

City of Hartford
 19 West Main Street
 Hartford MI 49057
 269-621-2477
 269-621-2054 fax
 cityclerk@cityofhartfordmi.org

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MONTHLY MEETINGS

CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
 3RD MONDAY

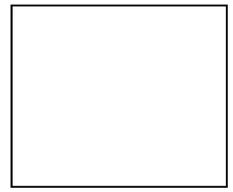
CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS
 4TH MONDAY

PLANNING & ZONING
 2ND MONDAY

MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND START AT 7:30 P.M.

"In accordance with Federal law & U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, sex, familial status, sexual orientation, and reprisal."

To file a complaint of discrimination, write to: USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Ave, SW, Stop 9410 Washington, DC 20250-9410 * 866-632-9992 *



*****ECRWS*****

POSTAL CUSTOMER
 HARTFORD MI 49057

Hartford Police—Jim Coleman, Ordinance Officer 621-3225

ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT REMINDERS

OVERGROWN LAWNS—
 Please make provisions to mow your grass at least once a week.

INOPERABLE/JUNK VEHICLES ON PROPERTY— Please make sure all vehicles stored on your



Hartford Police—Tressa Beltran, Chief of Police 621-3225



It's finally getting to be better weather! So a few quick reminders, when walking use the sidewalks it is against the law to walk in the road and obstruct traffic. It is against City Ordinance to allow basketball apparatuses to be placed on any tree lawn, sidewalk or street. It must be placed 15 feet from the road right-of-way edge or side which ever is greater. You will not be allowed to play basketball in the street.

Curfew hours are still in effect! The City's curfew ordinance states no person(s) seventeen years of age or younger shall be out unsupervised between the hours of 10:30pm and 6:00am Sunday thru Thursday and between the hours of 11:30pm thru 6:00am on Friday and Saturday. Any parent or guardian who knowingly assists or allows the child to violate this ordinance can also be charged with the Parental Responsibility Law.

If you have anyone coming to your door trying to sell you something please call us so that we can verify they have their Peddler's Permit. The City Ordinance requires anyone selling door to door have a permit. We also want to remind you that there is an ordinance pertaining to Garage, Yard, Basement and Private sales. These sales are allowed to be held on Thursday, Friday and Saturday during the hours of 8:00am—6:00pm. A \$5.00 permit must be obtained from City Hall prior to the sale. You are allowed three (3) sales per calendar year

not including the free sale set by the City. Yard sale signs are to be self supporting only and should only be set up during the hours of the sale and shall be removed immediately after the sale is finished!

Finally, if you see anything that seems suspicious, try to get as much detail as possible and call right away! The Hartford Police Department hopes you have a great Spring and Summer!!



Chief Tressa Beltran

April/May/June/July—2017



HARTFORD CITY NEWS

City of Hartford * 19 West Main Street * 269-621-2477
 Monday –Thursday 8:00am—5:00pm; Friday 8:00am-4:00pm

Volume 37 Issue 1



THE CLERK'S NOTES  RoxAnn Rodney-Isbrecht—cityclerk@cityofhartfordmi.org

Election News—Are you registered to vote in the jurisdiction you live in? Go on-line to Michigan.gov/sos to check your registration status. The next Election will be **May 2, 2017** for a Van Buren County Proposal. If you wish to vote in this election make sure you are registered by April 4, 2017. The Mayor Seat & three City Commission Seats will be open for re-election in November.

Water News— If you have a lot of outside water usage you may want to purchase an outside lawn meter for \$65.00. This will allow you to receive a credit on the sewer portion of your water bill. Saving you \$4.65 per/1000 gallons.

LARGE JUNK PICKUP—MAY 3
 Guidelines: NO refrigerators, freezers, or air conditioners;
 NO items over five feet (5') in length ;
 NO auto batteries, tires, or rims;
 NO materials that are prohibited from disposal in TYPE II landfills (paints, solvents, oils, etc)
 Paint cans will only be accepted if they have been opened and paint is completely dried;
 NO propane cylinders;
 NO yard waste will be accepted;
 Small, loose items must be bagged or boxed & be easily handled by two men;
 Have items out for pick-up by 6:00am May 3.

