

**Thursday, January 3, 2019
Williamsport, PA**

Council President Jonathan Williamson brought the Williamsport City Council meeting to order on Thursday, January 3, 2019 at 7:30 PM in City Hall Council Chambers. Chris Cooley did televise the meeting. The invocation was given by Councilman Derek Slaughter 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
Don Noviello, Councilman absent
Elizabeth Miele, Councilwoman absent
Joel Henderson, Councilman*

Absent:

**Don Noviello
Elizabeth Miele**

Also, Present:

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

Approval of the Williamsport City Council minutes of budgets dated December 6, 2018 were approved upon a motion from **and Mr. Slaughter made** a second from **Mrs. Katz. All were in favor. The vote was 5 to 0.**

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

Limited Courtesy of the Floor

There was no courtesy of the floor.

An Ordinance – Zoning Map Amendment (final reading) Bill # 1719-18

The City Clerk read the ordinance.

Dr. Williamson asked for motion and the second on the ordinance and second reading.

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

Mr. Knarr stated this is the zoning map amendment, and in the first hearing that we had we offered two different maps, one which would encompass the south side of third Street, and the second map would encompass both of them. At this time, the city is requesting based off of the advertising that we did that we would take into effect the zoning map amendment would be the changed CS zone Commercial to the CBD. The area south of E. 3rd St., North of second Street between Hepburn Street and Center Street, said area to be resumed as the CBD, based off the second map that you have currently.

Dr. Williamson stated just for clarity sake, which of the two options were passed in first reading?

Mr. Knarr answered it was both maps, and the second one is the one that we are passing.

So at a later date do a zoning map which would encompass both.

Dr. Williamson stated it is simply a procedural issue which for advertising sake we need to delay the north side for another cycle.

Mr. Austin White asked if both were passed or just the one? You would be making a motion to adopt as final reading the one that reflects the city.

Dr. Williamson stated so the motion that is on the floor is to adopt the second map.

Mr. Knarr answered that is correct so it would state the portion of the for Ford currently zoned CS, to CBD district, the area south of third Street and north of second Street between Hepburn Street and Center Street, said area to be CDB. That is the one that we are recommended that we approve this time.

Dr. Williamson asked for comments or questions.

Mr. Henderson wanted to clarify, you had said that we had both ordinances, we only passed one in the last meeting.

Mr. Knarr stated you passed both of them that at the second reading you would announce which one of the maps that you would choose, so you did make a motion to pass the second one.

Dr. Williamson stated so to be clear, the motion on the floor to pass in final reading is the ordinance that adopts, map one....

Dr. Williamson made a motion to pass map one, and Mr. Allison seconded it.

Dr. Williamson stated so in first reading we made a motion to pass both, and in this final reading is just to restrict it to the southern area, so instead of amending the ordinance, it is simply doing the same thing through the motion process.

Mr. Knarr stated the only question that came up in the second map was the planning review, and at that time they did not make a recommendation, however because it was December 24, the planning commission did not have a quorum and they did not see this. He did speak with a couple of members that called in and had no questions or concerns.

Dr. Williamson stated so your intention at this point is to advertise at a later date, the area north of this in the next couple of weeks.

Mr. Knarr answered that is correct.

Mr. Henderson stated I understand what we are doing, I just didn't recall us doing it that way in the last meeting.

Dr. Williamson asked for other comments or questions.

The ordinance passed in final reading with five yes roll call votes. The vote was 5 to 0.

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

The City Clerk informed Dr. Williamson that the election has to be held to elected Council President and Vice President and it was omitted from the agenda by mistake.

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Dr. Williamson asked for a motion to suspend the rules to place the elections of Council President and Vice President on the Agenda.

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

Dr. Williamson asked for a vote on the motion to suspend the rules.

The motion to suspend the rules was carried with five yes roll call votes. The vote was 5 to 0.

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

Dr. Williamson asked if there were any nominations for Council President.

Mrs. Katz made a motion to nominate Dr. Jonathan Williamson and Mr. Slaughter seconded it.

There were no other nominations, Dr. Williamson asked for a motion to close the nominations.

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

The motion to close the nominations was carried with five yes roll call votes. The vote was 5 to 0.

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

Dr. Williamson asked for a vote for Council President.

The nomination was unanimous with five Ayes. Mr. Noviello and Ms. Miele were absent.

Dr. Williamson asked for a nomination for council Vice President.

