# CITY OF HARTFORD COMMON COUNCIL April 21, 2020

The Common Council of the City of Hartford, Washington and Dodge Counties, Wisconsin, met for its organizational meeting on Tuesday, April 21, 2020, 7:00 p.m., via YouTube Live, Mayor Timothy Michalak presiding.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Michalak led the Common Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **ROLL CALL**

The Mayor and all Alderpersons were present.

## **OATH OF OFFICE**

City Clerk Lori Hetzel administered the oath of office to Alderpersons Turchi, Hegy, and Sikora.

# NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Mayor Michalak called for nominations for Council President. Alderperson Kohler nominated Alderperson Hegy. There were no other nominations.

MOTION by Alderperson Rusniak, and seconded by Alderperson Mixon to cast a unanimous ballot for Alderperson Hegy to serve as Council President. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

# MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES AND STANDING COMMITTEES

MOTION by Alderperson Mixon, and seconded by Alderperson Turchi approving the mayoral appointments to Boards, Commissions, and Committees as read. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### **UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION by Alderperson Hegy, and seconded by Alderperson Kohler approving the following unanimous consent agenda items:

- A) The Common Council minutes of March 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.
- B) Approving the purchase of a new 2020 GMC 3500 LCF dump truck from Ewald Automotive Group including the trade-in of the 2005 GMC dump truck, for a total purchase price of \$39,044. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Mayor Michalak read correspondence from the Board of Directors of the Downtown Hartford Business Improvement District to Governor Tony Evers, from Bill Savage, 528 Maple Ave, and from Timothy Purman with Forte Bank all relating to Item 15 on the agenda.

## **COMMON COUNCIL (4/21/2020)**

#### **APPEARANCES / CITIZENS COMMENTS**

There were no appearances / citizens comments.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Michalak commented on the recent Washington County Board meeting.

#### **ALDERMANIC REQUESTS**

Alderperson Hegy thanked the Common Council for electing him Council President. Several alderpersons congratulated Alderperson Hegy, and welcomed Alderperson Sikora. Alderperson Sikora thanked those who voted for him, noting that he looks forward to serving on the Common Council.

#### STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance & Personnel Committee

MOTION by Alderperson Kohler, and seconded by Alderperson Carroll denying the personal injury claim for Dennis Marthaler. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION by Alderperson Turchi, and seconded by Alderperson Carroll denying the personal injury claim for Kelsent Campos. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

On March 24, 2020 Governor Evers enacted Safer-at-Home Order #12 to help prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus. This order took effect on March 25<sup>th</sup> to remain in effect until 8 a.m. April 24<sup>th</sup>. On April 16<sup>th</sup> the Governor reviewed the statistics regarding the continued spread of the COVID-19 virus statewide and extended the effective timeframe of Order #12 until 8 a.m. May 26<sup>th</sup>. To date, while the virus has hit certain communities hard, the amount of confirmed cases in Hartford has been stagnant at 8 for over a week, with no COVID-19 related deaths. The local hospitals have few if any active cases in their facilities. Meanwhile local businesses are struggling while forced to stay closed with a few restaurants able to do curbside and carryout. Many other businesses are not offered such alternative options. The economic impact on the community as a whole is devastating.

The Mayor is requesting that the City staff devise a plan by April 27<sup>th</sup> on how they would see a roll out of retaining both public and private services including local businesses back to normal levels no earlier than April 27<sup>th</sup>, using the guidance of the CDC's recommendations on social distancing and limited occupancy within a building. This is pursuant to consultations with the Washington County Sheriff's Department and Washington/Ozaukee County Health Department. The Mayor believes that local businesses and residents should have the freedom to choose the risk they take regarding COVID-19.

Mayor Michalak provided information on a planned roll out to allow Hartford businesses to open if they so choose following CDC and Washington/Ozaukee County Health Department guidelines. The Mayor noted that the City is not encouraging any business to open, and will not enforce the Saferat- Home order from the Governor if a business chooses to open. City Attorney Prust provided information on devising a plan while keeping employees and patrons safe. Alderpersons Kohler, Turchi,

## **COMMON COUNCIL (4/21/2020)**

Hegy, and Garza all noted that they were okay with staff developing a plan. City Administrator Volkert responded to questions relating to the request.

MOTION by Alderperson Kohler, and seconded by Alderperson Mixon that City staff devise a plan by Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup> on how they would see a roll out of retaining both public and private services including local businesses back to normal levels no earlier than April 27<sup>th</sup>. ROLL CALL: "Ayes" 9 "Nays" 0. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

MOTION by Alderperson Mixon, and seconded by Alderperson Kohler that the Common Council move into closed session under § 19.85 (1)(g) "Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved" relative to litigation regarding special assessments; the Common Council to reconvene in open session for adjournment only. ROLL CALL: "Ayes" 9 "Nays" 0. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

MOTION by Alderperson Mixon, and seconded by Alderperson Turchi that the Common Council return to open session at 9:01 p.m. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Alderperson Mixon, and seconded by Alderperson Turchi for adjournment at 9:01 p.m. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted, Lori Hetzel, City Clerk

LH:pb CCAPR21.20 Compiled by Pat Borlen, Deputy Clerk