

Thursday, December 12, 2019
Williamsport, PA

Council President Randy Allison brought the Williamsport City Council meeting to order on Thursday December 12, 2019 at 7:30 PM in City Hall Council Chambers. Chris Cooley did televise the meeting. The invocation was given by Mayor Elect Derek Slaughter and was immediately followed by the "Pledge of Allegiance".

Council members present:

Randy Allison, President
Elizabeth Miele, Vice President absent
Bonnie Katz, Councilwoman
Derek Slaughter, Councilman
Don Noviello, Councilman
Joel Henderson, Councilman
Gerry Fausnaught, Councilwoman

Absent:

Also, Present:

Gabriel J. Campana, Mayor
Mr. Joe Gerardi
Mr. William Nichols, Jr.
Mr. Gary Knarr absent
Damon Hagan, Police Chief
Sol. Austin White, Solicitor
Janice Frank, City Clerk
Todd Heckman, Fire Chief,
Mark Benner EIT,
Adam Winder

Approval of the Williamsport City Council minutes for the budgets dated December 2, & December 4, 2019 were approved upon a motion from **Mrs. Fausnaught** and a second from **Mrs. Katz**. **All were in favor. The vote was 6 to 0.**

Mrs. Fausnaught voted yes, Mr. Noviello voted yes. Mr. Henderson voted yes, Mr. Slaughter voted yes, and Mr. Allison voted yes. Ms. Miele was absent.

Limited Courtesy of the Floor

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There were none.

Interview of Candidates for Council Seat Vacancy (Mayor Elect Slaughter)

Mr. Allison stated he will take the candidates in order that they came in to Council as far as their applications and letters.

David Banks - he stated currently a engineered designer, he stated his dad worked in the city for 37 years in the parks department as an equipment operator. He grew up in old Lycoming Township. He came back to Williamsport and got involved with the local scene after six years in the Navy.

Mr. Allison asked if there were any questions from anyone on Council.

Mrs. Fausnaught asked why he wanted to be on city Council.

Mr. Banks answered when he came back from the Navy he saw a lot of projects and there weren't any coherent ideas on how projects should relate to each other, because he is a surveyor and designer by trade, and he looked at how certain buildings are related to the central business district. So he felt like if you can't join him, be them, if he could be a part of the decision making process, he could have a little part of how things are being done.

Mrs. Katz said so what you are saying is you are very interested in to the infrastructure of our city.

Mr. Banks answered yes he is fascinated even by the traffic lights and how you retain people downtown by simple measures. Things that keep people in a place long enough so they know what is going on down there. It is fascinating and you can change the economy.

Mr. Henderson ask if his schedule is open during the daytime for committee meetings.

Mr. Banks answered that he has had a long conversation with work, and they actually gave him a promotion and now he can attend meetings.

There were no further questions.

Mr. John DeSantis - he thanked everyone in the room for doing what they do. He has been on the ballot and at 61 years of age he is now facing the opportunity because it has arisen. He feels he has a pretty good perspective of what is needed and what the perception is internally and externally, as he has been a retail manager for most of his time in the area. Everyone wants to talk about how dangerous it is in Williamsport, and he has never felt that way. The last 16 years he has been on the historic board. He stated he wants to work with members of the Council, and he knows how this process works and he knows what comes up on their plates. He stated he knows he can fit in and pick up the slack, he knows when to be quiet and he knows he's not doing this for himself. He will never be boasting or derated anybody else. We had to put our best face forward and make the city where we need to be.

Mr. Allison asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Adam Yoder, Council elect, thanked him for jumping in. As somebody who has just been elected and who has gone through the process, he asked him to walk him through his thought process as to his decision of coming forward now versus being a candidate, given your background and experience.

Mr. DeSantis answered that he has been a candidate twice on the Democratic party, that was 2003 and 2007. After that point, the party feels you are not fresh enough to run again, he felt that he was probably too young to do it then, he was in his early 40s. He has seasoned a bit and there's more he can add now and he did then. After not making it, he was asked to join the historic board, to stay in City Hall and work on whatever committees that are necessary. He feels he has the right perspective of time in order to keep his belt shot when he was a spoken when he was younger. He's added carefulness and a little more respect.