Mrs. Katz nominated Mr. Randy Allison. Mr. Slaughter seconded it.

There were no additional nominations.

Dr. Williamson asked for motion to close for VP.

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

The motion to close the nominations was carried with five yes roll call votes. The vote was 5 to 0.

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

Dr. Williamson asked for a vote for the Vice President of Council.

The nomination was unanimous with five ayes. Mr. Noviello and Ms. Miele were absent.

Resolution #8831

Resolution Authorizing Tax & Revenue Anticipation Note for 2019

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Dr. Williamson asked for a motion and a second on the resolution.

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

Mr. Pawlak stated this resolution is to authorize the city's 2019 tax and revenue anticipation note in the amount of \$2 million. As before, this amount helps the city with its cash flow until the revenue starts to come in and March, April, and May. The note is similar to prior years with some additional language requested by the bank to meet their requirements. The interest rate for 2019 will be between 2.53%, and not to exceed 6.53% which is similar to margins that we have seen in the past years. This resolution was reviewed by the McCormick law firm, and the finance committee yesterday.

Mr. Allison said we reviewed this in Finance and it is a item that we handle every year, the money is there and it is a go to fund if we need it before the real estate taxes start to come in. They generally come in around late March and April to meet the discount.. Finance did forward this to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation. There will be every effort made not to have to use it in the departments throughout the city will be cognitive of our financial situation to keep big costs down in the beginning of the year so we don't have to dip into this.

Dr. Williamson asked for comments or questions.

Mr. Henderson stated he understands the need currently and presently, and it would be nice to say we don't have to do this, it would be nice to restrict are spending so we won't have to do this. If we were to borrow it all, what would we paying an interest?

Mr. Pawlak answered it depends on the length that you would have that money drawn down, and the cost with very from year to year, we try to keep it under that \$10,000 mark.

Mr. Henderson said last year we only used 2000, and I like to bring those numbers out to shows the citizens.

Dr. Williamson asked if there were any other comments or questions.

The resolution was approved with carried with five yes roll call votes. The vote was 5 to 0.

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

Resolution #8832

Resolution for Various Insurance Needs for Policy Year 01/01/19 through 01/01/20

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Dr. Williamson asked for motion to approve the resolution.

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

Mr. Pawlak stated this resolution is for our City's various Insurance needs. The insurance costs for the policy is identified in the resolution. This is for all of our liability and Workmen's Comp. insurance needs for the 2019 year. Under the services provided by our new broker, Arthur J Gallagher, through the marketing process for the city's insurance needs, Arthur J Gallagher was able to find us a new carrier at a lower cost than we previously received. It is under are expected budgeted amounts. Due to the quick they Mr. of the appointment of the broker in 2019, there are some things that we will continue to work on, and we do feel that the cover being provided is consistent with our coverage in the past. We have reviewed this with our consultant, Jill Nagy, and Mr. Nagy and he has worked with the new broker. This was reviewed by the finance committee.

Mr. Allison stated this was reviewed in finance and we talked about this over the past several meetings. When you read the cover letter, the dollar wise is the most important. The total premium shows savings from the adopted 2019 budget, and approximately \$114,000 from the 2018 premium costs. So in a year where we are scraping to find every dollar, this is a substantial savings that is going and are general fund budget. He wanted to commend Councilwoman Miele, who has spearheaded Council on this and we

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have reviewed and talk to all the different firms. We have not ever done that before, and even though Ms. Miele isn't here tonight, we need to give her our gratitude. Also Jill Nagy is here tonight and she was very instrumental in guiding us through the process. Finance did forward this to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation.

Dr. Williamson asked if there were other comments or questions.

Mrs. Katz stated we learned so much going through this process and we learned how much we have needed for the City, and Ms. Nagy walked us through this and she made us learn more and gained more, and we were able to push this through in a short period of time. The bottom line is the savings of \$114,000 and we appreciate all the work that is been done.

Dr. Williamson wanted to reiterate the thanks to Ms. Nagy and the finance committee. He thanked the finance committee which includes Mr. Allison and Mrs. Katz, to do all the hard work and figure out what needed to be both the process and a recommendation and determine an outcome, and there is no better visual than a graph that shows numbers that were going up and now they have come down.

Dr. Williamson asked for a vote on the resolution.

The resolution was carried with five yes roll call votes. The vote was 5 to 0.

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

Resolution # 8833

Resolution Authorizing the Signature of an Agreement for Tree Vitalize Grant

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Dr. Williamson asked for motion to approve the resolution.

