Thursday, January 16, 2025
7:00 PM
Williamsport, PA

Council President Adam Yoder brought the Williamsport City Council meeting to order on Thursday, January 16, 2025 at 7:00 PM.at Trade & Transit Center II, 144 W. Third St, Williamsport, PA. This meeting was duly advertised in the Williamsport Sun-Gazette.

Council members present:
Adam Yoder, President
Eric Beiter, Vice President
Liz Miele, Councilwoman
Randy Allison, Councilman,
Vincent Pulizzi, Councilman
Jon Mackey, Councilman,
Bonnie Katz, Councilwoman
Absent:
Eric Beiter

Also, Present:
Derek Slaughter, Mayor, absent
Valerie Fessler absent
Sam Aungst, Fire Chief,
Justin Snyder, Police Chief
Solicitor Austin White
Solicitor
Janice Frank, City Clerk absent
Jamie Livermore
Scott Livermore, S&P t
Kris Black
Bill Scott absent
Members of the public

Approval of the Williamsport City Council minutes of 01/02/25 were approved upon a motion **by Mr. Pulizzi and** second from **Mr. Mackey All were in favor. The vote was 6 to 0. Mr. Beiter was absent.**

Limited Courtesy of the Floor
There was no courtesy of the floor.

Resolution #9881
Resolution Authorizing Bureau of Police to Hire Two (2) Police Officers

Mr. Yoder read the resolution and asked for motion and second.
Mr. Pulizzi made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Mackey
Chief Snyder . Before you a resolution authorizing the police department to hire two police officers be to respectfully requesting your consideration and confirmation for the following officers. In it it's for appointment with the Williamsport Bureau please be to tonight to my immediate left is Dalton Lovell and Mason Merrill.. These candidates have completed all requirements for employment with the Williamsport police. Police officer candidate level will commence his employment on February 3, 2025 and - - May 19, 2025. The difference in time is Mason Merrill has to attend the Academy. To give a little bio on them. Candidate Lovell is 29 years old and currently resides in the South Williamsport area. He is the son of Duane Lovell and Mary Louise Lovell, Candidate (Lovell) is a graduate of Williamsport high school and twenty something graduate of Lycoming College with a bachelors degree in political science. Duane Attended the Lancefield police Academy where he received his act 120 in 2020 and he is employed with Lycoming regional police, and he will be assigned batch number 22 on his commencement here with the city. Candidate Merrill is 27 years old and resident of Montoursville area and he is the son of Sheila Wilson and - - 2015 graduate of Northeast Bradford school district and 2017 graduate of Penn State College where he earned an associate's degree in health sciences and syndication is a nationally registered paramedic. He is currently employed with UPMC Susquehanna EMS. Candidate Merrill is slotted to attend the police Academy and is projected to receive act 120 police certification in the fall. Candidate Merrill will be assigned badge number 26. Enclosed as well as the civil service hiring list that I put in with the resolution. This now puts us up to our full complement at 51 officers. We were at 49 and it will put us at 51. We finally made it to that complement. I will open up the floor if anybody has any questions.
Mr. Yoder: I think you, chief Snyder. Miss Miele, this was reviewed in finance, don't know if there was any discussion. Mr. Allison, I will yield to you for the couple of items from a finance. That slipped my mind.
Mr. Allison : The discussion was brief. You know, it is the standard procedure that we use. We need to refill the civil service list because that has been basically empty now. It does bring us up to the complement that we budgeted for. That is all I have to say about it.
Chief To add onto that, we have one left on the list, the civil service list is pretty small, but we have one left and we are looking at one retirement this coming year. At least one that will be absolute.
Mr. Yoder: Thank you, chief. Thank you Mr. Allison. Are there any comments or questions?
Mr. Mackey I have a couple I will make. Welcome.
Is that a first for us having a police officer who is also a paramedic?
Chief, We have another one, but they do not have current certifications he does not know it yet, but I would like to keep him certified, but that is something we can discuss later. It is a good thing. He is well-versed as a paramedic, actually fired.
Mr. Mackey Welcome aboard, guys. Please be safe out there and, you know, despite what you might see or think in the media, we have a good working relationship with the police and administration grade I would like to think it at least. We are here to support you and in your job. You know, if there is anything we can ever do. Run it up the chain of commands and we will do what we can to keep supporting you and the important work that you are doing out there. I appreciate it and I know we all appreciate it. Thank you.
Mr. Yoder I would piggyback those and briefly talking to you for the 30 seconds before the meeting, I echo a lot of Mr. Mackey's comments. Be safe. This is a tough profession. Across the world. Not just here. I admire you both for stepping up and pursuing that because it is truly a public service and there is no greater calling, I would make the argument absolutely. Be smart and please let us know what we can do to support you and as chief will probably tell you, there are times where we will be limited in what we can do, whether it is financial constraints or what have you, but – I mean, it is something you will hear MC. I do not want to sugarcoat stuff for you by any means, but to John's point

