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

PRESENT: Mayor Amanda Klotz, Councilors, Catalina Burillo, Jim Cunningham, Betty Root and Karen Thomson
ABSENT: Dean Hodges, Andrew Mullen,
OTHERS PRESENT: City Manager – Rob Splane City Clerk – Karla Swihart, BioPure Superintendent – Paul Cutter, Energy Superintendent – Mike Schiller, Police Chief Juan Salazar, Rolando Salgado, and Emily Sigler,

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

- J. Cunningham motioned to approve the agenda and was supported by C. Burillo
  - Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 2

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- None

CORRESPONDENCE, EVENTS, PRESENTATIONS:

- City of Hart Police Department Year-End report 2024
  The mission of the Hart Police Department is to provide community service specifically designed to maximize public safety and the quality of life for citizens who live, work and visit the City of Hart. Our mission is to partner with the community to solve problems and improve public safety fairly, impartially, transparently, and consistently.
  The Hart Police Department is resonsible for enforcing local laws/ordinances and enforcing the laws of the State of Michigan. The department is also responsible for responding to all medical calls, investigating complaints, parking issues, arrests and crashes within the City of Hart. Department officers also assist various County agencies in enforcing State Law.
  Full Year-End Report is available on the City of Hart's website under

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Approval of minutes from January 28th, 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 K. Thomson
    - Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 2

ACTION ITEMS:

- Resolution 2025-05 Accept Proposal for Response Management and Public Communication Services
  WHEREAS, the City of Hart provides a myriad of services to residents, businesses, and community members; and
  WHEREAS, residents currently have the ability to communicate with City officials and support staff through phone and email when assistance is needed; and
  WHEREAS, the City continues to strive to enhance communications with our customers, residents, and visitors in an effort to benefit the community; and
  WHEREAS, staff have reviewed several systems that could offer enhanced communication from the general public to the municipality; and
  WHEREAS, Daupler offers a communication tool that will afford the public several different methods to contract City staff, the system includes many automated features that may help reduce City employees' time, increase response times, and track citizen concerns; 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 the partnership proposal from Daupler in the amount of $10,000 annually.
Authorizes and directs the City Manager to accept and sign the proposal and implement
in public communication program.

- J. Cunningham motioned to approve Resolution 2025-05 and supported by K. Thomson
  - Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 2

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Council Retreat Agenda
  The location is at West Michigan Research Station 5185 N Oceana Dr. Hart Mi 49420
  On March 1st, 2025, from 9am-3pm
  Agenda Items include:
  9am Breakfast followed by Welcome at 9:30 from Mayor Klotz with warm up activities from City Manager Rob Splane.
  10am 2017-2025 Review accomplishments, Master Plan Review and Recreation Plan Review followed by 15 min break
  11am Council / Tax Increment Finance Authority Joint Meeting then break for lunch at Noon.
  12:30 Getting to know your department's discussion (15 Min rotations)
  2pm Annual Budget Process
  2:20pm Visioning and Wrap up at 3pm

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

Updates:

- The City Hall computer server replacement was seamless. Next step is to install and deploy our new GIS software which will give Hart Energy a clear vision of our infrastructure from the field. Increasing efficiency and safety, while helping to reduce outage restoration times.
- Winterfest on February 1st was an overwhelming success. Over 300 people attended with enthusiasm and great soup! The Soup Walk people's choice voting resulted in; La Probadita took 1st (Pozole), Hansen Foods 2nd (Creamy Tarragon Chicken & Gnocchi), Hart Pizza 3rd (Chicken & Broccoli Alfredo)
- Frozen Tin-Man on February 8th was also well attended, where snow golfers enjoyed good camaraderie and decent weather. This was the third annual Frozen Tin-Man golf outing which raises money for putting the art in Hart!
- 6 Council members attended the virtual Newly Elected Officials training course through the Michigan Municipal League. This is a strong testament to this council's dedication to the position and love for our community. Let's keep up that energy!
- City staff met with the MEDC last week seeking guidance on how to best organize our regional Request for Proposals to redevelop the Ceres Solutions (Co-Op) property downtown. We anticipate evaluating options this summer.
- City of Hart Clean-up day is March 25th – guidelines are on the City website.
- Rob will be out of town from 2 a.m. on February 12th through the 19th. During this time, several meetings are scheduled to be attended remotely. Feel free to reach out via phone, email, or text with any communications.

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:

- J. Cunningham – Thank you Chief Salazar on the Annual Report provided
- C. Burillo – Save the date, 7pm February 28th the HMS auditorium Hart Public School Staff will compete for the title of Facility Feud Champion. Fund raiser to support the Hart High School Drama Club, Tickets are $5.00 per person.
- B. Root – Bingo night at the Oceana County Council on Aging Thursday February 13th from 5-7pm Valentine's baked food all proceeds will help the leadership program.

ADJOURN:

- There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Klotz adjourned the meeting at 8:31pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on February 25th, 2025, at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Karla Swihart

Karla Swihart, City Clerk