existing Recreation Plan and readopts the document with the minor proposed date and expectation updates.

  The Recreation Plan is now effective immediately and may serve as a standing reference through April 2029.

  - J. Cunningham motioned to approve Resolution 2025-11 and supported by A. Mullen
    - Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 2

- Councilman Dean Hodges motioned to open John Gurney Park for this year April 15th. There were a number of seasonal campers unaware of the new changes made and the park opening up May 1st.
  Disclaimer the park isn't 100% ready and campers need to be aware that by opening up on April 15th there may be some delays as there will be power but might not have water/sewer hookup just yet.
  - D. Hodges motioned opening the campground up April 15th, 2025, for seasonal's and supported by J. Cunningham
    - Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 2

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Mayoral Appointment – Appoint Interim Zoning Board of Appeals Members
- Consider Public Comment agenda item changes
- Fire Hydrant review and report – April 22, 2025
- Parks and Recreation Steering Committee

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

Updates:

- **NONE**

Legacy Topics:

- Safe Routes to School trail project – work with MDOT is on-going – [Cadaver Dog right-of-way search being scheduled]

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:

- D. Hodges shot out to the City for doing a good job getting the City cleaned up already after all the fall storms and long winter.

ADJOURN:

- There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Klotz adjourned the meeting at 8:35pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on April 22nd, 2025, at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Karla Swihart

Karla Swihart, City Clerk