

Council President Adam Yoder brought the Williamsport City Council meeting to order on Thursday, July 21, 2022 at 7:00 PM at Trade & Transit Center II, 144 West Third St, Williamsport, PA. This meeting was duly advertised in the Williamsport Sun-Gazette.

Council members present:

Adam Yoder, President zoom
Bonnie Katz, Vice President zoom
Liz Miele, Councilwoman absent
Randy Allison, Councilman,
Vince Pulizzi, Councilman,,
Jon Mackey, Councilman,
Eric Beiter Councilman absent
Absent:

Also, Present:

Derek Slaughter, Mayor,
August Memmi
Sam Aungst, Fire Chief, absent
Justin Snyder, Police Chief
Solicitor Norman Lubin
Janice Frank, City Clerk
Scott Livermore, S&P absent
Kris Black

Approval of the Williamsport City Council minutes for 07/07/22 were approved upon a motion **Mr. Pulizzi and a second from Mr. Allison** All were in favor. The vote was 5 to 0. Ms. Miele and Mr. Beiter were absent.

Limited Courtesy of the Floor

There were none.

Resolution #9335

Resolution to Authorize City Treasurer/Finance Director to Settle Business Privilege Tax and/or Mercantile Tax

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion and a second.

Mr. Pulizzi made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Mackey.

Mr. Yoder turned it over to Kevin Mackey, City Treasurer, however; Mr. Kevin Mackey wasn't there. So Mr. Allison explained in Finance.

Mr. Allison stated This is the regular occurrence. It's kind of a cleanup, collecting outstanding business. I'm reading from the resolution. In order to enable the city to collect outstanding business tax sufficiently and in the interest of serving a legally mandate confidentiality in said matters, the City Council, the City of Williamsport here by promulgates the following policies: So we blipping to the city's finance Director and treasurer several of those outstanding collections that haven't been done yet. So they don't -- there isn't an amount yet, because if the process has to work its way through, so what this does, it enables and makes it [Indiscernible] do it through legal means, the collection of any business taxes owed to the city. So it's standard fare when collections get to this point. It's a very short discussion, because it's a legal matter that just works its way through the system. At.

Mr. Yoder: All right. Thank you very much, Mr. Allison. Comments or questions from members of Council on the resolution in front of us? Okay. Hearing and seeing none, Mrs. Frank, is the motion, please?

'The resolution was carried with 5 yes roll call votes. The vote was 5 to 0. All were in favor.

Mr. Allison voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, and Mr. Yoder voted yes. Mr. Beiter and Ms. Miele were absent.

Resolution #9336

Resolution Authorizing a Consultant Agreement Between the City of Williamsport & Barry Isett Associates., Inc.

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion and a second.

Mr. Pulizzi made a motion and it was seconded by Mr. Allison.

Mayor stated Before you tonight you have a resolution authorizing [Indiscernible] treatment in the City of Williamsport and [Indiscernible] incorporated. This came about due to the retirement of Joe Girardi. He is our only building code official in the city, so in this period here, we are in need of a UCL. And I reached out to a few different ones. Barry [Indiscernible] came highly recommended and would easily have the capacity to handle the UCL requirements during the period here. We can fill that position about a full time person. They work with one municipalities related to code. There is a discussion Tuesday about the suite of services to handle any training with current codes in any capacity. I had not talked with Barry. I sent representatives prior to that, but we did have a previous conversation on that and I think that's a good opportunity if it presents itself. We do have two representatives from everyone here from Barry Iset and appreciates and they'll be able to answer. This is review and finance.

Mr. Yoder: Thank you, Mayor Slaughter. Mr. Allison, would you care to speak to the discussion in finance?

Mr. Allison: Yes, we did review this. We talked mostly about the scope of their services. It's very narrow and specific. The building code official, which previously Mr. Girardi held, so he represented -- he functioned as the [Indiscernible] officer for every time it was needed within the city codes department. But we didn't have a secondary or a backup, so in the interim, this firm will supply that function. It's not expected to be -- definitely not going to be an everyday event. The building code official deals mostly with the construction projects and has to get the file total on it for it to go forward,

because they're certified. There's a thousand in [Indiscernible] that are certified, so our task in the interim is to get somebody trained to do that particular service. It's important to note that the cost of the service is going to be \$90 per hour, but if you look in the service agreement, the client shall not ream Burt ISET for any travel related time or expenses, mileage, [Indiscernible] performance services. So there's no hidden Costa long with that \$90 per hour, which is nice. Multiply the hours by the \$90 and you get sort of an idea of what you can expect.

The other thing I would note is that there's five other third class cities that they worked with and have worked with, and they're a City of [Indiscernible] Hazelton, Easton, Lancaster. So they're all broader municipalities from us. They give a lot of [Indiscernible] so they have a lot of experience, a lot of [Indiscernible] views, and they have a great [Indiscernible] that is pretty deep with experienced people. So it's a good mix for us to do in the interim. That's pretty much the scope of the discussion we had. [Indiscernible] brought up if we could do something with [Indiscernible] do a process, take a test, in the a short process.