Mr. Yoder asked how would his approach be to getting up to speed to do the job? Myself I have tried to take a lot of time to study, read and learn, the third class city government, and we just went through a nice lead the resident process that was very insightful and he feels much more comfortable going into the role. Tell me a little bit about your thought process and what your approach would be in preparing.

Mr. DeSantis, answered that he has read the third class city code as it pertains to the historic district. He is an avid reader so he will get up to speed as fast as possible and he will ask his fellow Councilman what

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is more important to them. The variety of people we have make sure there isn't any steps made, and Mr. Nichols goes through budgetary things, and he knows that everyone at this table is well prepared and he will make himself well prepared.

Mr. Yoder thanked him for his answers.

Mr. Allison asked if there were any other questions.

Ms. Tiasha Machuga, stated she was born and raised here in the city, and loves our small town feeling that you cannot get anywhere else. We have a sense of community and she is always wanted to be part of the improvement of our city. There's always room for change. To be part of the changes start to a local level. So when she started getting involved in politics and started volunteering with local organizations, she made a point to inform voters, no matter your age or sex of your race, you have a right to speak. You have a right to help make that change in situations better. She campaigned on the fact that she is one of them. So, she has associates in business. She has done book work majority of her life, she knows about some of the safety issues that we need. She is the taxpayer and a homeowners and she wants to help ensure that when city Council works on budget is that the thinking of everybody and not just a certain few. Those are her goals.

Mr. Allison asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Henderson ask about her time schedule.

Mrs. Machuga stated that is the best thing about being a manager, she sets her own schedule and she will be available for daytime meetings.

Mr. Allison thanked all three candidates. He wanted to make note that all three candidates are registered Democrats, as Mr. Slaughter is who is leaving Council to become mayor. The third class city code does not require that a person of the same party replaces the one that is leaving, however in the tradition on Council it is to do that. He felt it is serves us well and there's no requirement, a future Council can change that. But it has allowed a certain comity, or unity or a sense of fairness between the two parties. He stated that the Lord knows there's enough of separation between people and when we look at something that seems fair so we will be making a decision as quickly as possible because we all feel that there's a need together to have the team together and we want to move on this as quickly as possible.

Ordinance Adopting Various Operating Budget for the City including the General Fund, Utility Fund, WBT Capital Projects, Capital Project Fund, Liquid Fuels Fund, City Hall Operating Fund, WBT Planning, Unemployment Compensation Fund; Debt Service Fund, Trade & Transit Center, Act 13 Fund, & Pool Repairs Capital Fund (Final reading) Bill#1747-19

The City Clerk read the ordinance.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion on the ordinance.

Mrs. Katz made the motion and it was second by Mr. Slaughter.

Mr. Allison stated this is our ordinance on second reading.

Mr. Nichols stated this is the second reading of our ordinance and it addresses 12 budgets for 2020. We would appreciate your consideration for the ordinance on second reading.

Mr. Allison asked if there was any discussion. He asked for a vote on the second reading.

The ordinance was carried in second reading with five yes roll call votes. The vote was 5 to 1.

Mrs. Fausnaught voted yes, Mr. Noviello voted yes, Mr. Henderson voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Allison voted yes. Mr. Slaughter voted no and Ms. Miele was absent.

Ordinance of the City of Williamsport, County of Lycoming & Commonwealth of PA Fixing the Tax Rate for all City Purposes for Year 2020 (final reading) Bill#1748-19

The City Clerk read the ordinance.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion on the ordinance in final reading.

Mrs. Fausnaught made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Henderson.

Mr. Nichols stated this is just fixing the tax rate and it reflects a .25 increase to 15.72. It translates into \$15.72 on \$1000, so we asked for your consideration on your approval.

Mr. Allison stated another way of saying it would be \$25 \$100,000 house.

Mr. Allison asked for a vote on the ordinance.

The ordinance was carried in second reading with five yes roll call votes. The vote was 5 to 1.

Mrs. Fausnaught voted yes, Mr. Noviello voted yes, Mr. Henderson voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Allison voted yes. Mr. Slaughter voted no and Ms. Miele was absent

Resolution #8956
Resolution to Honor Don Noviello Councilman
HONORING DON NOVIELLO

WHEREAS, Don Noviello served with distinction as a member of Williamsport City Council for an eight year term from January 2012 until December 31, 2019.

