

City Council Meeting – Regular Meeting August 6, 2013

Mayor Paul Zimmer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at Hartford City Hall with the following city council members present: Scott Nelson, Leah Johnson, Scott Yount, Mark Monahan and Doyle Johnson. Gail Olson-Duck was absent with notice. Also present were City Administrator Teresa Sidel, City Finance Officer Karen Wilber, Public Works Superintendent Craig Wagner, City Attorney Larry Nelson along with City Engineers, Mitch Mergen and Nick Borns.

Additions/Approve Agenda: A motion was made by Monahan, second by Doyle Johnson to add Terry Hagen to the agenda under Visitors - all voted yes, motion carried. A motion was made by Monahan, second by Leah Johnson to approve the agenda with changes - all voted yes, motion carried.

Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings: A motion was made by Doyle Johnson, second by Leah Johnson to approve the July 16, 2013 regular meeting minutes – all voted yes, motion carried.

Deputy Report: Deputy Terrones was present to give his report. He noted that speeding continues on Hwy 38 through town along with stop sign violations. There have been reports of burglaries and larcenies in town. He urged citizens to keep all cars, garages and houses locked.

Ordinances, Resolutions & Hearings:

7:05 Special Event Hearing – American Legion: The American Legion has submitted a Special Events Application to serve alcoholic beverages at a wedding reception and dance at St. George Catholic Church on Aug 24/25 between the hours of 4pm on the 24th to 2am on the 25th. A motion was made by Monahan, second by Yount to approve the Special Events Application for the American Legion to serve alcoholic beverages on Aug 24/25 at St. George Catholic Church – all voted yes, motion carried.

7:10 Special Event Hearing – South Bar: Crystal Sundermann with the South Bar was present to address the council. The South Bar has submitted a Special Events Application to hold a bean bag tournament and to sell beer in the city park on Aug 10th between the hours of 10am and midnight. This tournament is an annual event for the Carol Florey Memorial. A motion was made by Nelson, second by Leah Johnson to approve the Special Events Application for the South Bar to hold a bean bag tournament and to sell beer in the city park beer on Aug 10th between the hours of 10am and midnight – all voted yes, motion carried.

2nd Reading of Ordinance #589 – Rezone of Lot 6, Block 8 of Drake’s Addition from Residential to Light Industrial: Alex Espinoza was present to answer any questions the council may have in regards to his request to rezone his lot. Discussion was held regarding his intended use of the lot, which is to erect a storage building. His site plan was reviewed with the council. A motion was made by Nelson, second by Doyle Johnson to approve 2nd reading of Ordinance #589 to rezone Lot 6, Block 8 of Drake’s Addition from Residential to Light Industrial – all voted yes, motion carried.

2nd Reading of Ordinance #591 – Amendment to Property Maintenance Code: Currently, the City of Hartford does not have anything in city ordinance or in the property maintenance code that addresses the maintenance of right-of-way area along city streets and highways. Ordinance #591 will amend the Property Maintenance Code to include a section that makes the property owners that abut a right-of-way responsible for maintaining that right-of-way. A motion was made by Doyle Johnson, second by Leah Johnson to approve 2nd reading of Ordinance #591 – Amendment to Property Maintenance Code – all voted yes, motion carried.

Old Business:

Munce Purchase Offer – Lot 1, Block 9 of Hartford City Proper: The city currently owns Lot 1, Block 9 of Hartford City Proper. Roger Munce owns the two lots to the north of this lot. Mr. Munce has submitted a written offer to the city to purchase the city’s lot with plans to erect a new building that will occupy all three lots and offer commercial, retail or office space. A motion was made by Monahan, second by Leah Johnson to table this matter until the city has the land appraised by a licensed appraiser – Doyle Johnson voted no with all other voting yes, motion carried.

Billboard #5: Scott Nelson addressed the council on behalf of the Hartford Area Chamber of Commerce. He has requested the use of the west face of billboard #5 to advertise and promote the City of Hartford. There are two billboards that do not currently have plywood backing on them, one of them being billboard #5. A motion was made by Monahan, second by Doyle Johnson for the city to install plywood backing to the two unfinished billboards and to grant the Hartford Area Chamber of Commerce the use of billboard #5 rent free for a term of one year – all voted yes, motion carried.

