

Council President Adam Yoder brought the Williamsport City Council meeting to order on Thursday, March 3, 2022 at 7:00 PM at Trade & Transit Center II, 144 West Third St, Williamsport, PA.

Council members present:

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

Also, Present:

Derek Slaughter, Mayor,
Mr. Joe Gerardi remote
Mr. Joe Pawlak
August Memmi
Sam Aungst, Fire Chief,
Justin Snyder, Police Chief
Solicitor Norman Lubin
Janice Frank, City Clerk
Adam Winder, RVT
Scott Livermore, S&P
Sean, S&P

Approval of the Williamsport City Council minutes for 02/17/22 were approved upon a motion **Mr. Pulizzi and a second from Mr. Mackey All were in favor. The vote was 6 to 0. Ms. Miele was absent for this vote**

Limited Courtesy of the Floor

Ron Diemer, 940 Hollywood Circle, Williamsport

Once again, I am here as a board member representing the Williamsport Area Little League and as a City Resident, who's operating a business and is raising his children in the City. I recently came across an article published by the UN Convention on the Right of the Child "Recreation is essential to the health and well-being of children and promotes the development of creativity, imagination, self-confidence, self-efficacy, as well as physical, social, cognitive and emotional strength and skills". I think I can speak for every parent in this room, when I say that these are all areas where I want my children to grow and excel. As a representative of WALL, my main purpose tonight is to urge our City administration and Council to do what's necessary and approve ARPA funding to fix the water and Storm drainage issues that are soaking the eroding away the Brandon fields. Fix the dilapidated fences that are falling over and riddled with protruding sharp edges. And reestablish safe and playable fields for the kids of our community. Now I want to make it absolutely clear that WALL is not here asking the City to provides us with some monetary amount or grant to fix the fields: These are not our fields! WALL will surely maintain these fields if they are made playable however, these are city fields and we are here asking the city to utilize the opportunity to invest in our youth and get these fields back to a payable condition. Not just ask for organized little league to play but so they are safe for the neighborhood kids to met. Mr. Diemer went on to say how Wall will be chartering teams and utilizing the field and the league has spend over \$13 K to repair and enhance the field and this year spending another \$7 k to add some additional MLB grade soil, paint the dugouts, concession stands and pour concrete pads. He spoke about the percentages of crime going down when you provide youth sports and recreation to a community. WALL has increased their enrollment number and will provide a safe environment. The program will be adult supervised. These ARPA funds can help change the trajectory of our youth in our community and we owe it to them to do so.

Tiffany Diemer, 940 Hollywood Circle, Williamsport

Mrs. Diemer stated it's been a few years since she has spoken at a council meeting, but after listening to the last council meeting in which she heard some council members state that they do not want to fully fund recreation using federal ARPA funds, she was not hopeful. She spoke about the finances of the City and it has been the same for 6 years in a row, and we are in not better financial condition than we were before. In order to bring economic development dollars to the city, you are missing the key element – you need to bring people into the City. In addition, Most of your financial revenue stream that is part of fical budget is based on real estate and business taxes, both of which require people. Without these two key factors, your economic development plan, no matter what you hope to accomplish will amount to lost revenue because you are refusing to see the elephant in the room. Currently Lycoming County has seen a population decline, the City of Williamsport is not excluded from this exodus. The trend of baby boomers that are retiring and moving south and our tax base will grow smaller. So what draws people to a region? According to Matt Gutberlet, a local city resident he states that he grew up two houses from Ed's Market and could easily walk to Sheridan and Curtin. There were lots of friendly green spaces around Brandon, the Armory for ice skating, even Grampian Hills for exploration. Well, Sheridan is gone, the Armory is gone and Brandon has become useless to a child. He praised his parents for raising him here. When the city continue to talk economic development dollars, you need to think about what draws the people to a community – people who want to stay and live and raise their families. Recreation is a critical factor in economic development. In fact, according to researched base economic impact study conducted by Arizona State, for every dollar spent on parks and recreation, the community can expect to see 2.85 cent return on investment. There are some federal recreational studies that actually state the ROR of recreation can be high as 9-12 dollars for every dollar invested if you factor in juvenile crime reduction. Nothing what draws a person to a city and community, they are your economic development plan because I 10 years when your hopeful economic returns come to fruition, it may be too late. They will be the adults, we want to stay and raise their future families in this city but they will remember what this city provided to them as a child. This city has been given a Godsend with the ARPA funding, it is now time to invest in our children as a city and community;

Mark Haas, 714 Fifth Avenue, Williamsport

He stated one of the biggest issues we face is the cost of anything. He is addressing the brick streets, the maintain of the street, Rural Ave has not ever had an comprehensive maintenance. Fifth Ave was in great shape, until he gas company came, the gas lines were relocated and most most of your connections are now underneath the sidewalks and in between the curves .As far as paving the streets, High street was recently repaved with hopes to level the roads with the manholes. This worked for one year and the are like they were before repair. He spoke about water streaming across High St. The oldest house in Williamsport is located on Fifth Ave and the brick streets are part of the history. He quoted the ordinance and would like to see a discussion on brick Streets and repairing it. He said our return has been 50 years.

Jeff Reeder 56 Brandon Place

He expressed his concerns about the City putting in all the ARPA money to the Brandon Fields. He spoke about the drainage and he feels it has been the lack of volunteers to maintain them. He talked about Brandon combining with Newberry, he is not opposed to spending some money to improve fields but not that amount of money.

Council Is it prudent to spend that amount of money to rehab these fields when other items could and need to be addressed to draw people to the city of Williamsport, thank you.

Mike Fox, 254 Lincoln Avenue

Good evening. I come to you find to all caught ARPA funding to the baseball park fields. How do we get to the point as city where we care more about Little League status at Market Square than we care about actual children playing Little League in city limits. We hang our hats on being the home of Little League, but will we wear it on our sleeve? It's often asked at these meetings what other cities are doing, what they are doing is maintaining their parks and providing a place for their youth. We are the home of Little League and no one else can be that X it's time we prove that by investing in our fields and heritage and our youth. This city has been known to take pride in our rich history, whether the preservation of Millionaire Row, or maintaining the river walk, which showcases or river or the lumber room and dumps tense of thousand dollars in brick roads because they have history. The city will pump money in the historic field even though it has funding. I ask, have we been good stewards of our Little League history and ensuring we preserve that? Bringing the Little League back to Brandon would be a good want. Give the people what they want with their money. Investing in our youth and revitalizing a neighborhood and proving that you actually care about real children and in the just stat statues. Tonight, Council you have an opportunity to change this .I had the pleasure to meet most of you at the park or spoke with you on the phone for this project and I appreciate you taking the time out to listen to me and being part of this city property. Let's be clear today, we're not asking for money. However we are the monies fighting for our youth or community who can either come to this podium and hasn't and asks the city to fix their own property. Council, I ask and strongly recommend you vote today to allocate the Brandon park fields. A vote for our youth is a vote for the future and I thank you.

Mr. Yoder changed the order of the agenda.

Resolution # 9263

Resolution Amending the Use of ARPA Funds to Memorial Pool Fund to install an Upgraded Electrical Panel at Memorial Pool

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion and second on the resolution.

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

Mr. Livermore stated Council you have the amendment using the ARPA funds upgrade for electrical panel. Previous Council was to use the ARPA funds for the electrical upgrades but seeing how there was a 24 hour I had to get this ordered we decided to use the pool funds to purchase this electrical.

Mr. Yoder stated this was reviewed in Public Works.

Mrs. Katz We were taking this out of ARPA funds and then we figured that \$12,000 was better to take it out of the maintenance fees -- maintenance account we have for the pool. Other than this this is where we want to go at this point. and it's something that's really needed because this is a fire hazard. And it does have to be done immediately. And this was approved to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation.