WHEREAS, Don Noviello has been concerned with and took active roles of involvement in all areas of government, specifically in the areas of Public Safety, Public Works, serving as Chairman of Housing Needs committee and during his tenure, had served on all of City Council's Standing Committees as well as their representative on various community and civic committees; and

WHEREAS, City Council and the City of Williamsport will sorely miss the counsel and advise of **Don Noviello**, a true public servant, who has served with distinction and with the best interest and welfare of the citizens of the City of Williamsport as his goal; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the dedication and services of **Don Noviello**, the City of Williamsport, a city with a proud past is left with a more promising future.

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NOW, THEREFORE, at our meeting assembled this 12th day of December, 2019, Williamsport City Council does hereby acknowledge

FURTHER, that the City Clerk is hereby directed to spread this resolution on the minutes of this meeting and to present copy of this resolution to Don Noviello.

The city clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion on the resolution.

Mrs. Katz made the motion and it was second by Mr. Henderson

Mr. Allison asked if he would like to speak.

Mr. Noviello stated he has been honored to serve the city for as long as he has and it is a privilege and an honor. It has been a good opportunity to meet a lot of good people that he would not have had the chance to. He would like to think that we got an awful lot accomplished, and made some positive things happen. He gives respect for those coming in and they would be surprised to see how much positive work they can get done.

Mr. Allison stated that he knows Don on a more personal level and it's been his pleasure to get to know him over the past eight years and we worked for a long time together in public safety, and public works, and he has learned to know this man about his passion about the city and he puts himself into it and he is a thoughtful person who doesn't speak quickly, and gives it a lot of thought.

Mr. Allison asked for a vote on the resolution.

The resolution was carried in with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

Mrs. Fausnaught voted yes, Mr. Noviello voted yes, Mr. Henderson voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Slaughter voted yes and Mr. Allison voted yes. Ms. Miele was absent.

Resolution #8957

Resolution to Honor Joel Henderson Councilman
HONORING JOEL HENDERSON

WHEREAS, Joel Henderson served with distinction as a member of Williamsport City Council for a four year term from January 2016 until December 31, 2019.

WHEREAS, Joel Henderson has been concerned with and took active roles of involvement in all areas of government, specifically in the areas of Public Safety, Public Works, serving as Chairman of Public Safety Committee for two years and during his tenure, had served on all of City Council's Standing Committees as well as their representative on various community and civic committees; and took a leadership role in forming legislation for a City Ethics Committee and;

WHEREAS, City Council and the City of Williamsport will sorely miss the counsel and advise of **Joel Henderson**, a true public servant, who has served with distinction and with the best interest and welfare of the citizens of the City of Williamsport as his goal; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the dedication and services of **Joel Henderson**, the City of Williamsport, a city with a proud past is left with a more promising future.

NOW, THEREFORE, at our meeting assembled this 12th day of December, 2019, Williamsport City Council does hereby acknowledge

FURTHER, that the City Clerk is hereby directed to spread this resolution on the minutes of this meeting and to present copy of this resolution to **Joel Henderson**.

The city clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion on the resolution.

Mrs. Katz made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Slaughter.

Mr. Allison thanked him for all he has done.

Mr. Henderson stated there's not a whole lot that he can say except that he has been grateful to serve in this role and it is a service position. It is not something that any of these Council people do any kind of gratitude for attention in any way. Honestly it is just to serve. I have enjoyed it, there has been good times and challenging times, but I can honestly say that every Thursday night and even Tuesdays, driving in for a meeting, my goal that I would rehearse in my mind as I prayed on the way here is Lord help me represent Christ well. That's what I wanted to do. My goal was to show honesty, truth and integrity. I wanted others to see that and to see an example of that. Not that we don't have that and the other council members for sure that was one of my primary goals. And I trust that I was able to do that to some extent. I can say I will, but I am in eligible because I am outside the city, but I will do my best to be involved is much as I can.

Mrs. Katz stated that she has worked with both of these men on public works, they are incredible people and they have brought a lot to the table.

Mr. Slaughter stated he was fortunate to work with both of them and they were very helpful to him as a new Councilman, and he appreciates that and he has learned a great deal for both of them. He thanks them for their time and the further service. Their knowledge will be sorely missed, and I wish that they could stick around a little bit longer.

