

**CITY OF HARTFORD
TOWNHALL MEETING
HARTFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT 6:30 PM
150 W ELM ST
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2024**

Attendees present in person: Mayor Kandi Petry, Council Members: Sophia Eckert, Haldean Wilson, Andrea Jors, Rhonda Lanphier and Gregory Jennings. City staff in attendance - Clerk Cynthia Crippen, Fire Chief David DuShane II, Public Works Steve Eckert, ISG Lenny Larson and MIPA Andrew Collings.
Mayor Petry called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. welcoming all citizens in attendance.

Safe Routes to School – Sidewalks

MIPA-Andrew Collings: Presented the Safe Routes to School Program through the Iowa DOT. This grant has an 80/20 split funded Federal Transportation dollars. The deadline for submission is October 1, 2024 with awarding being in April 2025. If awarded the grant the funds wouldn't be available until October 2025.

Mayor Petry – Informed the audience that information has already started to be gathered for the grant process so that it can be submitted by the October 1st deadline. Hartford has always had a Sidewalk Ordinance but has not always been enforced but has had 2 different sidewalk committees in the last 17 yrs. to try and combat what to do about sidewalks in our community the reason it is important is because sidewalks provide a healthy and safe environment for people to walk to and from. Vine St. is a farm to market road it is not safe for pedestrians to walking in the street. A lot of the sidewalks that are in existence are in disarray or absent and what the council is trying to do is enforce the Ordinance and the sidewalks would also give us a connection from one end of the town to the other because right now we don't have that except for the road ways. We engaged the city engineer to come up with the blue line map. A letter was formatted for the properties on the blue line map & for properties that had sidewalks in disarray.

Council Member Eckert – Informed Citizens of the recent Supreme Court ruling and liability that is being put back onto the cities.

Mayor Petry – Opened the floor for citizens.

Several residents addressed their concern and questions to the members of council.

Council has sent many questions to legal for assistance to obtain the correct response and will provide answers at the Regular Council Meeting on September 17, 2024.

Mayor Petry adjourned the meeting @ 8:28 pm

Cynthia Crippen, Clerk

Kandi S. Petry, Mayor

Note: Minutes are unofficial until approved by Council-final approval may include corrections.