about a good working relationship, you know, I'm not a public safety expert. I have learned a lot from having conversations with chief Snyder about policing in that stuff and I'm still not fully versed, I will admit that. Just because we might not be able to do something, does not mean we will not entertain or find a different way to do it. Just keep that in mind. We are here to support you as best we can and as well as we can. Sometimes that will be a challenge, but it is not because of the desire of not wanting to do it, usually. Commend you both and will come to a fellow Penn College alumnus. Always like hearing that. Any comments from other members? Bonnie or Randy online?

Alright. Hearing and seeing none I will take the rollcall on the vote. Mr. Allison.

The resolution 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, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mr. Yoder voted yes. Mr. Beiter was absent..

Certificate of appropriateness 138 Mulberry St.

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

Mr. Knarr what I present to you is a certificate of appropriateness request for 138 Mulberry St.. What they are requesting to do is paint the entire building and place is this identification signs on the building. The building color is currently a light green. They are going with a dark hunter green, more of the earth tone color for the downtown. In addition to that you have the additional pages where there is a sign on the front, back, and rear. They will basically be about the same size and you have a image showing that it will read "healthy touch escape, unwind, restore". That will be a white composite lettering as well as the color, design and on the images I provided to you, which is pretty much going to be the white background with black lettering, as well as like a light green – a green and a light pink color flowering.

Mr. Yoder: Thank you, Mr. Knarr. Any questions or comments on the certificate? I believe you have someone on Zoom.

Mr. Knarr I have the sign company here as well.

Mr. Yoder They are painting at what color?

Mr. Knarr Dark hunter green.

Mr. Mackey : So it is already green, they are just making it darker?

Mr. Knarr What it is is it is going to be – here is a dark hunter green. The first picture you have is showing what they dark hunter will look like. At the other pictures with the signage, that is the light green that it currently is.

Mr. Yoder Any other? Any other comments or 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, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mr. Yoder voted yes. Mr. Beiter was absent..

Presentation on 2024 Tax Collections

Mr. Kevin Mackey, . This is my third meeting here giving this report with the city and I am happy to be here for another three years after this and we will see how long I will be here afterwards if the city continues to elect me. This marks another year where my office collected more than what we budgeted for around $851,000 when the stress between all the taxes that we do. The numbers I am recording from the 2024 city budget approved from 2023 versus the 2024 collections report by my office. These are finalized this month. As a short disclaimer these are different than the numbers implied by the 2024 months discussed in the budget meeting. While the transfer tax recorded by the registered recorder is - - delinquent taxes collected by the tax paying Bureau is above budgeted by 311 300 and $0.79 - - meniscal school income office is above budgeted by $173,249.72 beta for public and record notice the 2025 collector for this tax will be Keystone collections. - - By $154,353.43 pretty local service taxes click to buy the city treasurer is about by $11,208.97 Great American childhood business tax by the treasurer office up by 105 - - these last two that I would like to bring your attention to and the attention of taxpayers as it is these two taxes that I have the most influence over. For more than two decades – more than a decade local service taxes has remained stagnant. While city calls continue to rise. Since 2021 our budget has risen by $4 million. This is about $1 million a year percentage increase or 4% and since 2007 – sorry. This tax remains stagnant since 2009. So we are operating off of revenue from 2009 for costs that are almost 18 years out of date. With an inflation rate of 51% since 2007, we cannot continue to operate off of hard cash. These caps are set by Harrisburg 18 years ago and we need assistance in Harrisburg to drastically change the speed we do not have control over raising this cap and raising the revenue with this tax unless we add population but Harrisburg must update the tax and we cannot afford another year of stagnation. If anybody has questions about this portion I will pause here.

Mr. Yoder Anything we should be doing to attempt to make that happen?

Mr. Mackey This is more to bring the attention of this tax being 18 years of the same revenue for us and if there is no population growth, this text does not change. It is the amount of people employed in the city and you look at other taxes that are hard, they do not change year to year, but cost certainly go up your two-year.

Ms. Miele : I know that the tax does not change predicated on the amount of income or the hourly rate or anything like that.