New Business:

Set Date for Special City Council Meeting – Discuss 2014 Budget: A motion was made by Monahan, second by Nelson to set the date for the special council meeting to discuss the 2014 budget as Oct 21, 2013 at 7pm – all voted yes, motion carried.

Floating Devices in City Pool: Pool Manager Amy Sebert was present to address the council regarding the use of floating devices in the city pool. She feels these devices pose a problem for the lifeguards by obstructing their view to the children in the water. She also feels the children using these devices may go into deeper water than they should since they have the security of the device. This poses a problem if the device should slip from under them or pop. Sebert is requesting that all floating devices be ban from the city pool. A motion was made by Monahan, second by Nelson to table this discussion until the start of the 2014 pool season – all voted yes, motion carried.

City Curfew/Park Hours: Discussion was held on the current park hours. Currently the park remains open 24 hours except for the following which close from 10pm to 7am: volleyball court, basketball court, tennis court, skateboard park. A motion was made by Leah Johnson, second by Monahan to close all city parks in their entirety between the hours of 11pm and 6am – no vote was taken. A subsequent motion was made by Monahan, second by Nelson that the 11pm to 6am closure does not apply to anyone camping in the park – all voted yes, motion carried. Discussion was then held on the city curfew. Currently, any person under the age of 18 is not to be out in the City of Hartford between the hours of 12am to 6am unless accompanied by parent or guardian, doing errand for parent or guardian by written permission, or for school, church or city event the curfew is extended by ½ hour. A motion was made by Leah Johnson, second by Doyle Johnson to keep curfew hours and stipulations as is – all voted yes, motion carried.

Visitors/Correspondence: Terry Hagen was present to address the council in regards to the new amphitheater to be built in the city park. At this point about half of the donations have been turned into Gary Sandholm. Hagen also noted that he has been in contact with the concrete contractor and their schedule is two to three weeks out. A motion was made by Monahan, second by Doyle Johnson that once Gary Sandholm turns over collected donations to the city, Hagen can book the concrete contractor – all voted yes, motion carried.

Reports:

Chamber/HADC Director's Report: Gary Sandholm was present to address the council regarding the recent activities with both the Chamber and HADC. Gary mentioned that talks are ongoing regarding a new hotel being built in Hartford. Meetings have also taken with two other prospects who are looking to start up new businesses in 2014. A survey is being developed to gain community input about improvements to Hartford's downtown area. The Chamber Mixer was held on July 18th with Steve Larson being the speaker. The Chamber and HADC will have a booth at the Turner County Fair. The 3rd quarter newsletter will be mailed in the next week and the new phone book is going to print. Several food franchises are being researched and work will soon begin on pursuing a food franchise holder to open a location in Hartford.

Fire Department Report: Kelly Boysen was present to address the council regarding the recent activities of the Fire Department. The dept has had around 150 calls to date this year, which is down from last year this time. Boysen mentioned that August is usually a busy month with the added activities around the state including the Sturgis Rally and the Sioux Empire Fair. Discussion was held regarding the Jamboree Day street dance and what can be done to improve next year's event.

Public Works Superintendent Report:

Streets – Street patching is scheduled to start next week and micro surfacing is scheduled to start around the 14th. The inspection report on the Mickelson Road bridge has been received and a 5 ton limit was recommended. Wagner has ordered signs and will get them up upon receiving them. Mosquito spraying is ongoing as needed.

Water – Staff has been working with contractors on water/sewer installations. The new sewer lines at Kelley Point have been televised and look good. Staff has started to exercise water valves throughout town. Repair on water valves along with work in manholes will be done next week. Wagner requested approve from the council for he and Neil Hanisch to attend the South Dakota Water and Wastewater Conference in Aberdeen on Sept 11th – 13th. A motion was made by Leah Johnson, second by Nelson for Craig Wagner and Neil Hanisch to attend the South Dakota Water and Wastewater Conference in Aberdeen on Sept 11th – 13th – all voted yes, motion carried.