Mr. Yoder asked for a vote on the resolution.

The resolution was carried with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0. All were favor.

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

Resolution #9264

Resolution Agreement Between the City of Williamsport & Penn College of Technology

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion and second on the resolution.

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

Mr. John Markley I'm here for the fourth time. This is resolution agreement between the off-campus project with the City of Williamsport with Penn College. We took it to Public Works to bring it back to Council.

Mrs. Katz this is remarkable what you do for Veteran's Park and there's nothing else to discuss.

Mr. Markley All these funds we raised for this park is by selling bricks and donation to the park. The only money from the city that goes in the park is when the city helps us mow the grass or take down a tree or whatever. But all the funds have been donation and selling to the bricks and thank you to everybody in the college for making this possible. In the last four years we've really grown. Thank you.

Mrs. Katz Penn College has been a terrific asset to so many things in our city at this point. And they've done a incredible job, I know you were thrilled with them.

Mr. Yoder asked for a vote.

The resolution was carried with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0. All were favor.

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

Ordinance #6427

An Ordinance Adopting American Rescue Plan (ARPA) Budget (final reading)

The City Clerk read the ordinance.

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion to adopt the ordinance.

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

Mr. Yoder . Here we are, second reading of the American Rescue Plan budget. First reading, we outlined -- and I'll give it a couple minutes here to let a few people leave. So we can minimize a little bit of background noise.: All right. So we have the American Rescue Plan budget in front of us. Before we really dive in, I know there's been a lot of discussion two weeks about potential changes and ideas about changing thing, which I'm very much looking forward to.I did have a couple questions, so first and foremost, a compliance questions. And this is for the Mayor or whoever in the administration is going to lead the charge on this one.So I'm personally a bit confused sitting here on the public safety expenditures. We have put this budget together with 3.8-ish million dollars in the overall category. If I read some communication earlier in the week correctly the communication I saw from I believe it was Delta, Mayor Slaughter, said that -- correct me, I could be wrong on which way.I read it as that category could not be directly funded. So any public safety expenditures had to come out of lost revenue rather than being directly funded.

Mayor Slaughter Can you offer clarity on that whole question, please? They are in compliance and eligible under the rescue plan money.

Mr. Yoder To be clear, we have police radios, body cameras, fire PPE, fire apparatus to the tune of about \$3.3 million allocated and that would not be out of last revenue. That's out of a public safety category. Each of those can be directly funded from the American Rescue Plan funding contrary to what Delta Development said.

Mayor: I don't think that's contrary. They were saying you can put it in lost revenue [technical issues]

Mr. Yoder So do you individually, Mayor Slaughter you are going to be administering and executing this, do you have a preference on these items whether they are under public safety or under lost revenue? Do off preference one way or the other?

Mayor: Not necessarily, if we want to go to lost revenue, again that's what most municipalities are doing. If we want to put it in lost revenue because we could do it up to 10 million-dollar. And our city auditors were here today and we are looking at them to do compliance, they are one that is already submitted. So having a brief conversation with them while they are doing our audits they said the same thing. That communities they are working with are doing the lost revenues again if we want to allocate it in the lost revenue that gives us a little bit more areas in which to spend it if we do public safety, obviously it's going to have to remain in public safety. If we go in lost revenue, basically any government service can qualify except for pensions and debt service.

Mayor stated I might lean slightly towards lost revenue.

Mr. Yoder : That cleared that up a little bit for me, I appreciate that, Mayor Slaughter. I'll open the floor to questions or comments or any potential changes that members of Council might have on this in second reading.

Mr. Allison For the public, I just wanted to read that paragraph the market was referencing about lost revenue in case people wonder what that's about. And this is from Teresa, our consultant from Delta Development. The final rule issued by the U.S. treasury allowed for broader flexibility and greater simplicity in administering the program. The final rule provided a standard allowance for revenue loss up to \$10 million, which can then be used to fund government services, which of course public safety is. Your expenditures for public safety and recreation would both fall into the government services category. For those in the public that were not totally familiar with this whole process but we're learning on the run. It does confirm what the Mayor said. So I guess I'm thinking through the process of we're allowed to put 10 million in, is that a one-time that you can fill that up? Or can you spend some of that and then refill it?

Mayor No, you can do up to \$10 million, up to 10 million.

Mr. Allison: So I guess I'm trying to think through if it would be better to do public safety out of that or not. Because if we need the 10 million in lost revenue for something that we don't foresee. I guess it's trying to predict the future, which you can't do.

Mr. Mackey Thank you, President Yoder. I guess to Councilman Allison's point, and again maybe we're talking semantics, but would it make sense to eliminate the future projects line item and move it all in lost revenue and have it all be lost revenue? That clears up any type of confusion as far as that's concerned. Lost revenue seems to be the magic line item is what I'm hearing. So that would just be a suggestion.: Just to clean things up a little bit.

Mr. Yoder The reason I'm asking this, I have no issue with anything we are proposing to spend the money on. I want to make sure we spend it right and make sure we are in compliance with the federal laws and local laws. And I don't want to do this the wrong way.

Mr. Allison So to clear up any issues with what future projects and reserved under the fiscal relief section is maybe we should move that on to lost revenue, I feel like that's all what we're looking at this as anyway, a future projects reserve.

Mr. Yoder: We can certainly do that. I don't know it's that line item it's in public safety and making sure that's in the right place. If anything we are potentially talking about moving the public safety and eliminating it and moving it to lost revenue. But again it's a technicality but we want to get it right is all.

Mr. Mackey That issue aside I made it clear I didn't think \$2 million of recreation was representative of what the citizens of Williamsport want to do with this money. I obviously still feel that way. Recreation is an arm of economic development. So I'm suggesting, and after a conversation with actually the Mayor and Skip, I don't think we need 2.3 million in the land bank, I think we can get away with 2 and be fine. So I suggest we move \$300,000 from that line item and 300,000 from future projects reserved. That's a total of 6 to the recreation budget and put that in future projects reserved. And that gets us to 3.5 million, which is still I don't think is representative of what it should be. But I think that's unfortunately as good as it's going to get..

Mr. Mackey I would like to take \$300,000 from land bank authority and \$300,000 from project futures under economic and take that \$600,000 and put it under future projects reserved under recreation and that gives the recreation budget to \$3.5 million.

Mr. Yoder: Are you making that motion?

Mr. Pulizzi seconded it.

Mr. Yoder Mayor Slaughter, two weeks ago when Councilman Mackey had that ask we asked you to come to us to where you want to see the future reserve money go to in other projects, what did you come up with?: We are proposing to move \$600,000 into future projects reserve. I would like to and I think other members of Council would like to understand what other projects specifically in recreation are you looking at? And where would you propose to spend this additional funding?

Mayor: Give me one second.

Mr. Mackey While you're getting your computer fired up, Mayor, I would like to point out that's what future reserves project is it's the unknown. I see \$5.8 million in fiscal relief. Right now \$5.8 million in economic development. And I have yet to hear one concrete idea for any of that money. So the idea that we'll have the Mayor come up here and try and list out everything he wants to do with recreation money seems a bit unfair. So I mean a putting that out there.

Mayor : I do have some here. So a few things we have spoken about during our previous four or five rescue plan meetings, bathrooms in the parks was an item we talked about. Elm Park asked for up to potentially \$50,000 for increases there. We talked about splash park at other locations as well. We explored Newberry, I know other Council members asked for other locations throughout the city, maybe one or more. And we are still exploring the bike park and looking at grant opportunities for that. Obviously the Brandon Park baseball field with the drainage issues there. And we talked about other improvements for the park for tennis court and courts and track and soccer and football field and other improvements to the existing green space and possibly the bathroom as well in Shaw Park. We were discussing Young's Woods with upgrades with the baseball fields there. And basketball court pavilion. And with Little League we were potentially asking for \$25,000 for upgrades for originals I believe around their concession stand and other infrastructure there. As Councilman Mackey said there's plenty of operational upgrades we can do. This is not an all-encompassing list. But those are some things we have discussed in other American Rescue Plan meetings

Mr. Yoder : Thank you, Mayor Slaughter, I appreciate the refresher. Can you also into ebbing to some background on why the administration doesn't think we need as much in the land bank authority? And I'm asking for educational purposes. I'm not trying to advocate for one way or the other here.

