

Council Vice President Bonnie Katz brought the Williamsport City Council meeting to order on Thursday, January 19, 2023 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
Bonnie Katz, Vice President
Liz Miele, Councilwoman
Randy Allison, Councilman,
Vince Pulizzi, Councilman
Jon Mackey, Councilman,
Eric Beiter Councilman

Absent::

Adam Yoder

Also, Present:

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

Approval of the Williamsport City Council minutes for 12/15/22 were approved upon a motion by Mr. Pulizzi and a second from Mr. Allison. All were in favor. The vote was 6 to 0. Mr. Yoder was absent.

Limited Courtesy of the Floor

There were none.

Appointments/Reappointments

Williamsport Water & Sanitary Authority

Dr. Kent Trachte is reappointed to a five year term commencing 01/19/23 & ending 12/31/27

Katie de Silva, 309 Hughes St. is appointed to a 5 year term commencing 01/19/23 & ending 12/31/27.

Mrs. Katz asked for a motion and second.

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

Mayor: what you have here is a reappointment and a new appointment to the Williamsport Municipal Water and Sanitary Authority. The reappointment is Doctor Kent Trachte who is an outstanding number of the board for the last five years and he has graciously agreed to serve another term. Then at the new appointment is Katie DeSilva. Who I believe is there this evening in person. She has also graciously agreed to serve on the authority board and she comes to us recently retired from the Clinton County as a planner and she also has experience with their sewer authority out there. So she does have a background in this arena and some technical skills and experience there as well. She is not coming into this brand-new. So we are excited about that. We are excited about Doctor Trachte and Ms. DeSilva. She is there in person so if you have any questions for her, I'm sure she would be happy to answer. I will turn it back over to you Councilwoman Katz.

Mrs. Katz: Thank you,. I need a motion on this.

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

Mr. Beiter Our new appointment who have brought forward, Ms. Katie DeSilva. We had her resume sent to us and I wanted to point a few things out on that because it is impressive. As I mentioned in the ERC meeting. Water authority board and the zoning hearing board requires some level of expertise and a level of commitment with time. This DeSilva has been a, excuse me, part of the natural gas cooperative, the Clinton County economic partnership, the PA Wilde center board for directors and PA Wilde planning team. The SEDA-Council ministrations, the technology enterprise and Deputy This is a review of her qualifications. This is quite a gem of an appointment. Thank you for that, Ms. DeSilva.

Mr. Katz: Issue present tonight? Hi there would you like to say anything?

Ms. De Silva stated she is happy to serve on this board

Mrs. Katz asked for a vote on the appointments.

The appointments were carried with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0 All were in favor

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

Resolution #9610

Resolution to Approve the 2022 James David Robinson Cultural Arts Grant Program & Associated Awards

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mrs. Katz asked for a motion and second..

Mr. Pulizzi made the motion and it was seconded by Ms. Miele.

Mayor what you have is a motion for the James David Robinson cultural arts grant. The awards for this year are the Repez Band, Williamsport Symphony Orchestra and the Community arts Center. The recommendation was \$1000 for each of those. That is what we have allocated each year is \$3000 and with this resubmission recommendation again was \$1000 for each of those. As I'm sure everyone knows there is a memory of James Robinson of the cultural grant that we do each year to remember him. This year we only had the three submissions. So that is the recommendation to go to each of these organizations. This was reviewed in finance. Thank you.

Ms. Miele : It was in finance. Since I have been on Council and long before we have been handing out this grant. The total amount of \$3000 has not changed during that time. I think the only inaudible We speculated I think in the finance committee. : These are deserving enterprises. They have all received money from the - - it is important and it does do good work.

Mrs. Katz asked for a vote on the resolution..

The resolution was approved with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0 All were in favor

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

Demolition 917-919 Second St PA. College of Technology

Mr. Knarr What I present to you tonight is a request from Pennsylvania College of technology to demolish the property at 917-919 2nd St. The property is covered within the institutional zoning district and the current reason for the demo is because it is unsafe and on structurally sound at this time.

Mrs. Katz asked for a motion and second..

Mr. Pulizzi made the motion and it was seconded Mr. Beiter

Ms. Miele As we often ask in things like this, is the property next to the property demolish?

Mr. Knarr They do on that and at this time there is no current plan for development.

The demolition was carried with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0 All were in favor

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

Certificate of Appropriateness Signage for Residence Inn 150 W. Church St

Mr. Knarr what we have is a request to change signage out at the Residence Inn. It is within a central business district read what they are proposing is this current lettering is a red lettering. What they're trained to do is swap out for channel lettering, which will be white. You have the existing as well as the proposed and I do have a presented of via zoom.

Mrs. Katz asked for a motion and second.

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

Mrs. Katz: Any other questions?

The certificate of Appropriateness was carried with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0 All were in favor

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

Certificate of Appropriateness Signage for Townplace Suites 10 W. Church St

Mr. Knarr. What we have before you tonight is a request from Templates Suites. It is located in central business district read what they are replacing to do is replace lettering that is blue and red with black lettering. You have existing and proposed and I have the same representative as well.