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

Mr. Adam Winder stated this resolution is to authorize the award agreement with the Pennsylvania urban forestry Council back in July, there was a resolution passed to submit the application, so we were approved for the \$8281 which will replace 80 trees in various places throughout the city. This basically authorizes the mayor in the city controller to execute the agreement with DCNR the 2019 program, this was reviewed by finance committee.

Mr. Allison stated we did review this in finance and it is an \$8281.00 grant that requires 100% match, and we accomplish that by in-kind services through city volunteers. There are 80 trees, and he listed all the places where the new trees would go. Little League Blvd. will get half of the trees. We will begin replacement of that and that section. Finance did send this to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation.

Mrs. Katz remarked about Ms. Miele and her passion for trees, and Little League Blvd. was one that was really hit the hardest when the Ash trees died. Thank goodness there are grants out there that we can accommodate our city to make it look as beautiful as it has been in the past. She asked if Mr. Winder was putting up Christmas Trees?

Mr. Winder answered yes we will be picking them up starting next week.

Dr. Williamson asked for a vote on the resolution.

The resolution was carried with five yes roll call votes. The vote was 5 to 0.

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

Resolution #8834

Resolution Collective Bargaining Agreement Between City & City Employees, Local 2674

The City Clerk read the resolution.

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

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

Mrs. Dayhoff stated this resolution is to authorize the city of Williamsport to execute a contract amendment the Williamsport city employees AFSME Union. She highlighted the following provisions: a three year contract which is to be effective 01/01/19 – 12/31/21, employee cost sharing of benefits, and this is consistent with AFSME Public Works bargaining members at will employees and various elected officials. A wage increase of 2 ½% for each year the contract, article for family rights, medical family leave of absence, a new article for Health & Safety Code committee, and an increase to life insurance for for active members which is consistent with public works and River Valley transit. Minor changes have also been made to clean up the language and you have a complete summary of the contract amendments. We believe the amendments are helping the city moving in the right direction and set a foundation as we move forward. Finance did review this agreement.

Mr. Allison stated finance did review this, and we asked several questions and different items, just in general, a significant number of the changes in here are language that needed to be changed to bring this in compliance with different laws, different practices and also to have conformity throughout the unions that are involved in this particular branch. The wage increase is 2 ½% A year which is in the norm of what people are getting now. The big thing is health sharing for employees. Finance did forward this to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation.

Dr. Williamson wanted to reiterate about the health insurance, and it is unfortunate as a nation, healthcare costs continue to rise in the cost of health insurance continues to rise, and moving in the direction that this contract does is moving us towards what most private employees have long realize, is necessary having a share in those expenses between the employer and the employees. I don't think it gets is comparable to most of what people have right now, but he does appreciate that effort, and he hopes his colleagues on Council will continue to provide leadership in moving forward. Some of the things that will come across our plate is the benefits, so I hope we can make it more a part of how elected officials will be leaders in terms of sharing in those costs by the unions in future negotiations.

Mr. Allison also wanted to thank the employees and the union are going to this. We are grateful for our employees, they do a good job and they work hard and we appreciate what they bring to the table and how to make the city a better place and make city government works well. They are making a sacrifice on their part to help the city stay healthy financially.

Dr. Williamson asked for a vote on the resolution.

The resolution was carried with five yes roll call votes. The vote was 5 to 0.

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

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Certificate of Appropriateness – 43 West Fourth Street – Olive Tree

Mr. Knarr stated this is for the rear of 43 W. 4th St., the tenant is the olive tree. They are requesting to erect two dome style awnings and one window sign previously you had a drawing, and there's a newer picture today which eliminates the mural and the mural will not be there now. There is a representative present. Dr. Williamson asked for a motion and a second to approve the certificate.

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

There was discussion about the mural and where the window is. This was a painting of a window, not a window.

Mr. Knarr stated it is correct on the second imagine that he gave to Council.

There was a brief discussion about the awnings and the stitching.

Dr. Williamson asked for a vote on the certificate.

The certificate of appropriateness was carried with five yes roll call votes. The vote was 5 to 0.

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

Accept for Filing:

Veteran's Memorial Meeting Minutes – October 2018

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

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

Dr. Williamson asked for a vote.

The filing of the minutes were carried with five yes roll call votes. The vote was 5 to 0.

