

**CITY OF WILLIAMSTON
CITY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 9, 2024
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

1. Call to Order:

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Pro-tem Brandon Lanyon, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Roll Call:

Mayor Pro-tem Brandon Lanyon, Council members Tom Pratt, Steve Jenkins, Dan Rhines, and Terry Hansen. Absent: Tammy Gilroy and Scott VanAllsburg.

Also present: City Manager John Hanifan, City Clerk Holly Thompson, Police Chief Jeff Weiss, City Attorney Timothy Perrone, JFM Productions, Phil Westmoreland with Spicer Group, Police Officer Calkins, and citizens Michelle Rosa and Tim Ludwig.

Motion by **Rhines**, second by **Hansen**, to excuse Gilroy and VanAllsburg. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

4. Approval of Agenda:

Motion by **Pratt**, second by **Hansen**, to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

5. Audience Participation:

Michelle Rosa introduced herself and commented she is running for District 15 Ingham County Commission.

6. Council Meeting Minutes of August 26, 2024:

Motion by **Hansen**, second by **Jenkins**, to approve the August 26, 2024, minutes as presented. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

7. Accounts Payable:

Motion by **Hansen**, second by **Jenkins**, to approve the September 9, 2024 accounts payable as presented, reference #'s 77795-77814, ACH 1060-1076 from dates 8/22/24 through 8/30/24 for a total of \$194,712.15. Yes: Rhines, Lanyon, Hansen, Pratt, Jenkins. No: None. **Motion passed.**

8. Action Items

8a. Federal Grant Policies and Procedures- Allowability of Costs Charged to Federal Programs:

Motion by **Rhines**, second by **Pratt**, to approve the Federal Grant Policies and Procedures – Allowability of Costs Charged to Federal Programs as presented. Yes: Rhines, Lanyon, Hansen, Pratt, Jenkins. No: None. **Motion passed.**

8b. Federal Grant Policies and Procedures- Procurement:

Motion by **Jenkins**, second by **Hansen**, to approve the Federal Grant Policies and Procedures – Procurement as presented. Yes: Lanyon, Hansen, Pratt, Jenkins, Rhines. No: None. **Motion passed.**

8c. Federal Grant Policies and Procedures- Financial Management:

Motion by **Pratt**, second by **Jenkins**, to approve the Federal Grant Policies and Procedures – Financial Management as presented. Yes: Lanyon, Hansen, Pratt, Jenkins, Rhines. No: None. **Motion passed.**

9. Discussion Items

9a. Traffic Control During Power Outage:

Manager Hanifan reported when there is a power outage at the stop light, and volume is very high due to something like highway traffic being detoured through town, the police may direct traffic, otherwise it is not done. Last week when the power was out, Chief Weiss observed the traffic flow, but it is not a common practice anywhere to direct traffic when the lights are out. It is to be treated as a four-way stop.

Chief Weiss agreed with the Manager’s assessment. Grand River Avenue. is a State highway and they cannot put out special signs to indicate it is a four-way stop. The act of directing traffic can distract a driver and cause accidents.

Councilman Pratt commented when he served on the fire department, they also did not want them conducting traffic control.

Mayor Pro-tem Lanyon commented he went through the intersection multiple times with no issues.

Councilman Rhines agreed it is best to not direct traffic as a policy and is more dangerous to do so.

Councilman Jenkins commented he went through the intersection multiple times and saw two instances where there were almost accidents. He feels it would be nice to have signage there at least reminding people it is a four-way stop when power is out.

9b. Construction Project Update(s):

Manager Hanifan reported the new sidewalks in front of City Hall and several around town will be poured tomorrow. They are working on the hydro seeding in some areas for grass that is not growing. They are still working on the construction project punch list, some of which include: trouble spots on Williams and Lloyd Streets; SurfNet has been noticed to make landscape repairs; construction contractor will also do some landscape maintenance. He wants to assure residents we are keeping after these issues. For trees that need replacing on North Putnam, the best time to plant trees is at the end of September.

9c. Master Plan Update:

Manager Hanifan reported the Planning Commission had a work session last Tuesday and had a great discussion. The Master Plan survey will still be available for a couple more

Mayor Pro-tem Lanyon commented there were two citizens in attendance to give feedback.

9d. “Main Four” Safety Improvements:

Manager Hanifan reported the design concepts shown at the last meeting will be shared with MDOT for their review. He is expecting if things go well, the implementation could take place in Spring of 2025.

11. Department Head Reports

11a. City Manager:

Manager Hanifan commented there will be TIFA, DDA, and Parks Commission meetings next week.

11b. Police Chief:

A written report was submitted for Council review.

11c. City Clerk:

A written report was submitted for Council review.

12. Committee/Sub-Committee Reports:

Mayor Pro-tem Lanyon reported the Planning Commission looked at a proposed housing development on Linn Road. This required a Special Land Use permit. Comments from the public were answered by the developer.

13. Audience Participation:

Mayor Pro-tem Lanyon called for public comments at this time and there were none.

14. Council Member Comments:

Councilman Rhines commented he has people approach him often with questions and concerns and he tries to be very responsive.

Councilman Jenkins commented social media is the way people tend to make their opinions known and does allow for insight into concerns.

15. Closed Session- Capitol City Labor Program (Williamston Police Department) Collective Bargaining allowed under MCL 15.268(c):

Motion by **Rhines**, second by **Pratt**, to go into closed session to discuss the Capitol City Labor Program (Williamston Police Department) Collective Bargaining allowed under MCL 15.268(1)(c). Yes: Jenkins, Rhines, Hansen, Lanyon, Pratt. No: None. **Motion passed.**

-Closed Session started at 7:54 p.m.

Motion by **Hansen**, second by **Rhines**, to return to open session. Yes: Jenkins, Rhines, Lanyon, Pratt, Hansen. No: None. **Motion passed.**

-Closed Session ended at 8:04 p.m.

16. Adjourn to the Call of the Chair:

Mayor Pro-tem Lanyon adjourned the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

***Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

Holly M. Thompson, City Clerk

Brandon Lanyon, Mayor Pro-tem

Date Approved: _____