

VILLAGE OF HARTFORD BOARD MEETING MINUTES
VILLAGE HALL COUNCIL ROOM
140 WEST HAWTHORNE
HARTFORD, ILLINOIS 62048
May 2, 2023
6:35 PM

1. Call to order.
 - A. Mayor Robertson called the meeting order.
2. Roll Call of Board Members: the following members present: Mayor Robertson, Chris Fulkerson, Kristi Luebbert, Michelle Preston, and Bill Moore. Also, present Attorney Chris Donohoo, Village Clerk Carolyn Daniels, Police Chief Dan Geil, Treasurer Chessie Brame, Public Works Lead Ed Sebastian, and resident Kraig Daniels.
3. Establishment of a quorum
4. Report from the Village Clerk, Carolyn Daniels
 - a. On motion by Chris Fulkerson and seconded by Bill Moore to approve James Harper of Bizarre.com to redesign the Village of Hartford Website and place us on a more secure platform called Squarespace. Mr. Harper and his team has been designing websites for 30 years, with clients such as St. Louis Lambert Airport, Jerseyville Hospital, Hardin, and others. Squarespace is a secure site and will cost us \$200/per year for hosting. Mayor Robertson asked if there were any further discussion. Ayes: Fulkerson, Luebbert, Moore, Preston. Nays: None. Motion Carried
 - b. The Village Clerk provided copies of the new IML Civility Pledge, which was announced at the Spring Board of Directors meeting. All government agencies have been asked to read the pledge which will encourage everyone at meetings to be civil to one another. Pledge reads, "In the interest of civility, I pledge to promote civility by listening, being respectful of others, acknowledge that we are all striving to support and improve our community and understanding that we each may have different ideas for achieving that objective."
 - c. Provided a reminder to visit the Lewis and Clark State Historic Site May 13-14 for the Point of Departure Celebration featuring Thomas Jefferson.
5. Report from Mayor Bill Robertson
 - Mayor Robertson provided insight from zoom call with LKQ and Cass Sheppard. LKQ is pursuing hot and heavy, and they wanted to know what we needed from them. Cass advised a letter of intent is needed to show they want the property. Cass has already worked out the water and sewer plans, and he has had discussions with the Levee District and other entities that are involved, but everything is at a standstill until the letter of intent is received.
 - Trustee Preston asked about Dollar General. The mayor advised that Dollar General is still interested in building, but they are waiting on their attorney.
6. Report from Attorney, Chris Donohoo
 - 109 West Elm – Filing for motion of default.

- Egelhof – property ran in paper for three weeks, so if he fails to appear at court Attorney Donohoo will file motion of default. At that time, he can also file an order to allow Hartford to clean up the back yard.
- House on Maple with 20/20 Investments – this will run in the paper starting tomorrow for 3 weeks.

7. Report from Village Engineer – Absent

- Mayor Robertson offered the following information: He has not heard any more information on the pothole drilling that is supposed to take place. He had Cass speak with the Corp. of Engineers regarding the work taking place on the Canal Road. The road was in poor condition and now it is in really bad condition. The Corp. of Engineers advised Cass the road will be fixed once the job is complete.

8. Report from Public Works Department, Ed Sebastian

- The Public Works Department has been working this week on preparing the new Veteran’s Memorial site at the park and getting ready to have the foundation poured and setting the flag poles. Once poured Ed will contact Alton Memorial Sales to have them move the memorial to the new site. The plan is to have it completed by Memorial Day.

9. Report from Fire Department, Fire Chief Jarrod Horyn – Absent

10. Report from Police Department – Nothing at this time

Report from Committees:

11. Safety Committee (**Moore**, Fulkerson, Caldwell) – Nothing at this time

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

13. Public Works Committee (**Caldwell**, Luebbert, Aldridge) – Nothing at this time

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

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

- a. Kraig Daniels President with JFL Oilers would like to use the Park for practices. Practices are 2 or 3 days a week beginning in August, and they have around 150 kids in the program. They currently practice at the high school, but they need another space. Kraig and his wife recently moved to Hartford and felt the park would allow them to help grow the program and it has sufficient parking. They would also like to store equipment in the park. Their organization will clean up after every practice and they have insurance. Trustee Luebbert suggested allowing the team to use the concession stand since the equipment consists only of pads, footballs, and small items. I asked Mr. Daniels to email the schedule to me so we can collaborate on availability. Attorney Donohoo suggested setting up a contract with them and making sure they do have insurance.
- b. Due to additional applications that were received for Park/Splash Park openings Mayor Robertson suggested to table the motion to hire Miranda Wright until the May 16th board meeting to allow the Village an opportunity to interview the other applicants. Motion was made by Luebbert and seconded by Fulkerson to table the hiring of Miranda Wright. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Motion Carried.

- c. Due to additional applications that were received for Park/Splash Park openings Mayor Robertson suggested table the motion to hire Alex Wreath until the May 16th board meeting to allow the Village an opportunity to interview the other applicants. Motion was made by Luebbert and seconded by Fulkerson to table the hiring of Alex Wreath. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Motion Carried.
- d. Trustee Luebbert provided a reminder that the splash park is scheduled for opening on May 27th and will close August 27th. Normal operating hours will be from Noon until 6 pm, with party hours from 10 am until noon, and 6 pm until 8 pm.

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

- a. Trustee Preston provided a reminder regarding the TIF #1 Surplus declaration, which payments are approved under financial claims. The Village has 9 years left to pay.

17. Allowable claims against the Village

- a. Trustee Preston reported vendor claims of \$254,593.78, plus payroll claims of \$33,399.32 for total claims of \$287,993.10. On motion by Preston, seconded by Luebbert, it was voted to pay the allowable claims against the village in the total amount of \$287,993.10. Ayes: Fulkerson, Luebbert, Moore, and Preston. Nays: None. Motion carried.

18. Citizens Comments – Nothing at this time

19. Unfinished Business from the Board

20. New Business from the Board

- a. On Motion by Bill Moore and seconded by Chris Fulkerson to approve Mayor Robertson appointment list for 2023-2024. Mayor Robertson asked if there were any further discussion. Mayor Robertson said a correction needed to be made since the decision was made to table the hiring of Miranda Wright and Alex Wreath. They will both need to be removed from the list at this time. Two part-time police officers were also dropped from the list since they have not been working. Ayes: Fulkerson, Luebbert, Moore, Preston. Nays: None. Motion Carried

21. Adjournment – 7:02 pm

1. A motion by Bill Moore, seconded by 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