Mr. Mackey It is strictly $52 a year if you work in the jurisdiction that levies at. We can have the same amount of people working every year and have the same costs go up every year and that will keep putting us more and more in the hole. Since 2009, again, we have been working off of that revenue that has unchanged. I have spoke with Jamie Livermore, to address this, but again, we need to work on trying to get more people organized behind him so they can help us out with this. If there are no other questions I will move on to the next part.

Mrs. Katz: I have a question. This is Bonnie. I assumed the $52 was all that legally we could charge.

Mr. Mackey That is all we can charge because it is set by Harrisburg as it was back in 2007. They did not put any way to increase that cap in the tax so it is purely by the amount of people working in the city that the tax gets raised. The revenue will stay steady must Harrisburg do something or unless more people work in the city.

Mrs. Katz, : Okay. Since our population is shrinking instead of growing, what do you think the chances would be to be able to charge more and the other question I have, this is across the board in the state, right? Every city has this – what they can charge, right?

This is a hard cap across the state. All Lycoming and South Williamsport have this tax. In a sense the entire area has been working off of that 52 limit since 2007.

Mrs. Katz, Okay. That is what we were told it is we could not charge anymore because the statewide.

The thing that got to me is the thing you said that if the population was higher, we could go more?

Mr. Mackey Of the population was higher we would get more revenue from the tax by more people working in the city.

Mrs. Katz I misunderstood that. I took it in a different direction mentally. Thank you, Kevin.

Mr. Mackey, Not a problem. This will be the mercantile business privilege tax. Previous to 2020 my process or had the foresight to bring this tax directly under the control of the treasurer's office and we are barely breaking $2 million with this tax. This year, we marked $3 million hitting this tax – this year marks the second year to hit $3 million in revenue from this tax and that is a growth of 50% in four years. A lot different than what we just discussed with local service tax. The next thing I want to discuss with the tax is the untended portion of my office, which is legal action grade there was a, I heard from a taxpayer that the tax was unenforceable and on behalf of our residents I am here to show otherwise and since I've taken off as I have cited 87 people/entities for noncompliance with this tax-free to this year my office has set aside for $2000 for the enforcement of this tax and in January 2025, calls were set at $38.39. For those who are quick at math this will quickly to about 107 citations. With the way this tax law is written I can recycle these funds back into the budget so the 107 is not a hard cap and I will continue to ensure that things are following to the letter of the law, there is being written for the tax law. There is a strong likelihood that I will be able to go above that 107 by the end of December of this year. The treasurer's office has organized a lot of the effort behind this revenue increase and business owners cannot just look at the city and the sea taxes. I talked about a lot of the things that I will do against those who don't follow, but I want to talk about the stuff that we do have a four hour business is currently residing here. The need to see the efforts of our police. They need to see the efforts of our firefighters and efforts of administration to create an environment that is safe and profitable for them. Along with what I just mentioned, my office is also attending to act as a resource for local business owners by connecting them with nonprofits and other government agencies that can provide economic incentives and resources. Every business that receives a license from my office will be provided the contact information for those agencies that have done the research on. My office is one of three – I am one of three people in my office and I cannot always do the research for this myself. I am asking the public and counsel for any research they can provide and any assistance they can provide in identifying resources for our local business owner so we can provide it to them on an annual basis along with their license. Normally this is outside the scope of the tax office and that's why I'm asking for your help. I have limited time throughout the year in these programs open and close before I have a chance to find them. Should the public wish to assist in their own findings they may use the get in touch application to submit this to my office. If I had it my way, whatever program providers that are out there will be so sick and tired of Williamsport applications heading their way that they will have no chance except to make one just for us. If anyone has any questions about those I will pause here.

Mr. Yoder: Any questions from members? Your microphone is on. You wanted to turn it off? I thought you were going to say something. Sorry. Yeah, so when you talk about resources for business, look, you go back on the minutes when all of us have been together, I think it is a pretty common theme we have talked about is trying to be as friendly to the business community and whether it is helping get external resources. Whether it is grants and that kind of stuff. I presume you're talking about advertising our learner program where it is applicable. I don't think we can do enough of that. What I would encourage you to do is to tie off with the Department of development as well, notably to make sure that neither of you are duplicating efforts because.

There is no duplicate and as of right now.

Mr. Yoder That is good, but I think you need to keep an open dialogue to make sure that doesn't happen and so that we are not maybe – I don't want to say confusing the private sector, but making that process less efficient may be for example. It is good. Let's just make sure that we are coordinating.

Mr. Mackey The main goal is to tighten all the organizations together. I have already found a few resources that are – people have been flabbergasted with. There is one state resource right now that will help people apply for programs and economic programs and they will not get charged for it. At the state reimburses the agency entirely.