Mr. Allison: [Indiscernible] we did talk about [Indiscernible]

Mayor Yes, I did meet with [Indiscernible] preliminary compensation to make sure they find themselves in sufficient [Indiscernible]

Mr. Yoder: Thank you, Mr. Allison. Are there any comments or questions from the members of Council? Bonnie, I see you have your hand up.

Mrs. Katz Yes. I'm sorry, Randy. At times it's very difficult to hearing everything that's said, so if I'm asking a question that you've already answered, I apologize ahead of time. With this company, are they going to be responsible for getting all the permits that are required for anything that's being done in the city? Second of all, are they also going to manage the department until the position is filled? Because there are a lot of -- there's a lot of work going on in the city as far as houses being done and things like that that we don't want to get permits lost in that interim. So is this company going to be responsible for these things?

Mayor Yes. So they will handle the new construction permits, certificate of occupancy, plan review, for example, T. Ross brothers, I spoke with them today, they're waiting on their permit until we have a VCO. West pharmaceuticals, things of that nature. So what we've done, Gary and Robin Adams, the codes office, they have all the documentation. They have everything ready pending Council approval tonight. We will get these items to Barry Isef for their review, and then hopefully obviously subsequently get the permit issued to the various entities that are going to start this construction. As far as managerial duties, not necessarily. You know, no word with the codes officers, of course. Right now, I had a conversation with Gary Knarr and [Indiscernible] the department during the interim, but Barry [Indiscernible] the BCBO, if they do see some things that they need to point out, but they noticing some that made one of our codes officers had missed during any of these processes that are reviewed by the BCO, they will point that out and let us know and obviously they're not going to sign off. But as far as the data [Indiscernible] that will be myself, not so much [Indiscernible] will handle that. Hopefully in the future we will have a placement. We do have some candidates that we're interviewing, but again, [Indiscernible] to your point, council, we have a number of construction projects that are ready to begin, so this will keep them moving forward until we have a full-time VCO on staff.

Mrs. Katz That was my only concern, to make sure that we're not going to lose any of our permit money that comes through and also to make sure that people are keeping -- somebody is keeping track of everything that's going on. And as you said, this company is not going to do the management. You and marry Nor are the ones who are going to be seeing where people go and what has to be done during the course of the day. You know, there has to be a boss overlooking everybody. We do have inspection and things like that that you don't want to get lost. You don't want to lose traction in any of this. These are the things when I looked at this, these are the questions that came to my mind.

Mr. Yoder: I appreciate that, Mrs. Katz. And I would just add, I mean, I think that in the interim, this is certainly a good solution and I would be interested to see what we take from this and if this is something this might yield some fruit in more of a long-term manner. I know in the past couple years when we've gone through budget, this is something that we've openly and not so openly talked about exploring as we try to manage through our budget deficit and all those related items, and so I'm glad to see us at least exploring this in the short-term. And Mayor Slaughter, I'm anxious to see what you learn or see how this might work in a more long-term fashion. So good to see. Good to see.

Mrs. Katz And I could add to that for a second, Mayor, I'm really happy that this is a company that works in other areas, that maybe we can pick up some pointers on how things should be done maybe? You know, there's always room for improvement in any department, and I think we all realize that. And I think this is -- when it came to this department, budget times, they were always the least amount of our worry about the budget. They just, you know, they stayed status quo. I want to make sure that this -- that they are now going to be able to function and do what they have to do and accomplish everything that has to be done in our city at this point. Thank you.

Mayor I'll just add I don't know if there's two representatives on, I don't know if they have anything to add to the discussion or not.

Mr. Yoder: Any other comments or questions from other members of Council on the resolution in front of us? Is okay. Hearing and seeing none. Mrs. Frank, on the motion please?

'The resolution was carried with 5 yes roll call votes. The vote was 5 to 0. All were in favor.

Mr. Allison voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, and Mr. Yoder voted yes. Mr. Beiter and Ms. Miele were absent.

Accept for filing::

Finance Committee Meeting 06/07/22 & 06/21/22

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion and a second.

'The Minutes were accepted for filing with 5 yes roll call votes. The vote was 5 to 0. All were in favor.

Mr. Allison voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, and Mr. Yoder voted yes. Mr. Beiter and Ms. Miele were absent.

Announcements

There will be a Police Pension Board meeting immediately following this City Council meeting. The next regularly scheduled City Council meeting will be held on Thursday, August 11, 2022 at 7:00 PM, Trade & Transit II, 144 West Third St. 3rd Floor, Williamsport, PA

Upcoming Meetings:

Wednesday, July 27	11 :30 AM	Redevelopment Authority
Monday, August 8	4: 00 PM	Recreation Commission
Tuesday, August 9	11:30 AM	Public Safety
	12:00 PM	Planning Commission
	1:00 PM	Finance Committee
	2:30 PM	Public Works
	4:00 PM	Transit Oversight Committee
Wednesday, August 10	9:00 AM	Economic Revitalization Committee
	3:30 AM	O & E Pension
Thursday, August 11	7:00 PM	City Council Meeting*

Comments:

- a. City Council
- b. Administration
- c. Members of the Public
- d. News Media

There were no comments from anyone.

Adjournment

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned upon motion by **Mr. Pulizzi** and a second by **Mr. Mackey/ Meeting adjourned at 7:19 PM PM with unanimous ayes.**

Submitted by:

Janice M. Frank
City Clerk