

Council President Adam Yoder brought the Williamsport City Council meeting to order on Thursday, September 14,, 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,
Vincent Pulizzi, Councilman
Jon Mackey, Councilman,
Eric Beiter Councilman
Absent::

Also, Present:

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

Approval of the Williamsport City Council minutes for 08/31/23 were approved upon a motion by **Mr. Allison** and a second from **Mr. Mackey** **All were in favor. The vote was 6 to 0. Ms. Miele was just arriving.**

Limited Courtesy of the Floor

There were none.

Mr. Yoder changed the order of the agenda.

Resolution #9691

Resolution Authorizing Agreement between Williamsport Bureau of Police & Redka Behavior Services for Co-Responder Program

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. Beiter.

Asst.. Chief Jason Bolt What you have before you is a resolution authorizing an agreement between Redka Behavior and the Bureau of Police . This is to provide two part-time mental health professional licenses that will correspond with officers to calls in which a person may be suffering from a mental or behavioral health crisis. As you guys know, they respond over 12,000 calls a year. There's been a visible rise in calls from law enforcement encounters with citizens who suffer from mental illness and substance abuse. Statistically, 1/10 of the varying policing counties involve persons with serious mental illness. The goal is program is to incorporate clitoral mental health response which will improve experience and outcomes. It will help in providing de-escalation, a diversion from the criminal justice system and connection to the appropriate mental health services. RVS will provide training for officers as well, give them tools on how to identify and respond to people responding to behavioral health emergencies. This program will be funded by the Pennsylvania commission on crime and deliver the grant that we were awarded earlier this year. This was also discussed in public safety committee earlier this week. If you have any questions, we also have Redka behavioral services here .

Mr. Jon Mackey Most of our conversation evolved around with this response might look like. We get to know the folks from Redka a little bit. It's a local company, you will have to remind me where you are located .

Representative We are in the end, but we're at Third St

Mr. Mackey I have one follow-up question by will open up the floor to other members of public safety.

Mr. Pulizzi Everything I had questions we had already discussed or assistant chief both had already answered for me. Funding and location of the service providers.

Mrs. Katz It was explained to us thoroughly at the committee meeting. It's very important and well needed at both sides. We are happy that this is a new company and they also in the city. Thank you very much.

Mr. Mackey: Chief both, if you could just remind me, how long is the duration of this grant?

Chief Bolt The grant ends at the end of 2024. We have this year and next year to end our goals and show some promise through this program .

Mr. Mackey: One of the major talking points of the public safety committee meeting was assistant chief both, maybe for the public record , you can walk us through what our response might look like . If you notice here , and the agreement there is mileage accounted for as a part of the compensation . This is going to be a work in progress and I will speak for assistant chief bolts. I will let chief bolts talk about what our response might look like.

Chief, Certainly. When we are dispatched to a call, we don't always know what we might encounter. We don't always the nuances of who we are doing with or any of that is a consensus surrounding it. If we are fortunate enough to have from the dispatch level communications inform us that we are going into a situation where we may have somebody other mental health crisis. We can have a correspond or go to the scene with us with an officer after we deem it clear. The community as you may contact and hopefully evaluate and give the proper care for lack of a better term. The best service we can with whatever it is we are in crisis four. We may have to also serve to some level of crisis intervention . We can have a correspond as a follow-up or referral after the fact. There are several different potential ways in which we can respond to this. With each incident being different, we can tweak it to the best fit for our department and for the community.

Mr. Mackey Did you ever envision a scenario in which one of these mental health crisis responders will stay back or be there with the person members of police presence? There could be a scenario where okay, we pretty much determined

that this person is not going to be violent or dangerous . There are other calls that need police responding.

Chief That could be a scenario, it depends on the comfort level of our situation and article responders. They could be corresponding for something that could be a juvenile and something that never necessarily needed a law enforcement officer there. In that infrequent occurrence, they may stay there for a little bit. We are normally going to be there to provide safety and security for that correspond or at any steam that police are dispatched to .

I know talk about the potential for body armor. Another question I have is what about radio? Is there something you want to think about?

I don't know if that is necessary , but we may be able to get in touch with them their phones.

Mr. Mackey: That is it for me maybe. Meredith? Maranda, I apologize. Is anything you ladies would like to add to this to talk about what your role is going to be as far as hiring these people ? It is up to you, I just want to give you the opportunity to say something, you did show up tonight so I appreciate you .

Representative Thank you. We did just post the job post last weekend and we have already had a few applicants. Nobody that I have been really excited about yet. We have some applicants in . The model that we are thinking about starting with would be worth a call response team the Navy and client officers so we cover the safety of everyone involved and at the point where somebody with RBS would be by themselves will likely be at a follow-up rather than an immediate incident .

Mr. Mackey That's all I had. I will turn it back over to you .

