

**CITY OF WILLIAMSTON
CITY COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 27, 2023
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

1. Call to Order:

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

3. Roll Call:

Mayor Tammy Gilroy, Mayor Pro-tem Brandon Lanyon, Councilmembers Tommy Pratt, Steve Jenkins, Scott VanAllsburg, Dan Rhines, and Terry Hansen. Absent: None.

Also present: City Manager John Hanifan, Deputy Clerk Barb Burke, City Attorney Timothy Perrone, City Engineer/DPW Director Scott DeVries, Police Chief Bob Young, JFM Productions, and Officer Michael Pearl.

4. Approval of Agenda:

Motion by **Jenkins**, second by **Hansen**, 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 February 13, 2023:

Motion by **Jenkins**, second by **VanAllsburg**, to approve the February 13, 2023, minutes as presented. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

7. Accounts Payable:

Motion by **Lanyon**, second by **Hansen**, to approve the February 27, 2023, accounts payable as presented, reference #'s 76473-76522, EFT 383, and ACH 378-384 from dates 2-9-23 through 2-17-23 for a total of \$438,809.26. Yes: Jenkins, VanAllsburg, Rhines, Gilroy, Lanyon, Pratt, Hansen. No: None. **Motion passed.**

8. Action Items

8a. Appointment of Lee Fisher to the Planning Commission for a Term to Expire 06/30/24:

Motion by **Lanyon**, second by **Pratt**, to appoint Lee Fisher to the Planning Commission for a term to expire 06/30/24. Yes: VanAllsburg, Rhines, Gilroy, Lanyon, Hansen, Pratt, Jenkins. No: None. **Motion passed.**

8b. Annual Williamston Poverty Exemption Resolution:

Motion by **Rhines**, second by **VanAllsburg**, to approve the Resolution to Adopt Poverty Exemption Eligibility Requirements, Income Standards/Asset Test and Application for 2023. Yes: Rhines, Gilroy, Lanyon, Hansen, Pratt, Jenkins, VanAllsburg. No: None. **Motion passed.**

8c. 2023 North Putnam Street Project – DTE Streetlight Relocations:

Motion by **Hansen**, second by **Jenkins**, to approve the agreement with DTE for relocation of streetlight poles that conflict with the 2023 North Putnam Street Reconstruction MDOT LAP project in the amount of \$16,407.90 (not-to-exceed). Yes: Gilroy, Lanyon, Hansen, Pratt, Jenkins, VanAllsburg, Rhines. No: None. **Motion passed.**

8d. Set Public Hearing for TIFA 2B Plan Amendment – March 27, 2023 at 7:05 p.m.:

Motion by **Lanyon**, second by **Rhines**, to set the public hearing for the TIFA 2B Plan Amendment for March 27, 2023 at 7:05 p.m. Yes: Lanyon, Hansen, Pratt, Jenkins, VanAllsburg, Rhines, Gilroy. No: None. **Motion passed.**

9. Discussion Items

9a. Road Diet:

Engineer DeVries reported MDOT was having an internal meeting to address the City's questions and we should hear back very soon.

11. Department Head Reports

11a. City Manager:

Manager Hanifan reminded everyone of the visioning session at the NIESA building this Wednesday, March 1, at 6 pm. It will be filmed for those unable to attend. The TIFA amendment was necessary for the updated purchase agreement for the Icehouse Project. The project is going to the Planning Commission next week. The naming contest for the new Kayak Launch is fully underway with about twelve submissions received at this time. The DDA will consider submissions and make a recommendation to Council. He gave Council members a written copy of his annual evaluation and asked for their comments to be returned by March 9. He attended the Chamber Annual Awards Dinner, and it was a great event.

Other:

Engineer DeVries reported there is water seeping out on Church Street and DPW will be repairing it early tomorrow morning. The North Putnam Street open house was very successful. Manager Hanifan added that Engineer DeVries has done a great job with residents and addressing the project.

Police Chief Young introduced Officer Michael Pearl who was in attendance. He made Council members aware of the Police Department's website and the items available: Crimedat – tells what is going on in the City and is updated daily; Nixle and Smart911 – you can sign up from the Department's website. The swatting in Okemos and the shooting at MSU affected our Police Department and our community. He assured everyone our schools are very well-prepared, and the schools and our Police Department work closely together. There are currently two officer vacancies which he is looking to fill.

12. Committee/Sub-Committee Reports:

Councilman Jenkins said TIFA reviewed and accepted the resolution approving the 2023 amendment to the tax increment financing plan and development plan 2B at their last meeting, which was on the Council agenda tonight.

Mayor Gilroy reviewed the DDA meeting and there is lots going on. The Chamber held their award dinner recognizing community members and businesses; they are going through improvements and working on increasing membership. The DDA talked about seasonal commercials to continue branding effort for Williamston.

13. Audience Participation:

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

14. Council Member Comments:

Councilman Hansen thanked the Police Chief for the great report.

Councilman Lanyon thanked Engineer DeVries for all he has done for the North Putnam Street Project. He told the Police Chief if there is anything Council can do to assist the Department in retention to please let them know. He appreciated the Williamston Police Department's response to both the swatting event in Okemos and the shooting at MSU.

Councilman VanAllsburg attended the Williamston Theatre's latest show which just finished the run. Even if you do not like the shows, they always make you think.

Councilman Rhines echoed Lanyon's sentiments on the great work from the Police Department. He recently got to see the School Resource Officer working at the schools.

Mayor Gilroy thanked Chief Young for jumping right in and moving the Department forward. She gave her sincere thanks to NIESA, the Police Department, and all first responders for their help during recent events. Our personnel are very well trained. She reminded everyone to check on each other, and take care of your own mental health. There is no parking on City streets between 2am-5am through March 31.

15. Adjourn to the Call of the Chair:

Mayor Gilroy adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

***Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

Barbara J. Burke, Deputy City Clerk

Tammy Gilroy, Mayor

Date Approved: _____