

VILLAGE OF HARTFORD BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
VILLAGE HALL COUNCIL ROOM  
140 WEST HAWTHORNE  
HARTFORD, ILLINOIS 62048  
April 16, 2024  
6:30 PM

1. Call to order.
  - A. Mayor Robertson called the meeting order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call of Board Members: the following members present: Mayor Bill Robertson, Paul Aldridge, Bernie Caldwell, Chris Fulkerson, Kristie Luebbert, Bill Moore, and Michelle Preston. Also, present Village Clerk Carolyn Daniels, Attorney Chris Donohoo, Leadman Ed Sebastian, Police Chief Matt Asbury, Asst. Fire Chief Ted Luebbert, citizens Elizabeth Asbury and Anna Broadfoot.
4. Establishment of a quorum
5. Approval of the Minutes:
  - a. Board Meeting: April 2, 2024, motion made by Kristie Luebbert and seconded by Bernie Caldwell to approve the minutes. Mayor Robertson asked if there were any discussions. Ayes: 6, Nays: 0. Motion Carried.
6. Report from the Village Clerk, Carolyn Daniels
  - a. Update regarding Wood River Sewer Rates for 2024/2025. Water bill will show an increase due to Wood River Sewer Rate increase. The increase is 3% and will begin May 1, 2024. Will increase from \$4.25 to \$4.38 per 1,000 and will show on July water bill. This is the last increase under this agreement.
7. Report from Mayor Bill Robertson
  - a. Mayor Robertson congratulated Ed Sebastian and Mike Daniels for completing the RMA Safety Training for blood born pathogen and Hazard communication.
  - b. Mayor Robertson took us into closed session at 6:33 pm under section IL-CS 120/2-C2 Collective Bargaining Negotiations. Motion made by Bill Moore and seconded by Bernie Caldwell. Ayes: 6, Nays: 0. Motion carried.
  - c. Board meeting resumed at 6:38 pm
8. Report from Attorney, Chris Donohoo
  - a. Chris Donohoo provided an update on 5 Diamonds Campground re-zoning request. In order for 5 Diamonds to sell alcohol and have gaming the building needs to be zoned as B-3 and the campground part under I-1. Boundaries will need to be drawn so this will probably be pushed off a couple of months or longer. Hopefully, if the Dollar General thing comes through, we will do the property on eastside of Rte. 3 and westside of Rte. 3 at the same time.
9. Report from Village Engineer – Nothing at this time.

#### 10. Report from Public Works Department, Ed Sebastian

- Ed provided update on Sewer pump that needs to be repaired. The company quoted \$27,000 to fix both pumps, since they were both installed at the same time, or we can fix one. Trustee Preston asked what would it cost to fix one or does it make sense to fix both at same time? Ed said he will review quote he believes to fix one would be half the cost. Trustee Luebbert agreed probably better to fix both. Ed will place on next agenda to approve fixing the pumps.

#### 11. Report from Fire Department, Ted Luebbert

- Per Assistant Fire Chief Luebbert he had to take 3810 to Banner for pump repair due to it leaking water after last fire. Banner repaired the leaking valves and while it was there, they performed yearly pump/ladder test. Total invoice is around \$1600.00 Ted will make sure to get it on the next agenda.
- Last week the fire department was awarded small equipment grant from Fire Marshall for \$26,000. The equipment that was put in for totaled \$42,000, so they are shy approximately \$16,000. He sent estimate to Bill and will place it on next agenda.
- Notified by Carolyn Daniels that Tyler Fish has passed everything, so he is coming in next week to get a pager and bunker gear.

#### 12. Report from Police Chief, Matt Asbury

- Matt Asbury provided update on the Chemetco burglaries. They will be going in later this week on felony charges on 2 suspects due to theft of over \$100,000. Everyone involved did an excellent job. They were able to get a nice chunk of stolen items back that can be returned to Chemetco and others Downtown St. Louis.
- The laptop has been mounted in the Crown Vic, so it is ready to use, and everyone now has a police vehicle. The Crown Vic will also be stripped soon.

#### Report from Committees:

##### 13. Safety Committee (**Moore**, Fulkerson, Caldwell) –

- a. Motion made by Bill Moore and seconded by Paul Aldridge to approve going out for bids on surplus equipment (2016 Ford Explorer). After further discussion it was determined the police and street department have other items they would like to add to the list and a resolution must be done. Motion made by Michelle Preston and seconded by Bill Moore to table motion until all items can be listed and one resolution created. Ayes: Aldridge, Caldwell, Fulkerson, Luebbert, Moore, and Preston. Nays: 0. Motion carried.
- b. Motion made by Bill Moore and seconded by Bernie Caldwell to allow the mayor to sign the Steel Workers Open Year Contract. Mayor asked if there were any discussions. Ayes: Aldridge, Caldwell, Fulkerson, Luebbert, Moore, and Preston. Nays: 0. Motion carried.
- c. Motion made by Bill Moore and seconded by Bernie Caldwell to approve Full Deck to mark the Ford Crown Vic for the police department at an approximate cost of \$900. Mayor asked if there were any discussions. Ayes: Aldridge, Caldwell, Fulkerson, Luebbert, Moore, and Preston. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

