

**CITY OF WILLIAMSTON  
CITY COUNCIL  
FEBRUARY 11, 2019  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**1. Call To Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers by Mayor Tammy Gilroy, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**3. Roll Call:**

Mayor Tammy Gilroy, Mayor Pro-tem John Bisard, Council Members Jeff Weiss, Noah Belanger, Dan Rhines, and Kent Hall. Absent: Sandy Whelton.

Also Present: City Manager Corey Schmidt, City Clerk Holly Thompson, City Attorney Timothy Perrone, City Attorney Courtney Gabbara, Assessor Pete Preston, Police Chief Bob Young, JFM Productions, citizens Carol Grainger, Cathie Ware, Mike Moran, Monica Schafer, and other members of the public.

Motion by **Belanger**, second by **Rhines**, to excuse Whelton. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

**4. Approval of Agenda:**

Motion by **Belanger**, second by **Hall**, to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

**5. Audience Participation:**

Mayor Gilroy called for public comments at this time and there were none.

**6. Council Meeting Minutes of January 14, 2019:**

On page 1, 8a., add "Thursday" after "Second" in the last line.

Motion by **Belanger**, second by **Weiss**, to approve the January 14, 2019 Council minutes as amended. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

**7. Accounts Payable:**

The first set of accounts payables totaled \$858,552.50 with reference #'s 71315-71390.

Motion by **Belanger**, second by **Hall**, to approve the accounts payables as presented, reference #'s 71315-71390 for a total of \$858,552.50. Yes: Hall, Bisard, Belanger, Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy. No: None. **Motion passed.**

The second set of accounts payables totaled \$128,618.66 with reference #'s 71397-71434.

Motion by **Belanger**, second by **Rhines**, to approve the accounts payables as presented, reference #'s 71397-71434 for a total of \$128,618.66. Yes: Hall, Bisard,

Belanger, Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**8. Public Hearing- Parks & Recreation Master Plan:**

Mayor Gilroy opened the public hearing at 7:09 p.m.

Manager Schmidt explained the purpose of the Parks & Recreation Master Plan and the work that has been done to the document to update it.

Mayor Gilroy called for public comments at this time and there were none.

No written comments were received.

Mayor Gilroy closed the public hearing at 7:09 p.m.

**9. Presentation- Red Cedar Garden Club:**

Carol Grainger of the Red Cedar Garden Club gave a power point presentation to the Council regarding the history, and plans for the Garden Club.

**10. Action Items**

**10a. Recording of Board Meetings:**

Motion by **Hall**, second by **Weiss**, to approve the proposal from Studio 130 to add uploading of City Council meeting videos to their services at a cost of \$50 per meeting. Yes: Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy, Hall, Bisard, Belanger. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**10b. 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Fireworks Ordinance:**

Motion by **Hall**, second by **Belanger**, to approve the first reading of the Fireworks Ordinance as presented. Yes: Rhines, Gilroy, Hall, Bisard, Belanger, Weiss. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**10c. Appointment of Bruce Bellingar to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a Term to Expire 01/01/21:**

Motion by **Hall**, second by **Weiss**, to appoint Bruce Bellingar to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire 01/01/21. Yes: Gilroy, Hall, Bisard, Belanger, Weiss, Rhines. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**10d. 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance for Principal & Special Land Uses Permitted Within I-1 District:**

Motion by **Bisard**, second by **Rhines**, to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the Ordinance for Principal and Special Land Uses Permitted Within I-1 District as presented. Yes: Hall, Bisard, Belanger, Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**10e. Approval of Parks & Recreation Master Plan:**

Motion by **Hall**, second by **Weiss**, to approve the Parks & Recreation Master Plan as presented. Yes: Hall, Bisard, Belanger, Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**10f. Appointment of Fire Code Committee:**

Motion by **Weiss**, second by **Rhines**, to create a two-year Ad Hoc Committee with Weiss and Bisard as Council representatives and Belanger as alternate, and approach surrounding municipalities to also serve on the committee, with the committee recommending action to the City Council. Yes: Bisard, Belanger, Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy, Hall. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**10g. St. Mary Request for Waiver of Fees and Decibel Levels:**

Motion by **Weiss**, second by **Rhines**, to approve the waiver of fees for St. Mary to hold a music festival in the bandshell on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Yes: Bisard, Belanger, Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy, Hall. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**10h. Resolution to Adopt Poverty Exemption Eligibility Requirements, Income Standards/Asset Test and Application for 2019:**

Motion by **Weiss**, second by **Hall**, to approve the resolution to Adopt Poverty Exemption Eligibility Requirements, Income Standards/Asset Test and Application for 2019. Yes: Belanger, Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy, Hall, Bisard. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**11. Discussion Items**

**11a. LEAP Grant for Art in McCormick Park:**

Manager Schmidt reported the City has applied for a \$10,000 art grant from LEAP. The money would be used to create new art in McCormick Park to replace the rotting tree sculptures. The newly formed Art Committee will be working on this should the grant be awarded.

**11b. MML Spring Conference:**

Information was included in the Council packet for the spring MML Conference in Lansing. Any interested Council members were encouraged to attend.

**13. Department Head Reports**

**13a. City Manager/DDA Director:**

Manager Schmidt provided a written report for Council review.

**13b. Police Chief:**

Chief Young reminded Council to check Crimedat and Nixle if they are interested in police information. The information is updated on a daily basis.

**13c. Building Department:**

A written report was submitted for Council review.

**14. Committee/Sub-Committee Reports:**

No report.

**15. Audience Participation:**

The MSU Journalism students in the audience introduced themselves to Council.

**16. Council Member Comments:**

Councilman Hall commented they are looking to see who is in charge of flag maintenance at Memorial Park and Dahlstrom Memorial Park. They are in need of replacement and lighting for nighttime display.

Councilman Rhines thanked DPW for their work in snow removal. It has been brutal, but they've done a great job.

**17. Closed Session to Discuss Pending Litigation in the Matter of LTD Red Cedar v City of Williamston in Front of the Michigan Tax Tribunal:**

Motion by **Rhines**, second by **Belanger**, to go into closed session to discuss pending litigation in the matter of LTD Red Cedar v City of Williamston in front of the Michigan Tax Tribunal. Yes: Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy, Hall, Bisard, Belanger. No: None. **Motion passed.**

-Closed Session started at 8:09 p.m.

Motion by **Belanger**, second by **Rhines**, to return to open session. Yes: Rhines, Gilroy, Hall, Bisard, Belanger, Weiss. No: None. **Motion passed.**

-Closed Session ended at 8:19 p.m.

**18. Action on Closed Session:**

Motion by **Weiss**, second by **Bisard**, that the City Council approve the recommendation made by legal counsel while in Closed Session in compliance with Section 8(e) of the Open Meetings Act, and authorize legal counsel to sign any necessary documents. Yes: Gilroy, Hall, Bisard, Belanger, Weiss, Rhines. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**19. Adjournment:**

Motion by **Belanger**, second by **Bisard**, to adjourn. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

**\*Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

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**Holly M. Thompson, City Clerk**

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**Tammy Gilroy, Mayor**

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_