

**Thursday, June 6, 2019
Williamsport, PA**

Council President Jonathan Williamson brought the Williamsport City Council meeting to order on Thursday, June 6, 2019 at 8:00 PM in City Hall Council Chambers. Chris Cooley did televise the meeting. The invocation was given by Councilman Joel Henderson and was immediately followed by the "Pledge of Allegiance".

Council members present:

*Jonathan Williamson, President
Randy Allison, Vice President
Bonnie Katz, Councilwoman
Derek Slaughter, Councilman, absent
Don Noviello, Councilman
Elizabeth Miele, Councilwoman
Joel Henderson, Councilman*

Absent:

Derek Slaughter

Also, Present:

*Gabriel J. Campana, Mayor absent
Mr. Joe Gerardi
Mr. William Nichols, Jr.
Mr. Gary Knarr absent
Damon Hagan, Chief
Sol. Austin White
Janice Frank, City Clerk, absent
Todd Heckman, Fire Chief absent
Mark Benner EIT
Mr. Joe Pawlak
Adam Winder*

Dr. Jonathan Williamson thanked Mr. Henderson for recognizing the contributions that Father John Manno made to our community. He gave people the opportunity to say something about Father Manno.

Ms. Miele stated she was fortunate to live in the same neighborhood as Father Manno did and he did so many things for our community. His passion and devotion was very striking. She spent a lot of time thinking about what a wonderful man he was and what a huge loss it will be to our community. She hopes that many can step up as he did.

Mr. Noviello stated he has an elder cousin who is also a priest and he had many opportunities to speak with Father Manno. He was good at keeping people on an open keel and it was sad when he passed away. He will be sadly missed and his contributions were great.

Mrs. Katz has known him for a long time, her husband with in the seminary, and she used to write to him. He had a great sense of humor and he kept track of where everyone was. He is going to be sadly missed and his smile was infectious. He was a loving caring person and she knows he is watching down on us.

Mr. Henderson stated his example and his life is testimony. He was greatly appreciated and loved, and the reality is ...is people that just care and he was able to affect others and we should allow his example to try to fix things and love, and show that love and use his example.

Mr. Allison said he too had that same thought that we have lost some people who had great impact on our community on a personal level, there were not politicians. The shadow that he cast was pretty wide spread of how he got involved. He modeled what the word of God says. You can say you love God, but it is how you show it, is love. The way you interact with people, he truly did care and manifested his love and his faith. People know when it is genuine. It is for us to pick up that mantle, he is going to leave a big hole, but it is on us as people to pick that up. That's a principle in the Bible, Jesus himself said unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, there won't be any fruit, and out of that comes life. And have more of life than it was, and to honor Father Manno, there should be many walking to do what he did, if you have 100 people knowing and loving others, that's how you change a community. It is not from a panel like this, but on a human basis when you touch somebody, we live in a hard world and there is a lot of need and a lot of pain and we should be inspired to be like him.

Dr. Williamson stated he personally grew up in a Protestant Community and when we came to Williamsport and he can remember being imitated by Priest. When he first met Father Manno, his demeanor and his presence put his family at ease at a neighbor's gathering. One of things, he took away from it was the desire and opportunity to learn from his example and see the role he played in the Community. Personally, he noticed that he was inclusive, welcoming and he didn't judge. That was part of his circle and it provided an opportunity for him to have an impact because he could put people at ease through the model that he was. The best celebration of his legacy is to continue to make everyone else better and he was trying to replicate the model set by Jesus. He did a really good job at that. If we could follow that model, we could continually to grow together as a City and Community. May he rest in Peace.

Approval of the Williamsport City Council minutes dated May 23, 2019 were approved upon a motion from **and Mr. Allison** and a second from **Ms. Miele**. **All were in favor. The vote was 6 to 0.**

Ms. Miele voted yes, Mr. Noviello voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Allison voted yes and Dr. Williamson voted yes Mr. Slaughter was absent.

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

Resolution #8898

Resolution Certifying the Local Match for State Operating Financial Assistance

The Solicitor read the resolution.

Dr. Williamson asked for a motion to approve the resolution.