Mrs. Katz asked for a motion and second.

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

There were no questions or comments..

The certificate of Appropriateness was carried with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0 All were in favor

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

Ordinance # 6448

Ordinance Providing for Preferred Residency for City Employees (final reading) Bill #1814-23

The City Clerk read the ordinance.

Mrs. Katz asked for a motion and second.

Ms. Miele made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Pulizzi

Mrs. Schrimp: Good evening. So this is the second reading. We discussed at the last meeting that there was a 2020 ordinance requiring residency in the city for about 10 employees who are at will. The balance of the employees are all unite knives and have separate contractual requirements created due to the current labor market and our struggles with finding people who have certain certifications and experience required for positions such as the codes administrator we are requesting to make the change from having it be required to preferred that these employees live within the city limits. We would post positions as such setting residency is preferred. If we have two candidates with equal qualifications we would give the position to the resident. The questions?

Mrs. Katz: Any questions at the moment? If not, Mrs. Frank we will take the vote.

Ms. Miele Is not so much a question as a point. I agree with the administration that I've been given - especially some of the certain positions that were looking for with the qualifications. I can understand the need to expand our pool, but I would underline the fact that I think we need as a city, and may be frankly it should be some sort of a ad hoc committee. We needed to put together some sort of a plan to incentivize people to move into the community. I do not just mean ordinary people. I think that's also an important focus, but our employees should want to live in the city because it is a good place to live. I think we have talked a number of times about putting together a couple of carrots that will attract candidates that we might find who are living outside of the city to move into the city and I think we need to work on that as soon as possible because the resident ordinance in itself was not enough and would have never been enough I think to sort of force people to move into the city, but to make the city an attractive place to live for people who are working for new employment would be good to achieve that goal through another mechanism. I guess if the administration wants to think about possibly creating some sort of subcommittee that could look at that for a while. I don't think it would take long to put together and pool incentives, but we definitely need to focus on and not just talk about it. So thanks.

Mrs. Katz I like that idea. We are not the only ones. At the school district is in the same position and the last time when we formed this ordinance and talked about it we also wanted to include the Chamber of Commerce and from the school district and the city because we need to do this in order to bring in more taxes because as I stated and we have all stated we are not bringing in enough money at this point to pay all of our bills and I said, we have to be careful with this and I agree with Miss Miele. We should have an ad hoc meeting or we can start working on, how can we accomplish this goal to bring more people into our city? This was not strong enough to begin with. It really wasn't and what we do have to do something that is going to entice people to come here. I think we will talk to the mayor afterwards and see where we can go with this and of course with your help also.

Mrs. Schrimp: Sounds good. I like it.

Mr. Allison: In the vein of talking about these things, you know. I can imagine things that we can incentivize with and I think it needs to fit in with the larger plan and the different things we are talking about revitalizing the whole city. As that would be an underlying foundation to build on and it is more long-term. I think we can do things in the short term, but our goal is to have Williamsport be on another level all across the board and there are things underway and some developments that are now going on that are going to help towards that. I think we can come up with some good things that will fit into long-range and short.

Mrs. Katz asked for a vote.

The ordinance was carried in final reading with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0 All were in favor Mr. Allison voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mr. Beater voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mrs. Katz voted yes. Mr. Yoder was absent.

Ordinance #6449

Ordinance Transfer Ordinance #1 (final reading) Bill #1815-23

The City Clerk read the ordinance.

Mrs. Katz asked for a motion and second.

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

Mrs. Katz: Mrs. Woodring is not here so I am going to address this ordinance. She came to us and this is the final reading and what she would like to do is she needs a new copier and she would like to take from her supply - supplies line item of \$600 and place it into the equipment line item on the initial budget was \$600 like I said from the supplies and she would need to transfer \$200 more into the equipment account. That would be account number 301040. We all realize that she doesn't need a better copying machine. Is there any questions from anybody? Did I take a motion? Any questions? Yes?

Ms. Miele: To be clear this is transfer ordinance number one and not transfer ordinance number five?

Ms. Miele: We are changing the 2022 budget, right? That is what it said in the ordinance. I'm more confused about the fact that 2022 is over and why are we changing the 2022 budget? Are we changing the 2022 budget? Very important question grade are we sure about that?

Mr. Lubin I believe it should be 2023 because the money is going to be spent with the item is going to be purchased this year and also the effective date is this year.

Ms. Miele: Do we approve factors after the fact - the money has been spent and we need to transfer the money to cover it. We know which way? Perhaps we should simply table it until next time because do we know for sure which way goes? So this would be a modification then to the 2023 budget. So we need to amend the wording in the ordinance to be 2023? Yes? **Then I would like to make a motion to amend changing in the first paragraph, 2022-2023 general fund budget.**

Mr. Pulizzi seconded it.

