

**CITY OF WILLIAMSTON  
CITY COUNCIL  
DECEMBER 11, 2023  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order:**

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Deputy Clerk Barb Burke, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**3. Roll Call:**

Council members Brandon Lanyon, Tommy Pratt, Scott VanAllsburg, Dan Rhines, and Tammy Gilroy. Absent: Terry Hansen and Steve Jenkins.

Also present: City Manager John Hanifan, Deputy Clerk Barb Burke, City Attorney Timothy Perrone, Police Chief Jeff Weiss, JFM Productions, Spicer Group Representative Phil Westmoreland, Williamston Community Schools (WCS) Superintendent Adam Spina, WCS Board of Education members Deborah Wolf and Sarah Belanger, and citizens Kent Hall, Tim Ludwig, Jeff Kodet, and Robin Kodet.

Motion by **Gilroy**, second by **Lanyon**, to excuse Hansen and Jenkins. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

**4. Approval of Agenda:**

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

**5. Audience Participation:**

Kent Hall said a grant was received from Home Depot for lights in Memorial Park. He will order and speak with Manager Hanifan about installation.

Dr. Adam Spina said Williamston Community Schools appreciate the help of the Williamston Police Department. The schools are in favor of limiting left hand turns on Riverside and Highland. He said there is a plan for a future permanent fix for the traffic in that area.

**6. Election of Mayor and Mayor Pro-tem:**

Motion by **VanAllsburg**, second by **Pratt**, to elect Tammy Gilroy as Mayor. Yes: VanAllsburg, Rhines, Gilroy, Lanyon, Pratt. No: None. **Motion passed.**

Motion by **Pratt**, second by **Rhines**, to elect Brandon Lanyon as Mayor Pro-tem. Yes: Rhines, Gilroy, Lanyon, Pratt, VanAllsburg. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**7. Council Meeting Minutes of November 27, 2023:**

Motion by **Lanyon**, second by **Pratt**, to approve the November 27, 2023, minutes as presented. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

**8. Accounts Payable:**

Motion by **Lanyon**, second by **Rhines**, to approve the December 11, 2023, accounts payable as presented, reference #'s 77183-77207, ACH 641-652 from dates 11/20/23 through 12/1/2023 for a total of \$389,511.59. Yes: Rhines, Gilroy, Lanyon, Pratt, VanAllsburg. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**9. Action Items**

**9a. Residential Cross Connection Program:**

Motion by **Rhines**, second by **VanAllsburg**, to approve the Cross Connection Professional Service Agreement with Hydrocorp for \$28,242.00 annually for a contract total of \$56,484.00 over a two-year period. Yes: Gilroy, Lanyon, Pratt, VanAllsburg, Rhines. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**9b. 2024 Non-Union Wage and Benefit Changes:**

Motion by **Lanyon**, second by **Pratt**, to approve the benefit changes for non-union employees, effective January 1, 2024. Yes: Lanyon, Pratt, VanAllsburg, Rhines, Gilroy. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**9c. Consideration of 2024 City Council Meeting Dates & Times:**

Motion by **Lanyon**, second by **Pratt**, to approve the City Council meeting dates and times for 2024 as presented. Yes: Pratt, VanAllsburg, Rhines, Gilroy, Lanyon. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**10. Discussion Items**

**10a. Williamston Community Schools Correspondence:**

Williamston Community Schools (WCS) Board of Education member Deborah Wolf read aloud the letter dated November 6, 2023, included in the Council packet, from the WCS Board of Education to Williamston City Council Members. The school board will be in touch with the City and Williamstown Township after the holidays to determine a time to get together.

Council members had feedback/comments on this letter. The City is open to suggestions and is willing to work with and has been meeting with developers. Housing has been discussed and the City is doing a lot to bring people into Williamston. We all want the schools to succeed, but it is our entire community that makes Williamston what it is. It was noted that the City is 2.3 square miles with the average township being 36 square miles. Mayor Gilroy thanked the school board members for attending.

**10b. Road Diet:**

Manager Hanifan reported he is meeting with MDOT tomorrow for a staff update.

Jeff Kodet spoke on losing parking spaces on South Putnam and how this is not good for

downtown. He asked if MDOT has a plan in place for large trucks to turn left – will there be an alternate truck route? He wondered if there would be a public meeting. Manager Hanifan answered there would be another public meeting.

**10c. Construction Project Update(s):**

Manager Hanifan introduced Phil Westmoreland of Spicer Group. Manager Hanifan reported the contractors need to finish up some paving spots and then barricades will be removed. The next project will be Williams Street and Lloyd Street.

Councilman Lanyon said he lives on North Putnam in the construction zone and stated Spicer and Iron Horse representatives have been phenomenal during this project.

**12. Department Head Reports**

**12a. City Manager:**

Manager Hanifan reported the McCormick Park pavilion is having concrete poured so this project should be wrapping up soon. This is the last Council meeting of the year and most City boards will not meet in December. He thanked Council members and the community for all the support this year.

**12b. Police Chief:**

Chief Weiss reported “Fill a Cop Car” received over nine car loads of non-perishable items as well as \$2,400 in cash and checks. On the day of the light parade the Police Department gave out hot chocolate which was a wonderful community event. He and Officer PeLong participated in “Shop with a Hero” where officers take kids shopping and had a great time. He cheered on NIESA during the Harlem Wizards vs. local celebrities event. Staffing is going well.

**12c. Treasurer:**

A budget printout was provided for Council review.

**12d. Building Department:**

A written report was submitted for Council review.

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

None.

**14. Audience Participation:**

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

**15. Council Member Comments:**

Mayor Gilroy thanked everyone for an exciting year and looks forward to next year. There is no parking on the City streets from 2am-5am. She thanked all for participating in the light parade and wished everyone a wonderful holiday season.

**16. Adjourn to the Call of the Chair:**

Mayor Gilroy adjourned the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

**\*Meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.**

**Respectfully Submitted by:**

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**Barbara J. Burke, Deputy Clerk**

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**Tammy Gilroy, Mayor**

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