Mr. Allison stated after Joel got elected, he was hearing like good reports from department heads, and he was talking to people to get in informed, and he saw him to be an active participant and he seemed to grasp things very easily. He will still be an asset to the city because his church is firmly planted here.

Mr. Allison asked for a vote on the resolution.

The resolution was carried in with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

Mrs. Fausnaught voted yes, Mr. Noviello voted yes, Mr. Henderson voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Slaughter voted yes and Mr. Allison voted yes. Ms. Miele was absent.

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Certificate of Appreciation to Gerry Fausnaught

Mr. Allison presented this certificate to Gerry for her six months of service. It says in recognition of Gerry Fausnaught, Williamsport the Council thank you for filling our vacancy on city Council and for your service and dedication for six months during our time of transition, July 2019 to December 2019.

Mr. Allison stated she had been on Council for two years when he first got on and he got to sit right next to her and he had learned an awful lot from her. He continued to tell of how Gerry continued to serve on city Council. He felt he could not say enough to thank her.

Mrs. Fausnaught stated she is excited about the future the city and about young people creating the future of the city and the environment in which we are all looking to make this a better place for people to live. She wants this place should be the best place it could be. She loves Williamsport and we raised a family here, naming all the positive programs in the city of Williamsport.

Resolution #8959

Resolution to Adopt an Amended Citizen Participation Plan

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion on the resolution.

Mrs. Fausnaught made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Slaughter.

Ms. Young stated the city is required to have a city's participation plan. His plan outlines the public process about the development of HUD planning documents. Our existing plan has not been updated since 2005, so we want to make sure that all of our plans are revised following new HUD regulations. The revisions that were added to the amendment plan were to include process to making meeting accommodations for non-English-speaking, adding the Lycoming County Housing Authority, the public notification process for using funds in the event of a disaster, and public notification process for the section 108 loan guarantee program. The draft plan was on display from October 17 to November 18. The public hearing was held on November 7. This was reviewed by finance committee.

Mrs. Fausnaught stated finance did bring this to the full-body of council with a positive recommendation. It was a housekeeping resolution.

Mr. Allison asked for questions or councils. And the vote.

The resolution was carried in with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

Mrs. Fausnaught voted yes, Mr. Noviello voted yes, Mr. Henderson voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Slaughter voted yes and Mr. Allison voted yes. Ms. Miele was absent.

Resolution #8960

Resolution Approving the 5 Year Consolidated Plan for Fiscal Year 2020-2024 & Action Plan for 2020

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion on the resolution.

Mrs. Fausnaught made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Slaughter.

Ms. Young stated this resolution is to approve a plan of a five year plan and an action plan for a submission to HUD. The plan outlines the goals for the community development over the next five years. It was up for citizen you for 30 days. It was also available for review on the city website. The city held two public hearings on the consolidated plan. It allowed citizens to comment on the needs for the city. By finance.

Mrs. Fausnaught stated this was reviewed by the finance committee and sent to the full-body of council with a positive recommendation. She wanted to say that Mrs. Young is a wealth of knowledge and that needs to be captured and passed on to someone. She needs to be mentored because she is looking in the near future to perhaps retire. Her knowledge of efficiency and what she does makes this process works so much better. Thank you very much.

Mrs. Young thanked her and said they were very kind words.

Mr. Allison stated he agrees with Mrs. Fausnaught.

Mrs. Katz stated she was shocked when she found out that Ms. Young will be retiring this year.

Mr. Allison asked for a vote on the resolution.

The resolution was carried in with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

Mrs. Fausnaught voted yes, Mr. Noviello voted yes, Mr. Henderson voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Slaughter voted yes and Mr. Allison voted yes. Ms. Miele was absent.

Resolution #8958

Resolution for Various Insurance Needs for Policy Year 01/01/20 – 01/01/21

The city clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Allison asked for motion on the resolution.

Mr. Slaughter made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Noviello.

Mr. Pawlak stated the resolution is an annual resolution to approve the city's insurance needs for the up-and-coming policy year. After review with the city's broker of record, Arthur J Gallagher, and the city's attorney Jill Nagy, the administration is recommending the approval of this insurance policy. Gallagher is recommended that the city add to items on this resolution. This was reviewed at the finance committee.

Mrs. Fausnaught stated she felt it was important to see the savings from the previous policy, and she applauds Council for doing all the research and shopping for insurance. Finance did pass this to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation.