Mayor : Sure, even \$2 million in the land bank when you look at some properties we'll acquire, if we acquire them, generally speaking, are much, much lower cost to acquire and even rehab. So \$2 million is still a significant amount to

get us started. And I think that's plenty with regards to land bank. If it's under water, for example, 10,000, 20,000. 2 million-dollar gives you plenty. If you dump another 40,000 into it to rehab it or whatever the case might be, we still have plenty of money in there. \$2 million for the land bank slash the [off microphone] authority is still a significant amount. And we have the is plenty money speaking with Skip and Chelsea to get the land development going. I think it's a good chunk of money.

Mr. Yoder: The land bank is one thing. The redevelopment authority is, well, we have different two line items in there. We are taking 300,000 from land bank we have a separate allocation for redevelopment. And again, I think I have been at least and I think everyone's been thinking of them as two separate purposes because they do two separate things, correct? I would ask also is \$2.7 million enough for the redevelopment authority? Because we've asked the city to go after commercial run properties and the redevelopment authority has not had teeth for a while, teeth meaning money. And from conversations at least within our codes office they were of the impression there was a significant investment that needed to be made for them to really go after and tackle and practice blight remediation to the city to the tune of 2 to 3 to res den. If we are expanding to commercial also I think we might need that also. So there any feedback on that logic versus what we have budgeted in there as well?

Mayor So the land bank powers we are granted to RDA and it's the same board but they have two different functions. So the RDA will serve as the land bank. As far as acquiring properties and the RDA rehabbing properties whatever the case might be, 2 to \$3 million is significant you won't be acquiring, at least not initially multiple properties at once. If I have a commercial property that's blighted and going through the review board and the legal system we have to go there and it goes through the RDA for acquisition. It's in a blighted state it's probably the fair market value will be decreased likely. And I don't see it definitely at first purchasing a property that's going to cost 500,000 or 1 merchandise. If even if we are focused on the commercial or industrial properties that have some issues, I still thing, again, \$2 million to \$3 million is significant. And then this is going to be recurring funds because once we do rehab it or fix it up, most likely obviously we -- the RDA will sell it and we'll get those funds returned back into the account. So it will be a revolving fund in a sense where the RDA now should after this initial allotment have money that's revolving and be able to acquire properties and rehab them or raise them, get them into the hands of a developer or owner occupied and continue to replenish that money to acquire other properties and obviously address the blight throughout the City. So I think it's still plenty of money, \$2 million to \$3 million and we won't expend it, I don't think RDA has the thought process to expend 2 to 3 million during that one acquisition. And furthermore with the land bank once we acquire property, one of the, again a big piece of the land bank is that the land bank authority, AKA, the city can capture for the first 50 years 100% of the multiple task and school district tax and county tax. And those are agreements we are working through right now with the RDA land bank and the school district and the county.

Mr. Yoder Thank you, are there any other questions or comments from anybody on this proposed amendment?
Miss Miele.

Ms. Miele Only I feel it might be prudent for us to deal with the \$470,000 shortfall allocation from the government and what we are allocating in the ARPA budget before we address movement of funds from the budget from one side to the other. On a side note in recreation, I would still like to see bike lanes a priority for whatever we fund in recreation. But I think the short fall needs to be addressed and then pivot to think thinking it's a little too quickly and/or fiscal relief in part because of spire public safety budget I think is more now slightly over \$4 million if we approve the body worn camera and fund the PPE from if fire safety budget. And we have more than 6 allocated for miscall at least meaning even if we were to try and combine the two budgets and draw all the public safety and fiscal relief there's not too much in there. Sorry, just putting that out there. I guess those are larger concerns for me, I don't have any beef with taking a vote to move funding to recreation, but if we're talking about moving \$600,000 and we have a \$470,000 shortfall we need to address that first. For clarity of sake there was an error in the original spreadsheet. We over allocated. So we have \$470,000 we have to find before we start moving money between different funds. And thank you to Mr. Pavlok for pointing that out or we have continued spending money we didn't have. But anyway, I don't actually I'm not coming to the table with necessarily a suggestion of where we should be taking that funding from. But I do want to point out the discrepancy in the discussion one that we need to heal that financial error And two, if we are proposing to make all the public safety items come from fiscal relief, then we have too much public safety understood spending or too much fiscal spending so I don't know what the thoughts are. But I would prefer to see us -- it seems taking the full 10 million is FBI. Mayor, Slaughter, we are of the opinion we can spend public safety funding outside of fiscal relief according to Delta but they say we will be better off to spend it under the category of fiscal relief.

Mayor : I'm not sure better off but there's not as many strings attached if you put it back into the fiscal relief, the lost revenue.

Ms. Miele E: So it seems prudent for us to avoid authorizing any further spending under public safety until we have a consultant who can say it fits within the safety realm.

Mayor No, it does fit within there.

Ms. Miele I guess I'm confused about the springs attached thing.

Mayor Outside of public safety any local government service, including public safety or other areas where we want to spend it, where if you don't -- if you put it in lost revenue that opens up where you can spend it basically on anything, except for --Ms. Miele said Debt service [overlapping speakers] Mayor continued If you put it back into lost revenue, general fund, right you can keep that. If you put it in the rescue plan money you pay from rescue plan and the street paving is not in there. I'm not talking public safety but in general.

Ms. Miele My understanding from what you are telling me is there's things we would take from ARPA plan funding to spend on public safety that might not be eligible expenses, but with making fiscal relief spending and spent on public safety it would be considered a eligible expense.

Mayor I think with public safety for the new rule everything that we are looking to do is eligible. I don't think there's anything we are looking to do as far as body cameras, fire apparatus, that's square in the final rule. I don't think as far as the public safety we're looking at. That makes a difference whether lost revenue or direct spending the body cameras and radio and fire apparatus and PPE are eligible under public safety.

Ms. Miele : And we are guaranteed that from the existing consultants and then we'll double check that when we have a consultant to oversee the ARPA spending. In that case it would be my suggestion it would it would not be prudent to roll that into fiscal relief because we lose the ability to use this money for perhaps less eligible expenses. it is my suggestion if there's anything extra in public safety, which I believe there is not at this point, I think we've eaten basically all of the future projects reserved budget with the overage on police body cameras and the overage on fire PPE or almost everything. So I think basically the public safety budget is spent with the exception -- I don't think it's [off microphone] It is we have an additional 238 on police and body cameras and an additional 230, so we have an additional like 200,000 contingency, 200 and some. Which might be the place that we should pull some of that 470. But sorry to pull the discussion from rec, but I think we should work on that today so we have a balanced budget. If we assume -- we could pull some of that from Public Works.

Mr. Yoder : If I understand you right, we need to move \$200,000 under future project reserves to police body camera.

Ms. Miele : That camera total was 482.

Mr. Yoder : We need to move 238.

Ms. Miele How much was the total police body camera? [off microphone] I lie, ignore me, I couldn't remember the numbers. We need to move another 148,000 to that one. And the fire chief told us it was 131. The chief Aungst on Tuesday for PPE. I don't think the chief is here. The total amount for the PPE, was it 131 or 170 something.: At least, it's more than 100 if we fund it from ARPA.I was thinking it was 50.