Ms. Miele Kevin's point is and we have set it for years on City Council and on the part of the administration that Williamsport needs to be more proactive on helping people visualize - - we also obviously need to be more proactive about visualizing benefits that we could offer little or no cost. The taxpayers. As we have been discussing at nausea, we do not have the funds to do that. So yes, Kevin I suggested at one point and it still makes me think it is still appropriate, but maybe there should be some marketing committee or something like that within the city. I don't know if that is something that anybody would want to consider, but it might get more of the attention it deserves if we dedicated some folks from administration and folks from counsel to come in quarterly to discuss that.

Mr. Yoder: Any other questions or comments for Kevin? Continue, sir.

Mr. Mackey I have spoken with a lot of taxpayers the last 2 1/2 years and I can only think of a few that look forward to paying taxes grade the side effect of our world as we a problem with our taxes like most things in the world, they do not get solved unless they get talked about. The city cannot continue piling financial burden on to real estate owners we cannot wait for Harrisburg to update the tax From 18 years ago and we cannot keep letting the taxpayers that are doing the right thing hold the bag for those that aren't. I I will continue to work diligently for residents and ensure whatever I do with my power to diversify revenue so we don't - - I am only one person in an office of three and I cannot do it alone. I look forward to working with everyone in the administration and the city and our public for this massive task. This concludes my speech.

Mr. Yoder Thank you, compared any additional questions comments, thoughts. Mr. Pulizzi, looks like you did.

Mr. Pulizzi, Kevin I appreciate you making the presentation and getting the information out there and publicly making everybody aware of exactly where we are at. The fact that you have gone above and beyond with your collections two years in a row now, there is no arguing it. You cannot argue the fact that he has collected more than they figured for two years in a row pretty keep doing what you are doing. I appreciate all of it. Thank you.

Mrs. Katz : Adam, I do have a question for Kevin, I know the business Association has done some programs over the last couple of years and maybe it would behoove us to maybe get involved in some of those programs that they bring up and the business Association does try to make sure that there are businesses that look at our city first and we also have the chamber. Of course the chamber goes after the big boys. They do not go after the small mom-and-pop's that make the downtowns look very comforting. I think that is the word I want to say. I think, you know, what you're saying, Kevin is there more of us that should work together hand-in-hand and make our city better.

Mr. Mackey There are 30,000 people in the city and close to 43,000 in the surrounding area total. We should have a way to organize all these different efforts going on throughout the entire area at least try pulling as many state and federal resources as possible and my whole goal is to ensure that we bring in as much outside revenue as possible. If we have enough applications going to Harrisburg and D.C. hopefully they will give us our own grant.

Resolution #9872

Resolution Exonerating Treasurer from Collection of 2024 Real Estate Taxes

Mr. Yoder read the resolution and asked for motion and second.

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

Mr. Mackey This exonerates the city treasurer from neglect of the 2024 real estate taxes. This last year we did not collect $1.1 million, 18,000 and $0.41 give or take a dollar and this is to be exonerated from my collection and turned over to the tax land Bureau between this resolution and if you don't mind I will include that with the second one since they are kind of together.

The uncollected revenue being turned over to the tax Bureau because this exonerates me another one turns it over to

the tax land Bureau for collection.
Mr. Yoder You mean approving both resolutions together? I'm talking about them both at the same time.
Mr. Mackey That is fine. > Sorry I was not sure what you were getting it. Sure.
Mr. Yoder Any questions or comments for Kevin on item 6 and I guess item 7 even though we will go to that in a minute? Okay. Hearing and sing none on item 6, Mr. Allison?
The resolution 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, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mr. Yoder voted yes. Mr. Beiter was absent..

Resolution # 9873
Resolution Uncollected City 2024 Real Estate Taxes

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion and second.
Mr. Pulizzi made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Allison.
This was addressed with the first resolution.
The resolution 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, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mr. Yoder voted yes. Mr. Beiter was absent..

Resolution #9874
Resolution Authorizing an MOU between City of Williamsport & Habitat for Humanity

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion and second.
Mr. Pulizzi made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Allison
Ms. Fessler . The next two items on the agenda go hand-in-hand so I will simplify them both together if that is okay with you. Habitat for Humanity has entered into a recipient agreement with the city that we approved at the end of last year for us to provide funding for the homes they are building on Scott Street and as part of that project they are required to do an environmental review. They are contracting with SEDA CODG to perform the environmental review in the city of Williamsport is required to serve as the responsible entity for that environmental review because it is our home funds that are requiring environmental review to be done. This has been reviewed and approved by Austin, the city will enter into a MOU with habitat and PSA with SEDA CODG to accomplish this environmental review. Habitat for Humanity will pay for the environmental review. It will not be a cost to the city, but it will be an eligible reimbursable expense to their project that we can pay for with our home funds.
Mr. Yoder: Thank you very much. Any comments, questions on either resolution
The resolution 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, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mr. Yoder voted yes. Mr. Beiter was absent