Park and Pool – Wagner has received the new mower and it is working out well. All of the fence along the bike trail is now removed. Sioux Valley Electric will install new underground primary lines for the ball field lights at no cost and Wagner has been in contact with electricians on getting quotes for replacing the old wiring and switches.

Public Building – Staff is planning on painting City Hall this week.

City Engineer Report: Nick Borns with Stockwell Engineers updated the city council on projects they are working on. Design work has started on the West Diamond Trail project. Inspections continue as necessary on the Kelly Point development. Stockwells has reviewed and provided recommendations regarding the Fifth St Apts drainage plan. They have also reviewed the feed mill site plan and provided comments. A preliminary draft of the CIP will be provided to city staff in early August. Preliminary plans for the Base Flood Elevation Survey have been submitted to FEMA for their review. Comments are expected within 90 days. Repairs to the Hwy 38 bike trail will be made yet this summer. Stockwells suggested planting wild grass on a portion of the undeveloped land at the sport complex site to help with run off on to adjacent properties.

Finance Officer Report: Wilber provided a highlight of revenues that were received during July along with the all revenues and expenses to date thru June. The swimming pool will close for the season on Aug 20th at 5pm. The council was provided a list of upcoming events for the month of Aug. Wilber provide information to the council on the SDML Annual Conference to be held Oct 8 – 11th in Aberdeen.

City Administrator Report: The crossing signals have been installed at the intersection of Hwy 38 and 2nd St. The speed trailer is due to arrive shortly. The City should receive the award letter for Phase 3 & 4 of the bike trail grant in October. In regards to the Diamond Trail project, City Attorney Nelson has been working on the agreements between the city and all parties involved. The Larson land swap is complete. The Mennenga Land purchase will close shortly. There has been no interest from adjoining land owners to Lot 3 of Swenson Addition to purchase the 2 housing eligibilities the city holds on this land. The council asked Gary Sandholm to approach land owners further out in regards to purchasing these 2 eligibilities. A signed copy of the creek agreement has been received and the project is expected to start the end of August if conditions permit. Sam Assam has approached the city regarding a land swap. He would give some of his land to the city in exchange for some city ground along Railroad St. This exchange would not be in the best interest of the city. The council requested Sidel approach Mr. Assam regarding a three way land exchange between himself, the City, and Leroy Stumpe.

City Council Reports:

Ward 1: Leah Johnson noted that the Swimming Pool Committee met on July 29th. New officers were elected. The next meeting is Aug 12th at 7:30pm at Pizza Ranch. Yount noted that the next Sports Complex meeting is Aug 14th at 7pm at City Hall.

Ward 2: Monahan noted that there was not a Bike/Rec Trail Committee meeting in July and the next meeting will be Aug 13th at 6:30 at Spikes. Doyle Johnson noted that he attended the last Sports Complex Committee meeting.

Ward 3: Nelson noted that the Chamber and HADC will have a booth at the Turner Co Fair. The next Chamber Mixer will be Aug 22nd. He has also received positive comments from residents regarding the new stop signs that were installed on North Vandemark Ave.

Mayor's Report: The Mayor thanked Stockwell Engineers for the nice job they do for the city. He also thanked Wagner and his staff for the nice job they do with the upkeep of city parks and grounds.

A motion was made by Leah Johnson, second by Nelson to enter into executive session at 9:40 p.m. – all voted yes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Leah Johnson, second by Nelson to exit executive session at 9:56 p.m. – all voted yes, motion carried

Adjournment: A motion was made by Doyle Johnson, second by Nelson to adjourn at 9:57 p.m. – all voted yes, motion carried.

Minutes recorded by Finance Officer, Karen Wilber.

I, the undersigned, Karen Wilber, Finance Officer in and for the City of Hartford, South Dakota, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes which is on file at the Municipal Finance Office.

Karen Wilber, Finance Officer