Mr. Allison first and think chief Snyder, assistant chief both and Mayor Derek Slaughter for being proactive in the administration. It's a very important area of policing and taking care of our community. Thank you for that. I was wondering, you shared a little bit about the mechanism on how this is going to work . Who's going to process the information? I have two questions, who makes the call whether there is a team together with the police that goes ? The second one is the 9-1-1 group, are they included in this? To your knowledge, are they trained in this area of having different kinds of responses to emergencies?

Chief So, currently, we are going to train our officers how to identify persons that are in a crisis. That will be a part of our responsibility. Hopefully by the time you're done with this, all of our officers themselves will be trained to a certain extent. We are training how to deal with mental health crises. We can easily identify when someone is in the mental health or behavioral health crisis. As for County communications, we are also going to work with them to receive some training as well.

Mr. Allison I'm glad you are doing it that way. I think it's important to have anybody involved in this chain of events whenever there is a call made .

Chief One of the things to add on to serve, with this program, the idea behind it is to get the department into position with we don't need that. We joke about a little bit, they will get us here and establish. The idea is if we continue this long, it will get to a point where the department can contain itself and do it. One of the things I don't want to lose focus on is the call response initiative will free up other officers. Right now we are doing intervention working with the mental health crisis , we are taking numerous hours to remedy that situation . What this will allow us to do is establish cycle response team that will be able to respond to that particular incident and free up our other officers tricky providing a service to the communities. With a couple of mechanisms in place, I don't want to talk about to many other institutions and whatnot, we are trying to come up with a way to better resolve these issues and get them the help that is needed quicker and more efficiently.

The resolution was carried with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 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. Mrs. Katz voted yes and Mr. Yoder voted yes.

Resolution Authorizing an Agreement Between the City of Williamsport & Hummer Turfgrass Systems
REMOVE FROM TABLE

Mr. Yoder: We will have to vote to remove it from the table but before we vote, this is something that we have had probably a lot of individual conversations on over the past couple of weeks , including some dialogue with major-league baseball . Others are welcome to chime in here for sure, but this is a little bit of a tough spot to be in I would say to vote on this. We are being asked to precipitate in upgrading the field with acts 13 money which is not general fund revenue is something that we use . We had a couple of weeks to look through this . I think there's a number of different opinions. We table this together some more information in an effort to see if this is something that makes sense . I will let others time and before we vote and just to be clear, this is a photo taken off the table. If it is not come off the table then it fails. There is no other info on that. I can't sit here and say I am comfortable with taking this off the table. I don't know that this is a good idea. With all due respect major-league baseball, the classic is a great thing. We all want to see a continue. For me generally , I am not comfortable personally going out of the confines of our contract that we have with them. This is outside of the confines and I would rather see us update and renegotiate our contracts . It is something where there is a desire with MLB to work with us moving forward, I will like to see qualified with the contract and negotiated rather than doing this first and negotiating after that my personal perspective. Others are more than welcome to share and join in the dialogue there Mrs. Bonnie Katz?

Mrs. Katz: I would like to take a page out of the mayor's script. He often says we don't know what we are going to be able to do . We could end up paying thousands and millions of dollars when they come up with their reports. With the money that MLB is asking, this money should really be for our taxpayers. Our taxpayers are more interested in having the potholes filled with that is that we have to be careful of. To me, I agree with Adam . We have all been very uncomfortable with this , and I don't understand why this was done three weeks ago . It was two or three weeks ago. It wasn't put on a budget or something any of us knew about. I feel very uncomfortable with this. That's what I have to say .

I appreciate you, Mrs. Bonnie Katz. The one thing I will add, I believe this was brought forward early in the summer to try and get them moving on the administration part . That was not communicated to me . If you do that Derek, I missed it. I do not see that. He probably could've work through a number of questions we had if we were able to have that dialogue early in the summer rather than now . My encouragement would be when we wanted to be situations in the future , but we ran into with - - Street. Something so big like this that might make for a bit of a pickle of the session, get

us involved earlier. It is a tough spot.

I do not have any details early in the summer. When I have stuff, I bring it forward. They put it out there and we were through, really when they got here in August had actual details. When having information was when I gave it to you as far as what it looks like . If I have food information, I will provide it.

Mr. Yoder Any other comments before we vote on moving from the table?

Mr. Allison: I think the MLB classic and everything surrounding it in his placement within the context of the Little League baseball World Series. I think the entirety of that is a unique event . It happens nowhere else in the country . I think major-league baseball is a big part of that . I understand the hesitation to commit that amount of money . If you're talking about negotiating in the future, that offers up an opportunity to us to be in a strong position . I think the adage of not cutting off your nose to spite your face is not a perfect analogy, but they could have repercussions far beyond what we know and can consider. I think the major-league baseball event is important to the city. We get free advertising nationally and internationally for our city . Major-league baseball goes out of their way to have two major league teams come to the city and play a game that counts in August when teams are gearing up for the postseason . They are making a sacrifice in their schedule to come here. Players not only play the game, the interact with our community, with Little League . I just see in a different light. I have lived in Williamsport all my life. Knowing the importance of baseball to this community, it is in the DNA of the city. I see all the momentum we are making, we have upgraded our recreational facilities and particles of the ballfields. We have a lot of momentum going forward . I would hate to see something like this derail , if we do go through with it . Maybe there won't be any . Thank you.