Mr. Allison asked for a vote on the resolution.

The resolution was carried in with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

Mrs. Fausnaught voted yes, Mr. Noviello voted yes, Mr. Henderson voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Slaughter voted yes and Mr. Allison voted yes. Ms. Miele was absent.

Resolution #8962

Resolution MOU between City & WWSA to Collectively Create a Stormwater Authority

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion on the resolution.

Mrs. Katz made the motion and it was second by Mr. Henderson.

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Mr. Winder stated this is just a formality basically saying the city is willing to cooperate with the sanitary authority to work together to create a storm water authority. It is just giving us a simple outline of what our role is and their role. And will open up the doors so we can put together a municipal agreement to bring before Council within the next four months. This will outline what are time frames will be and what we are thinking. This was reviewed by public works.

Mrs. Katz stated we had a really good discussion on this and it was sent to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation. We are very happy that this is an outside company going through this and it gives both the water authority and the city somebody that's going to be, that has worked with other cities and townships on this kind of process.

Mr. Allison asked for a vote on the resolution.

The resolution was carried in with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

Mrs. Fausnaught voted yes, Mr. Noviello voted yes, Mr. Henderson voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Slaughter voted yes and Mr. Allison voted yes. Ms. Miele was absent.

Resolution #8961

Resolution for Accepting 2020 Tree Vitalize Grant

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion on the resolution.

Mr. Noviello made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Henderson.

Mr. Winder stated so we are closing out the 2019 grant and we had to submit for the 2020 in July of this year. The submission of the grant was approved and now we are asking for approval to accept the grant in the amount of \$7792. These trees will be planted in the spring and it does require hundred percent match from the city which every year we do in-kind along with Penn College does help. This was reviewed by public works.

Mrs. Katz stated we are all very thankful for this, and public works did send this to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation. It was interesting to find out that we have a tree tender license that there are 20 trees per vendors license. We are going to fulfill bringing some of the trees back in Brandon Park which we have lost through the storms.

Mr. Allison asked for a vote on the resolution

The resolution was carried in with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

Mrs. Fausnaught voted yes, Mr. Noviello voted yes, Mr. Henderson voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Slaughter voted yes and Mr. Allison voted yes. Ms. Miele was absent.

Accept for Filing:

Controller's Report October 2019

Mr. Allison asked for a motion.

Mr. Slaughter made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Henderson.

Mr. Allison asked for a vote to accept the minutes for filing.

The minutes were accepted for filing with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

Mrs. Fausnaught voted yes, Mr. Noviello voted yes, Mr. Henderson voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Slaughter voted yes and Mr. Allison voted yes. Ms. Miele was absent.

Announcements

The next regularly scheduled City Council meeting will be held on Thursday, January 9, 2020 at 7:30 PM, in City Hall Council Chambers. There is a City Council Reorganization Meeting on Monday, January 6, 2020 at 7:30 PM. (Enter through the police department at rear of building for meetings after 5:00 PM.)

Upcoming Meetings:

Tuesday, December 17	10:00 AM Blighted Property
	3:30 PM ERC
	6:30 PM HARB
Thursday, December 19	10:30 AM Zoning Hearing Board
	4:00 PM Board of Health
Wednesday, December 25	CHRISTMAS DAY, CITY HALL CLOSED
Monday, January 6	7:30 PM City Council Reorganization Meeting
Thursday, January 9	7:30 PM City Council Meeting

[Meetings Held in Council Chambers Unless Otherwise Noted – [scr] = William Sechler Community

Room]

Mr. Allison asked if there were any comments from Council.

Mrs. Katz wanted to remind everyone that tomorrow downtown is Catch the Spirit, come join us.

Mr. Noviello said he had the great pleasure of working with all these department heads and he wanted them to know he appreciated them and he was glad to be able to work with them and also with the public.

Mr. Allison asked if there were comments from the administration.

There were none.

Mr. Allison asked if there were comments from the general public.

There were none.

Mr. Allison wished everyone a very Merry Christmas or Happy Hanukkah. He wished blessings for the year for everyone.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned upon motion by Mrs. Katz and a second by Mrs. Fausnaught. Meeting adjourned at 8:44 PM with unanimous ayes.

Submitted by:

Janice M. Frank, City Clerk