Resolution #9875
Resolution Authorizing a Professional & Administrative Services Agreement between City & SEDA CODG

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion and second.
Mr. Pulizzi made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Mackey.
Mr. Yoder asked Anything to add Miss Fessler,
Ms. Fessler No.
Mr. Yoder Any comments or questions from members? On item 9? Okay. Hearing and sing none,
The resolution 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, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mr. Yoder voted yes. Mr. Beiter was absent

Resolution #9876
Resolution of The City Council of Williamsport Authorizing the Repayment of HUD Funds Related to Monitoring Findings

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion and second.
Mr. Pulizzi made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Mackey
Ms. Fessler, this repayment of the funds was discussed in the 2025 budget session, $100,000 was budgeted in the finance department's budget for the total repayment of $99,896.36.
Mr. Yoder: Thank you very much. This was reviewed in finance as well. Anything to add to, Mr. Allison?
Mr. Allison : Not really. We did our discussions last year as Miss Fessler said. We asked our questions then and I asked if anything had changed and nothing has. So I think that ties it up as far as I am concerned.
Mr. Yoder: Excellent, Mr. Allison. Any additional questions or comments from members? Okay. Miss Miele?
Ms. Miele: To be clear on this, Miss Fessler, obviously this is kind of a one and done expenditures/repayment that will not be needed again until HUD audits us? Which hopefully that doesn't happen with the resources from SEDA CODG and I would also say I believe we have not been audited in 30 years. So relatively Peanuts amount compared to HUD funding we have spent over the last 30 years. That was all.
The resolution 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, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mr. Yoder voted yes. Mr. Beiter was absent

Resolution #9877
Resolution for Various Insurance Needs

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion and second.
Mr. Pulizzi made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Mackey.
Ms. Livermore. The resolution you have before you tonight is for the renewal of various insurance policies for 2025. We did discuss this in the finance committee. We went over that the only large increase that you see here is for the auto and that is due to the newer firetrucks we just received. The insurance of course is more on a more expensive fire truck. Really the other changes are very minimal annual percentage changes. We are using the same insurance

companies we were using last year. At the end of 2023 we did a RFP and went through and revamped all the insurance companies we were using. We found a good savings and our workers comp and we were happy with the services that we got from them in 24 so we stayed with the same insurance companies. They were lower prices and we had good dealings with all of them. We did not do a RFP this year.
Mr. Yoder This also went to finance, Mr. Allison. Anything to add?
Mr. Allison : Not really. Other than - excuse me. Insurance of every stripe is going up through the roof every year. This is the fact of life right now and so it affects - it did affect that area, but one thing, Mrs. Livermore, did we discuss the amount that was saved by changing the Worker's Comp.?
Ms. Livermore That amount was saved in 2024. In 23 we had travelers and we went to an Cova. Our charges are still around the same as they were in 24. I do not have the numbers right now, but it was a good amount that we saved going from travelers to Encova. I can get those numbers for you.
Mr. Allison That would be fine. I forgot to ask the other day. Okay, thank you.
Ms. Miele Yeah, I think to kind of follow up on that line of questioning. Is our broker still Gallagher?
Are we putting out an RFP for insurance brokers at all anytime in the future.
Mrs. Livermore Not in 25 if that is something you would like to do we can definitely discuss. I'm not positive if when they put the RFP out if they put it out for brokers in 23. Not sure how that was because I believe Molly did that. I can double check if that is something you would want to discuss, we can discuss to go into 26.
Ms. Miele I just do not think it would be unwise.
Mrs. Livermore We chose Gallagher and that is when Steve (NAME?) was the mayor so it has been at least six or seven years. Not that we have been dissatisfied with the Gallagher's. I think they did a great job, but at the time we kind of put all the city's insurance broker needs with Gallagher because we were trying to find a sort of simple solution and you know, we had discussed even at the time that we could build things out perhaps with a local company as well as Gallagher and achieve a combination of the sort of savings and some of the offerings that a larger company can bring as well as supporting our businesses. I don't know if the administration has looked at it and I certainly did not hear about it if we did. If we did an RFP for the broker, but I don't think it would be a bad thing to do. I want it to be a fair shot and inevitably in terms of an RFP of actual insurance coverage we will work with (WORD?). The RFP for brokers would have to impact our local economy and I think that would be a good thing. That being said, what did we budget in 24?
> I do not have those numbers.
Ms. Miele I guess what I'm asking is is this over what we budgeted?
Mrs. Livermore We had this at budget time so I believe we have these numbers from budget time. Around these. I think we are there.
Mr. Yoder : Any other comments or questions?
If I could follow up on that conversation about Gallagher. I did, a few years ago approach the idea of RFP with the administration and at that time there wasn't an inclination to do that. I think it is time. Thank you.
Ms. Livermore I think it would be an appropriate time to do that here in the next year or so. Like I said, we have had a really good run with Gallagher and this is not a reflection on them. Sometimes you can achieve savings that way and if nothing else you simply offer it to a wider field of individuals.
Mr. Yoder : Here here. Any other questions or comments? Okay. We will call the vote. Mr. Allison.
The resolution 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, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mr. Yoder voted yes. Mr. Beiter was absent