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

Mr. Nichols stated this resolution and the next, this is required by Penn Dot for the next Fiscal year which is 2020. By Formula in Act 38, Section 1513, RVT will receive \$4 million 3848,063.00 in operating funds with a local match \$405,908.00. This resolution certifies that the required local match will be in place and secured. The following resolution will provide the source of the funds. As we do each year, the local match must be completed by the end of the fiscal year. Our partners will reimburse the City for our local match. The Finance Committee did review this.

Ms. Miele stated Finance Committee did review this and send to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation. This is a standard resolution. Our funding did not increase because the State is being cautious about waiting on Penn Dot....we did take in some grant money ...our match did increase, the 15% would be \$645,000. We can all be happy, we are still not there. We have a new partner, Muncy Green and the City's Contribution is \$210,000.

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Mr. Nichols stated that the \$210,000 was budgeted and that has not increased for over 20 years. We try to continue to get new partners. We are up to 18 now and years ago, we only had eight.

Mr. Henderson asked him to trace how it works.

Mr. Nichols stated the City bills the other partners...we bill the partners and the City bills RVT for that. We bill semi-annually and we reimburse the City for that particular amount.

Dr. Williamson asked for comments or questions.

The resolution was approved with six yes roll call votes. The vote was six to 0.

Ms. Miele voted yes, Mr. Noviello voted yes, Mr. Henderson voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Allison voted yes, Dr. Williamson voted yes. Mr. Slaughter was absent.

Resolution #8899

Resolution by Municipality Certifying Provision of Local Match For State Operating Financial Assistance

The Solicitor read the resolution.

Dr. Williamson asked for a motion to approve the resolution.

Mrs. Katz made the motion and it was seconded by Ms. Miele.

Mr. Nichols stated again this shows that the City is guaranteeing the local match. The annual situation is we bill the partners and they reimburse us. He read the list of 19 partners that make up the difference.

Ms. Miele had nothing further to add.

Dr. Williamson asked for the vote.

The resolution was approved with six yes roll call votes. The vote was six to 0.

Ms. Miele voted yes, Mr. Noviello voted yes, Mr. Henderson voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Allison voted yes, Dr. Williamson voted yes. Mr. Slaughter was absent.

Resolution #8900

Resolution Authorizing the City of Williamsport on Behalf of RVT to Execute a Grant Agreement with PA. Dept of Environmental Protection

The Solicitor read the resolution.

Dr. Williamson asked for a motion to approve the resolution.

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

Mr. Nichols stated this resolution is authorizing the Appropriate City officials to execute a grant agreement with the PA. Dept. of Environmental Protection. This grant is in the amount of \$300,000. This is the third grant we have submitted. It was 7 years ago that Larson did a study about the CNG and RVT completed a feasibility study to take a look at this. We know have 19 CNG with thanks from Penn Dot and DEP. This grant is part of the next resolution proposing 4 CNG buses. RVT received \$300,000 from the monies awarded. Kudos to my staff and especially Kevin Kilpatrick.

Ms. Miele stated this was reviewed by Finance and sent to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation. The purchase is covered by grant which will leave us \$10,000 from the grant to purchase parts or whatever. We benefit by upgrading our fleet and after this year, we will be at 23 buses and we will be at 90%.

Mr. Nichols stated our goal is 27, and the savings on these is incredible.

The resolution was approved with six yes roll call votes. The vote was six to 0.

Ms. Miele voted yes, Mr. Noviello voted yes, Mr. Henderson voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Allison voted yes, Dr. Williamson voted yes. Mr. Slaughter was absent.

Resolution #8901

Resolution Authorizing City to Award A contract for Purchase of 4 CNG Low Floor Transit Vehicles

The Solicitor read the resolution.

Dr. Williamson asked for a motion to approve the resolution.

Mrs. Katz made the motion and it was seconded by Ms. Miele.

Mr. Nichols stated this resolution RVT to enter into a contract with Gillig to purchase 4 CNG buses in the amount of \$2,550,000.00. This will bring total to 23 and almost completes our conversion of this fleet. The balance of this will come from Penn Dot and DEP. This is a joint procurement with another authority.

