

BLACKFORD COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES OF

SPECIAL MEETING OCTOBER 25, 2022

The Blackford County Council met in a special joint session meeting with the Blackford County Commissioners, City of Hartford City Common Council and Mayor Eckstein of Hartford City.

Dan Borgenheimer called the special meeting to order. Mr. Borgenheimer also took roll with himself, Fred Tobey, and Kyle Lechien present. **Attending on Zoom:** Jack Beckley and Karen Mealy. Also present were the Blackford County Council and the City of Hartford City Common Council as well as Mayor Dan Eckstein.

Kyle Lechien made a motion to make City Clerk-Treasurer Dana Whatley the recording secretary for this meeting. Fred Tobey seconded the motion. The vote to approve was 5-0.

UPDATE ON NEWBERRY BUILDING PROJECT: This was a joint session of the City Common Council, the Blackford County Council, and the Blackford County Commissioners. Also present were Mr. Warren Brown with Blackford Economic Development Corporation and Mr. Greg Martz with GM Development Corporation.

Mr. Brown thanked everyone for coming this evening. Both Mr. Brown and Mr. Martz gave a detailed update on the status of the Newberry Building, what still needs to be done and a proposed way to get the project completed. Mr. Martz explained that the original amount of \$1,600,000 that was borrowed is in the City of Hartford City's name, but Blackford County is paying ½ of the annual payments.

He explained that the first part of the process was to seal the envelope of the building and make it waterproof. That included new windows and tuck pointing the building. He explained that the original amount borrowed covered that and there was money left over. The committee decided to put in an elevator which would make the entire building functional and not just the 1st floor. He stated that we are getting quotes from a new general contractor, Eric Wilson, with E. Wilson Enterprises, Inc. The completion of the following is needed to uphold our end of the lease agreement with the new Restaurant:

- 1) Complete all tuck pointing as needed in restaurant space
- 2) Electrical & Lighting in restaurant space, dining area, kitchens, and restrooms
- 3) Heating & Cooling – finish installation of units, piping, drains running all lines, installation of thermostats and additional duct work.
- 4) Plumbing throughout restaurant and restrooms
- 5) Hang and finish drywall
- 6) Windows & Trim
- 7) Floor Coverings
- 8) Roof repair
- 9) Fire Suppression & Hood installation
- 10) Fire Alarm
- 11) Handicap ramp

There was much discussion about Mr. Wilson's quote, the previous general contractor and the mistakes that were made by his company. Discussion was had regarding the phases left of the project and how is the best way to move forward.

The building committee which consists of Commissioner John Oxley, Mayor Dan Eckstein, City Councilman Ron Dudelston and Economic Development Director Warren Brown were instructed to look at all sub-contractor quotes that Mr. Wilson has obtained. They were also instructed to have Mr. Wilson seek out 2 more quotes for the electrical work in addition to his own for their review. Once all quotes have been reviewed by the building committee, the three bodies present tonight will convene for another joint session to go over those bids.


It was decided as winter is looming the roof issues must be addressed immediately. Mr. Borgenheimer made a motion to allow up to \$25,000 to fix and finish the roof. Mr. Tobey seconded the motion. The vote was taken via roll call.

Dan Borgenheimer - YAY
Fred Tobey - YAY
Karen Mealy - YAY
Jack Beckley - YAY
Kyle Lechien - YAY


With there being no further business from the Blackford County Council, Mr. Lechien made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25pm.


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Dana Whatley, City Clerk Treasurer


Approved this 17th day of December, 2022.


Dan Borgenheimer, President



Karen Mealy, Vice President

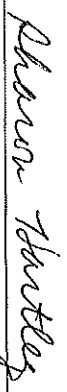

Kyle Lechien, Member


Jack Beckley, Member


Fred Tobey, Member


Ryan Goodspeed, Member


Patrick Cale, Member

Attest: 
Dana Whatley
Auditor/Secretary