The ordinance was amended in final reading with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0 All were in favor Mr. Allison voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mr. Beater voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mrs. Katz voted yes. Mr. Yoder was absent>

Mrs. Katz I don't think Mrs. Woodring was aware what she was doing with this bird I think that's what it is.

I think what it was is with the first reading, she started preparing this at the end of last year. I know that the end of last year and the beginning of this year still used. I think that's how this came about.

Ms.. Miele : I want to be clear that we are modifying the 2023 budget. That means the other thing we need to change in this ordinance is it is now **I would like to make a motion to amend transfer ordinance number five to read transfer ordinance number one. This is the first transfer ordinance of 2023.**

Mr. Pulizzi seconded it.

The ordinance was amended in final reading with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0 All were in favor Mr. Allison voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mr. Beater voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mrs. Katz voted yes. Mr. Yoder was absent

Mrs. Katz asked for a motion and second on the original ordinance..

Ms. Miele made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Pulizzi.

The ordinance was carried in final reading with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0 All were in favor Mr. Allison voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mr. Beater voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mrs. Katz voted yes. Mr. Yoder was absent>

Bill #1816-23

Ordinance Fee Schedule – Treasurer's Office (first reading)

The City Clerk read the ordinance.

Mrs. Katz asked for a motion and second.

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

Mr. Kevin Mackey : Alright, so with regards to this we have been making an increase to keep in compliance with our taxes and I believe some of these fees are necessitated to help cover the cost that it is having on our office and much time we are spending on this. There spending an exorbitant amount on envelopes trying to get this out and having this fee will help discourage people from not following the rules that we have set out for people before. That's why some of this stuff is in here and it's more about covering our access efforts and increasing compliance with our efforts.

Ms. Miele This went to finance and many of these fees are new in terms of being recorded and publicly available. We asked, I believe perhaps in the expectation that something had increased, whether any of the fees had changed and actually Mr. Mackey informed us that the NFC fee increase because I believe there is a gradual move to not make money on penalizing people who fail to have sufficient funds when they give a check both in the banking world and also in the mail like this. It was good to see. It is rare that the city decreases fees. Aside from that, nothing too exciting. I think the only other thing to point out is the sum of a penalty fee for the business that has failed to acquire a business or mercantile, business or mercantile tax license and that makes sense. It is not much money, but at least it is a little bit of a ding for not doing paperwork. The reception in finance was positive. This was posted on the city's website as well. So this will be as open and available as we can make it.

Mr. Mackey There will be copies posted in my office as well grade I want to make this as visible as Ken so people are

aware of it and filing appropriately.

Mrs. Katz : Any questions from a new - - anyone else? How many are you sending out?

Mr. Mackey: Today we sent out probably 20 or 30 and we are sending that out - every time we receive filings coming and I would say about 20 to 30% of the ones we received either don't have the appropriate backup with them, which would be the \$20 fee that is in there and then that would come back into us. So what we are doing and what we're trying to get is where trying to get people to follow the rules that is set out in our ordinances and rules and regulations and we cannot go ahead and verify what somebody's income is if they don't tell us or if is not provided for. So we are asking for a federal filing firm, detailed report or something in writing to shows, hey look I made this much in a year and instead of putting on the city filing form because that is just one section of it. If you are including a detailed accounting report or a federal filing form it is more easy for us to verify that yes you did make these funds because that adds the backup that the federal government is going to check on you to make sure you made that money as well instead of just telling us in sin, yeah, I did not make anything. We've had several businesses that have claimed to make nothing, but through other means we have discovered that they have made something. That they did not include on their backup because there was no backup. It helps us verify that some funds are earned in the city versus outside. I had one business telling us that they made tons of money in the city and it was all in oil stock and that saved somebody on their end.

Mrs. Katz asked for a vote.

The ordinance was carried in first reading with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0 All were in favor Mr. Allison voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mr. Beater voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mrs. Katz voted yes. Mr. Yoder was absent

Resolution # 9606
Resolution Real Estate Refund – Kohl's

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mrs. Katz asked for a motion and second..

Ms. Miele made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Beiter.

Mr. Mackey It is what it is. We cannot change what the property is worth and this is filing with the county deemed the property worth. It makes you feel better, we do increase the NBP filings by having the fee schedule, and. Assumption to cover losses from real estate without one. This is a pretty standard procedure, too.

Mrs. Katz asked for a vote.

The resolution was approved with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0 All were in favor Mr. Allison voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mr. Beater voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mrs. Katz voted yes. Mr. Yoder was absent

Resolution # 9607
Resolution Property Tax Penalty Waiver Provisions

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mrs. Katz asked for a motion and second.

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

Mr. Mackey : You are up against 11 so Governor Wolf signed innate penalty provision for penalty taxes that were to come into effect if a person had sold or transferred their property during the movement or during sending out taxes. When we are sending out taxes, if someone sold their property, did not receive it and they can follow five lines that Governor Wolf laid out, then as long as they do those, the penalty is waived, but they have to have a check for the face value when they go to send out the form. I have copies of the form in my office and on public display so people can read about it if they would like.