Ms. Miele stated this was reviewed by Finance and sent to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation. The grant is actually more than the purchase price of the buses, and will be able to purchase parts of the additional funds which will be helpful. We did discuss with the diesel buses, unfortunately many of the parts are not interchangeable with the CNG buses, but it is an interesting note. We also discussed briefly the contract which we purchased these buses under. This is a joint contract with Lancaster and can get it a little less expensive for our products when we piggyback with the larger municipality or city.

Dr. Williamson asked before CNG buses became a possibility, you had begun transitioning to a diesel hybrid, are the other four only going to be the diesel hybrid, which did realize some savings?

Mr. Nichols answered before we started the CNG program, we purchased six hybrid buses and obviously there were savings, not as much as the CNG program, when we were able to get funding for the last four, the hybrids will be replaced.

Dr. Williamson asked for comments or questions.

The resolution was approved with six yes roll call votes. The vote was six to 0.

Ms. Miele voted yes, Mr. Noviello voted yes, Mr. Henderson voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Allison voted yes, Dr. Williamson voted yes. Mr. Slaughter was absent

Resolution #8902

Resolution for Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant from Commonwealth Financing Authority

The Solicitor read the resolution.

Dr. Williamson asked for a motion to approve the resolution.

Ms. Miele made the motion and it was seconded by Mrs. Katz.

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Mr. Nichols stated this resolution is to have the appropriate city officials to date an agreement with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in particular the Commonwealth financing Authority which is part of DCED and this is a multi-mobile transportation grant and it is part of the E. 3rd St., Gateway project. The application was approved by Council last August and the grant award provides for 625,414,000. Based on the recommendation from the finance committee I provided a new resolution with new wording. I also provided the proposed budget estimate and site plan which we will submit as part of the grant application. This is one block essentially between Franklin and Penn and the cost considerations were discussed to see just what all is involved in the project and the backup that it gives you an indication just for the costs were allocated.

Ms. Miele stated this was reviewed by the Finance Committee and forwarded it to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation, pending some revisions to the resolution. Finance had the impression that we were applying for the grant and we were a little confused by the attached contract. The new resolution helps to clarify the exact purpose of the documentation. The budget that she says the total cost is \$925,000, and the grants is \$640,000.

Mr. Nichols answered if you go back to your binder, there is a spreadsheet that shows the match to that is being provided from the county allocation to the city for the project. The original spreadsheet estimated that the project would be \$920,734 with \$299,000 in matching funds coming from Lycoming County. We are not even in the design phase right now and his hope is that it comes well under the grant so that we can extend streetscape further than Franklin on Fourth St. they are very flexible with what the plans are, and as we get further on I like to see that this project can be extended further west.

Ms. Miele stated reads from the memo that it is being put into one specific block, and I wouldn't like to see that, she felt that we should look at that, it might've been helpful to have something that we could easily put into place on Pine Street, I'm not certain that we should close that street. The rest of it all looks like things we do in whatever neighborhood we do work in. It is certainly a benefit to anyone who has property on that block, but we do that work.

Mr. Nichols stated as we do that work in progress it might be wise to have Chris Kaiser come and give us explanation, he is not clear what he has in mind with that. He will have Chris come before Council, because we all need to hear what the plans are.

Ms. Miele asked if Larson or Reynolds is taking care of the bids?

Mr. Nichols answered currently Larson is and it will be a plan to have him come before the Stakeholders and we can sit down and have a work session. We had the standard streetscape program and we have to sit down and talk about it and to see what his ideas are.

Ms. Miele stated it looks like we are putting a lot of trees in here and she is certain that will make a very nice addition.

Dr. Williamson asked for a vote on the resolution.

The resolution was approved with six yes roll call votes. The vote was six to 0.

Ms. Miele voted yes, Mr. Noviello voted yes, Mr. Henderson voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Allison voted yes, Dr. Williamson voted yes. Mr. Slaughter was absent

Certificate of Appropriateness – 100 Pine St. Paul G. Enterprises, Inc.

Mr. Gerardi stated this is a certificate of appropriateness requests for 100 Pine St. It is for a 16 x 20 she had to be on the above-mentioned property. He gave everyone a picture of this shed, you have the size of the shed and the height and the roof. The color the roof is going to be a brown and the walls will match the existing building. There will be one set of double doors, and the windows that you see on the side will not be there.

