

**CITY OF WILLIAMSTON  
CITY COUNCIL  
JANUARY 25, 2021  
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 county and state health department orders limiting indoor gathering sizes and recommendations for social distancing, in accordance with Public Act 254 of 2020, this regular meeting was conducted via remote participation.

**3. Roll Call:**

Mayor Tammy Gilroy (City of Williamston, Ingham County, Michigan), Mayor Pro-tem Noah Belanger (City of Williamston, Ingham County, Michigan), Council Members Thomas Pratt (City of Williamston, Ingham County, Michigan), Jeffrey Weiss (City of Williamston, Ingham County, Michigan), Daniel Rhines (City of Williamston, Ingham County, Michigan), and Gene Smith (City of Williamston, Ingham County, Michigan).  
Absent: None.

Also present: City Manager Corey Schmidt, City Clerk Holly Thompson, Deputy Clerk Barbara Burke, Police Chief Bob Young, City Attorney Timothy Perrone, Alex Malloy with JFM Productions, Patrice with Simmons Properties, and citizen Brandon Lanyon.

**4. Approval of Agenda:**

Change item 17 to item 15.

Motion by **Weiss**, second by **Rhines**, to approve the agenda as amended. Yes: Pratt, Belanger, Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy, Smith. 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 January 11, 2021:**

Motion by **Belanger**, second by **Weiss**, to approve the January 11, 2021 Council minutes as presented. Yes: Belanger, Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy, Pratt, Smith. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**7. Accounts Payable:**

Motion by **Belanger**, second by **Smith**, to approve the January 25, 2021 accounts payable as presented, reference #'s 73941-74000 and ACH 68-75 for a total of \$837,987.80. Yes: Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy, Smith, Pratt, Belanger. No: None. **Motion passed.**

At this time, Mayor Gilroy read a Certification of Appreciation for Police Chief Bob Young on his retirement. She thanked Chief Young for all he has done during his 11 years as Williamston Police Chief. Chief Young thanked Council and said it has been his pleasure to be chief and appreciates Council's support. He has been an officer for

45 years and retirement was not an easy decision. He said he loves this community; it is such a giving community, and he appreciates everything.

## **8. Action Items**

### **8a. Appointment of New Council Member for a Term to Expire 11/30/22:**

Motion by **Smith**, second by **Belanger**, to appoint Brandon Lanyon to Council for a term to expire 11/30/2022. Yes: Rhines, Gilroy, Smith, Pratt, Belanger, Weiss. No: None. **Motion passed.**

### **8b. Liquor License Resolution:**

Motion by **Rhines**, second by **Smith**, to deny the resolution authorizing a Class C Liquor License for 123 North Cedar Street. Yes: Gilroy, Smith, Pratt, Belanger, Weiss, Rhines. No: None. **Motion passed.**

### **8c. Art Grant Resolution of Support:**

Motion by **Weiss**, second by **Pratt**, to approve the resolution of support to apply for the public art grant through the Lansing Economic Area Partnership in conjunction with PNC Bank for a Downtown Mural Project. Yes: Smith, Pratt, Belanger, Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy. No: None. **Motion passed.**

### **8d. Police Chief Appointment and Contract:**

Motion by **Weiss**, second by **Smith**, to approve a resolution to confirm the City Manager's appointment of James Wolf as Chief of Police and to approve a contract for employment services. Yes: Smith, Pratt, Belanger, Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy. No: None. **Motion passed.**

### **8e. Janitorial Services Agreement:**

Motion by **Rhines**, second by **Pratt**, to approve an agreement with Dietz Janitorial Service, Inc., to provide janitorial services for City buildings for a term of February 1, 2021 through January 31, 2024. Yes: Pratt, Belanger, Weiss, Rhines, Gilroy, Smith. No: None. **Motion passed.**

## **10. Correspondence Received / Information Only**

### **10a. Friends of Williamston Parks Annual Report:**

Friends of Williamston Parks submitted a written report for Council review.

## **11. Department Head Reports**

### **11a. City Manager:**

Manager Schmidt submitted a written report for Council review. He also took this opportunity to provide his comments on outgoing Police Chief Bob Young and the huge imprint he leaves on the community. Chief was always out there riding bike, walking, etc. The Police Chief community panel all have great respect for him as does the entire community. Manager Schmidt has never worked with someone who has the support of all, and he looks up to Chief Young and his perspective. Thank you, Chief Young, and do not be a stranger.

**11b. Police Chief:**

Chief Bob Young gave his thanks and said the Williamston Police Department is bigger than him – the support of the service groups, crossing guards, residents, community, etc. He has wonderful memories of Jubilee, National Night Out, riding his bike around the City, and so much more. He thanked Council for their support, thanked the great community, and thanked City Manager Schmidt.

**11c. Treasurer:**

Treasurer Piner submitted a written financials report for Council review.

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

None.

**13. Audience Participation:**

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

**14. Council Member Comments:**

Councilman Belanger thanked Police Chief Bob Young for his support, it has been an honor. Congratulations.

Councilman Rhines echoed all the great comments about Chief Young and the amazing job he has done. He is a great chief – enjoy retirement.

Councilman Smith said Chief Young is leaving the Williamston Police Department with the best Williamston has ever had. Thank you.

Councilman Pratt thanked Chief Young - the Williamston officers respect you as does everyone. He welcomed new Council member Brandon Lanyon.

Councilman Weiss said he started in 1988 as a reserve and Chief Young has brought the Williamston Police Department from high to higher. He told a story of the Chief riding his bike back from a robbery scene from a few miles out of town and he was offered a ride back, but Chief rode his bike back – he leads by example.

Mayor Gilroy thanked Chief Young for everything - your time, your love, and your encouragement to the reserve officers. The new Chief has big shoes to fill. She told Chief to remember the sign “Welcome Home” as this will always be his home. There is a snowstorm warning tonight and she gave a reminder there is no on-street parking from 2-5 a.m. so DPW can clear streets. She thanked Brandon Lanyon for attending tonight and thanked the City Manager and staff for all they do.

**15. Adjournment:**

Mayor Gilroy adjourned the meeting at 8:06 p.m.

**\*Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.**

**Respectfully Submitted by:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Barbara J. Burke, Deputy City Clerk**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Tammy Gilroy, Mayor**

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