Ms. Miele This did come to finance and I think - actually you will have to excuse me Mr. Mackey. Did we make a change or should I make a change now?

Mr. Mackey The only change we would make is during property transfers on that last paragraph there.

Ms. Miele The only discussion we had about this actually - it seems like a reasonable thing to come down from the state is all of us I believe initially read this and assumed that we were looking at waving additional charges and kind of a broad array of situations, when in fact this only applies to one property is transferred in a tax year and the tax bill may not have been received by the person who was supposed to be paying the property taxes. So we decided it would at least help a little bit if there were arguments to come down in the future about waiving fees we inserted in the resolution, following and certain situations, the language involving property transfers. So I would **make a motion to amend the resolution in the second paragraph towards the end it to read, "for real estate taxes in certain situations involving property transfer"**.

Mr. Beiter seconded it.

Mrs. Katz asked for a vote on the resolution.

The resolution was approved with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0 All were in favor Mr. Allison voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mr. Beater voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mrs. Katz voted yes. Mr. Yoder was absent

Resolution #9608
Resolution Exonerating the City Treasurer from Collection of 2022 Real Estate Taxes

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mrs. Katz asked for a motion and second.

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

Mr. Mackey Correct data for 2022 we had outstanding \$938,037.78 of uncollected out of our total, which was close to \$15 million. This is right in line with our 92% collection rate from last year. For our school taxes we collected about 13,000,543 and \$68, give or take a few cents. So this is to exonerate the treasurer from collecting these 2022 taxes. Again, this is standard procedure that Nick had done prior years as well.

There were no questions

Mrs. Katz asked for a vote.

The resolution was approved with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0 All were in favor

Mr. Allison voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mr. Beater voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mrs. Katz voted yes. Mr. Yoder was absent

Resolution 9609

Resolution Uncollected Real Estate Taxes for 2022

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mrs. Katz asked for a motion and second..

Mr. Pulizzi made the motion and it was seconded by Ms. Miele

Mr. Mackey . So this is the turning over of the \$938,000 to the county for collection and they will do so and make their best effort to collect those funds for us and turn them over as they come in.

Mrs. Katz : The question I have for this is - this comes down every year and it seems like it is probably the same names every year, isn't it?

Mr. Mackey : I don't know if I can exactly say that because this is my first year turning it over, but I can recognize a few names over the years and I'm working on trying to get in contact with them.

Mrs. Katz Would you say that some of these names are still living in the city?

Mr. Mackey: I know if you are, yes.

Mrs. Katz: And the county does its best to collect these taxes?

Mr. Mackey: If the county cannot collect the taxes and it goes up for judicial sales and they will not have their property after that. The county does do its best to make their best opportunities and work with that. If it doesn't, then they use whatever tools are available to turn them back into revenue generating properties.

Mrs. Katz It seems like it is around the same amount every year.

Mr. Mackey: 92% is what it was running year after year. We usually send two notices. The first notice is the duplicate site, and the second notice goes out around October 2 make people agonize that they still have a bill due. For most people it does get a push in, but the 92% is what we are stuck at year after year.

Mrs. Katz: It would be nice if we could reduce that remark.

Mr. Mackey: Correct. The only thing it does is reduce the amount of penalty the taxpayer has to do and I hate to see that.

Mrs. Katz: Any questions from anyone?

Mr. Allison I wanted to say one thing on the part of Mr. Mackey. We have - - collecting those taxes. I wanted to say for the record that I am very impressed of course of how diligent and thorough he has been working through this. He has spent a considerable amount of time digging into it to make sure we are collecting every bit we can.

Mrs. Katz: Not the easiest thing to do.

. The resolution was approved with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0 All were in favor

Mr. Allison voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mr. Beater voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mrs. Katz voted yes. Mr. Yoder was absent

Resolution #9611

Resolution Authorizing an Agreement Between the Williamsport Bureau of Fire & Higher Information Group

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mrs. Katz asked for a motion and second.

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

Chief Lucas Before you as a resolution for an agreement between Williamsport Bureau of fire and the higher information group who we have been using. We are looking at purchasing a new copier, scanner, fax machine. The one we currently have is nine years old. We have had a few issues with it. This machine here is able to send, rather than a fax, it will scan and email the document. It is a lot cleaner . We got it for just about the same as the previous machine. So it is about \$211 a month. That is for 1000 black-and-white copies, 500 color copies per month.

Mr. Jon Mackey: It went to public safety, contrary to popular believe, there is still a public safety committee. It was the first meeting in quite a while. We had a brief discussion on this. Chief, could you remind us again what line item this is coming out of?

Chief: Contracted service.

Mr. Mackey That is right. I cannot remember. It is a standard agreement here and according to the chief this is about the lifecycle of a machine. So five years with a lease of this kind, we will be able to get a good value for trading and on a better model in five years. I can turn this over to Vince, Councilman Pulizzi hear who had good things to say about the machine as he has had screens with it.