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

Announcements

The next regularly scheduled City Council meeting will be held on Thursday, January 17, 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.) There will be an executive session immediately following this meeting for the purpose of Public Safety.

Upcoming Meetings:

Monday, Jan. 7	12:00 PM Planning Commission
Tuesday, Jan 15	10:00 AM Blighted Property
	1:00 PM Finance Committee
	2:30 PM Public Works
	3:30 PM Public Safety
Thursday, Jan 17	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 asked for comments or questions from members of City Council.

Mrs. Katz asked Mayor Campana, what was in the paper today was what is going on in Memorial Park. So my question is you're going to be putting mulch down, take up the patting and putting mulch down in parking the playground area. My concern is in this goes back to when I was a representative for Council, everything has to be handicap assessable, and I don't care what kind of mulch you put in there, everything is going to be very difficult with mulch for the handicap. She was very concerned. Also this was not in the budget so where is the money coming from?

Mayor Campana replied he'd be glad to address that. That service was put back in the mid-1990s, it was put in between 1996, and 1998, it is blighted, and number two it is a safety hazard. We have been contacted by several individuals that their children have tripped and fallen, and we have discussed this for at least six months, and I don't want to put the city at any additional legal litigation because we have too many as there is. So we have talked about it in house, Adam can address the cost of what it was and how it will be appropriate for children.

Mrs. Katz stated we've always talked about what the cost per patting would be, I am going concern, about the money, and the safety, and I thought we were really going to go after funding.

Mayor Campana replied we did, it was \$80,000 to replace it, and we don't have \$80,000. We did actually fill out several grants to take care that, with no assistance, there were several nonprofit organizations that we approached as well, with no successful results with that. We spoke about in house, it had to be taking care of because we did not want any additional litigation, it is being addressed now. You may say why now, we wanted to take care of it during the spring, but we could not because of how wet it was and how muddy it was. So we talked about it in house, and we said since we had individuals approach us in regards to forming a Memorial Park committee, in regards to basketball, and that is something I wanted for a long time, but I wanted the citizens to step up to the plate take ownership. So in conjunction with that, we decided to do both of those things at the same time. We are working on it this week.

Mrs. Katz stated that her other question was about a 10 member committee, is that going to come to us?

Mayor Campana replied no it is not. To not create another ordinance in another committee, and another recreation, is as you had spoken to the recreation director, there is talk about minimizing some of those committees because it is too many hoops to go through. I will be glad to address that because I'm very elated over the situation. When the courts were taken out several years ago, no one would step up to the plate, I spoke to the community. Nobody came forward and said we want to monitor the situation. So you remember what it look like, with the drug activities and morally as a father, I could not allow somebody to know that these types of activities that were occurring with the videotapes, Mr. slaughter I think you would agree with me. So you have the parks, yet streets and parks that would have to go over there every day to clean it up. So what I did, we removed the hoops for two weeks, and we said do you know what? Is

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anybody willing to step up to the plate and help us as a committee to monitor the situation? Knowing came through. No one came through! So what happened was they were removed again. I've been waiting for a number of years for people to come up to the plate and say can you assist us? Well, guess what last month a group of individuals came to my office and said, can we help? And another influence for me personally was a student of mine Alize Johnson. He was a student of mine at Stevens and now he is a professional basketball player. I had discussions with him. Other children came up to me as well and said are you the guy that took away the basketball court? And I said yes I did, and I told them why. So there were other family members that came up to me in the last few months and said we want to help. I said this has to be a partnership, and I would be glad, and it was my right as the Mayor to remove that for safety reasons. If you're asking me.....

Dr. Williamson stated I just wanted to ask one question, I can completely understand not creating another formal organization as part of the city, but on the other hand, I would love for you to share with us this evening, the names of this committee so we can publicly thank them.

Mayor Campana stated what I would like to do, I don't have the names at my disposal right now, but there are 10 individuals that have approached me, and what our plan is. We want counsel to be involved, we want you to be engaged, we want you to know our plan and what is happening, this is an open and transparent process.

Dr. Williamson asked, so you don't know the names of the top your head?

Mayor Campana answered no I don't, I know at least seven names but I'm not a list seven names when there is 10 people, I don't want to slight anybody. But what I am going to do is this, if I may, I am planning on having a meeting sometime next week with these individuals and before we do that, I have to contact these individuals and see if they can come to a meeting. We are going to have a phone call with the very influential person in this community that is willing to put some dollars into that area without taxpayers dollars. I am not going to list that individuals name right now, I'm not going to list it because he does not feel comfortable, but you will be kept abreast and I'm sure everybody will be very, very, very pleased.