Mr. Mackey ? Speed to piggyback off of what you are saying to some of your points Randy, my no vote tonight is not in any way a dig or shot at major-league baseball. I do appreciate everything that major-league baseball has done . We have done this five or six times now if we take out the Covid years. Councilman Yoder to your point, the timing on this was not great. Talking about this kind of money, we need more time to figure out where this kind of money they come from. That's one of our primary roles here. To make sure we are spending taxpayer money in the best way possible. I'm confident that we have developed a really good relationship with major-league baseball. Anna see any reason why they can continue. I do see any reason why the actual work on the field can't get started till it means the timelines necessary to have the Yankees and Tigers to play here next year. And also allows us to have a little more time to discuss these things , to look at the contract and figure out where are we comfortable taking money from to put towards this? For all of those reasons, that is why I personally am not comfortable pulling for this tonight in a positive manner. I want to believe that we have developed a relationship strong enough to not take any of this personally and to say that we all want this game to move forward and continue to come to the city of Williamsport . We just need to all of us to a little better job communicating and figuring out how exactly we want this to look like in the future.

Mr. Pulizzi There is an old saying that says lack of planning on their part does not constitute an emergency on mine. Just to piggyback off what everyone else is saying. I wish MLB provided us with specifics on what was going to happen earlier. So we made time to make responsible decisions regarding this. The Councilman Yoder and Mackey , it is a lot of money. We have a responsibility to our taxpayers to make sure that we are looking out for their best interests. Also, I do think we are developing a good relationship with major-league baseball. This is an event that happens nowhere else in arguably the world. It's a very special event and I would like to see it continue. Also, we have that responsibility to make sure that we are moving forward responsibly and looking out for the best interest of our residents, ultimately. The Mr. Allison!, it does provide some spotlight on Williamsport . It gives us a little bit there. That's not paying the bills. Some people come in and stay in the hotel, that's great. That is not help Williamsport's bottom line. If they come to our restaurants, that's great. We love the support and have great restaurants here. I was at the best restaurants in the world. That is not help Williamsport's bottom line or paying our taxes. With that, I don't feel comfortable taking is off the table right now until we are ready to have a much more in-depth discussion with MLB regarding the city's role in this and possibly other organizations that benefit from this . We can't continue to foot the bill for everything. I don't feel comfortable moving forward with this at this point in time.

Mr. Beiter To clarify for everyone in the room, the part of the contract we are referring to the Publix benefit is article 1 and lease requirements section 2. Facility improvements /capital improvements . It's a very brief one sentence wine letters during the term, MLB is responsible for the cost of its work on Bowman Field including capital improvements and temporary improvements, if any . Which I would agree, that is were members of Council of the issue from. I too have issue with that but I'm looking at it from the perspective of Councilman Allison. We do have a world-class facility right in our backyard that a lot of local teams, whether it's pen college or - - to get a benefit from. When I would urge other councilmembers to look at as well, should major-league baseball the side that they choose not to renew any kind of contract or pay the scheme any further, if we do invest this money today, - - maintain that going forward. Not cutting off our nose to spite our face , is some good advice. I'm not comfortable whatsoever in the ask in this current agreement, but I am comfortable in saying that I think it is shortsighted. It completely negates the fact that this is something that is beneficial to us . I agree with Councilman Vincent Pulizzi and Councilman Mackey. The game itself is not a revenue boom for the city. It is a private event, I agree with that completely. That's part of what makes that special. It's 20 teams this year for little elected to be there . When other local Little League that were given tickets to be there and they got to enjoy the game. Probably a once-in-a-lifetime experience to go see major-league baseball game. How many times can we say we have had numerous presidents and vice presidents visit our town? I would urge all of Council along with the sentiments that Councilman Allison that said, please let's not be too shortsighted but I would like to add that I hope that major-league baseball is willing to play ball in the future as we look at this contract more thoroughly and go forward and find ways that we can benefit from it.

Ms. Miele: I don't know if I ever heard this much discussion to remove something from the table . Like everyone, I am torn on this issue. I plan to wind up agreeing a little bit more with Randy and Eric. I understand that this will continue to have some utility for the city of Williamsport moving forward. The timeframe for the field was more like seven years as I understand from the groundskeepers, correct? So, we will continue to have a field for seven years and potentially will need to be replaced. I think perhaps my concern is I have the money initially began our relationships with MLB we had a field in need of replacement and we were fortunate to getting a new field for me did. I know we will be putting money into replacing the field and maintaining the field if MLB was not here. However, we would not be putting this much money is kind of a field without MLB. I feel that there is a bit of a financial disparity there. Even Stevens is not a fair approach given the city and its partners in the ballfield with the exception of MLB don't require the level of playable

service . I am going to do listen to discussion . I'm afraid we hinder our relationship on the contract moving forward if we agree to this field at this point. I feel that we do that because once we have invested so much in a new field, I think we are somewhat more pressured and whether or not it suits our needs. None if that is to say , obviously the classic has been a wonderful thing for the city. Even if not necessarily for the city on the surface of it , the visibility that we get in the positive experience that is generating for football players and small children of all stripes in the area is pretty cool. I do believe that livability is being increased to a certain extent. If there's something about it that makes it worthwhile, I am not , we have invested a ton of money in that stadium. I have struggled with all of this from the beginning of my time on Council. This is something I'm also struggling from terms of dollar amount. Not from what we would contribute to a field but the fact that we would contribute quite this much money. Sorry, that was not a definitive statement, but that is how I feel .