Dr. Williamson asked for a motion and a second.

Mrs. Katz motion and it was seconded by Ms. Miele.

Mr. Gerardi stated there was a comment from the planning commission, they were thinking about relocating, and he went down and looked and they can't relocate it because it is a fire issue.

Dr. Williamson asked for comments or questions.

The certificate of appropriateness was approved with six yes roll call votes. The vote was six to 0.

Ms. Miele voted yes, Mr. Noviello voted yes, Mr. Henderson voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Allison voted yes, Dr. Williamson voted yes. Mr. Slaughter was absent

Certificate of Appropriateness 358 Market St. - Masonic Temple

Mr. Gerardi stated for two window signs that will be located visible for Market Street and the other will be located Fourth Street. The signs are blue with white lettering, the blue does match the Masonic Temple's canopies, plus they have some symbols up above. We also have the tenant here if you have any questions.

Dr. Williamson asked for a motion and a second

Ms. Miele made the motion and it was second by Mrs. Katz.

Ms. Miele asked what is a hatchet house?

Marshall Winners, owner of Hatchet House, ask if anyone had heard of axe throwing? That is what we are trying to bring to Williamsport. It is the newest entertainment craze that is sweeping country. Picture darts on steroids. We have individual bases to protect people, you throw one hatchet instead of darts. My wife and I want to bring that to Williamsport and entertain everybody here. Our name is the hatchet house, our color scheme matches the building, and it is tastefully done. He hopes everyone can join us at some point. Everybody stands behind the line.

Ms. Miele thanked him for the explanation, and stated she is glad Williamsport is getting this.

Mr. Winners stated if you want to bring kids you can, we can assure you that it is a safe place.

Mr. Allison asked if you've never thrown a hatchet before how do you do it?

Mr. Winners asked, you come to us and we teach you how to do that. There is a one hand throw or a two handed throw.

Mrs. Katz asked what their hours are going to be?

Mr. Winners asked, it is right now little complicated, but most likely Monday and Tuesday by reservation only, a lot of these bookings are done online in advance. Wednesday and Thursday, 3:30 to 10:00 PM, Friday we are open 3:30 to 11:00 PM, Saturday, noon to 11, Sunday noon to five. We want to be open a little longer during Little League, probably noon to 10 or 11, to support everyone that comes to Williamsport. We do have safe hatchet throwing parties.

Mrs. Katz stated this is interesting, and welcome to the neighborhood.

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Dr. Williamson asked for vote on the certificate.

The certificate of appropriateness was approved with six yes roll call votes. The vote was six to 0. Ms. Miele voted yes, Mr. Noviello voted yes, Mr. Henderson voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Allison voted yes, Dr. Williamson voted yes. Mr. Slaughter was absent

Accept for Filing:

ERC Meeting Minutes 03/05/19 & 03/19/19

AD HOC Residency Minutes 03/04/19

Dr. Williamson asked for a motion to accept these minutes for filing.

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

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

Ms. Miele voted yes, Mr. Noviello voted yes, Mr. Henderson voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Allison voted yes, Dr. Williamson voted yes. Mr. Slaughter was absent

Announcements

. The next regularly scheduled City Council meeting will be held on Thursday, June 20, 2019 at 7:30 PM, in City Hall Council Chambers. (Enter through the police department at rear of building for meetings after 5:00 PM.)

Upcoming Meetings:

Monday, June 10	12:00 PM Planning Commission
	4:00 PM Recreation Commission
Tuesday, June 11	3:30 PM ERC
Tuesday, June 18	10:00 AM Blighted Property
	1:00 PM Finance Committee
	2:30 PM Public Works
	3:30 PM Public Safety
	6:30 PM HARB Meeting
Thursday, June 20	10:30 AM Zoning Hearing Board
	4:00 PM Board of Health
	7:30 PM City Council Meeting

[Meetings Held in Council Chambers Unless Otherwise Noted – [scr] = William Sechler Community

Room]

Dr. Williamson stated there would be an Ad Hoc meeting of the full body Council to interview candidates Williamsport Water Authority at or 30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 18th.

