Thursday, September 24, 2020
Williamsport, PA

Council President Randy Allison brought the Williamsport City Council meeting to order on Thursday September 24, 2020 at 6:30 PM on Zoom. Chris Cooley did livestream the meeting.

Council members present:
Randy Allison, President
Elizabeth Miele, Vice President
Bonnie Katz, Councilwoman
Adam Yoder, Councilman
Vince Pulizzi, Councilman
Jon Mackey, Councilman,
David Banks, Councilman
Absent:

Also, Present:
Derek Slaughter, Mayor
Mr. Joe Gerardi , absent
Mr. Joe Pawlak
Gary Knarr, absent
Mark Killian, Fire Chief,
Damon Hagan, Police Chief
Austin White, Sol.
Janice Frank, City Clerk
Adam Winder, RVT
Jon Sanders,

Approval of the Williamsport City Council minutes for the 09/10/20 were approved upon a motion **Mrs. Katz and a** second from **Mr. Yoder. All were in favor. The vote was 7 to 0.**

Limited Courtesy of the Floor
There have been no requests.

Ordinance #6397
An Ordinance Approving the Editing & Inclusion of Certain Ordinances as Parts of the Various Component Codes of the Codified Ordinances of Williamsport, Pennsylvania (final reading)
The City Clerk read the ordinance.
Mr. Allison asked for a motion on the ordinance.
Mr. Yoder made the motion and it was seconded by Mrs. Katz.
Mr. Allison stated this was passed a few weeks ago and is now in final reading. There were no questions.
The ordinance was carried in final reading with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0. All were in favor.
Mr. Yoder voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Banks voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes and Mr. Allison voted yes.

Resolution #9069
Resolution Authorizing the Acceptance of the Fiscal Year 2019 Fire Prevention & Safety Grant
The City Clerk read the resolution.
Mr. Allison asked for a motion on the resolution.
Mr. Yoder made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Pulizzi.
Chief Killian stated this resolution is to authorizing the acceptance of the grant with the Homeland Security in the amount of $49,059.80 with a City contribution of $2, 452.95. This was a competitive grant process. We are happy to kick off our smoke alarm campaign. This will target low income, and has a one year performance. The local match was budgeted in our support equipment line item. The money wil be used to purchase smoke alarms, outreach materials, advertising materials and overtime. This was reviewed in Finance.
Ms. Miele stated it was reviewed in Finance and forwarded it to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation. There was very little to say, because money had been put away and budgeted every year. This grant will be used for a good purpose and for outreach program.
Mrs. Katz stated the one thing we did discuss was the Fire Dept will actually be evaluating where they put in the smoke alarms because in the past they were placed where they should have been.
Chief Killian stated we have been handing out smoke alarms for decades and we have found out that after we handed them out, they were never installed. So we took a stance this year, that if someone needs a smoke alarm, we will go to their house and personally install it. For the City Wide campagain, we will phycially be knocking on the door and asking if they have installed, if not, we will install them as well as hand out safety measures.
Mr. Pulizzi asked if they will be going door to door residences, or landlords?
Chief Killian stated our campaign is specifally targeting owner occupied and it is the landlords responsibility to place smoke alarms in their residents. But we wont let anymone go without smoke alarms.
Mr. Allison asked what brand and if battery operated?
Chief Killian stated we don't have a brand yet, we know even know who we are buying them from. But they will be certified and guarantted for 10 years.
Mr. Pulizzi asked with this grant money will we be able to purchase smoke alarms for people who are deaf?
Chief Killian stated yes we are shopping for them and working with people and we will go out and install them also.
Mr. Allison asked for a vote on the resolution.
The resolution was approved with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0. All were in favor.
Mr. Yoder voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Banks voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes and Mr. Allison voted yes.

Resolution #9070
Resolution Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Year Ending 2021
The City Clerk read the resolution.
Mr. Allison asked for a motion on the resolution.

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

Mr. Pawlak stated this resolution is an annual resolution to approve the City's annual MMO for year 2021. The City is required every September to adopt an MMO for the following year's budget. This year's MMO is $5,126,692.00. That shows an increase of $757, 915 over the 2020 MMO. For the most part, the normal cost remains stable, but due to the investment losses and assumption plans, there were investment losses on all three plans related to the assumed interest rates for police and O&E the assumed rate was 775 and then for the for the fire plan it was 725. we've decreased that assumption upon the advice of Wells Fargo and C.S. McKee there were other items including interpretation of language in the fire pension and some retirements without the pensions that were higher than expected that caused the increase in the three pension MMO"s in the police, MMO. an expiring amortization base in 2020 helped offset the amortization increases. this could be reduced due to expiring amortization bases in those plans in 2022. This was reviewed by the finance committee at their meeting on Tuesday and brought to the full body of council.