Resolution #9878
Resolution Authorizing The purchase of (2) Ford F350 Super – Duty Pickup Trucks & (1) 2025 Ford F600 4x Dump Truck Utilizing Area Fund Utilizing ARPA funds

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion and second.
Mr. Pulizzi made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Mackey
Mr. Livermore l. What you have before you is a resolution authorizing the two purchases of two F3 50's and one F 600 utilizing ARPA funds in the amount of $263,559.59. These trucks will be – one of the 350s is replacing a GMC in our fleet and the other one will replace a 2011 GMC and the other one will replace an FI 50. This was reviewed by Austin and it did not go to any meetings. Any questions?
Mr. Yoder Thank you, Mr. Livermore. Any comments or questions on item 12 by members? Pretty straightforward pretty we went through this with final allocations. Miss Miele?
Ms. Miele The only question I have about these items is, when do we expect these vehicles to land?
Mr. Livermore The F 600 hopefully in the next three weeks and the two F-350's in the next few weeks.
Ms. Miele Even looking across all three of your items, will those be arriving in the next couple of months?
Mr. Livermore I believe that will be around July and the other one is going to be here in the next few weeks. We will go through that.
Ms. Miele Yeah and next question, all of these items. I know in the ARPA discussions we were having, we were very interested on getting these funds allocated to vehicles we need to be purchased. These are all vehicles that we are in need of in streets and parks right now?
Mr. Livermore Yes. These are in the capital projects. They are being purchased – I believe within the year. I think the idea was to get them out a year early. Cut the cost and the capital project down so we can save some money out of that.
These are all vehicles we had originally that we need to replace eventually. It is not adding any new.
Ms. Miele No, no, no. That is not what is in plain but I just want to make sure that we are maxing out the equipment we have and not replacing anything since we have two years to kind of utilize the rest of this funding, not replacing anything that didn't need to be replaced yet, I suppose. Effectively costing ourselves money down the road. It seems as though they were all set to be – my recollection was all the public works vehicles were set to be purchased in the 25 budget year anyway.
Mr. Pulizzi Just one. Scott, I think I ask you this. Is there a reason why you went with Ford over Chevy?

Mr. Livermore Obviously cost right now, Ford is showing a decline in the other dealers that we have. I'm trying to get – one of the things, too. I'm trying to get the same fleet. A lot of my 250 trucks or the Chevy 2500 or the GMC's I have, I'm trying to rotate them through so I have all F-350's, so I have parts in my stockroom. We are changing over to Freightliner. You need scanners and certain equipment to have some of the stuff and when I get a scanner from the Freightliner's I only have to buy one Skinner versus all the other dealers I have to deal with. I'm trying to get everything the same so 'e have everything.

The resolut'on was carried with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0. All were in favo'.
Mr. Allison voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mr. Yoder voted yes. Mr. Beiter was absent

Resolution #9879
Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of 2025 ODB 25 Cubic Yard Truck Mounted Debris Collector, Model M2106 Utilizing ARPA funds.

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion and second.
Mr. Pulizzi made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Mackey
Mr. Livermore - it is a leap truck., Utilizing ARPA funds in the amount of $336,995 .this truck will replace a 2000 truck we have in our fleet right now and this will upgrade this so this will be good for the next 15 years. We purchased this, just thinking I did not say the purchase. We have - - this dealer is Stevenson equipment. This went through – it was reviewed by Austin. It did not go to a meeting. Any questions?
Mr. Yoder Any comments or questions on item 13 by members?
The resolution 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, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mr. Yoder voted yes. Mr. Beiter was absent

Resolution #9880
Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of a 2025 ALTEC Chip Dump Truck Utilizing ARPA Funds