Mr. Yoder We need 150,000. And that leaves us with 200. So we have \$300,000 left in public safety after those changes. So I would say we take that to put towards addressing the shortfall, number 1 and then we have to find another \$170,000. So we have 250k from public safety to take. So we need to find another the 220.think we discussed the idea of putting the future project reserve under fiscal relief to make them more accessible , which would be fine by me.?

Ms. Miele The question I have in regards to that is \$730,000 allocated for the water authority, what is that specifically going to be used for? You talked about upgrades to lines and things but if you could elaborated before we take money.

Mr. Yoder To address the support fall in the budget we were doing going to take 220k from 20k and that would be the 470 we were short. And I'll discuss the changes that we discussed from Mr. Mackey on the table. We need to move 150k to police body cams from future project reserved, \$100,000 to fire PPE for future projects reserved.And the actual motioning on the table right now pulling \$300,000 from the land bank is the project reserve and remind me again, Mr. Mackey, which future reserves category were your taking that from?

Mr. Mackey : That was coming from -- thank you, no, that was 300,000 from the land bank and 300,000 from future land reserve. Economic development. Both under economic development. So far. I think for clarity sake, some people might be upset I think once we actually get a final idea where we are moving these funds to, I think it would be pertinent to review what funds are put where.

Mr. Yoder asked for a vote.

The amendment was carried with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0. All were favor.

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

Mr. Yoder explained that We discussed a couple other changes here. I'll try and do that here quick. **So I'll make a motion to amend to move \$150,000 of the public safety budget from future projects reserved to police body cameras and another \$100,000 from future project reserves to fire PPE.**

Mr. Pulizzi seconded it

The amendment was carried with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0. All were favor.

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

Mr. Yoder I'll make another motion. I'll make a motion to take -- one second here. Make sure my notes are right. I'll make a motion to take \$150,000 from future projects reserved and the \$150,000 of public safety contingency. And eliminate those.

Mr. Mackey seconded it.

The amendment was carried with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0. All were favor.

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

Mr. Yoder And then I would also propose to reduce fiscal relief future projects reserved by \$220,000 and to take the remaining in that category and put it directly into lost revenue.

Ms. Miele seconded it.

The amendment was carried with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0. All were favor.

Mr. Allison voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mr. Beiter voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes and Mr. Yoder voted yes. There is one thing additionally in here that I would like to call

attention to. So the Public Works category. So the solution that I believe Mr. Sanders has been working on the number range that we have is \$3 million to \$5 million. I think in our conversations we all expressed our interest to fund that at least to the tune of \$3 million. And we currently have \$2.3 million in here. And so I think if we want to do that we got to put more money in that line item. We have a couple options in that category with the future project reserved with a contingency. But I want to throw that out and see if there's discussion on the Council,

Mrs. Miele I agree. I think the solution will drop a handful of money. So if we have an option to obtain some of that money and about acquisitions and things I might suggest certainly that amount of funding allows us to begin the process of outline the solution and I don't necessarily know -- I'll defer to other people who might feel more strongly about this than I do. And I think this amount of money will allow us to get this started and if this doesn't achieve funding from other sources we can utilize that funding from the other source.

Mrs. Katz We are on the forefront with this finally that it looks like we are going to get a lot more funding for this. So I think we stay where we are.

Mr. Yoder The only thing I would throw out is just the question of would we rather have it in there and not use it then need it down the road and not have it if we come up with other projects or what have you?

Ms. Miele The only thing I would throw out there is if we had that much funding allocated to toward the cost and we were looking for grants elsewhere that might impede that.

Mr. Yoder : Good point. Mayor Slaughter, I know two weeks ago we talked about some discussions with a county, poem. And I know you were going to reach out to the county. Is there feedback you got from the county related to any projects or anything we discussed two weeks ago?

Mayor Not specifically. Just reiterated we were looking for Graphius run and asked them to consider that's we would like to see [off microphone] and they are still considering and they'll be back in touch with me.

Mr. Yoder: I know I had lunch with them last week or at least with commissioners Erin and Mesker and they were interested to work with us. I know we get past second reading they are interested to sit down with us. So I think you and me and maybe a member of the finance and maybe two members of finance or maybe one of each Public Works in finance would make sense to sit down and have those discussions. Certainly.

Mr. Allison I would like to say good job. That's not been an easy process. I understand now why when you win the lottery you don't tell someone anyone about it. But this is a once in a lifetime thing here. And I didn't think it would be easy and I don't think we ever had thoughts this would be easy. And I know that we all probably disagreed on something at one point or another. But I would just like to thank everybody on Council for keeping an open mind, listening, and really doing this. And I think in an extremely public way and a really professional way. So yeah, I'm proud to be part of this and I think everybody should be up here as well with the administration.

Mr. Yoder : I'll second that. And this is a long process and I think bumpy. And I think any time seven people need a process it will be this way. But to your point, Jon, it would probably look different if it was up to each individual one of us in its own way, 100% it would. And but it reflecting comprise and I'm really happy to be part of this as well.And I think we heard from a lot of people throughout this entire process. We heard from a lot of people tonight. We heard from people beforehand. And listening to those people, at least from my individual perspective, it's certainly changed my perspective on a couple different things. And it helped me I think learn we definitely all have different paths how we get to the end goal but we all have the same end goal in mind. And maybe this is the faster way to go or the slower

way to go and we are at least going there and that's great. So I thank everybody involved publicly from the public administration Council, I would agree with that, Jon.

Mr. Allison I think we are all really pleased we've been able to do some immediate things in public safety. Needs that have accumulated over the years and public safety is not static dynamics of our police and fire providing the services that they do have changed dramatically over the last 5-10 years. And this kind of gives us a boost to help us meet those needs. And I thank the police and fire departments for being diligent and bringing forth concise and matter of fact items for us to address.

Mr. Yoder : Thank you Mr. Allison. Seeing and hearing no others.

The Ordinance was carried in final reading with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0. All were favor. Mr. Allison voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mr. Beiter voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes and Mr. Yoder voted yes.

.(tabled)

Resolution Authorizing the Partnership Between the City & RecDesk for Purchasing Softwear for Recreation

This item is to remain tabled because no information was available from Ms. Drummond.

Ordinance #6428

An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Williamsport Regarding Formation of a New Transportation Authority (final reading)

The City Clerk read the ordinance.

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion to adopt the ordinance.

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

Mr. Winder This is an ordinance and second reading to the start of the formation of the authority. The only thing I can tell you is since this is in the news and in the newspaper, different people in different counties have reached out to see what this will mean for them as far as transportation in a positive way, whether hospitals or businesses, but they all feel very positive it will help their communities so we look forward to moving forward..

Mr. Yoder : Certainly, thank you Mr. Winder. That's great to hear as we discussed two weeks ago this is something pretty monumental that we haven't done in a long time and it will impact the region in a positive way. I would invite all of them to a transport oversight meeting if they would like to offer feedback and if they have insights into the process. I think that would be a great thing actually. So you are welcome, Mr. Winder, so invite them to an upcoming one if they want to attend. I can give a quick update on the discussion we had on Tuesday related to this in transit oversight. Two weeks ago we outlined a process of a handful of things we need to get more detail on. The first part of that was figuring out and identifying the interconnections between RVT and the city and the shared services and the plan to cut those so each party is in success when this transition takes place. We made really good progress in doing that. I think there's a few loose ends out there identified through that process, which is great. And I know the administration and Mr. Winder we are working through that as well, which is great. The other part of the conversation was really in two weeks, starting to dive into more of the specifics of governance. And what that looks like. There are different options we can explore for who appoints board members, how they are appointed and starting to have the discussion on what makes the most sense for the authority, currently as it sits it's the city singularly appointing board members. Mayor brings forward, Council approves. We need to make sure that makes sense or if we need to bring in other entities of the region. Adequately makes most sense. And that's the next steps there and this will be an ongoing process, certainly. Part of that will be likely changing what this looks will like as we go through this process. Formally amending the articles of incorporation as we discussed .again this really gets the process going so we can get the EIN number going and start the administrative part of forming this. I'll open the floor to comments or questions to other members on this. We'll see this again as the year progresses as we identify more details and what have you but this gets this process moving in a good way.