FREE RUMMAGE SALE WEEKEND—
APRIL 27—29 NO PERMIT NEEDED
METAL PICK-UP—APRIL 26

April 10, 3:30-5:00pm—Your elected State Representative Beth Griffith will be at City Hall to let you know what is on the agenda in Lansing,



"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

HARTFORD DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS—Dan Staunton, Superintendent
 621-3022 EMERGENCY.....269-208-5238

- ⇒ **WATER SHUT OFF**—If your water is shut off for non-payment and you want your water turned back on the same day you must make your payment before 4:00 P.M. Any payments made after 4:00 P.M. water will be turned on the next business day. \$100 will be charged if you want your water turned on after business hours.
- ⇒ **HOUSE NUMBERS**—Are your house numbers visible to emergency and city services personnel?
- ⇒ **STREET LIGHT OUT**—If you notice a street light out, please report the pole number and location to AEP 800-311-6424 or City Hall 621-2477

- ⇒ **SPRING REMINDERS** —
- **Hydrant Flushing—May 8—12**
- **Brush Pick -up—April 17—21**
- **Leaves Pick-up—April 17—21** Please separate leaves and brush before putting on tree lawn.
- If you have a **sewer back-up**— call immediately for assessment.
- Do not dispose of medication using the sewer system, a Red Med Box is located at City Hall for disposal.



- **Lawn Meters** make sure they are Clean & Working when you connect them for the spring & summer season.

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Avoid Late Fees—When the office is closed you can put your utility or tax bill in the **drop box** on the EAST side of City Hall.



DATES TO REMEMBER:

- May 2—Election Polls open 7:00am—8:00pm
- May 29 —Memorial Day, City Hall Closed
- May 29—Memorial Day Parade 10am, Service to follow in Ely Park.
- June 8—Concerts in the Park Begin 7:00pm
- June 13—Last Day of School
- June 9 & 10—Strawberry Festival—Volunteers Needed
- June 10—Strawberry Run
- July 4—Independence Day, City Hall Closed
- July 18—Board of Review



Another mild winter has besought us this year, it is unlike the winters we have had the last two or three years. Winter came along a little late this year and seems to be leaving us maybe a little early. While we recognize this is Michigan, it is nice to see that this winter was not as brutal and will allow us to save some plowing money to put towards fixing some of our local crumbling roads. Yes! spring is just around the corner, it is very encouraging not to see mountains of snow along our roads and the snowplows are having a quiet moment. As the weather conditions improve, all of the trash and junk materials that have been trapped under the snow will be exposed. The City does not need to send the Ordinance Enforcement Officer to your door before these are cleaned up. Take a moment to do the right thing and do your part in making the City more appealing. Our City will only look as good as the efforts we put into keeping it clean. The Ordinance Enforcement Officer will be out in full force to prevent accumulation of junk that could easily set up blighting influence in the City.

SPRING & SUMMER REMINDERS!
UNREGISTERED & UNINSPECTED RENTAL PROPERTIES—
Register your rental property & make an appointment for inspection. The inspection allows you to obtain an occupancy permit or gives you the opportunity to repair what makes your property deficient of code. Registration is only \$5.00 and makes your rental property code compliant.



UNWANTED VISUAL OBSTRUCTION—
 Shrubbery growth near street corners cannot obstruct the view of drivers. Please trim your shrub to ensure that pedestrian and drivers can safely cross the streets without getting into an accident. This could be a serious safety issue, if not addressed.

OVERSIZE BRUSH LIMBS & BRANCHES—
 The City picks up brush and leaves at different times. Please make sure you separate the leaves from the brush. The brush must not exceed 4" in diameter. **If you cut down a tree, it is your responsibility to get rid of the brush. Do not pile your brush against**



the fence, poles or trees. We try to help, but please help us in the process.

DO YOU NEED A BUILDING PERMIT? - When in doubt call us and we will let you know. Building without a permit is a violation of City Code with a severe penalty. A Building Permit is good for six months, call City Hall if you cannot finish within the six month time frame, do not leave your project unfinished.