Mr. Pulizzi: Thank you, Councilman Mackey. Sorry, it is one of those nights, isn't it? No. It is a good machine. We have dealt with these machines before and what is nice about this particular machine is during our conversation at public safety you were asking about if it has paper jams and those problems. Any kind of print technology inevitability does have. What is nice is the technology that is in these machines now tell you exactly what is wrong and where to look. Everything is labeled by letter and number that walks you through step-by-step on exactly what to do and how to fix it. It greatly reduces the amount of maintenance costs, as far as having to call out for maintenance technicians to work on things. So there is a big cost savings there, which is obviously to everyone's benefit. It is a great machine.

Mrs. Katz, We did get a good education on the copy machine. It is an incredible piece of equipment and it will help your department to modestly. Anybody else have any questions? Yes, Ms. Miele?

Ms. Miele The only thing I am curious about is – so all service calls are included?

Chief: Yes, yes before the drums developer and toner, I'm assuming is only up to that number of copies?

Chief: Anything over that, you pay an extra fee or added fee before the drum developer and toner are included, but we are paying a fee? Thank you.

Mrs. Katz asked for a vote.

The resolution was approved with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0 All were in favor

Mr. Allison voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mr. Beater voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mrs. Katz voted yes. Mr. Yoder was absent

Resolution #9612

Resolution Authorizing A Contract for Professional Consulting Services with SEDA-Council of Governments

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mrs. Katz asked for a motion and second.

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

Mr. Memmi stated we bring a resolution to approve a contract with the SEDA-Council organization to administer the CDBG program for the fiscal year 2023. The amount of the contract is 141,005 Hunter dollars. These funds will be taken from the CDBG administered of line item. The contract has been reviewed by Austin white and was presented to the ERC for their direction and input. If you have any questions, Jamie Schroeder and Tyler (NAME?) from SEDA-Council are here to answer any of the technical issues and we open the floor for your questions pretty similar to last year's contract.

Mr. Beiter It did. One of the biggest things we discussed is the scope of work that they're going to be doing now - I also understand the importance of having SEDA-Council help us with the program because we don't want to run into a - stop on the wrist, which we have gotten past and that can affect future funding that we would not be receiving.. Mr. Pulizzi was also in that meeting.

Mr. Pulizzi I was. I am nothing more to add. You said everything I would have said.

Mr. Allison : Skip, are we - have we unraveled a lot over the past couple of years to get things in place where they need to be?

Mr. Memmi: With the assistance of SEDA-Council we are getting there. Have we unraveled all of the issues? No. We are getting there.

Mr. Allison Is there an estimated percentage wise or.

Mr. Memmi It all depends on what HUD might come back with and ask questions of projects that were done prior to our engagement with SEDA-Council or prior to my arrival here because we are dealing with stuff that happened in 2018, 19, 2020. Moving forward we will absolutely follow the rules. Not all of the eyes and across all of the T's. That is what SEDA-Council is helping us with.

Mr. Allison Is an ongoing conversation?

Ms. Miele All I was going to say is I feel bad that Tyler is making the trip up here every tempered we see the SEDA-Council resolution on here patiently and I would say that SEDA-Council does not need to necessarily appear. If you want to phone in that would be fine.

Mr. Memmi: They did zoom in to the ERC meeting and they chose to come up here today.

Ms. Miele I am trying to keep it exciting down here. Nonetheless, if you want to stay at your house is ended zoom and I think that would be fine. We have an established relationship with SEDA-Council and any issues can be resolved over the phone. We are happy to see you and thank you for coming.

Mrs. Katz We do have good restaurants here. Thank you very much for coming. Any other questions? If not, Mrs. Frank.

The resolution was approved with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0 All were in favor

Mr. Allison voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mr. Beater voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mrs. Katz voted yes. Mr. Yoder was absent

9613

Resolution authorizing the purchase of manage engine of mobile device management service from ZOHO Corporation.

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mrs. Katz asked for a motion and a second on the resolution.

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

Mr. Black What you have in front of you is a resolution for the purchase of a product from manage engine mobile device management overspread at allows us to manage the cell phones the city issues to certain employees and it keeps them secured in case they get lost they can be locked down and it keeps them encrypted with the data that we passed back and forth. I have been using their products for the first 25 devices that we have here for free. We are now past that point and we need to add to it. Unfortunately after 26 and up it cost you money. The original price on this was 1428 and I was allowed to get it down to 1125. That is for one year coming out of contracted services and it wasn't reviewed by Austin White.

Ms. Miele This did go to finance. We had some discussions around the product, but this is clearly, especially given some of the sensitive information that might be found on some of the city cell phones, a necessary item to have in our toolbox. I think that the only question that I did not ask I don't know how I missed it was this price is good for how long?

Mr. Black: One year. It is basically a monthly. If we pay it for the year we get a discount.

Ms. Miele: Have we seen a price jump on their products year-over-year?

Mr. Black : I have not had to buy it before. Up until this point it was free.

