

**CITY OF WILLIAMSTON
CITY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 14, 2020
VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

1. Call to Order:

The virtual meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Tammy Gilroy, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Due to the COVID-19 State of Emergency declared by the Governor's Executive Order 2020-154, as well as recommendations for social distancing, this regular meeting was conducted via remote participation.

3. Roll Call:

Mayor Tammy Gilroy, Mayor Pro-tem John Bisard, Council Members Noah Belanger, Jeffrey Weiss, Daniel Rhines, Gene Smith, and Jeffrey Roland. Absent: None.

Also Present: City Manager Corey Schmidt, City Clerk Holly Thompson, City Treasurer Rachel Piner, Police Chief Bob Young, Deputy Clerk Barbara Burke, City Attorney Timothy Perrone, Attorney Matt Nordfjord, Alex Malloy with JFM Productions and citizen Monica Schafer.

4. Approval of Agenda:

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

5. Audience Participation:

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

6. Council Meeting Minutes of August 24, 2020:

Motion by **Weiss**, second by **Rhines**, to approve the August 24, 2020 Council minutes as presented. Yes: Belanger, Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy, Smith, Roland, Bisard. No: None. **Motion passed.**

7. Accounts Payable:

The September 14, 2020 accounts payable totaled \$240,677.79 with reference #'s 73518-73581 and ACH 23A, 24A, 25A, and 26A dated August 21, 2020 through September 4, 2020.

Motion by **Belanger**, second by **Smith**, to approve the September 14, 2020 accounts payable as presented, reference #'s 73518-73581 and ACH 23A, 24A, 25A, and 26A. Yes: Belanger, Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy, Roland, Bisard, Smith. No: None. **Motion passed.**

8. Action Items

8a. Appointment of Caleb Moody to the Parks & Recreation Commission for a term to Expire 06/30/23:

Motion by **Smith**, second by **Rhines**, to appoint Caleb Moody to the Parks & Recreation Commission for a term to Expire 06/30/23. Yes: Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy, Roland, Smith,

Bisard, Belanger. No: None. **Motion passed.**

8b. First Reading of Williamston Zoning Ordinance Text Amendments Related to Article 6 on Parking and Article 7 on Landscaping and Screening:

Motion by **Rhines**, second by **Belanger**, to approve a first reading of an ordinance to amend the City of Williamston Zoning Ordinance to revise Article 6 as to parking regulations and Article 7 as to landscape regulations. Yes: Rhines, Gilroy, Roland, Smith, Bisard, Belanger, Weiss. No: None. **Motion passed.**

8c. Liability & Property Pool Insurance Renewal:

Motion by **Weiss**, second by **Smith**, to approve the Michigan Municipal League Liability and Property Pool insurance proposal for the policy term 10/1/2020-9/30/2021 in the amount of \$73,649. Yes: Gilroy, Roland, Smith, Bisard, Belanger, Weiss, Rhines. No: None. **Motion passed.**

8d. Wow! Video Service Local Franchise Agreement:

Motion by **Weiss**, second by **Rhines**, to approve the Uniform Video Service Local Franchise Agreement with Millennium Digital Media Systems, LLC, doing business as WOW! Internet Cable Phone with a local franchise fee of three percent. Yes: Roland, Smith, Bisard, Belanger, Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy. No: None. **Motion passed.**

8e. 518 Mill Street Easement Agreement:

Motion by **Smith**, second by **Weiss**, to approve an easement agreement with 518 Mill Street to allow a fence to encroach into the Railroad right-of-way as described in the attached easement agreement. Yes: Smith, Bisard, Belanger, Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy, Roland. No: None. **Motion passed.**

9. Discussion Items

9a. Internet Services/WOW!:

Discussion was held on internet services available. Council felt it may be worth researching. Staff will investigate information and bring back to Council.

11. Department Head Reports

11a. City Manager:

Manager Schmidt submitted a written report for Council review.

11b. Police Chief:

No report.

11c. Building Department:

A written report was submitted for Council review.

12. Committee/Sub-Committee Reports:

No reports.

13. Audience Participation:

Monica Schafer said access for computers is so needed right now and she applauds Council for going forward. She felt it was a very insightful conversation on the internet.

14. Council Member Comments:

Councilman Weiss thanked Manager Schmidt and staff for the information on the internet. He feels this will be a huge beast.

Councilman Bisard also thanked City staff and appreciated staff's follow-up on the donation bins.

Councilman Roland thanked staff. He felt obtaining information from other internet companies is worth looking into.

Mayor Gilroy commented it would be good to look at internet options, anything to help our community. She is looking forward to seeing the information.

15. Closed Session - For a Strategy Discussion Regarding Collective Bargaining as Permitted by MCL 15.268(c):

Motion by **Weiss**, second by **Bisard**, to go into closed session for a strategy discussion regarding collective bargaining as permitted by MCL 15.268(c). Yes: Roland, Smith, Bisard, Belanger, Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy. No: None. **Motion passed.**

-Closed session started at 8:04 p.m.

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

-Closed session ended at 8:11p.m.

16. Action on Closed Session:

Motion by **Smith**, second by **Rhines**, to ratify the tentative agreement reached with the non-supervisory police bargaining unit and authorize the Mayor to sign documents to memorialize changes in the collective bargaining agreement upon review and approval of civil counsel. Yes: Roland, Bisard, Belanger, Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy, Smith. No: None. **Motion passed.**

17. Adjournment:

Mayor Gilroy adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m.

***Meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

Barbara J. Burke, Deputy City Clerk

Tammy Gilroy, Mayor

Date Approved: _____