Ms. Miele stated it was reviewed by the Finance Committee, and forwarded with a positive commendation. We see this item every year. although it's presented at council for a vote it's not truly optional. it's the minimum amount we need to pay into the pension plan to not only pay for the existing pensions but pay on sort of a mortgage taken out by the forbearers on city council when they enacted pension plans within the unions but didn't fund them out of their budgets at the time. so we're, you know, as our most communities throughout the question and across the country, we're sort of playing catch up on our pension costs and we're hobbled even further in that by the fact that the market has been underperforming and expected to continue underperforming so we count on a certain amount of growth to enable us to fully fund the Pension Plans and we are not seeing that, that said, we did at least take the step last year of reducing the amounts that we are expecting to receive and return with means that the money that we are putting into the Pension Accounts is. We're putting more money in but at least we know that we should be. We are coming closer to being fully funded. it seems to me, joe, you said were 81%, 82%, 85% pr funded which is pretty good for a municipality in central PA that noted, i always feel compelled to make the comment that there williamsonwould have made if he were still serving on council, which is that while we have been over the last couple decades addressing pension shortfalls in the city, what we have not addressed, have never made a move to address is the other post employment benefits, health care and other things we offer to employees when they retire. as we see every year in the audit it's a mounting number and like any number of m municipalities around the commonwealth and the country we're not acting at all to take a chunk out of that. we know every year this is the minimum municipal obligation. we could elect to put money into the pensions and other post employment benefit obligations but as we discuss every year money is tight and there's no political will to take that step. that said, as i noted, the Finance Committee sent him to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation.

Mr. Allison stated that it was summed up well and he asked asked Mr. Pawlak how much we could expect from the state.

Mr. Pawlak answered we budgeted $1.25 million. the prior year it came in at $1.3. it's not something related to the general fund so we can hopefully expect to receive something comparable but the numbers have not been released as of today. The number we're talking now is going to reduce the 2020 MMO so we have to see what comes in next year to reduce the 5.1 for 2021. that reduction will take us down possibly to 3 million for 2020 in that neighborhood.

Mr. Allison stated okay. it's a fact of life, unfortunately. we were doing better in the stock market but everything took a turn. He asked for a vote.

The resolution was approved with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0. All were in favor. Mr. Yoder voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Banks voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes and Mr. Allison voted yes.

Resolution #9071

Resolution approving an agreement between the City of Williamsport, FOP Lodge #29, & Officer

The city clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion on the resolution.

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

Chief Hagan stated council is aware of this agreement and its contents. it provides for those conditions normal under any circumstances and nothing more. We're asking for your support and your vote so that we can sign off on this agreement and execute it.

Mr. Allison asked for a vote on the resolution.

The resolution was approved with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0. All were in favor. Mr. Yoder voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Banks voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes and Mr. Allison voted yes.

Resolution #9072

Resolution Authorizing a Memorandum of Agreement between City of Williamsport & Lycoming County

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion on the resolution.

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

Chief Hagan stated this authorizes a memorandum of agreement between the City of Williamsport and Lycoming County. The county was generous enough purchase a finger print machine to replace our old one and to pay for the maintenance of that machine. The the beginnings started last year with an

effort to set up or at least the idea of setting up a part-time processing center here at City Hall in our existing booking room within the bureau of police. The processing center will operate from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays and will supplement the existing processing in Old Lycoming Township. this will greatly assist us since our criminal process in Pennsylvania begins on paper with the actual finger printing. if a person is not finger printed the charges do not show. cases cannot be tracked and ispositions cannot be imposed without this happening. There's a huge backlog believe it or not on fingerprinting believe it or not so having this at city hall manned by county employees part which is part-time wll allow us to alleviate the back log and i think it will be more efficient than trying to send everyone to Old Lycoming County. The booking room itself is renovated and we expect additional dwoiment be purchased -- equipment to be purchased by the county from the processing center account. They have a lot of money in that question from fees paid for that service they are renovating it. We expect it done in the near future and the Center to open. We're excited about the agreement. there was -- there was some discussion about indemnification and documenting that with the city and the county. and the decision was to handle that through a side letter of agreement. The county already passed this agreement and signed off in early September.

Mr. Allison said thank you and asked if this was reviewed in Public Safety?

