

**CITY OF WILLIAMSTON
CITY COUNCIL
JULY 24, 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, Council members Steve Jenkins, Scott VanAllsburg, Dan Rhines, and Terry Hansen. Absent: Brandon Lanyon and Tommy Pratt.

Also present: City Manager John Hanifan, Deputy Clerk Barb Burke, Police Chief Bob Young, City Attorney Timothy Perrone, JFM Productions, and citizens Kent Hall, and Tim Ludwig.

Motion by **Rhines**, second by **Hansen**, to excuse Lanyon and Pratt. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

4. Approval of Agenda:

Motion by **Jenkins**, second by **VanAllsburg**, 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 June 26, 2023:

Motion by **Hansen**, second by **Jenkins**, to approve the June 26, 2023, minutes as presented. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

7. Accounts Payable:

Motion by **Hansen**, second by **Rhines**, to approve the July 24, 2023, accounts payable as presented, reference #'s 76829-76875, ACH 454-470, and EFT 471 from dates 6-21-23 through 7-10-23 for a total of \$99,460.68. Yes: VanAllsburg, Rhines, Gilroy, Hansen, Jenkins. No: None. **Motion passed.**

8. Action Items

8a. 2023 Biannual Bridge Inspections – Engineering Services Agreement:

Motion by **Jenkins**, second by **Hansen**, to provide authorization of the Mannik Smith Group July 13, 2023 proposal for professional engineering services for the 2023 biannual bridge inspections in the amount of \$5,600. Yes: Rhines, Gilroy, Hansen, Jenkins, VanAllsburg. No: None. **Motion passed.**

8b. M-43 (Grand River Ave) – Road Diet Resolution:

Motion by **Hansen**, second by **Rhines**, to approve the resolution to move forward with the submittal of a request to Michigan Department of Transportation to convert M-43 (Grand River Avenue) from 4 to 3 traffic lanes. Yes: Gilroy, Hansen, Jenkins, VanAllsburg, Rhines.

No: None. **Motion passed.**

8c. MML Fund Trustee Election:

Motion by **Jenkins**, second by **Hansen**, to cast the MML ballot as submitted for all the candidates listed to serve as trustees on the MML Workers' Compensation Fund. Yes: Hansen, Jenkins, VanAllsburg, Rhines, Gilroy. No: None. **Motion passed.**

8d. Interim Police Chief Contract Extension:

Motion by **Rhines**, second by **VanAllsburg**, to extend the contract with Robert "Bob" Young as Interim Police Chief for a six-month period (July 28, 2023 – January 31, 2024) for the new annual rate of \$85,800, payable bi-weekly as per the original contract. Yes: Hansen, Jenkins, VanAllsburg, Rhines, Gilroy. No: None. **Motion passed.**

8e. Planning and Management Intern:

Motion by **Jenkins**, second by **Hansen**, to authorize the City Manager to hire a Planning and Management intern for the period of July 25, 2023 to October 13, 2023 with a weekly stipend of \$150. Yes: Jenkins, VanAllsburg, Rhines, Gilroy, Hansen. No: None. **Motion passed.**

8f. Appointment of Byron Aldrink to the Parks & Recreation Commission for a Term to Expire 06/30/26:

Motion by **Hansen**, second by **VanAllsburg**, to appoint Byron Aldrink to the Parks & Recreation Commission for a Term to Expire 06/30/26. Yes: Jenkins, VanAllsburg, Rhines, Gilroy, Hansen. No: None. **Motion passed.**

9. Discussion Items

9a. Road Diet:

Manager Hanifan reported MDOT requires use of a pre-qualified contractor. The contractor has no time to do this the project summer, but will complete it in the spring 2024. With the delay, the City could apply for grant funding. This project is in the budget, but grant money is worth pursuing.

9b. Construction Project Update(s):

Manager Hanifan reported the packet includes a contractor schedule for the North Putnam project. The City will get this information out to the public and will continue with communication as this project progresses. It was suggested to include detour routes, and to ask the schools to send out detour routes with the scheduled timeline.

9c. Police Chief Search Process:

Manager Hanifan reviewed the timeline/process for hiring the new, permanent police chief, which is included in the packet.

9d. Website Overhaul/Update:

Manager Hanifan has met with three companies that specialize in local government web services and page design. They are all good and within budget. He will bring a recommendation to Council at the next meeting.

9e. Council, Boards, and Commission(s) Meeting Times:

Manager Hanifan discussed the possibility of changing meeting times from 7 pm to 6 pm and perhaps holding one Council meeting during July and August (as is the current practice for December). He will do a survey of each board/commission at their future meetings to obtain their feedback on meeting times.

11. Department Head Reports

11a. City Manager:

Nothing additional.

11b. Police Department:

Police Chief Young said they have two candidates to send to the academy. They are scheduled for January but are on a wait list for August. Williamston's National Night Out is Tuesday, August 1, from 6-8 pm. This year instead of going around neighborhoods, there will be officers in McCormick Park and Volunteers Community Park with activities. They will get information out and ask everyone to spread the word.

11c. Building Department:

A written report was submitted for Council review.

12. Committee/Sub-Committee Reports:

Manager Hanifan attended the NIESA meeting as the Council representative and alternate were both out of town.

13. Audience Participation:

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

14. Council Member Comments:

Councilman VanAllsburg thanked Chief Young for continuing to work with the City for another six months.

Mayor Gilroy is happy National Night Out is back in the parks and encourages everyone to attend and share the information. There are still so many great summer events – the Thursday evening bandshell concerts, the farmers market, etc. She saw the Jubilee Committee working on cleanup of all their equipment and the Trent Allen basketball courts at Volunteers Community Park are finished and back open.

15. Adjourn to the Call of the Chair:

Mayor Gilroy adjourned the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

***Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

Barbara J. Burke, Deputy Clerk

Tammy Gilroy, Mayor

Date Approved: _____