Mr. Allison Thank you, To put this in a certain perspective, this is a big transition. Obviously. But we're not the first municipality to go through this in the state. Quite the opposite, we are the last one that will make this transition. So -- we're not reinventing the many wheels on the bus. We are just moving that bus ahead down the road that probably should have been done a while ago. For those who weren't around as long as I've been around. When I was young, the bus system in Williamsport served a really important purposes. Contrary to today, most house didn't have two or three vehicles. Most working families had one vehicle. So when the breadwinner, whoever that would be, took off for the car for the day, if others wanted to get around they took the bus. And I an remember a lot of times when my mother took myself and my sister came along, we rode the bus to go downtown or different places we needed to go. Of course things changed a lot over the years. My son who had two grandkids one is in their teens and one is not. But when they were younger he would say come on, boys, we are going to ride the City bus they had hop on the bus and it was a big treat for my grandkids. It was an adventure. There's a lot of ways mass transit effects people. And today it's a big system. It meets a vast demographic, vast a array of demographics and provides a needs for service. I know we are going to make this transition, we are ready for that. And it will enhance what's been an important and useful service to the city in the area over the years.

Mr. Yoder asked for a vote on the Ordinance.

The ordinance was carried in final reading with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0. All were favor. Mr. Allison voted yes, Mr. Mackey voted yes, Mr. Pulizzi voted yes, Mr. Beiter voted yes, Ms. Miele voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes and Mr. Yoder voted yes.

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Resolution #9265

Resolution Awarding the Purchase of Splash Pad Projects Purchase to Vortex, USA, Inc.

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion and second on the resolution.

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

Mr. Sander The splash pad. What this is this is a purchase order to costars to purchase the vortex splash pad projects. You've seen this image, I assume before. If we were to pass this all these elements on here would be purchased. Also the filtration system and their products and support and the whole package with the exception of construction. So myself, vortex and our solicitors worked with vortex had discussions with them. Previously, the whole project was bundled into one. so due to PA and city bidding requirements we have to bid it out ourselves. So I was three or four interested contractors, vortex-certified contractors interested in this project. By accepting this tonight we get the product shipped to us. In a month I take the plan and stamped by PE and put it out toed by. And get the necessary approvals from the city for permitting. Construction permits and also the necessary approvals for the Department of Health, the officer in the city. And we package that out and put it to bid. That's the process in a nutshell.

We had some questions and they were addressed Tuesday in finance. I think Randy had a couple questions, if I'm not mistaken.

Mr. Allison So operate this splash pad, you have to be a certified -- you have to have a pool certification, I guess I guess that's approximately \$200 to \$400.

Mr. Sander I think Kayla has one. I believe she is. But in the event we need more folks talking \$200 to \$400 to be a certified pool installer to hand it will chlorine and I can't remember the other chemicals at the top of my head. The products will last approximately 20 years according to information the gentleman from vortex sent us. And also questions were asked in regards to -- so when vortex will come and train. And again, he wanted everyone to see how to use the system. I think Randy asked if we go over the allotted hours, 8-10 hours will we be charged for the quote? And the gentleman at vortex said that wouldn't happen. And a question was asked about loading and unloading materials when they get here. And we are required to unload and store the materials. And also there was a question asked how many users can utilize the splash pad. The square footage we have, which is around 3100 square foot, approximately 124 people can utilize the splash pad at any given time. Turns on and off automatically at night. Turns off at night. And comes on during the day. Two buttons control it on the image you can see they are turned on and off. If the button is not pressed in four or five minutes it turns off. The filtration is automatic. To the 206,000 for the products we will likely require approximately 50,000 for water line hook ups, freshwater and [inaudible] water and 10 grand for electrical. Questions?

Mr. Yoder This was reviewed in finance. Miss Miele.

Ms. Miele : It was reviewed in finance and forwarded with no recommendation due to the fact we had two of us in finance on Tuesday. And Councilman Allison and I fell on different sides on the issue in terms of approving this item. I have been an advocate for -- our discussion I think Mr. Sander pretty well discussed the elements of the discussion because most related to the questions about implementation questions about potential additional costs through vortex. Mr. Sander mentioned it's possible that having to bid out the construction and splash pad separately from the equipment for the splash pad might save us a little bit of money. Of course we don't know that out we put out a RFP and that's to a certain extent conjecture. And we had some discussion about the [off microphone] we should consider if we are putting in a splash pad especially in the scope of Shah Park. Miss Katz suggested benches. I said Shade tree would be paramount to provide shade for parents watching that are kids utilize the Splash park. The capacity of the splash park, I suggested the city staff the splash park when we open it because I believe the number of users who want to use it will outnumber that 124 it has capacity for. And it's in our best interest to protect the asset by keeping an eye on it for a couple months after we open it. On the same lines Miss Katz thought of putting a camera in Shaw Park that encompassed the splash pad. I believe the equipment is rated for 20 years according to Miss Katz and Mr. Allison. The actual items we are purchasing with this \$296,000 should be good for 20 years from date of purchase, but the warranty is for less time than that. But they should be good for that length of time. And the no recommendation came from committee that Mr. Allison and I disagreed on that. I think a difference of opinion on whether or not this is a wise amount to spend on a single splash pad. I wanted us to see us put in several smaller splash pads with perhaps the total expenditure coming to 600,000 or \$700,000 we are planning to spend on one. And while it will appear to be a glorious splash pad and while I want us to see a splash pad I want us to reconsider the size so we can perhaps augment more neighborhoods with some sort of water or water amenity. And, you know, just cover the City a little better than one splash pad and one park. I think part of my concern there is the somewhat the cost benefit ratio. It's an awful lot of money and at some point we have to maintain. And will we have the ability to maintain it is always my concern. And Mr. Sander did say the surface is poured concrete, which of course should hold up pretty welcome paired to other surfaces in the city. And all in all, the splash pad should be well-built and long lasting. I will defer to I guess Miss Katz and Mr. Allison were at the meeting on Tuesday. And Miss Katz of course is in the Public Works so I'm sure you both have comments.

Mrs. Katz Did you hear whether they are certified. And Mr. Sanders answered She is, it's a two-decors the gentleman told me from vortex. Mrs. Katz continued We need at least one especially for the pool. So I think what Miss Miele was talking about with her thoughts going in other parks, I think maybe you were thinking of bubble up things.

Ms. Miele stated Something smaller, more along the lines of a water fountain.

Mrs. Katz Exactly. And this came through this is going to be a showcase. And that's why we want to make sure this is going to be protected. As you said, these are done -- these are done in so many other -- I have parks I forgot how many you said.

Mr. Sander This gentleman on their website they have done -- I think it was 7,000 a couple weeks ago but 3,000 in U.S.

Mrs. Katz And you said you talked to them about vandalism and they haven't really encountered that.

Mr. Sander I didn't really speak on that. I specifically choose parts that are high metal to deter vandalism.