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion and second.
Mr. Pulizzi made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Mackey.
Mr. Livermore, What you have before you as a resolution to purchase a 2025 ALTEC dump truck. What this is - utilizing ARPA funds in the amount of $245,798. What this is, this is a burial truck for our Forrester to go throughout the city and trim the trees. Right now we have one. It is a 2006 right now. So it will be replaced by that. This one obviously is a little newer and I can get a little further and a little bigger. At the previous one we have right now, the one we have right now is the 60 foot and this will reach 275 feet. If any of you want to get in it, feel free to come down and we will put you in it.
Mrs. Katz I have a question. : This is after the fact, but how did the leaf pickup go this year? Were there any problems?
Mr. Livermore No. Not too bad. About the same as every year.
Mrs. Katz: Okay. Okay. We did not have any major issues.
Mr. Yoder: We appreciate you doing that. Any other comments or questions on the item? So the ARPA one is closed. I will extend thanks to Jamie, Scott with a lot of the final stuff that we did. It was a lot of work that you both did and after the fact a lot of the complaint stuff to button up loose ends to make sure we did not lose this money with final allocations. I want to extend my gratitude and thank you for your hard work and helping us through that. It is very much appreciated.
The resolution 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, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mr. Yoder voted yes. Mr. Beiter was absent

Resolution #9881
Resolution Authorizing Bureau of Police to Purchase Fire (5) Police Vehicles

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion and a second.
Mr. Pulizzi made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Mackey.
Chief this is authorizing purchase of five Dodge Durango police pursuit rated vehicles from new Holland auto group in a new Holland, PA and the cost to outfit the vehicles right (NAME?), also new Holland, PA for a total of $254,957.10. Of this amount, $241,856.70 is to be allocated from the American rescue plan act and that the other $13,000 will be from a vehicle purchase funds and this will give us two 2024 Martinez, two 2024 unmarked units and we will have one in 2025. This will be good and it's also a costar contract so we do not have to put out for bid and what this is going to do is help us replace three of our patrol vehicles that are now out of warranty as well as we have two unmarked vehicles that we utilize that are over 100,000 miles and those will be going, too.
Mr. Yoder: Thank you, sir. This went to finance. Anything to add, Mr. Allison?
Mr. Allison: Not really. We were fortunate that we could get 2024 brand-new vehicles - brand-new, 2024 vehicles. At a cheaper price than 2025 obviously. We did save some money there. Other than that, these are items we discussed previously.
Ms. Miele I thought, chief, I thought we had a policy of doing three vehicles a year for police?
My recommendation is to go out no less than three to get the cycle going and to keep the fleet up to date, but it is not a policy as of yet.
Ms. Miele I guess what I'm saying is - I do think that replacing three a year is a good number to go for, but why then are we doing five this year?
Chief We were able to utilize ARPA funding and it catches us up because over the last three and now going on four years we had a dilapidated Leah now we got it to where it needs to be. If we stay on pace and we keep our three minimum each year to cycle out, we should be good and then we will not have to catch up like we did.
Ms. Miele: We will need to budget three more cars next year?
Chief That is my recommendation, yes.
Ms. Miele These, from my understanding, is a person who has driven a vehicle was substantially more than 100,000 miles on it, why is it dangerous for the unmarked vehicles to have over 100,000?
Chief It is not necessarily dangerous, but you're looking at a vehicle that is used only for seven verses one used from a civilian. Those vehicles are being used over and over and sometimes not turned off for a 24 hour period. 100,000