Dr. Williamson stated if you would like, you could have the 10 individuals, make a presentation about their plans as a Memorial Park committee at the next meeting on the 17th, we'd be more than happy to have them.

Mayor Campana answered I will consider that, but there is one thing I do want to say, I don't want this stuff to become political, and this is wrong. If anybody here in City Council has a question, you can call me at any time. I am always here. You can call me on the phone. You can even come in my office. What I don't appreciate, and the taxpayers don't appreciate is taking shots at me or other individuals on a personal Facebook page. That's just wrong, for political reasons! If you going to say something, say it out in the open instead of hiding behind a screen. And I am not the only one that feels that way, personally we've all talked about a new year, 2019, why don't we all try to live it? I'm trying to do my best, but I would appreciate it if all seven of you would do the same thing, but taking shots with individuals about approaching me about the basketball, when most people would think I was doing something good. That's all about the politics.

Dr. Williamson said I just look forward to beating the 10 individuals and thanking them for everything.

Mrs. Katz stated I am happy someone stepped forward to do something like this, I did say when you took the hoops out, you are moving problem someplace else, and not solving the problem and was going to create an issue, which it did for a while. The thing that I'm most concerned about is that handicapped kids getting into our playgrounds, that's where I'm coming from. And to members on the committee, while there's 10 people that have come to you and we can even find 10 people to fill positions on some of our the committees. I found this very interesting, if any of these 10 people are willing to work on Memorial Park committee, maybe they would also be willing to work on the recognition and some of the other commissions. Because were constantly looking for people, good people that are willing to work, so when I saw 10 people, I thought where did he find 10 people? I think we would all appreciate to know them and shake their hands for coming forward.

Mayor Campana answered, there will be individuals at the next Council meeting from the police department, they would give a presentation, and we would like to have an executive session with counsel and talk to them as well, and this man right here is done such a fine job, with big shoes to fill. In regards tonight with the executive session were going to go over how much progress we have made with regards to crime in the city. So I'm very pleased to speak with counsel about that.

Mr. Allison asked, the committee whoever they are, the 10 people, I understand what you're saying, I'm trying to process how this is going to function because we do have a recreation commission, we do have a recreation department and to me any facility should be under that because we can have a group of citizens making decisions about our facilities and interacting on a way that other committees and commissions don't, if they're going to be interacting with the facility in itself, and the people that are going to be there, there are a lot of legal hoops to jump through.

Mayor Campana stated the mayor has several committees, like my other advisors as well, it is a not a committee, it is a committee it is not a commission. These are individuals that come to me and I listen to as the mayor should, and they want to give me advice, they want to take a look at the situation and give me personal recommendations. And periodically I'm going to let them come to the recreation commission and tell them what their opinions are. So it is in any type of legal responsibility for getting away from the recreation commission, they are willing to engage themselves a little bit more in this area.

Mr. Allison stated just a reminder it is really a recreational facility, it absolutely is related to the recreation commission. But aside from that, I think you described earlier the reason why you took the hoops down, was because nobody stepped up to police what was going on there. That's what has me concerned, we can have a committee of people that is not part of the structure. You can have a personal committee, but your finance committee advises you about finance, has nothing to say about our city money or policing it, or touching it, or making decisions. It sounds to me like if this is going to be a policing committee,

Mayor Campana stated this is not like a policing, people walking around the flashlights, it's an informal body of people that up approached me, and I appreciate it, because it hasn't happened before, and they are going to give me their personal advice and they're going to engage with individuals, and maybe play basketball themselves. I think it's a good thing and the police department at the next meeting is going to tell counsel other going to be working with recreation commission, are there going to be working with this committee and how they're going to show a little bit more presence. Because we do not, nobody was any issues like we had before. We don't want that. This is where this whole plan, we want to discuss with counsel because there is an individual looking to make some investments there. I personally believe, I don't know why you're chuckling, but there are people that put their heart and soul into something and you

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give them an nice area, most people will take pride. If they see, and the goal is, if someone throws some trash down, and there's someone that is engaged there, they're going to say excuse me, would you please pick that trash up right now? This belongs everybody. That's one of the goals are, I think it's a good thing.

