

**CITY OF HARTFORD  
COMMON COUNCIL  
July 26, 2022**

The Common Council of the City of Hartford, Washington and Dodge Counties, Wisconsin, met for its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, July 26, 2022 7:00 p.m., in the Common Council Chambers of Hartford City Hall, 109 North Main Street, 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; Alderpersons Sikora and Webb attended via Zoom.

**UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION by Alderperson Hegy, seconded by Alderperson Turchi approving the following items:

1. The Common Council minutes of June 28, 2022 and July 12, 2022.
2. Authorizing appropriate City officials to transfer the Hangar Land Lease for Hanger No. 2 at the Hartford Municipal Airport from David Wolbrink to Ben Gultch, Rubicon, by Assignment of Lease.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

City Clerk Lori Hetzel reminded the council of the Partisan Primary Election on August 9<sup>th</sup> and early voting happening from July 26<sup>th</sup> to August 5<sup>th</sup>. She also reminded the council that the regularly scheduled Common Council meeting on August 9<sup>th</sup> has been moved to August 16<sup>th</sup>.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

1. Mayor Michalak recognized Mike Hermann, Parks and Recreation Director, with a City Proclamation which included a declaration that July 29<sup>th</sup> will be Mike Hermann Day in the City of Hartford. Mike Hermann thanked his family and all of the different groups and staff members he has worked with throughout his years with the city.
2. Mayoral appointment of Dan Hummel to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

MOTION by Alderperson Kohler, seconded by Alderperson Carroll appointing Dan Hummel to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**ALDERMANIC REQUESTS**

Alderperson Hegy advised that the Hartford Area Chamber of Commerce met last Wednesday, and the new Executive Director, Lily Kidle, was introduced.

Alderperson Rusniak reminded the council that next Tuesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Police Department and Fire Department will be hosting National Night Out. This event is a chance for the public to come and meet some of the public safety officers that work in the city.

Alderpersons Carroll, Garza, Turchi, Sikora, Kohler, Webb and Fulop all congratulated and thanked Mike Hermann for all he has done for the city.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Finance and Personnel**

1. Discussion and consideration of the addition of one new fulltime Parks Cemetery Equipment Operator position as part of the 2023 City budget.
  - a. City Administrator Steve Volkert explained that this item was discussed at the previous Common Council meeting, as well as the previous Finance & Personnel meeting, but due to

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the lack of a quorum at the last Common Council meeting, the action that was taken was invalid. Therefore, it is being brought back to the Council for another vote.

MOTION by Alderperson Fulop, seconded by Alderperson Rusniak approving the addition of one new fulltime Parks Cemetery Equipment Operator position as part of the 2023 City budget.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

### RESOLUTIONS AND POSSIBLE ACTION THEREON

1. Resolution No. 3633 – A resolution approving the 2023 Budget Policy.
  - a. City Administrator Steve Volkert explained again this item was discussed at the previous Common Council meeting, but due to the lack of a quorum at the last Common Council meeting, the action that was taken was invalid. Therefore, it is being brought back to the Council for another vote.

MOTION by Alderperson Hegy, seconded by Alderperson Fulop for the adoption of proposed Resolution No. 3633.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

### CITY ADMINSTRATOR'S REPORT

1. Discussion and consideration of requesting the City Attorney to draft an ordinance allowing chickens in the City of Hartford.
  - a. City Administrator Steve Volkert explained that after reading the letter that was presented at the last meeting, Mayor Michalak had indicated that he would like to see this item on a future agenda. If the council agrees tonight, a draft would be presented at a future meeting for the council to vote on.
  - b. Mayor Michalak stated that he would be in full support of allowing chickens in the city.
  - c. Alderperson Turchi asked how many serious inquiries about chickens have been received at City Hall. Administrator Volkert said he has not received any at City Hall.
  - d. Alderperson Rusniak does not believe there is enough interest from residents to warrant changing the ordinance. He also pointed out that if the chicken owners wanted to have their chickens butchered, there are not any local butcher shops that butcher chickens, and the letter previously presented indicated that owners would not be allowed to butcher their own chickens in the city. He also raised concerns of chicken owners not investing in quality materials to build the coops.
  - e. Alderperson Fulop asked how much work would be involved in drafting an ordinance. Administrator Volkert explained the work would be minimal, as the City Attorney already has experience in drafting an ordinance that allows chickens and the city would likely use that ordinance as an example.
  - f. Alderpersons Webb and Sikora commented that they would be in favor of seeing a draft of an ordinance.
  - g. Alderperson Kohler was also in favor of drafting an ordinance, commenting that it could potentially afford families an opportunity to raise chickens as part of a 4-H project or other educational purposes.
  - h. Alderperson Hegy stated he was relatively neutral on the issue, however would like the issue of a potential problem with vermin due to the chicken feces addressed. He stated this problem was one of the main reasons chickens were eliminated from many cities years ago.

MOTION by Alderperson Garza, seconded by Alderperson Kohler to request the City Attorney to draft an ordinance allowing chickens in the City of Hartford.

MOTION CARRIED. Alderpersons Turchi and Rusniak opposed.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Alderperson Fulop, seconded by Alderperson Carroll for adjournment at 7:28 p.m.  
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lori Hetzel, City Clerk

CCJUL26.22