HOME IMPROVEMENT—Did you know you can make improvements that enhance the value of your home, prolong its life and adapt it to new uses without the added cost of higher taxes? Yes you can, under the Mathieu-Gast Home Improvement Act. Routine, careful maintenance and minor improvements can pay big dividends when its time to sell your home. A neat, well maintained home generates more traffic and quite possibly a faster sale for a better price than comparable houses in less desirable condition. The following home repairs and improvements cannot be considered for assessment purposes while you own your home:

- Outside painting
- Repairing or replacing siding, roof, porches, and steps
- Sidewalks and drives,
- Repainting,
- Repairing existing masonry,
- Replacing storm windows or doors
- Replacement of awnings,
- Insulation or weather-stripping
- Wall or floor surfacing
- Adding or replacing gutters and downspouts,



Hartford Lions Club 2017 Concerts in the Park

June 8—Southwestern MI College Brass Band
 June 15—Lighthouse Chorus
 June 22—Southshore Concert Band
 June 29—Sounds of Elvis Steve Otto
 July 6—Jarod Knox, Community Picnic
 July 13—Star & Charlie
 July 20—Lake Effect Jazz Big Band
 July 27—Joe Jason
 Aug 3 South Haven Men's Chorus* Aug 10—Mockingbird
 Aug 17—Wil Smaka's MusicConnection



It is time for the 2017 tax year to begin. Summer Taxes will be issued July 1st and are due by September 30th. The City will accept partial payments for taxes after July 1st for those who may wish to pay a little every week or month. Principal resident property taxpayers may defer their summer taxes without penalty or interest until February 28, 2018 if their household income for the preceding calendar year did not exceed \$40,000 & 62 yr or older, including the surviving spouse, a paraplegic or quadriplegic, an eligible serviceperson, eligible veteran or their widow or widower, a blind person or, a totally & permanently disabled person. If you qualify the form must be filed by September 30.

If you have a question about a property listing please check the Van Buren County website at www.vbco.org first and then call our office if you have any additional questions.

Think Spring!! www.cityofhartfordmi.org

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Hartford Public Library
www.hartfordpl.michlibrary.org



Strawberry Run—June 10
 Info @ 621-3651

Strawberry Festival June 9 & 10
www.hartfordchamber.org
 Seeking Sponsors & Volunteers

City Officials

- Mayor.....Ted Johnson
 Mayor pro-tem.....Rick Hall
 Commissioner.....Ron Burleson
 Commissioner.....Frank Dockter
 Commissioner.....Dennis Goss
 Commissioner.....Terry Tibbs
 Commissioner.....John Miller
 Assessor.....Diana McGrew.....358-4497
 Ordinance Enforcement Officer.....Jim Coleman
 Building Inspector.....Chuck Moore.....569-0015
 Electrical Inspector...Russ Puckett..269-208-7465
 Mechanical Inspector...Walt Devisser.....427-7543
 Plumbing Inspector.....Mike Fields..269-348-4368

!!! IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS !!!

Police:

- EMERGENCY.....9.1.1
 NON-EMERGENCY.....621-3225
 SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT.....888-833-8114

FIRE:

- EMERGENCY.....9.1.1
 NON-EMERGENCY.....621-4707

MISCELLANEOUS

- ANIMAL CONTROL.....621-4624
 LOAN CLOSET.....621-4266
 PUBLIC LIBRARY.....621-3408
 POST OFFICE.....621-3701
 VAN BUREN COUNTY.....657-8200
 HEALTH DEPARMTENT.....621-3143

Hartford Fire Dept—Chief Robbie Harting—hartfordfirechief@gmail.com

Tornado Information

According to the National Weather Service, April thru June is the tornado season for this area. It is important to always have a plan and to practice it with all family members.

The following information will explain the differences between a Tornado Warning and Tornado Watch. It is important to remember that for Tornado Warnings, there will be a 3-Minute steady tone on the fire siren (located on the City's water tower) and will also be broadcast on local radio stations and TV news stations. No Siren will sound for a WATCH.

TORNADO WATCH: A tornado watch is issued when weather conditions are such that a tornado could develop. Remember to stay tuned to the radio or the news on TV.

TORNADO WARNING: A tornado warning is issued when a tornado has actually been sighted and is heading our way. When this occurs, a 3-minute steady tone on the fire siren will sound. This sound is a "TAKE COVER" signal.

1. Immediately take cover in the basement or in the center of house.
2. Stay away from windows.
3. Have a flashlight and battery powered radio handy.
4. Do not use the telephone except for emergencies.
5. Have a place to go.

SIREN ALARM TONES

3 Up & Down Tones = FIRE
3-Minute Steady Tone = TORNADO