Mrs. Katz answered yes, this was reviewed in Public Safety and we passed it on to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation. This is not costing the City any money at all. This is coming through the county including the person who is going to be working part-time in the city. The only thing done by the city is, of course as the chief said is the room itself being done which is saving money in all aspects which i think is commendable by our Streets and Parks. It's is good because not everybody. is able to get finger printed during the day sometimes and to have evening hours is beneficial. i think everybody thinks finger printing is just for criminals. There's so many other people that need to be fingerprinted for so many other reasons. i was pleased to see there will be evening hours and able for the county to catch up and having this in the city and City Hall that will help our police department tremendously also.

Mr. Allison stated i see this as a small step for coming together and cooperative effort.

Mr. Allison asked for a vote on the resolution.

The resolution was approved with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0. All were in favor. Mr. Yoder voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Banks voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes and Mr. Allison voted yes.

Resolution #9073

Resolution Authorizing an Amendment/change order to Resolution #8987

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion and a second.

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

Chief Hagan stated before you is authorizing an amendment. the initial quote for our three vehicles that initially purchased for 149,306 dollars and the total amount increase is $1,770.24 this was due to upfitting costs being different from the original quote. The other quote had an approximate price of $11,000 for vehicle for up fitting. When the upfitter got into it and Mr. Cooley went to see them items were identified unforeseen involving amounts for equipment and wires in some of older or damaged equipment that needed replace, along with restocking fees, sending some equipment back and things like that added up to 1779.24. Ao we're asking for you to approve this amendment to the original resolution from earlier this year. #8987 to go ahead and make this payment. We're pleased with the new t tahoes. they sit out back, at least a couple of them. The officers are please with them and we want to get the bill paid and these out on the road and start using them on a regular basis. This was reviewed by Finance.

Ms. Miele stated this did come before finance committee and we did send it on with a positive recommendation. Obviously it's understandable that sometimes the cost estimates that we make when we're preparing to execute something don't entirely line up with the costs that are incurred. Hopefully it goes in the other way and the government goes down. it's, you know, a less than 2% increase on the cost. so it was an understandable difference.

Mr Allison asked for a vote on the resolution.

The resolution was approved with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0. All were in favor. Mr. Yoder voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Banks voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes and Mr. Allison voted yes.

Certificate of Appropriateness HARVB

item 2. klotz housing
820 west third street
65-004-108- 1900
a. install sheeting, ice and water barrier and brown aluminum drip edge.
b. install an architectural asphalt shingle. color pewter or cobblestone gray.
c. retain and repair built in gutters to same as original appearance

item 3. theodore shelley
332 locust street
65-002-109 1898 .
a. contact slate repair companies and obtain estimates of repair costs. if repair is possible and the cost is reasonable make repairs with slate.
b. if slate is substantially damaged or deteriorated, remove slate roofing from all levels. install sheeting, ice, water barrier, brown aluminum drip edge, and certainteed, slate stone architectural shingles.

c. retain existing ½ round gutters. if k gutters or downspouts are replaced, replace with ½ round galvanized gutters and round downspouts.

d. repair brick chimney if needed. repoint with lime base mortar. do not parge. do not overcut joints.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to approve the HARB certificates.
Ms. Miele made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Pulizzi..
The certificates were approved with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0. All were in favor.
Mr. Yoder voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Banks voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes and Mr. Allison voted yes.

Accept for filing:

Public Works 06/09/20 & 08/04/20
Veteran's Memorial park minutes 08/20
HARB minutes 09/15/20
Controller's report april & may 2020

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to accept the minutes for filing.
Ms. Miele made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Pulizzi.
The minutes were accepted for filing with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0. All were in favor.
Mr. Yoder voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Banks voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes and Mr. Allison voted yes.

Announcements

The next regularly scheduled City Council meeting will be held on thursday, october 8, 2020 a 6:30 pm, **TBA**

Uupcoming meetings:

Friday, Sept 25	11:00 AM	ERC
	12:00 PM	Housing needs
Tuesday, Sept. 29	11:00 AM	Historic Preservation
	7:00 PM	Citizen Corp
Tuesday, Oct. 6	11:30 AM	Public Safety
	1:00 PM	Finance meeting
	2:30 PM	Public Works
Thursday, Otober 8	6:30 PM	City Council meeting

[meetings held in trade & transit, unless otherwise noted – [scr] = william sechler

Mr. Allison stated that there was an executive session for City Council on Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2020.in the matter of personnel. Tonight following this meeting will be another executive session in the matter of Public Safety.

Mr. Allison asked for comments from members of city council.
There were none.

Mr. Allison asked for comments from members of the administration.
There were none.

Mr. Allison asked for comments from members of the public.
There were none.

Adjournment

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to adjourn. **Mrs. Katz made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Pulizzi.** Meeting was adjourned with at **7:38 PM** with unamious ayes**.**

Respectfully Submitted by

Janice M. Frank
City Clerk