Adjournment

Dr. Williamson asked for comments or questions from the members of Council.

Mr. Noviello want to remind everyone that Saturday is the 10th annual soap box Derby race on market Street. It is our decade-long anniversary year, and were happy to announce that we been doing this for 10 years. He wanted to give a quick personal thanks to Mr. Jim Campbell, he is our race director and on three separate occasions, he has won the director of the year award. Our city itself has one the city of the year award as well. We have stayed in pretty good standing. He wanted to thank all of our sponsors, we have over 60 sponsors for our cars alone, and some of them have been with us for the entire 10 year period. He is happy to have them on board with us as well as our primary sponsor, the City of Williamsport, Backyard Broadcasting, Kiwanis club, Penn College. He wanted to thank all of our colleagues for helping to put this together every year, it takes about seven months to get ready to go, and there is a lot of work involved. He wanted to thank everyone been involved in this and he hopes that we can continue for another 10 years.

Mrs. Katz stated he thinks that she can say safely and speak to everybody appear, to recognize and congratulate all of our graduates that are graduating and wish them the best of luck on their new journey in life.

Dr. Williamson asked for comments from the administration.

There were none.

Dr. Williamson asked for comments from the general public.

Ms. Karen Koch, with the center of independent living, and with her is her coworker Mr. Gabriel Brown. We are here this evening to ask for some clarification as to what is the status of the accessibility plan for City Hall, what is the status of the elevator repairs? On March 26, the Public Works meeting, it was indicated that the bids had gone out and that they would have 30 days for the bids to be returned and after two weeks, they would be examined and the determination would be made. On that occasion, Gannett Fleming was here, they had the design, I was under the impression that things were moving forward. Then at public Works about a month ago, we were told now with the changing of the administration coming up, with the mayor leaving, there were a lot of unknowns and that everything is going to be put on hold, and meetings for the public will be held at the Trade & Transit center because of the assessable location there. We thank you for that foresight. On May 29 again, by Councilwoman Katz, that the bids have been sent out then. So I'm very very confused, March? Were they sent out in May? Could we find out what the status is? I have reached out to the mayor's office on several occasions in the past two weeks and I have received no response from him. We would appreciate a better understanding of what is occurring with City Hall.

Dr. Williamson stated we generally don't make this session a question and answer, but I will ask that a member of Council and a member of the administration answer your questions off-line and at the close of the meeting.

Scott Pauley, 401 Woodland Avenue, I am here tonight to speak to Council about the use and the increasing use of fire pits throughout the neighborhood. Weak amount of winter, it is a pleasant time, and

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summer will get here and become very warm, and we will move into the fall. Throughout my neighborhood, every nice that is out this be outside, or have your house open, it's almost impossible. I live in a campground now, all sides of me, all of my neighbors are now using fire pits in their backyards. That is kind of concerning to me from many aspects, from health, safety, and just personal annoyance. It is the fact that I can't sit on my deck at night on a clear night and enjoy myself because I have smoke coming from all over the neighborhood. The safety issue, I woke up in the morning at 2:30 AM, and my neighbors fire pit was still burning, there was no neighbor insight, but the fire was still going, smoldering. So it it is kind of a personal annoyance, and I don't remember what members of Council was on Council when we got rid of burner barrels, I am retired now so I am home all day. Sometimes I smell burning at 10 o'clock in the morning, sometimes at 2 AM, and sometimes at noon. It is mainly in the evening, and it is mainly on weekends, so it is a concern of mine. Also I smell plastic, and that is a concern of mine because nobody is monitoring this, again, it is a health concern, I have health issues that I keep in check, and I just think that this is annoying to me. So I wanted to bring that to Council's attention.

Mr. Nichols stated he can respond to City Hall, if Dr. Williamson wants him to. Dr. Williamson asked him to go by protocol, and talk to her after the meeting.

Adjournment

Dr. Williamson asked for a motion to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned upon motion by **Ms. Miele and seconded by Mrs. Katz.** Motion was carried by a **unanimous at 8:39 PM** "ayes".

Submitted by:

Janice M. Frank, City Clerk