

**CITY OF WILLIAMSTON
CITY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 11, 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, Council members Tommy Pratt, Steve Jenkins, Scott VanAllsburg, Dan Rhines, and Terry Hansen. Absent: None.

Also present: City Manager John Hanifan, City Clerk Holly Thompson, Engineer/DPW Director Scott DeVries, City Attorney Timothy Perrone, JFM Productions, and citizens Jeff and Lori Weiss, Lina Chapman, Kitty Rothwell, and Kent Hall.

4. Approval of Agenda:

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

5. Audience Participation:

Lina Chapman commented she is in support of the Road Diet. It is a great idea to improve the intersection and traffic flow. She also likes the addition of bike lanes.

Kitty Rothwell commented she is in support of the Road Diet. She is an MDOT retiree and feels this should have been done long ago.

6. Council Meeting Minutes of August 28, 2023:

Motion by **Hansen**, second by **Lanyon**, to approve the August 28, 2023, minutes as presented. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

7. Accounts Payable:

Motion by **Lanyon**, second by **Jenkins**, to approve the September 11, 2023, accounts payable as presented, reference #'s 76966-76989, ACH 517-527 from dates 8/24/23 through 8/30/23 for a total of \$331,723.33. Yes: VanAllsburg, Rhines, Gilroy, Lanyon, Hansen, Pratt, Jenkins. No: None. **Motion passed.**

8. Action Items

8a. Appointment of Lorie Droscha to the Downtown Development Authority for a Term to Expire 06/30/25:

Motion by **Lanyon**, second by **Pratt**, to appoint Lorie Droscha to the Downtown Development Authority for a term to expire 06/30/25. Yes: Rhines, Gilroy, Lanyon, Hansen, Pratt, Jenkins, VanAllsburg. No: None. **Motion passed.**

8b. Police Chief Appointment Contract:

Motion by **Rhines**, second by **Lanyon**, to approve a resolution to confirm the City Manager's

appointment of Jeffrey Weiss as Chief of Police and to approve a contract for employment services. Yes: Gilroy, Lanyon, Hansen, Pratt, Jenkins, VanAllsburg, Rhines. No: None.
Motion passed.

8c. Liability and Property Pool Insurance Renewal:

Motion by **Jenkins**, second by **Pratt**, to approve the insurance proposal from MML Liability and Property Pool for the policy term 10/1/23 through 9/30/24 in the amount of \$75,205. Yes: Lanyon, Hansen, Pratt, Jenkins, VanAllsburg, Rhines, Gilroy. No: None. **Motion passed.**

9. Discussion Items

9a. Road Diet:

Engineer DeVries reported there was a CARTS meeting on September 5th where they approved Federal Funding for the partial cost of the Road Diet project. The City share would be approximately \$39,600. The Ingham County Board of Commissioners will also need to consider the funding at their September 27th meeting.

9b. Construction Project Update(s):

Engineer DeVries reported some of the pavement is in on the North Putnam project. The signs are still up and it is still an active construction zone. Any setbacks incurred so far have been overcome by the contractor and they are still on schedule. They have received positive feedback so far about the work and contractor- Iron Horse out of Eaton Rapids.

He is currently working on the entry sign at the south end of town and may have good news on that front soon.

The bids for the new lift station came in very high.

11. Department Head Reports

11a. City Manager:

Manager Hanifan reported they met with AFSCME last week and should have something for Council soon. The Park Survey is still live and will be available for a couple more weeks. The upcoming meetings are Zoning Board of Appeals, Parks and Recreation Commission and Downtown Development Authority. He thanked Council for their support of the appointment of Jeff Weiss as Police Chief.

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 Pratt commented he is glad to have Jeff Weiss on board and expects good things.

Councilman Hansen commented he was glad to hear the positive public comment today.

Councilman Jenkins wished Mayor Gilroy a Happy Birthday.

Councilman Lanyon welcomed Jeff Weiss.

Councilman VanAllsburg also welcomed Jeff Weiss.

Councilman Rhines welcomed Jeff Weiss and added that he did a lot of good things while he was on City Council. He has also been a reserve officer in Williamston before.

Mayor Gilroy commented leaf pickup will start up in October. She thanked Jeff Weiss for applying for the Police Chief position. She feels he has plenty of experience and this is a great opportunity. The transition should run smoothly. With fall it will be getting darker earlier and asked people to watch for pedestrians. She thanked the audience for the positive comments.

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:

Holly M. Thompson, City Clerk

Tammy Gilroy, Mayor

Date Approved: _____