Mr. Yoder: I think a lot of us feel that way. Any other comments?

Mr. Mackey: Just to be clear, my no vote is mostly directed at the timing. I do urge major-league baseball to start this work as soon as possible so this game gets played in future games gets played. That will also allow us more time . As I said, to talk about these kind of things and figure out. I agree, we should share some financial burden in this endeavor. Yes, we do get benefit from this. I don't deny that. Like I said I'll be have a good relationship. On some good faith, let's keep moving forward and get this work started so the field is ready to go . That allows all of us to take a deep breath and continue to talk about this. My eyes don't deceive me, I happened to swing by the park earlier and there is some heavier equipment there it sounds like we are ready to go, so let's get ready and do this.

Ms. Miele: I think it's can we proceed on the field? This agreement obviously obligates us to sharing the funds, but can work proceed without a level agreement to allow her to proceed in the field?

Mayor I believe so, they have done that before .

Ms. Miele I don't remember seeing anything.

Mayor You look at the contract, they are able to do work and that field without any approval from us .

Ms. Miele Just making sure that is not the end-all be-all of the agreement .

Mayor> That basically says they can do field improvements.

Ms. Miele As long as those out there and work can proceed and we can look at how much the city could comfortably cover .

Mrs. Katz: We are to understand that there are some events we hold in the city that are not going to make money for the city . It's the quality that we do for our citizens . The MLB game and classic has brought a lot of exposure and as everybody has stated, the kids in our city and County .at least for the first time and probably forever meets up pro baseball player, it's exciting to everyone. When it's not time for the tickets, everybody wants the tickets. I think we all understand that it's our treasure, it's one of our treasures in the city. Yes , we are responsible for quite a bit of the maintenance with the fields. My biggest problem was this was done, this money to do the field came honest towards the end of the yea' , when we are still trying to figure out where our budget is going. We have to be so careful with where we go with spending because of our taxpayers. Not everybody is a baseball fan. It is what it is. We all get excited when this game is coming about , because we know the repercussions that happen with it. Everyone for weeks at a time once this game. We have to also keep in mind what we are doing to our taxpayers. This is a lot of money. Like I said, we were given this and handed it to us approximately three weeks ago. It makes you feel uncomfortable because you're trying to figure out where to go to get the money. Yes, at 13 was put into play, but act 13 was used mostly for infrastructure of the city. In other projects. I just don't want to jump on this right away, but maybe we can figure something else out. Just keep in mind, this is \$190,000. That is a lot of money to put on our taxpayers at this point. That is where I am coming from, not the MLB classic to begin with. It's a wonderful thing that happens, but it's the money. It always boils down to the money. There are times I can say it mother money can be what you want or need, is it a want or need?

Mr. Allison Just one on the timing. >> The project need to start mid-September in order for the field to be ready in early spring and possibly even , if it wasn't done in the right sequence it could affect across Cutter's opening .

Mrs. Katz : If the equipment is there Scott Monday are probably going to start.

Mr. Yoder: Any comments or questions for members?

Mr. Pulizzi

Just one more, if I may? Regardless of how this comes off , it is removed or not removed, regardless, again I would hope that MLB knows we appreciate the relationship we currently have with them. We are doing was in the best interest of our taxpayers and city to make sure we do our due diligence first and foremost. There is one thing regardless of how this book goes on this. I am very confident in this. I'm confident in MLB is going to come down and sit down at the table with us and make a good effort

a lot matter how long that lasts to come up with something that is mutually and amicably beneficial for us, them and all parties involved.

Mr. Yoder: Okay, to clarify a no vote leaves on the table, yes vote removed from the table. Mrs. Frank, the vote to remove from the table .

The Resolution was not removed from the table with a vote of 4 to 3. This resolution will return in this form.

Mr. Allison voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted no, Mr. Pulizzi voted no, Mr. Beiter voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted no, and Mr. Yoder voted no.

Mr. Yoder: The motion stays on the table 4 – three .

Bill #1830-23

ARPA Transfer Ordinance #8 (first reading)

The City Clerk read the ordinance.

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion and a second.

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

Mayor: We are pulling - - \$69,000 from the RDA . Just want to make sure that was the right one. So, Brandon Parks came in a little bit under which was a good thing. Lowe's came in a little bit over . That's the transfer ordinance before you for your consideration . For the court reconstruction , that came in a little under , excuse me, little over which is what we are transferring to . This was reviewed and public works.