Ms. Miele We will find out next year. That is the one thing that probably makes everyone little bit nervous with any sort of contract anymore is that contract can go up in price.

Mr. Black : So if we go above 50 units, then the price would go up.

Ms. Miele : Right now you are saying we are looking at something around 43.

Mr. Black : I will be illuminating another service that we are paying on a monthly basis for legacy phones and I can move them over to this one now or after this is passed and approved. Then eliminate that where we are paying four dollars per phone per month on those ones.

Ms. Miele Good. No, anyway. Clearly a good thing and clearly a service we need. The product, Mr. Black said, works very well. I think the only question is, what will it cost moving forward? It was well received in finance. I will refer to other members if they have anything to say.

Mrs. Katz asked for a vote on the resolution.

The resolution was approved with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0 All were in favor

Mr. Allison voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mr. Beater voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mrs. Katz voted yes. Mr. Yoder was absent

Resolution #9614

Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of a Defender Pool Filter Utilizing ARPA Funds

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mrs. Katz asked for a motion and second..

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

Mr. Livermore What you have before you tonight is a resolution authorizing purchase of defender pool filter at the memorial pool using ARPA funds. The pool filter that we are planning to put in, one of the state-of-the-art units we can get rid of the price of it is \$268,804.55. Using public works out of the future line item. This was reviewed in public works and reviewed by the city solicitor. Little back history on the pool filter we have right now. Obviously when the pool was put in in 1971 that is when this unit was put in. Filters have been changed out over the years, but we are still running on the 1971 system that we have. It is important that we upgrade this to make this pool run a lot nicer.

Mrs. Katz This did come to public works and this is a necessary item that has to be done and you said it was probably going to take about a month did you say if I remember correctly?

Mr. Livermore: We are ready to move very soon. The company that is doing this is called Oco if it is water". They just got done installing the system at city College.

The resolution was approved with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0 All were in favor

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

Resolution #9615

Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of a 2020 John Deere 4066R Compact Utility Tractor

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mrs. Katz asked for a motion and second..

Mr. Pulizzi made the motion and it was seconded by Ms. Miele.

Mr. Livermore What you have before you is a resolution to purchase a compact utility tractor. The tractor we are running right now is from 1993. So that has served its life to what we use. It is time to upgrade that as well. This will be - we are trading this in and the dollar figure they gave us is \$3500 for a trade-in for a total of the new tractor is \$46,770.76. This is out of the capital projects line item. That went through my budget that was passed. It was reviewed in public works and reviewed by city solicitor.

Mrs. Katz This did come to public works and, Mr. Pulizzi, you know a lot about this tractor, right?

Mr. Pulizzi A little bit. I was impressed by the price point that we are getting a 52 hp tractor four. Obviously the city goes through its equipment and those pieces of equipment are used - not to say the city is hard on them, but they are used a lot, yes. They certainly need to - this purchase is certainly necessary.

Mrs. Katz asked for vote on the resolution.

The resolution was approved with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0 All were in favor

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

Resolution #9616

Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of a New 450-25 Steiner Tractor

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mrs. Katz asked for a motion and second..

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

Mr. Livermore This is not a normal tractor. This is a specialized piece of equipment that mows our Levee's and Dyke systems. It is designed to hold on to 2-1 slopes and steep grades for our Levee system. This tractor will be replacing one of our hillside are pieces of the Clement from 1999. This came out of the capital improvement fund. - - \$87.80. This was reviewed in public works and reviewed by city solicitor.

Mrs. Katz: This did come to public works and I guess the tires on this - how many tires are on this?

Mr. Livermore Eight tires. Four per axle. So it has a low center of gravity that will be able to stay on the bank.

Mrs. Katz : How long does this take to do the Levee?

Mr. Livermore: Three weeks. By the time you start, you finish in three weeks and you have to start again.

Mr. Pulizzi believe the contractor we have is going to be put up?

Mr. Livermore: That will be posted shortly here. Once I get this machine roughly - two months and I'm talking with the vendor.

Mrs. Katz asked for a vote on the resolution.

The resolution was approved with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0 All were in favor

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

Resolution 9617

Resolution Awarding Levee Pump Station Design Services to GPI

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mrs. Katz asked for a motion and second..

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

Mr. Sander what you have before you is a resolution to hire GPI engineering for design services for a backup generator and automated switchgear at three of our nine Levee pump stations. With the relief wells and the cross pipes already in motion as far as either being designed or being changed out this is the most critical part in our Levee system. This will be paid out of ARPA and a contract from GPI for \$60,000. We currently have \$1.7 million left in our ARPA Levee categorization. As you can see, GPI has magic screens all over the Pennsylvania, Canonsburg, Philadelphia, Scranton, from the proposal that they sent. This thing keeps on moving. Anyway. I put this out last summer and I received five proposals and they ranged in price from roughly \$50,000 to upwards of \$240,000. They are a solid firm and they are looking forward to getting started and yeah. They are good to go. This was discussed in public works and given no recommendation. You don't do that anymore.

