

**CITY OF WILLIAMSTON  
CITY COUNCIL  
FEBRUARY 24, 2020  
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 Jeffrey Roland, Noah Belanger, Jeffrey Weiss, Daniel Rhines, and Gene Smith. Absent: None.

Also Present: City Manager Corey Schmidt, City Clerk Holly Thompson, City Attorney Timothy Perrone, Treasurer Rachel Piner, Police Officer Joe Pintar, JFM Productions, MSU Journalism Students, citizens Kent Hall, Julie Rudd, and other members of the public.

**4. Approval of Agenda:**

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

**5. Audience Participation:**

Dave Roddy attended the meeting on behalf of Kristina Lyke who is running for Congress. Mr. Roddy relayed Candidate Lyke offered to help with anything the City needed.

**6. Presentation- Williamston Area Senior Center, Julie Rudd:**

Julie Rudd reported the Williamston Senior Center provides services to City and surrounding Township residents. They provide lunches, education programs, wellness clinics, referral services, educational and entertainment outings, and in the future would like to offer cooking classes for recently widowed individuals. They would also like to be able to provide rooms for medical or financial consulting. They are a 501c3 and collect dues from their members on a yearly basis. They also receive donations, memorials, and endowments.

The challenges they are facing are: they are located on a third floor of a building with only one elevator for access, no kitchen, or running water, and they expect they will be out of funds in 3-4 years.

They are one of two senior centers in Michigan operating without a millage. They are hoping to put a millage question on the November 2020 ballot with City support. They expect to ask for .25 mills.

**7. Council Meeting Minutes of February 10, 2020:**

Motion by **Weiss**, second by **Belanger**, to approve the February 10, 2020 Council

minutes as presented. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

**8. Accounts Payable:**

The accounts payable totaled \$321,869.73 with reference #'s 72876-72925.

Motion by **Belanger**, second by **Bisard**, to approve the accounts payable as presented, reference #'s 72876-72925 from dates 2/4/2020 through 2/14/2020 for a total of \$321,869.73. Yes: Rhines, Gilroy, Roland, Smith, Bisard, Belanger, Weiss. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**9. Action Items**

**9a. Appointment of Garrett Gabriel to the Downtown Development Authority for a Term to Expire 06/30/21:**

Motion by **Rhines**, second by **Bisard**, to appoint Garrett Gabriel to the Downtown Development Authority for a term to expire 06/30/21. Yes: Gilroy, Roland, Smith, Bisard, Belanger, Weiss, Rhines. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**9b. Appointment of Kent Hall to the Board of Review for a Term to Expire 01/01/23:**

Motion by **Bisard**, second by **Smith**, to appoint Kent Hall to the Board of Review for a term to expire 01/01/23. Yes: Roland, Smith, Bisard, Belanger, Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**9c. Re-Appointment of Jeff Short to the Board of Review for a Term to Expire 01/01/22:**

Motion by **Rhines**, second by **Belanger**, to re-appoint Jeff Short to the Board of Review for a term to expire 01/01/22. Yes: Smith, Bisard, Belanger, Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy, Roland. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**9d. Resolution for Performing Arts Foundation Charitable Gaming License:**

Motion by **Bisard**, second by **Weiss**, to approve the resolution for Charitable Gaming License for the Performing Arts Foundation. Yes: Bisard, Belanger, Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy, Roland, Smith. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**9e. Resolution to Proceed with the Redevelopment Ready Communities Program of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation:**

Motion by **Smith**, second by **Rhines**, to approve the Resolution to Proceed with the Redevelopment Ready Communities Program of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation as presented. Yes: Belanger, Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy, Roland, Smith, Bisard. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**9f. Employee Assistance Program:**

Motion by **Rhines**, second by **Weiss**, to approve the amendment to Policy 3.14 regarding Employee Assistance Program of the Employee Manual. Yes: Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy, Roland, Smith, Bisard, Belanger. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**9g. OPEB Actuarial Services Agreement:**

Motion by **Smith**, second by **Belanger**, to approve the services agreement with CBIZ Benefits and Insurance Services Inc. as presented. Yes: Rhines, Gilroy, Roland, Smith, Bisard, Belanger, Weiss. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**9h. Economic Development Incentive Policy:**

Motion by **Bisard**, second by **Weiss**, to approve the Economic Development Incentive Policy as presented. Yes: Gilroy, Roland, Smith, Bisard, Belanger, Weiss, Rhines. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**9i. Miller Canfield Engagement Letter for Bond Counsel Services:**

Motion by **Rhines**, second by **Bisard**, to postpone this action item indefinitely. Yes: Roland, Smith, Bisard, Belanger, Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**10. Discussion Items**

**10a. Infrastructure Bonding:**

Manager Schmidt discussed the plans for infrastructure bonding and plans to go for a millage to support roads and infrastructure. He included a Millage Impact Analysis assuming a 1.5% Taxable Value Growth. The recommended millage rate would be 3.802.

**12. Department Head Reports**

**12a. City Manager:**

Manager Schmidt submitted a written report for Council review.

**12b. Police Chief:**

No report.

**12c. Building Department:**

A written report was submitted for Council review.

**12d. City Clerk:**

Clerk Thompson submitted a written report for Council review.

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

Councilman Weiss commented NIESA has been an ongoing challenge. He thanked Clerk Thompson for the recent training held regarding Open Meetings Act and Parliamentary Procedure. There has been a trend of rubber stamping things but they are trying to change things and he will continue to do what's right.

Councilman Rhines thanked Councilman Weiss for his work on the NIESA Board.

**14. Audience Participation:**

Dave Roddy commented he has petition forms if anyone wants to sign after the meeting for Kristina Lyke.

Kent Hall commented he has been reading about what is going on in Webberville and it is sad. He is thankful for the great staff in Williamston with a new City Manager, great Attorney, Clerk, Treasurer, and Deputies. He also announced the American Legion is going to get into the poppy business. May 22<sup>nd</sup> is National Poppy Day and he would like to ask the Williamston City Council to approve a resolution for National Poppy Day in the community to recognize all who have served. Violet Lentz will be selling poppies to send a girl to Girls State and a boy to Boys State.

**15. Council Member Comments:**

Councilman Smith thanked Councilman Weiss for representing the City appropriately on the NIESA Board.

Councilman Bisard agreed with Councilman Smith's comments.

Councilman Weiss thanked Council for their support. He also thanked Kent Hall for always stepping up where needed.

Mayor Gilroy wished Councilman Weiss a Happy Birthday and thanked everyone on Council for continuing to work together. She also thanked the MSU Journalism students for attending the meeting. Mayor Gilroy reminded everyone of the impending snowstorm and reminded everyone of the snow removal and parking regulations.

**16. Adjournment:**

Mayor Gilroy adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

**\*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:** \_\_\_\_\_