Mrs. Katz We discussed this briefly. We understand what this is coming from and we are so used to these transfers.

We were just very happy that we had one that came under which is interesting . Happy about that. The overage with the courts, it is what it is. We know supplies, we are being hit with that more and more at this point. We can all understand that. That was our discussion.

Ms. Miele: What was the 70,000 over budget?

Mr. Memmi That's Lowe's. Materials increase .

Ms. Miele We were originally half a million budget?

Mayor: Yes, around 500,000 or so .

Ms. Miele: That's substantial, that's a 15% increase . Didn't we get updated and everything?

Immediately get change orders, did we?

Mr. Memmi> Now .

Ms. Miele> I'm a little confused, that little substantial amount of money to be over if we got a bid. [Inaudible].

That is what stuck out to me. I don't remember getting any change orders to the contract .

>hat is when stuff comes back to Council, if we are doing to change the scope of the project. Just so we are not surprised by the end of the day player price tag. It may be is more of a notification process than anything. What was the change order, that they thing the surprised everybody?

Mayor Materials for the plane ride and prices went off . His foot was originally bid . This project was putting together - - the funding was put in place - - we got to construction. [Inaudible].

Ms. Miele: I thought will be got a bid that was a firm number .

Their estimates and bids and things based on the material, it's always different. Usually what happens is .

>> The seventh of a change order process.

Mr. Memmi Right. When we accept the bid, the person is quoted us upright price predicated on the market . Those items come to us at the price that they have been guarantee that in the bid. I guess I'm little bit confused . 18 grand on the \$770,000 project is not that remarkable , but 70. 70 grand on and a half a million is a bigger deal. Anyway, I think certainly in the future notice that something like this happened prior to the project being over and done with would be helpful. He said there were additional costs and materials, but there was some additional work that had to be done? [Inaudible].

Ms. Miele That would definitely fall under is the description of the change order. Any additional work we put on the vendor . Anyway, I assume I am not today remembering where ARPA funding is an not. We don't have any additional unallocated funding in the recreation budget?

I think we do .

Should we take it out of that instead of the rebuilt authority?

Ms. Miele That was a part of my question in general. Was going on with the RDA? I have not seen an updated budget like what has been drawn down from that this quarter. I don't know that there is much going on there and is starting to concern me because it has been sitting there for a year and a half. We only have a year to move that around that they are not going to use it .

>> The RDA and - - is one of the same to approve the agreement two weeks ago. That did take a little bit of time back and forth with the RDA and their attorneys. The agreement to accept the funds was approved . Trace and I talked about that today . Right now, the RDA is that 1.2 million in the land bank is at a million. As soon as they get into their accounts , I don't want to speak for the RDA obviously, but it's going to be spent pretty quickly. They had different projects they have lined up .

>> Good.

>> I think there are seven or eight properties .

> Okay, good. That is good to hear.

Mr. Yoder I will like clarity from someone in the administration. If there was language in the project that we approved the said we can do ads without approvals, that's on us. I don't remember seeing that but it is also been a while . If it's fair, I would just like clarity on what the mechanism was so we are not repeating that. That put us in a position for future contracts to the other projects run up and run up .

I wholeheartedly agree.

Ms. Miele: Of course to Tracy's - - it goes up. For some reason, government is a different deal that if I get a quote for my sidewalk , that is what I paid. For whatever reason, they are often things in the contract we agreed to that allow for extraordinary circumstances or an increase in material costs. It does seem that when you let the contract and you acquired the materials , this is the place you give us and that is it .

>> Sure. Let me be clear, I'm not questioning the changes as far as I need for the changes. I get it, it makes perfect sense to me. I will like clarity on the mechanism of how they were approved and everything. When I worked in contracting for 10 years, I worked with all kinds of municipal level governments. I never had a contract where I had to go get a change order. Maybe that's a new thing, but it is weird to me. If it was in there, we should be sure that we catch that in the future and from our legal team's perspective, we don't want that. That is what I'm getting at. They are going to check on that for us for a second reading preferably. Any comments or questions on this?

> The only point I was going to finish up what was if there is money in the recreation , unallocated funds , I would prefer to see them come from there at this moment. We also have - - if we currently have unallocated funding in the ARPA budget closure take something from there and look at the redevelopment Authority or other economic development funds if you have something larger that you are willing to pursue that is less of a nickel and dime.

>> We can do one of two things, will begin tables at first reading or passive the excavation to make the changes in second reading. I know the administration will give us additional information on the mechanism that we talked about. I am sure Mayor slaughter and Tracy can quantify where an how much is members of Council are comfortable with that . I would be.

Ms. Miele Let's perhaps take a general temperature I comfortable passing at first reading pending that changes second reading for the source of the funds. If other people don't agree with me and will like to see it come to redevelopment, speak now. Or hold your peace for two weeks. I don't want to discuss it on the 20th if we can avoid it.

> I prefer your course of action as well. I see a few nodding heads, the consensus is probably that .