Mrs. Katz This went to finance? I have sat in all of the meetings. That's why I'm confused with all of this. This came to public works. Yes, I do remind us. We have a long way to go with everything, with the Levee at this point prior with the cross pipes and the pumps. They're starting to see groundbreaking at this point.

Mr. Sander You will likely see that the summer.

Mrs. Katz: Which I'm hoping - we were told it would happen last year and the year before. Though far because of lack of money and funds, now we have the money and the funds to go after some of this. I know we are all going to be

happy to see that, especially with what's going on with - I'm sorry. The pump stations. Some of them - they were not turning on all the time. 11 correct. From the discussion we had they are also going to have generators attached to this.

Mr. Sander: Standalone backup generators.

Mrs. Katz: That is something that we have not had in the past.

Mr. Sander: We've had instances where our Levee system gets affected once a year. There have been instances where the pump station does not turn on prayed likely our city electrician was able to get there to turn it on, but if that happened during a flooding event that could be catastrophic good hence the reason why we are putting backup generators on all of the stations. This will spur a one to \$1.3 million construction project, just to let everyone know. We have funding for that as well with a little bit of ARPA and earmarked items that are not quite public yet.

Mrs. Katz: Fantastic. Any questions? Yes, Mr. Bieter.

Mr. Beiter: If you could be so kind over the next few weeks to put together - I would say a flowchart as to what organizations would - we have GPI. What they're doing and what the Army Corps of Engineers is going to be doing over the next 18 months just so we can get a better picture of that as a body. There is a lot of moving parts to this and to fully grasp it I think that would be helpful.

Mr. Sander: No problem. To let you know, what the water resources team from it would - they got bought out by a company called WSB. So What is no longer hired by us just let you know.

Ms. Miele: Now the company is WSB.

Mr. Sander: The number one engineering firm in the United States for revenue, as far as revenue is concerned.

Ms. Miele: I think for the sake of reflection on the past Randy and I have seen them go through how many names? I think it is like six or seven. Since I have been on Council Just in terms of corporate identity and stuff like that. Anyway. GPI is not affiliated in any way, shape, or form?

Mr. Sander: No.

Ms. Miele: Did we go through an RFP process?

Mr. Sander I went out for a request for proposal and they ranged anywhere from \$50,000 to \$240,000. I apologize, I did not mean to cut you. It was reviewed by you HI.

Ms. Miele: Just out of curiosity. Do we have any estimate on when this will be shovel ready?

Mr. Sander - I talked to them a couple weeks ago. Generators are like a nine-month back order right now so it will be a while before I mean - this particular element will be completed. They are ready to start on this. The mechanical engineers and electrical engineers are drawing out plans to put out the bid and then we will award the bid.

Ms. Miele: When do they expect to have the bid prepared?

Mr. Sander: I don't have that information. I will get you the information.

Ms. Miele: This is obviously not construction management in any way, shape, or form? Are they evaluating the bids that we received? When they put out the RFP, are they also in charge.

Mr. Sander: The bids will be traditional low bid - through the lowest qualified bidder you will get the job.

Ms. Miele: Someone has to get the job, right?

Mr. Sander: That would be me and the solicitors. It is not a part of this contract right now. Not currently.

Ms. Miele: You are saying that once we get - so we are expecting this process to take at least, let's say six months and once we select a better, which would be another month out after we get specs, right? I would say about two months? Then we are looking at - yeah. The generators, etc., which could be on backorder for as long as nine months? Obviously some of the work can start without the generators. They are not essential, correct?

Mr. Sander: Actually it is a fantastic addition because right now Scott's guys have to go to the pump station to turn them on. Based on - - the river. These will be automated. Once the water hits a certain level, it snaps on by itself.

Ms. Miele: Awesome. That is fantastic. Okay. I think that is everything - actually, sorry. My last question was, we had discussed a couple of stations that if all of the work was done on those stations the water Authority might be willing to take over managing some of the - some of the water handled by the water authority.

Mr. Sander: Water authority is tied it to the Arch Street pump station because some of the water discharges from it, but if I'm not mistaken, in the stormwater transfer contract, I will call it that. Two years ago, they explicitly made it clear that they do not want anything lead related until it is accredited.

Ms. Miele: Until the pump visions were fixed they did not want them. So I was wondering if any of these were the pump stations that they were willing to take after their fixed.

Mr. Sander: Not one of these three.

Mrs. Katz one of the questions I do have. Mr. Bieter asked for a flowchart. We have been working on this for 10 years I think I would really like to know how much money we have spent on this, on the Levee because most of the money has been spent on engineering companies coming through. The first company began with a A.

They kept changing with everything, but I would like to know and I think everyone else would like to know how much has been spent with would up unto this point.

Mr. Sander: It is hard without a financial software system that can tell us that. It can be done, but it would take quite a while. I do that.

Mrs. Katz: You know, we have spent a ton of money on this Levee so far and is lot with a lot of what is going on with what is going on on the ground, but a lot of it has been generic costs.