Mrs. Katz : I want to clarify for the public. : And we wanted to see and the Mayor stated we are getting benches from Penn College so we can put benches around there. As Miss Miele said, trees. And there is lighting there. And then to look for street lights, not lighting. It's not going to be open at night, anyhow. So we really don't need lights there and the camera when this is getting done. So we'll have to work I think most cameras are in parks at this point. So we have to take something from another park at this point. If I remember correctly, and I don't know, chief, if you can answer this question. If we wanted to do something in Shaw Park with a camera is that set up? I don't know if it is. There isn't at all. And I think if I remember correctly and this goes back several years, Randy, isn't there a problem where some areas it takes a lot to put a camera up? >> BONNIE KATZ: Would you check and see in I sneaked in on finance with this because I want to see where this is going to go. And I think we should have a camera somewhere in that vicinity so we can make sure that asset is protected. And other than that, that's it.

Mr. Pulizzi Miss Miele's point she recommended plants trees around the splash pad. I agree that trees are nice. Is interest there a proximity limitation for planting vegetation so close. The root systems.>> I don't know that but it would be a poor decision because of leaves clogging the drain.>> I was thinking of leaves and roots disrupting underground piping.>> There's a slew of piping. So planting trees near to this would be in my opinion poor decision. Okay. Just want to make sure that we are considering that. And then real quick. Jon, initially what was this entire cost proposed cost of the splash pad?

Mr. Sander What is now purchase the product for 206,867. Previously we had it in a proposal from vortex that included construction. But not bid out. They could pick their contractor. We cannot do that.

There was discussion that it could possibly come in less

Mr. Sander stated he was going to bid out the rest, but it will be more work for him.

Ms. Miele I'm not certain, are those cameras that with I have we have in the parks still functional? The camera system -- okay, I was going to say, I think we're looking at something totally different if we're talking about cameras. Nothing lasts forever, especially not in cameras

.And Mr. Pulizzi, I was suggesting I mean, when I'm picturing trees I'm thinking 40 or 50 feet away from the splash pad but something to provide a canopy and nothing to disrupt your pipes and of course leaves are there but that's a natural

side effect. But just want to point out I'm not exactly sure what we think of for a camera system in a park setting. Well, I think cameras have

Mr. Yoder : Two questions on my end. First and foremost, we are going to run into this with the next one. Are we under any kind of requirements to RFP the equipment? If not, why?

Mr. Sander answered Because it's already publicly bid on costar. That's the purpose of the costar system. [off microphone] takes care of bidding ahead of time.

Mr. Yoder asked: Is there already water at the park?

Mr. Sander answered There's water there. This was -- my \$40,000 estimate is worse case scenario from Sherman Street to the pad itself. It could come in less.

Mr. Yoder : Is worst case scenario is we tap from the main from Sherman Street and run new. And that's what you are planning on?

Mr. Sander answered correct.

Mr. Allison Back to cameras for a second. The original positioning of the cameras was limited to everything west of Market Street because we didn't have sufficient transmission ability to go into the east end. So I don't know if that's still the case. It's something we would have to --

Mr. Sander >> I can speak to that briefly with the ones we are looking at now that chief Snyder is discussing with the DA are cellular, so we won't run into the same issue. We are cellular cameras, we are exploring that and it's not a done deal but the cheer is on that.>> And we also have a lot of time, if this passes essentially we make the products and they ship them to us and they build this Fall and it would set us up for spring-summer opening what have you. So it will be [off microphone]

Mrs. Katz It's okay to be shipped to parks for storage?

Mr. Livermore I don't see why not.

Mrs. Katz Yes, we always use streets and parks for storage.

Ms. Miele There's no reason why we wouldn't want to move forward with bidding process for installation on the off chance it came in dramatically over what we were expecting. There's no reason we won't want to move forward on the installation process for in the event it goes over. We don't know in a bidding process what the bid will come in. and it's possible a bundled package from vortex could turn out to be cheaper than the unbundled package of purchasing the equipment and paying for install.

Mr. Sander Vortex has several contractors they would like to utilize. Several gave numbers or that's all I can say. I'll put it out to bid. I'm going to guess it's going to come in lower.

Ms. Miele I think that's certainly a possibility too. The only thing I'm asking is, would it be wiser for us to move ahead with the bidding process for installation before we purchase the equipment?

Mr. Sander No, I think that's a poor decision to bid the project without the products.

Mr. Yoder : It happens all the time. I've done it in my experience where you bid out what you need to bid out so you can get people under contract and purchase it to make sure you come in at or under budget. What she's saying is it doesn't make sense to reverse what we do to make sure we come in at or under budget as opposed to having \$200,000 over equipment and we come in over budget and we are stuck. Because maybe we are the point of we are having to Miss Miele's question, having multiple smaller splash pads is as effective and more coast effective and we can do more for other areas of recreation is what she's getting at.

Ms. Miele I have my own personal perspective at this but I'm looking out for the final financial element, which is yes we believe we'll come in under \$300,000 for construction by bidding it separately. If we don't, and we acquired 200 some thousand dollars of equipment and it's going to require an additional \$100,000 to construct the splash pad over what we thought we would have a for more difficult decision to spend more money on the splash pad. That's why I'm suggesting we should try and fix all the numbers before we invest in any of it.

Mr. Sander I'm not sure if they'll -- so the line items on this purchase order is stamped plans. So I need PE stamped plans. I can't do it. I'm not --

Mr. Yoder Let me ask this question. If we approve this, can we get the plans, bid out, based off the plan and once we are we have the equipment make sure we are under budget : Rather than buying the equipment up front. Can we delay buying the equipment.? Can we get the project engineered first, bid out what we need to bid out. And when we understand and confirm we are at our under budget than purchase the equipment and still come in on target, is that a feasible.

Mr. Sander I can't bid out a set of plans that's not sealed it's part of the package.

Mr. Yoder I understand that. So can we separately under this purchase the engineering portion of it? And the material?

Mr. Sander don't know. I don't know. Don't know. The Mayor put out the questionnaire and saying we're getting \$26 million in money for recreation and public safety were neck and neck as number one and two, so this is about a \$500,000 project. So 2% of the total 26 million is going to go towards a awesome Splash Pad that apparently everyone loves. But according to information the Mayor sent out on the government Facebook page.

Mr. Yoder: Jon, I don't think anybody is questioning the value of the splash pads. So I'll reference a couple of individuals when they spoke earlier to the value of recreation. If we come in under budget we could do more in that category. That's what we are trying to accomplish. I understand. And I live on East End. I heard mixed on this project specifically. But I had people tell me it's a great idea, do it. I'm all for it. I think we want to make sure we can make sure we are coming in at or under budget. And if we have extra money we can put it into other areas of parks. I think that's all we are trying to figure out if we can accomplish that.

Mayor If it passes tonight we can call them tomorrow and see if we can separate that out. To see if we can get the engineered stamped plans and bid out and purchase the equipment after that. So we can check with them, we don't have that answer right now, we didn't ask that previously. But if this passes tonight and say, hey, this passed but the way Council preferred it is to get the engineered stamped plans and bid out and purchase the equipment after that. So I don't see why we couldn't. I think we could and then we can go from there. So that would be what we can do -- we can do that, yeah.

Mr. Sander The only issue there are leads times. So this is running by chance, lead times are about a month for embed materials, two months for the products and two and a half months for the filtration system. So I don't know. Ms. Miele Can I jump in and ask a quick question. You said you have a couple people lined town submit RFP?

Mr. Sander No, I would put out the project and they would bid on it, it's just bidding on construction.

Ms. Miele How long do you think the bidding would take?

Mr. Sander New license in PA. So probably a month. >> To the Mayor's point if we pass this now and try to follow through with what the Mayor said we are doing and put this behind a month to hold off on the expenditures until we get the bids back. So we are only looking back potentially of being set back at most a month.

Mr. Yoder : Jon, how long will it take to produce the engineering documents?

Mr. Yoder : Let's say it takes us two months. That's May. And the bid is another month. That's June. You said the lead time on the equipment is 4-6 weeks?

Mr. Sander 3-4 weeks for embedded elements of the Splash Pad and up to 6 weeks for play products. Are we

getting play products?