Ms. Miele Can you give us an amended version that we can substitute the next meeting? I thought there was capacity . Just to reiterate John, it does not mean that I'm committed to having an economic development. It just means we can

fight about it some other time. Last night.

Any comments or questions from members? On the first reading? Okay. Hearing and seeing none , first reading for item 5 , Miss Frank?

The Resolution was carried with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0.

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

Ordinance # 5

The City Clerk read the ordinance

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion and second.

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

Mayor: What you have before you is an ordinance , transfer ordinance number five . This is for rent reallocation. There was discussion during the budget last year to potentially look at third Street Plaza or other places we did explore. Of course, in two weeks we will be having a conversation , but this is to reallocate so we can cover the rent expenses currently. This was reviewed and financed.

Ms. Miele: Reviewed and financed with no major discussion. This is money to my recollection because I am not remembering much , we put in legislative contingency in case we needed to bring it back out . Here it comes. I think the one discussion that we had between this item and item that is no longer on our agenda tonight but will be on the 28th, the sale agreement . We do need to make some definitive steps to figuring out what our plans are . Obviously, we also need to continue to pay rent for the remainder here . I will definitely be voting to transfer the money , but that is not remove the necessity of us making other plans in the long-term which was the goal of initially making the rent cut off in September.

The Resolution was carried with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0.

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

Resolution #9692

Resolution Accepting Donations from the UPMC Health Plan

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. Beiter.

Mayor what you have before you is a resolution to accept the donation from the UPMC health plan in the amount of \$10,000. The sponsorship was for Shaw Park and the resurfacing of the walking, bike path that is out there in the parking lot . Along with it, the UPMC health plan has said they will work with our streets and parks and they have a QR code if you want a quarter-mile, half mile, three-quarter mile , etc. They have some swag bag things they care about based off of your exercise. It's right in the backyard UPMC divine. That's why it made a lot of sense for them. I don't want to speak for UPMC health plan, I don't think Tina can make it tonight, but they are headed towards some future possible contributions as well. The partnership between UPMC and the city. Obviously, we are grateful for this contribution , very similar to the one Air Force did . That is what allowed us to repave shell park. We appreciate that. Mr. Black, I don't believe she could make it this evening, but she was her Tuesday and she shared her excitement for partnering with us. To be fair, this is the UPMC health plan . This was reviewed in public works.

Mrs. Katz: We were really excited to talk to Tina about this . Anything you can do to bring people outside is fantastic . Being that you have the splash pad and everything else in that area, this will be very beneficial . I also talked to her about doing a heart walk downtown to revitalize that . The way she talks, they will do a measured mile around shop. To have these measured miles for people is something that is very beneficial to everybody . The Dems also do the sidewalks, that takes the pressure off of us . That was something we did discuss when putting the splash pad and about the sidewalks. This came at a really good time, it really did. I do not ask, but when are they planning on starting this?

Mayor UPMC health plan just in a contribution, they gave it to us. This is more like a formality . If you remember, we bought the paper earlier. Council approved the new alley trail paper . It looks great out there . UPMC gave us the money .

Mrs. Katz Fantastic. Just a great thing they did. It's not every day someone gives you \$10,000.

Ms. Miele : Just quick, we donate any agreement to accept the fund and resolution?

Mayor According to Austin, he suggests a resolution to accept .

Given that the work is done instead it's a little more - - . Take the money and run? Last night.

>> We were going to do it either way.

Ms. Miele Yeah, resolution is good. There's no contract, I'm assuming.

Mayor No, they encourage healthy living .

Mrs. Katz 10,000 is enough ?

Mayor Yes, with the whole trail and everything .

No overage to dip into?

What if we did the walk ourselves? We ran into that earlier tonight on the transfer ordinance . I figured I would ask.

Ms. Miele: So they are covering materials, we are covering labor, got it .

The Resolution was carried with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0.

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

Mr. Yoder: Yes, motion passes seven – zero. Item 9, I talked to Gary, he is still looking through some stuff. He asked that we leave this on the table and he will bring it forward sometime in October. I will ask for a motion that just leaves that there. Okay, we will leave it

Resolution for ADA & Electrical Review

REMOVE FROM TABLE

There was no motion to remove from the table.

Resolution Authorizing Purchase of a 2023 JCB 857-2 Zero Tail Swing Excavator

The City Clerk read the resolution

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion and a second

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

Mr. Livermore. What I bring to you is a resolution authorizing the purchase of a 2023 JCB 85 excavator. What I'm getting this piece of equipment for is - -. A lot of you know that one of the grounds of the church is a machine that is quite old and in dire need of some updates. Not too long ago, maybe two weeks ago, we have a high water event I got brought on . The mechanical failures on the green machine so we had a piece to get over there to the thinking over that evening. That prompted me, we had to make a change in this area. I want to take out the green machine and put out a reliable piece of equipment that is brand-new so we don't have any failures like this. It's \$115,000 . Coming out of the grassroots funds account, put into the budget for last year. Here in October, we are putting in sensors at the church and the school and a little bit further up from that , it helps alarms us so we have more time to react and get out there and clean it off. This was reviewed in public works. Any questions?