Mr. Sander Very little has been done construction wise. The county has been putting out the relief wells four times now. We came in overbudget about \$4 million last time. We are currently pulling together the package again to put it out to bid. Obviously we have some cash in hand now and we are hoping to facilitate that. 50 of those. There are like 60 total, relief wells. Their critical items. There are 10 or 12 inch outside that get bid out over and over again because they are going overbudget. We now have cash in hand from the potential earmark and we can put that towards that possibly. That is not up to me.

Mr. Allison Just one. I missed this the first time through. Why is Arch Street not getting automated?

Mr. Sander Arch Street was actually upgraded as part of the water authorities upgrades. So they already have a newer switchgear. It is just a backup generator at that location. I did just put in for another grant opportunity with FEMA for \$700,000 for 1/4 pump station upgrades and they called me and let me know that it is looking good and we will get formal notification in the summertime. As far as whether we get it or not. We have Tom Keller working on that for us.

Ms. Miele Am not sure if it is possible to track this funding and I don't want you to put together a flowchart or anything

Mr. Sander because I think some of this is water under the bridge, but I want to know how many funding sources we have used for this and I think I probably seen more city money go into the levy project than any other single project, you know? We have received a lot of grant funding over the past decade or so since I've been on city Council. - - But, yeah. There has been a lot of time spent on the levy and they lot of money and that there has not been a Lotta work thus far. Certainly it would be great to see it go forward here soon.

Mr. Sander: I have been pushing WASP, what is going on, what is going on? Are you getting close? They currently have a package of relief - excuse me, cross pipes for the city and the county that they are putting out this enter.

Ms. Miele: For actual work done? Okay!

Mr. Sander: This summer. This summer.

Ms. Miele: Anyway. We did an I-beam at some point, right? It doesn't matter.

Mr. Sander: So to talk to that point for a second, we currently have a Army Corps of Engineers, SQ RA endeavor I will call it, which is basically evaluating former woods work that I've done in regards to our levee system along the creek. Myself and Derek spoke to the Army Corps and they have not authorized the funding to do that. We sent in essentially our half a million and they have not reciprocated with their half-million dollars.

Ms. Miele: Got it. We are hoping that they come back with a positive opinion?

Mr. Sander: I certainly hope so.

Ms. Miele: Excellent. Just to be fair, I think climate change and many of the variables introduced by climate change have made this a constantly evolving project. There is not a static set of recommendations anymore because I think the recommendations coming from the Army Corps have been enhanced over the decades so we are - as we are not getting the work done because we're still working on the engineering studies, the requirements are also changing and making a larger project. So I don't believe it is our fault. I also do not necessarily placed the blame on either of the firms we are working with, but it is a frustrating situation for everyone.

Mr. Allison Just a comment on long term as well. We have - Mr. Livermore we have three employees - two now?

Mr. Livermore: There are 2 to 3.

Mr. Allison: At one point we had 11. Back in the day. To maintain the Levee system. So we are undermanned and that is not going to change. So we are looking at remediation and upgrading of the levee system, but there is a long-term solution that is in the works and there is talk about it, but just so the public knows.

Mr. Livermore: A lot of meanness parties and counties that I've gone to have a authority.

Mr. Allison is upgraded. Not that we do not want to do our duty, but the levy protects a lot of things that are related to the whole county. Not just Williamsport. So we need to keep that in the forefront, too. As this is discussed in public. It is not just a city issue. It is an area issue and really a county issue. We are also doing that and someday I hope we will have a counsel here that will not be dealing with the ins and outs of the daily and yearly problems.

Mr. Livermore: We have nearby municipalities that have effectively created Levee in his polities.

Mrs. Katz We have to make the jump and do it. That is what we need. Any other questions from anybody? Any statements?

The resolution was approved with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0 All were in favor

Mr. Allison voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mr. Beater voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mrs. Katz voted yes. Mr. Yoder was absent

Accept for filing::

WMWA 10/26/22 & 11/16/22

WMSA 10/26/22 & 11/16/22

Mrs. Katz asked for a motion to accept these for filing.

Ms. Miele made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Beiter.

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

Mr. Allison voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mr. Beater voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mrs. Katz voted yes. Mr. Yoder was absent

Announcements

. The next regularly scheduled City Council meeting will be held on Thursday February 2, 2023 at 7:00 PM, Trade & Transit II, 144 West Third St. 3rd Floor, Williamsport,

Upcoming Meetings:

Wednesday, January 27	11:30	AM	Redevelopment Authority
Tuesday, January 31	11:30	AM	Public Safety
	1:00	PM	Finance
	2:30	PM	Public Works Wednesday
February 1	9:00	AM	ERC Thursday
February 2	7:00	PM	City Council Meeting

Comments:

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

Adjournment

Mrs. Katz asked for a motion to adjourn.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned upon motion by Mr. Pulizzi and a second by Ms. Miele Meeting adjourned at 8:19 PM with unanimous ayes.

Submitted by:

**Janice M. Frank
City Clerk**