

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
September 26, 2017

PRESENT: Chairperson Mixon, Members Randolph, Hegy, Carroll
ALSO PRESENT: City Administrator Volkert, City Engineer Schall

Call to Order – Chairperson Mixon called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Common Council Chambers of Hartford City Hall, 109 North Main Street.

Roll Call – All members of the Committee were present.

Public Comment Period – None.

Washington County Road Transfer – Representatives of Washington County have been contacting local townships, villages, and cities regarding the interest in transferring of county and state roads to local control. The three roads the County is proposing to transfer to the City of Hartford's control would be:

- Cty Hwy N: State Street to Dodge County line
- Cty Hwy U: City limits to Arthur Road
- State Hwy 83: State Hwy 60 to Clover Road

Staff is recommending approving the transfer of Cty Hwy N from State Street to the Dodge County line, along with State Hwy 83 from State Hwy 60 to Wilson Avenue (not Clover Road) with the negotiated maintenance reimbursement payment of \$156,000 coming from the county. The City is not interested at this time in the transfer of Cty Hwy U from the City limits to Arthur Road. The fiscal impact on the city will be negligible as the County is offering to pay the estimated maintenance costs for the first 10 years. All costs after 10 years would be absorbed by the city.

City Administrator Volkert provided information on the proposed transfer of the three roads, and responded to questions. The Committee discussed the proposal. Alderperson Randolph noted that he does not want the City to accept control of any of the roads, as in his opinion it would be adding future expenses to the tax roll which would increase every year when inflation was included. He did not see any benefit to the City in accepting control of the roads. Alderperson Hegy felt that the county is looking for a way to abandon transportation in the county, and thus not have to deal with a northern reliever route. County Administrator Josh Schoemann reviewed the proposal. In his opinion, the proposal would help the City regarding future highway development. In addition, the City would be able to regulate truck traffic in the downtown. Mr. Schoemann also said that he heard state transportation officials are looking for an eventual connection of Highway 83 with Highway 33 which would also benefit Hartford.

MOTION by Alderperson Randolph to deny Washington County's proposal for the possible transfer of control of three roads to the City. The motion died for lack of a second.

Public Works Committee (9/26/2017)

MOTION by Alderperson Hegy, and seconded by Alderperson Carroll recommending to the Common Council to continue negotiations with Washington County over the possible transfer of control of Cty Hwy N from State Street to the Dodge County line and State Hwy 83 from State Hwy 60 to Clover Road. MOTION CARRIED. (Alderperson Randolph voted "nay")

Adjournment – MOTION by Alderperson Carroll, and seconded by Alderperson Hegy for adjournment. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Hetzel, City Clerk

LH:pb
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Compiled by Pat Borlen, Deputy Clerk