Mrs. Katz asked if Austin White has seen this.

Mr. Livermore I forgot to ask that at the meeting. You explained this equipment, maybe we should call the new one a different color. We called the old one a green machine. But as you said to him I can't even get parts anymore . It served us well for how many decades?

I know it has been there, it was used when we brought it back then. It's time to make a change. We can mobilize if anything in town , I think move up the stream, is not stationary. This is a kill two birds with one stone .

More useful all the way around. That's all I have to say. Vince knows more about this appointment than anybody.

For the record, I want this , but my wife would certainly not approve . It was old back then when they installed it , but it would also really be a shame to see that thing scrapped or junked .

I will think we will do that, we will do something with it .

Ms. Miele I would love to see it implemented at the landscape paying homage to history .

> When you go on vacation? Last night.

You are welcome to put in my front yard . Last night. [Laughter]. I have number statement likes thank you, Mr. Pulizzi.

Any comments or questions?

Ms. Miele: How much do we have in the - -?

I believe this is 300,000 and there .

Ms. Miele This will take it down to 185 or something like that?

Yes, the centers will be going in October they are 157 .

Kata, we are about emptying it out which takes to the emergency reserve fund. I guess the one follow-up question I have is obviously , we have not budgeted this in , we're not budgeting the replacement for this item. Do we have any idea what the lifeline

Mr. Livermore I should retire. [Laughter]. It should be around for a while, is not a piece of equipment that runs hard in the dirt every day. It gives us the ability to hold off and use it elsewhere in the city .

>> Just asking if we should be looking at putting any money including gravity is run. If you think we have at least 25 years on it , then that is their problem. [Laughter]. One of the follow-up question I had , I know I find ourselves in a bit of a place in particular , I remember some conversations where we discussed the possibility for creating ponding areas in the city and looking at work that would allow us to control the run more effectively , smaller projects. I don't know if we know how long that funding will be out there . Anyway, I would say that perhaps the public works committee to drive this body moving forward, we should be having conversations about commissioning some of the smaller low-lying projects that might give us capacity in the city to observe overflow .

Mr. Yoder I'm in communication with Tom Keller for potential grant . Right now it is also out front, but is being talked about right now. For both of them, it's from two to \$2.4 million for both. The conversations are happening right now.

Ms. Miele: I think a lot of communities, I know I worked through flow contaminated areas in Austin, right? They get heavy waters at the end . There are a bunch of different strategies we can implement that together would allow us to control this better than the city. I think we should be in conversation not just with color but Delta just to look at what shape the project should take. It's all earthmoving stuff but not quite some of the big work they were talking about, it's smaller projects that are easier and you can accomplish some of without publishing all of them. Conversations with Keller are awesome , we need to be in the committee setting looking at conversations about all of it and what we can be doing and look for low hanging fruit. Can we put in a green space ponding area? And go from there .

Mrs. Katz: That was one of the things John was constantly doing. Constantly looking for the funding for these projects and constantly in touch with Keller for what can be done with different areas. I know it's a lot on your plate to do this, but we do know everything that John left us with . Hopefully, you are coming across some of these projects again. He was doing things constantly. You are right, and that has been my thing all along. You to make sure our lobbyists are out there constantly looking for things. The loudest voices bring us the most money. We have to push them constantly .

> Need to discuss in committee on a regular basis. It's not me trying to see you need engineering and parks department . I'm not dumping it on you either, Bonnie. [Laughter].

Mr. Mackey I know is part of her job description, but thank you for being out there at 2:00 in the morning making sure our residents don't get flooded, thank you for that.

It's the worst feeling in the world looking at a video when you are 10 minutes away.

. **The Resolution was carried with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0.**

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

Resolution #9694

Resolution to Appoint a Section 504 Compliance Officer & Establish a Grievance Procedure

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. Beiter.

Mr. Memmi. We are bringing this resolution to you this evening because we have brought it to you about six months ago . John Sander filled in that role . Since his departure, I am going to fill that role as a 504 compliance officer . If anyone has an issue relevant to ADA accessibility , it would come from my desk and will resolve the grievance. It's a

part of the procedures required under the resolution . I am here to answer any questions. This was reviewed, I believe in public safety .

Mr. Mackey: It was, there was not a whole lot of conversation. He's basically filling the role that John Sanders would've played. Since is no John Sanders anymore, we now have skip. I would opening up to anybody else.

Mr. Yoder: Any other comments or questions for member of Council?

Mr. Beiter: Before Mr. Sanders had left, was anything brought to his attention that we should know about?

Mr. Memmi: No, we are the first public hearing for the 2024 action plan this morning. Nobody made any comments around ADA compliance that we have found in the past couple of years.

The Resolution was carried with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0.

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

Resolution #9695

Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Internet Service Through River Valley Internet

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. Beiter.