Mr. Allison stated and those are things we can talk about later. But just off the top of my head, admittedly, we got the press release, but not details, it was too late to make calls regarding that because we got questions about it. But the plan is to have the pickle ball court, and put the basketball court on the other side? Where the foursquare was?

Mayor Campana answered yes.

Mr. Allison said I don't think those are two sports that can cohabit such a close place because you have a different, different, age levels playing different types of activities and number one basketball by nature is a very aggressive moving sport involved and people go flying. If they are cohabitating like that, having played basketball and tennis, this is the kind of thing I would like to see a plan that we look at, is that really a good way for this to happen?

Mayor Campana answered my feeling is that this is why we have a recreation commission, and people that are willing to step up to the plate and can evaluate the situation. There are actually some individuals who want to put another court there. And someone asked me can we put 2 courts there, and I said let's put 1 court at a time. But I've already directed streets and parks to begin.

Dr. Williamson chuckled out loud

Mayor Campana said can you tell me why you're laughing? Do you think that is funny? I think you're very rude.

Dr. Williamson answered I found that funny.

Mr. Allison stated it is not the political part, it is a procedural part, and there are legitimate questions that some people have and they can't be asked, because it will be too late. Just like we couldn't address the hoops being taken down, because they were just taken down before anyone could discuss or organize or anything like that. I just don't want to see, I do want to see it succeed, it did cause a lot of turmoil in the community to have it taken out. It was a sore point in our going to do a positive mood that can affect people's lives possibly. But I want to see it done in the best way so we will succeed and I think there are some legitimate things to look at before the streets and parks jumps in and starts to do something.

Mayor Campana stated I have been working here for nearly 24 years, you talk about things, and they never get done, you study for years and years and they never get done. Sometimes you have a golden opportunity you have citizens that step up to the plate, and you turn it off. Like you are saying, we have a hard time getting volunteers, and I'm not going to talk about it tonight, but I do know that some people know why certain people quit on committees. There's too much negativity. And personally I think there's too much negativity in this world, and there's been a lot of negativity here, and I will take some responsibility. I think we need to be a little bit more positive, I don't know if this is the forum to have this discussion on Memorial Park right now. But if you want to call me tomorrow, I would gladly meet with any councilmembers, individually, or as a group, but anytime you want to continue this discussion it would be good.

Mr. Slaughter stated he thought there was a recreation commission meeting this Monday.

Mrs. Katz stated we asked the question tonight, only because of the press release, and people ask us questions. It is in the paper of course and people were calling and they want answers.

Mayor Campana stated I be glad to answer your questions anytime.

Dr. Williamson asked if there were any further comments.

Dr. Williamson asked if there were comments from the administration?

Dr. Williamson asked if there was comments from the general public.

Scott Miller 822 Tucker St. stated my first thing, I think the mayor has actually address some of my concerns, one of the things I would like to know how the city has the time and money for basketball courts, but not the money to fix the potholes. Secondly, explain to me, how all the elderly and disabled ladies don't get a 2 ½% raise, and all the people Williamsport do. I don't understand why disabled people Williamsport don't get a two and half percent raise in the people Williamsport do, and the elderly and disabled on their Social Security checks don't. I think what is good for the goose should be good for the gander. It's very unfair for the elderly and the disabled to get meager Social Security increases when from federal to local, everyone else gets more. I always point out some years ago Social Security recipients got 1.7 increase in the governor got a 2.2. Does it cost more to be wealthy? The next thing I want to bring up is the tax increases that we had, except for Pastor Henderson and Councilman slaughter all of you have served for two or more terms. Exactly when you take ownership for the city's budget in the state of the city? People always say take ownership, take ownership, take ownership, Dr. Williamson you have been here about 12 years now, when do you say the problems that the city is facing, Mrs. Katz said last year let's have a teeny teeny tax increase and not a big one, this year were going to have a large tax increase next year to 1.25. I have fed people asked me why are they doing that? Two words. Election year. How many of you all would get reelected if you raise people's taxes 1.25 this year? So you're just going to shove it until after the election. So please explain to me when all of you have been here for seven, eight, nine, 10, 11,12 years, when you going to take ownership for the problematic financial situation the city is in. I want to see some ownership the selection cycle. Have a great evening.

Adjournment

Dr. Williamson asked for a motion to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned upon motion by **Mr. Allison and seconded by Mr. Henderson.**

Motion was carried by a **unanimous at 8:48 PM** "ayes".

Submitted by:

Janice M. Frank, City Clerk