

**MINUTES  
CITY OF HARTFORD  
APRIL 5, 2021**

The City Council of the City of Hartford, Alabama, met in the conference room in city hall at 6:00 pm on April 5, 2021. The following members were present: Mayor Neil Strickland, Councilmember Melissa Clements, Councilman Ted Thompson, Councilman Zane Fowler, Councilman Paul Blount, and Councilman Ron Adams.

Others in attendance: Vicky Marsh, Annie Ward, Jackie Dillard, Wendy Strickland, Vernon Alford, Jerry Sorrells, Eddie Ambrose, Jeffrey Hatcher, Gary Lee Enfinger, Terry Walker, Jr., Kelli Brannon, Hayden Blount, Jynicka Roberts, Hayes Hatfield, Dustin Reed and Devin Watson.

Mayor Strickland called the meeting to order, and Councilman Adams opened with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**March 15, 2021 Minutes** – Motion to approve by Councilman Blount, seconded by Councilman Adams. The council voted unanimously in favor thereof.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- Terry Walker, Jr. discussed power issue at his house and neighbors. Utility department was called out to neighbors on Thursday, but no problem was found on city side. All connections and voltage were checked. Thursday night his lights started flickering, burnt up appliances at his house and neighbors. Mr. Hatcher said he had six months to provide a written claim to the City Clerk to be turned in to insurance company. Insurance adjustor would make call on who was at fault.
- Wendy Strickland invited council to opening day at Recreation Park. She will have a booth set up.
- Kelli Brannon gave update on car show, 13 vendors so far. Chief Enfinger will set up fire fighter challenge between Creative Cuts and First National Bank to try and get volunteers. Councilman Blount made a motion to close 3<sup>rd</sup> Av. and Commerce St., which motion was seconded by Councilman Thompson. The council voted unanimously in favor thereof. Also couple out of Geneva wants to set up train rides.

**AGENDA:**

1. **EDDIE AMBROSE – BUDGET BILLING** – Mr. Ambrose presented a proposal of \$2500 with monthly support of \$100 to set up budget billing. Mayor and council will discuss further at next council meeting.
2. **CHANGE ORDER – SIDEWALK PROJECT** – Councilmember Clements made a motion to approve change order, which motion was seconded by Councilman Fowler. The council voted unanimously in favor thereof.
3. **CONCESSION BID AWARDED TO ERIC CRAFT** – in the amount of \$750.00.

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4. **FIRE RESCUE CHIEF – CHANGE FROM SALARY TO HOURLY** – Councilman Blount made a motion to change Fire Rescue Chief Gary Enfinger from salary to hourly in the amount of \$19.23, which motion was seconded by Councilman Fowler. Roll call Mayor Strickland yea, Councilmember Clements yea, Councilman Thompson yea, Councilman Fowler yea, Councilman Blount yea, and Councilman Adams yea. Motion carried. Mr. Hatcher stated reason for changing to hourly based on call received from RSA on previous events. RSA is auditing systems everywhere.
5. **NEW SPEC BUILDING AT INDUSTRIAL PARK** – New business interested in leasing if City builds spec building. Mayor and Council can meet in executive session with President of new business. Would need letter of intent from business. Mr. Hatcher stated loan would have to be bid out.
6. **OPEN BID FOR CITY HALL ROOD** – One bid received from Steve Ketchum in the amount of \$47,600.00 with 30-year warranty and 5-year warranty on labor. Councilman Blount made a motion to reject bid and re-advertise, which motion was seconded by Councilman Fowler. The council voted unanimously in favor thereof.
7. **OPEN BID FOR UTILITY LOAN** – RiverBank & Trust 2.95%, Friend Bank 2.25% and First National Bank of Hartford 2.59%. Councilmember Clements made a motion to accept bid from Friend Bank, which motion was seconded by Councilman Adams. Roll call: Mayor Strickland yea, Councilman Clements yea, Councilman Thompson yea, Councilman Fowler yea, Councilman Blount yea, and Councilman Adams yea. Motion carried. Mayor Strickland was designated to execute document.
8. **UPDATE ON IT SERVICE RFP** – Bids have been sent out by Website and E-Mail. Bids will be opened on April 19.

#### **COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

##### **Mayor Strickland**

- American Rescue Plan, \$480,000.00 allocated to Hartford. Very specific on how money can be spent.
- Application has been submitted for \$300,000.00 grant for EMS for radio's, tablets and heart monitor.
- Ronnie Driskell still working on feasibility study.
- Geneva County Extension needs donations of leafy greens and other vegetables for their giving garden.

##### **Councilmember Clements**

- Complaint about partially burned house. Chief will send first letter of abatement.

##### **Councilman Thompson**

- Spring clean- up for the month of May. City to provide dumpster in central location that can be locked at night. Councilman Thompson made a motion to set May as clean-up month, which motion was seconded by Councilman Adams. The council voted unanimously in favor thereof.

##### **Councilman Fowler**

- Speeding on 9<sup>th</sup> Av. and Roehlig St.
- Landon replaced stove at Recreation Park.
- Eric Craft has everything stocked for concessions.

##### **Councilman Blount**

- Frank Hollis complained about speeding on Commerce St.
- Glad to see lot on Commerce Street has been cleaned up.

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**DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS:**

**Vernon Alford**

●Reference to speeding on 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. tickets have been given in that area. Police Department will continue to patrol.

**Annie Ward**

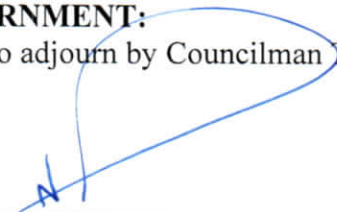
- Kids not playing basketball in street anymore.
- Speeding on Kirkland

**Gary Lee Enfinger**

- E-Mails sent to council about Slocomb
- Asked permission to give .75 raise to Jynicka Roberts, .50 raise to Christina Hirschy and \$1.00 raise to John Burton. Councilman Blount made a motion of approve raises, which motion was seconded by Councilman Adams. The council voted unanimously in favor thereof.
- Asked permission to look for vehicle.
- Asked about competitive pay for Fire Rescue to help keep employees. Councilman Fowler suggested discussing further closer to budget time.
- Mayor Strickland stated e-mails will be sent out to Department Heads regarding budget meetings starting first of June.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Thompson, seconded by Councilman Blount. Motion carried.

  
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Presiding Officer