miles on a police vehicle is way different than 100,000 on a civilian.
The unmarked argues the same as they marked.
Chief These ones that have over 100,000 miles are much older models because they were the unmarked. They are older than even the other ones that will have 100,000 miles on them. They are getting to the point where they are having body issues and other issues that need to be repaired.
Mr. Yoder : Little question on that, by purchasing five now, I guess when this group of vehicles gets to the end of the lifecycle and we go to replace them, do we need to replace five one year or will we be managing through this to flatten it out so we can maintain that consistency of three.
Chief This is replacing ones where these two other ones have been put off. At the marked vehicles are the ones that absolutely are priority because those are the ones that are driven more and more we want to keep those within warranty. What this does is gives the opportunity for these older unmarked ones that are not in warranty anymore to get them refreshed. The same models as they marked cars and to get them to be commiserate with the rest of the group. A.
Mr. Yoder Additional question. Scott Livermore - his thought process, maybe think about this. Early on in my tenure I remember there being a number of different models and makes. Is that still the case? Have we shifted from that? I ask that because I agree with Scott's rationale and the kind of the management cost savings that you obtain. Where is that with the police department? I think it is a good thing.
Mr. Livermore Roy while we had forwards and Chevys and now we are at the point where we have almost throughout the entire fleet - they are all dodges. Meaning they are easier to work on. It is easier for the scanner equipment that is extra and things are more interchangeable. Keeping it this way we are able to save more money by transferring in the marked vehicles, some of the equipment from the ones we are getting rid of and we can move that into the others, which gives us significant cost savings on top.
Mr. Yoder: Gotcha. That is great. We are a lot closer, if not there compared to five years ago or so. That is great. Thank you. Thank you for that very much but any other comments or questions.
Mrs. Katz , I do. Just inquiring I would like to know, how are we doing with the police vehicles, with the brick roads that they come out of? Is that more wear and tear on the cars or are you dealing with that in a different way?
Chief I don't really have information on how the vehicles are doing on the brick roads. My guess is that it will do the same as all the other cars out here. The brick roads are rough on every vehicle.
Mrs. Katz : I was just curious - -. It just inquiring if there was more wear and tear because I know it is that way with regular vehicles at times and I know - or some of these - -
Chief Most of them are patrol vehicles so they are being utilized by the officers on shift that are at headquarters.
Mr. Pulizzi I have to ask. Are they at least HEMI's?
Chief The new versions in 2025 are twin turbo V6's. We are trained utilize to make sure we have the same engine components and things like that by getting as many of the 2024's as we can. They will all be the V-8. Unfortunately we will have to change as everybody else is with the modernization of the vehicles. We will hold off as long as we can.
Mr. Pulizzi I am happy to hear that we are getting HEMI's. I will sign up for more vital ones. - Ride on lungs.
The resolution 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, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mr. Yoder voted yes. Mr. Beiter was absent

Resolution #9883
Resolution Authorizing Professional Services Agreement Between Williamsport Bureau of Police & Center for Community Resources for Co-Responder Program

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion and a second.
Mr. Pulizzi made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Mackey.
Chief Bolt This is a revision to the agreement that we passed in November. Very little change, after we passed that, CCR had some changes that they were interested in through the finance department. Really the only change is if you have the contract before you, it is in part two, the compensation part where the amount and 2.1 where the payment is. The amount is now not to exceed $85,000 instead of $70,000 to cover some of the extra expenses. The rate went from - - that was a typo before with the salary. And at 2.3. MHCR - the co-responder will have benefits and any other compensation, but that is provided by the contractor, not by the city. Again, this is all within the PPCD grant we have and all of them were covered under our cost structure so we just had to change a couple things to make sure it stays within. I will open the floor for any questions.
Ms. Miele > Just want to understand the cost structure. It was not an issue to add $15,000 extra? The grant is flexible in terms of how much we can spend?
Mr. Bolt We budgeted over that after we had initial meetings we said this is what we needed for sellers, but this was just for the extra.
Ms. Miele I was just wondering what the elements of the grant were. Okay. Good. And we know already the person we will be working with?
Chief She has been with us for a couple of months. It has been very successful and we are hoping we will have updates this coming spring.
Ms. Miele Is she working with us 40 hours a week or what is that?
Chief It is 40 hours a week.
Ms. Miele She is actually out with officers 40 hours a week? That is impressive. I assumed there would be some paperwork lagged or something. That is great. I look forward to an update. Thank you, gentlemen.
Mr. Yoder : Any other comments or questions from members?
The resolution 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, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mr. Yoder voted yes. Mr. Beiter was absent

Accept for filing
Public Works 11/5 & 12/3/24
Controllers Report October 2024
Mr. Yoder asked for a motion and second to accept the minutes for filing.

Mr. Pulizzi made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Allison.
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, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, and Mr. Yoder voted yes. Mr. Beiter was absent

Announcements

The next regularly scheduled City Council meeting will be held on Thursday January 30, 2025 at **7:00** PM, **Trade & Transit II 144 West Third St, 3rd t floor,** Williamsport, PA.

Upcoming Meetings:

Tuesday January 21	6:30 PM	HARB
Tuesday, January 28	11:30 AM	Public Safey
	1:00 PM	Finance Committee
	2:30 PM	Public Works
Wednesday Jan. 29	9:00 AM	ERC
Thursday Jan. 30	7:00 PM	City Council Meeting

Comments:

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

There were no comments.
Mr. Yoder stated we will have executive session following related to matters of litigation and contract negotiation.

Adjournment

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned upon motion by Mr. Pulizzi and a second by Mr. Allison. Meeting adjourned at **8;08 PM** with unanimous ayes.

Submitted by:

Janice M. Frank
City Clerk