Ms. Miele I think the issue is the filtration system is two months lead time.

Mr. Sander > And 10 weeks for the water recirculation equipment.

Mr. Yoder If I understand as well they recommended the constructing doing all the project in the fall-wintertime, correct? So we would start in the earliest what? September? So six months. Based on those rough time frames we should be able if they are able to do that, we can engineer it and bid it out and order the equipment and not prolong roughly when we want to start construction anyway.

Mr. Sander If they are okay with that that seep seems like a feasible solution if everyone wants to do that. I wanted a rough timeline. I missed the beginning of the engineered plans. It should be quicker than that, more like three weeks.

Mr. Mackey You were using it in a different context but we do have \$200,000 in contingency in the recreation budget. That's what contingency is for. And I get it, let's see if we can save money and put it somewhere else. But we have \$200,000 for contingency, which in my mind would be the construction came in a little over than what we thought.

Mr. Yoder: That's certainly a valid fact as well. Other comments or questions? Miss Miele.

Ms. Miele Do we want to call that out to correct it to get the stamp plans, get the RFP before moving forward with production of the equipment? In the resolution itself?

Mr. Yoder : You're welcome to make that motion to amend.

Ms. Miele: That's true. I guess the question is, does it matter?

Mr. Sander It Matters to me, it makes it incredibly more difficult.

Ms. Miele inaudible

Mr. Sander stated I can assure you that'll that's what we'll do whether you meant it or not that's what we'll do. So we'll make sure it's done.

Ms. Miele Then we can move forward with it and see.

Mr. Yoder asked for questions or comments and then a vote.

The resolution was carried with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 1. All were favor.

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

Resolution Awarding Brandon Park Ballfield Design Services to Larson Design Group

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion and second on the resolution.

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

Mr. Sander Good evening. So this is to upgrade the Ballfields at Brandon Park.. I only approached one design firm. We were looking to utilize ARPA funding to pay the design firm. Per information we found out late last night and this morning we have to solicit for services to design this. So this will likely have to be tabled. And as of right now, as of 11:30 this morning I have a solicitation for proposals to design the Ballfield that runs to March 14th.

Mr. Yoder : Thank you, Mr. Sanders this was reviewed in finance as well.

Ms. Miele This was reviewed in finance but I think any recommendation to table is going to preempt any thing we discussed in finance.

Mr. Yoder : So it's the administration's recommendation to table this until the [off microphone] is going to approve. I think it should be tabled. Is there a motion to table?

Ms. Miele make the motion to table the resolution and Mrs. Katz seconded the motion.

The resolution was tabled with seven roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0. All were favor.

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

Resolution #9266

Resolution Authorizing Purchase of WatchGuard Body-Work Cameras & In-Car Video Systems with Related Equipment from Motorola Solutions Through Keystone Communications

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion and second on the resolution.

Chief Snyder I bring before you a resolution authorizing the purchase of 48 watch guard body worn cameras and 40 video in-car systems and communication through keystone communication service at PA at a cost of 348,293.80. This amount is to be allocated from the American Rescue Plan Act funds. The breakdown of the cost for how the quote was provided to us. 34 body worn cameras at a cost of \$140,760. And 14 in-car cameras integrated with additional 14 additional body worn cameras of a cost of 172,200 and related equipment for software installation that would be a cost of 343,333 I said a total of 347,293.80. I provided you the quote with a itemized list of the cost and breakdown of the cameras and the in in-war camera and installation services and equipment. And this purchase is to be made through keystone communication which is identified as a costar. And I did attach the quote, quote number and quotation M 77-0497-14. And I also provided you with a copy of the keystone communications services costar's contract which is a number 012-058. And I'll open up the floor for any questions.

Mr. Yoder : Thank you this was reviewed in public safety, Mr. Mackey?

Mr. Mackey It was, obviously first and foremost this is way less that what we thought it was going to be. So that was good. We had some brief discussions on a few things. There's 14 in-car cameras that will need to be installed. I asked the question, will that process take place? Do they need to come here to do it? This is company upgrading the Durango's that we leased so we need to come up with a system to get the cars down there and have this equipment installed and have them brought back. Another cushion was a storage of the data we took off the cameras and that will be cloud based. And Chris can probably speak to that if you have questions. But this was guarded with a positive recommendation and I'll open it up to fellow publics of public safety.

Chief Snyder I'll say, yep, this reiterate what Mr. Mackey said. This number came in under the original number. I looked over it. I think it's a great idea.

Mr. Allison Chief, do we need training with this? If we do, how is that provided? >> They are going to come up and provide that when the installation is done they'll give us a breakdown how it will operate. It will be simply for the user and it will be the downloading of the contented of the digital content and making sure that we are doing that properly.>> Are we going to have to develop a policy.

Chief Snyder We are. I already talked to members from the collecting bargaining unit and we'll get together and come up with a policy. To get it out there too we are trying to get funding of this through a grant. So we are going to make that attempt. So we'll see what we can do.

Ms. Miele So this is a five-year contract that we're proposing to pay up front with department funds, correct? Does that mean at the end of the five years the equipment will be defunct and need to be replaced?

Chief Snyder No, if you look at the quo quotation they provided us they have a third year technology hardware refresh if there's an issue in the third year we'll get new technology to replace it.

Ms. Miele I guess what I'm asking is where are we at the five-year point.

Chief Snyder >> Before that we start negotiating to see where we are going to be at in the future to prolong the program.

Ms. Miele Got it. Do we have any idea of an ongoing annual cost once we hit that five-year mark?> Beyond the five-year mark? I know technology does a lot of crazy stuff in 5 years and that's hard to track. But I'm trying to sort out in a years we probably won't be able to pay 350 or 450 to refresh the program. So it might be wise for us to set aside money in the police budget each year.

Chief Snyder Absolutely. I don't want to do that with just the body worn cameras but all our equipment to have a proposal put in place so we talked about the radios before. I don't know where that technology is going to go and how quickly that's going to be.

Ms. Miele But I want to start looking and having plans that are put in place so we're not hit with these all at once at the very end. : Yeah, I guess, I mean, I think I'm pretty sure once we implement body worn cameras in a municipality we can't go back, correct me if I'm wrong.

Chief Snyder That's safe to say, you have I believe 7 states in the United States they made mandatory. So we are potentially looking at possibly state mandates and federal mandates we need to have body cams anyway.

Ms. Miele And that's once again I don't necessarily think it's a bad idea. I'm just trying to look to how we continue to afford it. And it seems to me to me since the entire contract is structured around five years more than likely you'll have to replace the entire system at the 5-year mark.

Chief Snyder > Yes, and I assure you this isn't something we get the approval tonight and we're done with it. We are going to look for grants. So I would assume we'll be able to file for grants at that 5-year mark or prior to as well.

Ms. Miele : And it looks as though all the contracts are structured so instead of paying for the equipment up front and instead of a smaller monthly fee over a usage of a 5-year period or this is structured as an annual fee and we are paying it up front. But it's basically a system you purchase and you buy the license and it works like software.

Chief Snyder Correct. If you look on the quote it will give you a 5-year breakdown if you were to do that. So I would assume we hit that point on that next go around we'll probably be looking at since we won't be using ARPA we'll break it down and look at that cost per year.

Ms. Miele I think that's in fact but I suspect it's more like 08. So I'm trying to understand. So I think if the administration is looking to encompass at least a portion of the cost moving forward and save ourselves these fees we should look at incorporating that \$75,000 number in next year's budget and budgets moving forward to have that stockpile for it. Okay, got it. Replacement cost for equipment you said is completely foreseen in this contract?

Chief If you look at the contract quotation here, it has a third year technology hardware refresh.

Ms. Miele Right. So there wouldn't be anything -- any damage that we can do or anything to the equipment.

