

**CITY OF WILLIAMSTON
CITY COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 26, 2018
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

1. Call To Order:

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

3. Roll Call:

Mayor Tammy Gilroy, John Bisard, Noah Belanger, Jeffrey Weiss, and Kent Hall.
Absent: Sandy Whelton.

Also Present: Interim City Manager/City Treasurer Rachel Piner, Deputy City Clerk Barbara Burke, City Attorney Timothy Perrone, City Engineer/DPW Director Scott DeVries, Police Chief Bob Young, DDA Attorney John Gormley, JFM Productions, Farmers' Market Manager Marlene Epley, CADL Representative Scott Duimstra, Williamston Head Librarian Julie Chrisinski, Ingham County Commissioner Randy Schafer, MSU Journalism Student Griffin Stroin, and citizens Leo Sheets, Paula Curtis, Daniel Rhines, Stephen Bartig, and other members of the public.

Motion by **Belanger**, second by **Weiss**, to excuse Whelton. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

4. Approval of Agenda:

Motion by **Weiss**, second by **Belanger**, 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 12, 2018:

Motion by **Belanger**, second by **Hall**, to approve the February 12, 2018 Council minutes as presented. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

7. Accounts Payable:

The accounts payables totaled \$204,463.02 with reference #s 69930-69985.

Motion by **Belanger**, second by **Hall**, to approve the accounts payables as presented, reference #s 69930-69985 for a total of \$204,463.02. Yes: Weiss, Gilroy, Hall, Bisard, Belanger. No: None. **Motion passed.**

8. Public Hearing- Downtown Development Authority Plan Amendment:

-Mayor Gilroy opened the public hearing at 7:02 p.m.

DDA Attorney Gormley gave a brief overview explaining that this is to purchase property behind the hardware store enabling extension of that parking lot.

No public comments.

No written comments.

-Mayor Gilroy closed the public hearing at 7:05 p.m.

9. Action Items

9a. Appointment of Councilmember for a term to expire 11/30/20:

Motion by **Weiss**, second by **Bisard**, to appoint Daniel Rhines to the City Council for a term to expire 11/30/20. Yes: Gilroy, Hall, Bisard, Belanger, Weiss. No: None. **Motion passed.**

9b. First Reading of Ordinance Downtown Development Authority Plan

Amendment:

Motion by **Belanger**, second by **Hall**, to approve the first reading of the ordinance to amend the Downtown Development Authority Development and Tax Increment Finance Plan. Yes: Hall, Bisard, Belanger, Weiss, Gilroy. No: None. **Motion passed.**

9c. City Manager Review of Top Choice Candidates and Confirm Rankings by Committee:

Motion by **Weiss**, second by **Bisard**, to accept the recommendation of the City Manager Search Committee rankings and direct the City Clerk to schedule interviews with the top candidates during the week of March 5-9. Yes: Belanger, Weiss, Gilroy, Hall Bisard. No: None. **Motion passed.**

9d. Emergency Sludge Hauling:

Motion by **Weiss**, second by **Hall**, to approve the emergency sludge haul to Muskegon County at the rate of \$0.052/gallon and the sludge hauling with Michigan AgriBusiness Solutions of Saginaw, Michigan at the rate of \$125/hour with the current total estimated costs being between \$20,000 and \$30,000. Yes: Gilroy, Hall, Bisard, Belanger, Weiss. No: None. **Motion passed.**

9e. Library Lease Agreement:

Attorney Perrone stated that there is a change to the second paragraph of item 7, Operating Costs, page 6 – it should read “Any renovations as authorized by Section 16 may be subject to future Operating Costs.

Motion by **Belanger**, second by **Weiss**, to approve the library lease agreement with the change noted by Attorney Perrone on page 6, item 7, second paragraph. Yes: Hall, Bisard, Belanger, Weiss, Gilroy. No: None. **Motion passed.**

9f. Assignment of Lease Between City of Williamston and Capital Area District

Library:

Motion by **Weiss**, second by **Belanger**, to approve the assignment of lease between City of Williamston and Capital Area District Library. Yes: Hall, Bisard, Belanger, Weiss, Gilroy. No: None. **Motion passed.**

10. Discussion Items

12. Department Head Reports

12a. Interim City Manager:

Interim City Manager Piner reported that she is getting acclimated to the job and she was very blessed to have Alan bring her up to date on projects. She thanked all City staff for their work during the recent flooding in Williamston.

12b. Police Chief:

No report.

13. Audience Participation:

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

14. Council Member Comments:

Councilman Weiss thanked the individuals that applied for the Council vacancy. He encouraged them to apply for open Board/Commission seats.

Councilman Hall will be at Old Nation Brewing Co. from 2-4 pm on Tuesdays during the month of March to help veterans. He can offer encouragement and has many resources of which to make veterans aware.

Councilman Bisard thanked Councilman Hall for his help for veterans. He encouraged City Council applicants to apply for open Board/Commission seats – that is how he got started.

Mayor Gilroy thanked Councilman Hall for his help offered to veterans. She thanked the entire DPW crew and police for their work during the recent flooding. She welcomed Interim City Manager Piner to her first Council meeting in this capacity. She thanked the City Manager Selection Committee for all their work in reviewing the resumes received and narrowing them down.

Mayor Gilroy acknowledged Ingham County Commissioner Randy Schafer, who took the podium. He moved to Williamston in 1978 and was elected to office in 1984. He has visited all the libraries in the district and the Williamston library is by far the most disappointing as far as lack of facilities. He visited the proposed location at the Williamston Middle School and was impressed with the facility. This will be a tremendous partnership for Williamston and he thanked Council for moving forward on this.

15. Closed Session- To Discuss an Attorney/Client Privilege Opinion Letter:

Motion by **Weiss**, second by **Bisard**, to go into closed session to discuss an attorney/client privilege opinion letter. Yes: Belanger, Weiss, Gilroy, Hall, Bisard. No: None. **Motion passed.**

-Closed Session started at 7:50 p.m.

Motion by **Belanger**, second by **Bisard**, to return to open session. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

-Closed Session ended at 8:18 p.m.

No action was taken on closed session.

16. Adjournment:

Mayor Gilroy adjourned the Council meeting at 8:20 p.m.

***Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

Barbara J. Burke, Deputy City Clerk

Tammy Gilroy, Mayor

Date Approved: _____