Mr. Black stated this resolution for a contract with River Valley Internet to provide Internet service up at Newberry Park. This would be too provide us a fee for the cameras we are installing back to us . The installation fee is \$150 and the recurring monthly charge of \$70 per month. This is what the what we put into sharp part. It will come out of my contracted services.

his was reviewed in finance, Ms. Miele:

Ms. Miele: This was reviewed in finance. I think Bonnie asked the most pertinent question relating to how much money Chris had , you said 36,000 per year?

We are looking at it for the entire year so about 38 or 39. Obviously, we are primarily giving Internet service to the park so we can keep a better eye on the parks. I did for whatever reason get feedback on the fact that we install not just Internet but Wi-Fi and apparently that is not in the offering for Newberry Park necessarily because like you said Chris, the equipment has to be too .

Shop place was to be manned where Newberry is not. There will be somebody from recreation out there .

Ms. Miele: You said we can't do Wi-Fi throughout the park?

Mr. Black I will have a place I can feasibly put one without getting vandalized .

It's inside the building .

Ms. Miele I understand, I thought you said it was to be manned .

There was a discussion about the equipment being secure and Mr. Black assured it was .

Yes. They just refurbished the building.

Ms. Miele That was the only major question. Just to be clear, as much as 38 or 39 out of Chris's budget does not include the various ongoing expenses within the police department and finance department, etc. We are investing a lot more in ongoing contracts etc. Directly through IT it's sub 48,000 .

The Resolution was carried with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0.

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

Accept for filing

Finance Committee Minutes 06/20/23

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion to accept these for filing.

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

The minutes were accepted for fiingwith seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0.

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

Announcements

. The next regularly scheduled City Council meeting will be held on Thursday September 28, 2023 at 7:00 PM, Trade & Transit II, 144 West Third St. 3rd Floor, Williamsport, PA

Upcoming Meetings:

Tuesday, Sept 19	6:30 PM	HARB
Wednesday, Sept 20	10:00 AM	Blighted Property
Thursday, Sept. 21	10:30 AM	Zoning Hearing Board
Tuesday, Sept 26	11:30 AM	Public Safety
	1:00 PM	Finance
	2:30 PM	Public Works
Wednesday, Sept 27	9:00 AM	ERC
	11:30 AM	Redevelopment Authority
Thursday, Sept 28	7:00 PM	City Council Meeting

Comments:

a. City Council

Mr. Pulizzi: Thank you very much. I would make a comment to the public for any of all those watching and listening , I think most all of our community local community, regional community was aware of what happened to the young man the place football up the Jersey shore . I would hope that everyone keeps him in your family members in your thoughts and play prayers. Everything from what I understand, it's a difficult and tragic time for the community , especially for the family. I would ask that everybody does that, thank you.

Mrs. Katz: I think we all watched the escaped convict that was captured yesterday . It was a K-9 that went into action . That brings up the point are of our K-9 units. When I first brought this up with chief Hagan, my objective was always going to be run by donations and no line items. For the public cannot remember how important these K-9 officers are. Please, we are asking for any donations that you will give to the K-9 unit.

If I might add to that real quick, for anyone that did not know, the K-9's name was Yoda. Just to let certain people

know I know would appreciate that.

- b. Administration
- c. Members of the Public

Mr. Frank Stucco]. When you got on Little League I had to say something about that. It reminds me if you don't mind the comparison, but the stock says to those seeking the what if you contributed? We are Little League. Three quarters of the people who watched Little League baseball major league baseball were Little League first. I don't know what to hundred thousand dollars is to the city budget , but I do know , could you imagine discouraged on Little League major league baseball if they denied us this game ? The only thing bigger than major league baseball , and they show it in their actions, his public opinion. You guys go deal with them . Try to keep that in mind, is not boss hog, big business will tell us what to do. If the public opinion about when the country with the world. They will dictate what gets done. That's all I had to say on that. One time I did go up there looking for a property . The city considers the properties below that to be in a floodplain. I don't know what the difference is between that - - they wouldn't let me take her paperwork and cannot considered believe it was considered floodplain. You talking about the guys finding that guy , they also used heat sensitive equipment to find it. I following this as best as I can through the paper appeared the city need to put together a city generate document showing how much they are paying in rent right now, how much with one bitter we all know to fix it, usually the government gets more than one bitter another cost money to pay for the bid frankly a lot of people don't trust - - there is an old term called central government that goes back to the Egyptians or Babylonians about central governments. I know in my own experience, is not working well at all. I do construction and I have to deal with codes . I also know Mr. Gerardi was one of the most knowledgeable people has more years and almost anybody and I will see his opinion being mentioned. I don't know how much it would cost to build a new City Hall, I don't know these things. It should not be left to the newspaper because when you read the newspaper, they are not required to be accurate or forthcoming. Sometimes it is very confusing when you read them and try to understand what is going on. The city government has a responsibility to the government to put in the newspaper if necessary and make it available. So people can see with this controversy foils down to. If you build another one I would like to know where you are going News Media

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned upon motion by Mr. Allison and a second by Mr. Mackey Meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM with unanimous ayes.

Submitted by:

**Janice M. Frank
City Clerk**