14. Ordinance Committee (**Aldridge**, Luebbert, Moore) – Nothing at this time.

15. Public Works Committee (**Caldwell**, Luebbert, Aldridge)

- a. Motion made by Bernie Caldwell and seconded by Bill Moore to approve hiring Angela Clark as a seasonal hire for the street department subject to drug/alcohol, physical and back-ground testing. Mayor asked if there were any discussions. Trustee Preston stated she was unaware we were hiring more. The mayor stated we needed to interview these applicants, but we did not need to interview the others hired since they work every year. Ayes: Aldridge, Caldwell, Fulkerson, Luebbert, Moore, and Preston. Nays: 0. Motion carried.
- b. Motion made by Bernie Caldwell and seconded by Bill Moore to allow the mayor to sign the Labor Local 338 Open Year Contract. Mayor asked if there were any discussions. Ayes: Aldridge, Caldwell, Fulkerson, Luebbert, Moore, and Preston. Nays: 0. Motion carried.
- c. Motion made by Bernie Caldwell and seconded by Bill Moore to approve a .50 cent increase for part-time/seasonal workers raising the rate of pay from \$14.50/hr. to \$15/hr. to meet the Department of Labor Law mandatory increase for January 2025. Mayor asked if there were any discussions. The mayor offered we are running into problems with Roxana paying their part-time employees \$19/hr., so we need to go ahead and raise the rate of pay. Ayes: Aldridge, Caldwell, Fulkerson, Luebbert, Moore, and Preston. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

16. Public Utilities Committee (**Fulkerson**, Moore, Preston) – Nothing at this time.

17. Park & Recreation Committee (**Luebbert**, Preston, Caldwell)

- a. Motion made by Kristie Luebbert and seconded by Bernie Caldwell to approve hiring Wayne Carriker as a seasonal hire for the street department subject to drug/alcohol, physical and back-ground testing. Mayor asked if there were any discussions. Mayor offered that Jon only works 3 days a week, so Wayne will be covering days Jon is not there working only 2 or 3 days a week. Ayes: Aldridge, Caldwell, Fulkerson, Luebbert, Moore, and Preston. Nays: 0. Motion carried.
- b. EAWR JFL unable to attend meeting. Kristie stated they will be using the soccer field at the park as a practice field this year and might use field to play home games next year.

18. Finance & Public Buildings (**Preston**, Fulkerson, Aldridge)

- a. Motion made by Michelle Preston and seconded by Bill Moore to approve replacing garage roof at fire/police station for \$3000. Mayor asked if there were any discussions. The mayor offered it is the garage that sits next to the fire department that is leaking. Ayes: Aldridge, Caldwell, Fulkerson, Luebbert, Moore, and Preston. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

19. Allowable claims against the Village

- a. Trustee Preston reported vendor claims of \$76,118.23, plus payroll claims of \$45,526.83 for total claims of \$121,645.06. On motion by Michelle Preston, seconded by Bill Moore, it was voted to pay the allowable claims against the village in the total amount of \$121,645.06. Ayes: Aldridge, Caldwell, Fulkerson, Luebbert, Moore, and Preston. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

20. Citizens Comments

- Anna Broadfoot stated she had presented a month ago to the board wanting to hold a party in our park on the 4th of July. She feels the information was misconstrued. What she was asking for was their non-profit to work with Hartford to do the event. They would like to flip flop between Hartford and South Roxana each year to make it a community event and partnership with Hartford. Their non-

profit does not have insurance so they cannot go out and ask for 2 million dollars to cover. This is just 2 moms throwing an event every year for their community, so they just wanted to partner with Hartford to work with the committee to have the event and she knows the vendors have insurance since Hartford used them in the past. I explained it is not the vendors we know the vendors have insurance. The issue is when Hartford had the event all the vendors fell under our umbrella since we have the certificate of liability to cover everyone in case something happened. The RMA states you (non-profit), has to have insurance since this is your function it is not Hartford's function. You must have \$1 million for one thing and \$2 million for another to cover the vendors, and to cover anything that may be damaged during the event because our insurance will not cover it as it is not Hartford's event. Anna stated she understands that, so she is asking that the liability not fall on the non-profit but to fall on Hartford. They are wanting Hartford to allow their company to partner with us and use our insurance as coverage. This is not something we have done in the past. Anytime outside companies wanted to use the park for an event such as Ameren and the train company they had to provide certificate of liability. Chris Donohoo explained our insurance is not going to allow this as they (non-profit), are not a vendor of ours, they are an outside company wanting to hold an event so they can not partner with Hartford and use our insurance as an umbrella as they would see the non-profit as a sub-contractor. If they had the insurance Hartford could rent the whole park to them, but without Hartford cannot take on the liability.

21. Unfinished Business from the Board

22. New Business from the Board

23. Adjournment – 6:57 pm

- a. A motion by Bill Moore, seconded by Bernie Caldwell to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Robertson asked if there were any discussion. All in favor signify with saying Aye. Those opposed say Nay. Aye unanimous.

  
Carolyn Daniels, Village Clerk

  
William Robertson, Mayor