Chief They have a no fault hardware warranty as well.

Ms. Miele : Excellent. Then yeah, it doesn't make the 2023 budget anymore pleasant but I would once again to ask the administration to find a way to build the cost of replacing this equipment in the 5-year plan, so we know we have that money and it's set up because it's not an obligation likely to go away but if we could find only grants potentially we could fund it.

Mr. Beiter : You mention third-degree data is cloud based so it's not stored on city servers or anything this company is responsible for that?

Chief Yes, sir.

Mr. Beiter How long do they save the data?

Chief I'm not sure, I think it's indefinite.

Mr. Beiter In perpetuity. So we have no issues of three months of a lawsuit. We don't have that data from a body cam.

Chief That's something that will be discussed with a collective bargaining unit who is allowed to have access to that.

Mr. Beiter When you go to collective bargaining I would suggest from my perspective as someone as a citizen I would like to see our police officers benefit from themselves having the body cams on to have them on in every interaction with citizens. Simply because it's going to protect the police officers and it's also going to protect the citizens from a he said or she said scenario which can be time consuming with litigation.

Mr. Yoder . Somebody sent in a request for a [off microphone] late and they asked me to read at the end of the meeting and but it's related to this. : Okay. I'll read it now because I think it speaks to what Mr. Beiter is speaking to. And I would agree and when I read this comment it was thoughtful and I thought beneficial.

Mr. Yoder read the email I work on the city and own several properties in the city. My comment is about the body worn cameras I am pleased to see the city is taking this important step but I caution you cameras are worthless without a robust requirement as their mandatory use and clear standards when and why cameras should be erased. Officers should activate their cams are every interaction with the public. No exception should be made. And there should be consequences for having the officer not turn on their camera. And the camera is worthless if the video is not able to be reviewed so it should allow supervisory officers to do so and clear requirements why a video should be erased? Why is this important because it removes the he said, she said of officer interaction which is important for the pursuit of criminal charges and to hold officers responsible for their poor conduct. I represented a person against a claim of a police officer. And each had a different account. And the body camera would have verified either account. This is important because the attorney fees are recoverable from a department. In the result the longer a case the higher the fees become so in that instance of the video of a body camera would have precluded a civil rights lawsuit all together or allowed the city to set it will claim for a fraction of the settlement which after years was reduced greatly because of attorney fees and there was a video cam taken in that case but it was erased which is why it's erase sure is so important. So in-car cameras are assist in prosecution and in officers engaged in poor conduct or assist in good conduct. So those are great points in there.

Chief They are only as good as -->> There is. There's no disagreement. And I want to make this abundantly clear. This is not a pick and choose. This is for accountability on all counts all around. So this is not where we are going to sit there and try and make the policy where we pick and choose when it's going to be used. So I can assure you that's not going to be the issue and there's be no issues there. One thing I like to go even further if we'll allow it and we'll double check. But I would like to offer the policy and procedure to the public for their review. And they can see what our policy and procedure is. I know we can release some to the public and some we have to double check and others we can't for public safety purposes. But I'm all about transparency and putting that out there

Mr. Yoder , I have full confidence it will happen. But it seemed like a wet place to read it than later in the evening, so of course.

Mr. Pulizzi : Thank you the only question, concern I have is so this is for five years. And it's a cloud-based service. o is the -- costar is the service provider for this cloud-based service

Chief Snyder That's of the whole cost through costar.

Mr. Pulizzi >> My concern is after the five years is up if we choose to go with a different provider, what happens to all of these stored video footage they have on their servers? I: We would then be responsible for downloading?

Chief Yes, understand it's just a vehicle to keep it because of the expense that we would incur to keep it ourselves on

the server and the cost that would incur based on that.

Mr. Pulizzi So with the digital content, even that's being kept in cloud-based it's still ours, we own it. Chief If we were to go to a different company we would take that with us.

Mr. Pulizzi : Okay, I wanted to make sure we wouldn't lose pertinent video footage or anything. Thank you.

Mr. Yoder : The only other comment I'll make and I thought about making it the previous one but I figured I would leave it to the end .So we planned an initial budget for the American Rescue Plan funding and we had items on the agenda and this is being the third with purchases from this money.It's great we are at this point. But we tabled one on a technicality with making sure we are compliant with the law and federal bidding requirements and et cetera.I don't want to hold stuff up. We openly said we don't want to hold stuff up. We want to make sure we do it the right way.I know we are working through the compliance process but I hope we can do that faster than we are doing it. And I would ask the administration not to bring other items forward until we have compliance under contract and taken care of. There was a little bit of confusion on the categories that's been cleared up. That's great. But I think having one quote unquote throat to choke is going to make this easier all the way around from the front end. And while it's still generally concerns me is the back end. The auditing requirements associated with this. It's no lack of confidence in our people. We don't have enough people to do this.I mean, we can't keep up with what we have to do in our finance office, for example, now. I mean, and we hire consultants to manage a couple million dollar grants with our community and development office. We should absolutely be doing the same for a \$25 million-ish grant. So I wanted to stress the importance of that. And I hope the administration will accommodate that request. And at least take this under consideration yet again. I would feel better if we can wrap that up and get that figured out before we really continue to push through .We have time on some other things but I would ask. We are making some progress on some stuff but please get that wrapped up urgently. That's my only other comment. Any others?

Mr. Yoder asked for a vote.

The resolution was carried with seven roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0. All were favor.

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

Resolution #9267

Resolution to Appoint An Environmental Review Certifying Officer

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion and second on the resolution.

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

Mr. Memmi >> I'll try and be very brief. We are presenting to you a resolution to authorize the environmental review setter firing officer for the city's community development block grant program the home program, the emergency solutions grants program.The U.S. department of housing and urban development. And Pennsylvania department of community and economic development funded grant programs.This is a requirement of HUD. It is necessary for the City of Williamsport to designate a certifying officer. To serve as a responsible official to oversee the City of Williamsport environmental requirements. The certifying officer will ensure that all environmental, people, and record requirements are fully and properly satisfied and will oversee or perform all necessary functions required for an environmental reviews. We are requesting you appoint, Jon Sander the city engineer to fill this role. There's no financial impact to the City for this appointment. This requirement was brought to our attention by our consultant. This was presented at finance and moved forward with a positive recommendation. I'll answer any questions.

Mr. Yoder Thank you, this was reviewed in finance.

Ms. Miele It was reviewed in finance and brought to the full body with a positive recommendation. Nothing major of note here. Mr. Sanders effectively we already a portion of this compensation was derived from a community development background budget this is moved over to community development.Mr. Sander consented to fulfill this role. And once again I think as Mr. [off microphone] said the majority of the work will be done by the developer and Mr. Sander will [off microphone]And it was forwarded from the finance committee with recommendation.

Mr. Yoder asked for a vote.

The resolution was carried with seven roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0. All were favor.

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

Resolution #9268

Resolution Authorizing a Professional Services Agreement Between City and RVT & Constellation Newenergy-Gas for Gas Supply Services

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion and second on the resolution.

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

Mr. Winder >> This resolution -- first, I should say you should have received an updated resolution this afternoon. This resolution is to lock in the gas prices for the natural gas that the River Valley transit which would be the public and River Valley transit central gas station the price is at \$3.74. And our current contract is not up until December 1, 2022. So this would renew it automatically at this point and take it to November 30th, 2026. With the previous resolution had us at \$3.59 and at BTU so within one week basically it went up 15-cents. This would lock us in for full term. It's not a variable. It is a fixed rate. And with the current climate it is definitely in our best interest in locking in the gas prices at this time. This was reviewed in front of the transit oversight committee and given recommendation.

Mr. Yoder : This was reviewed on Tuesday and forwarded with a positive recommendation. We do this every five years. RVT has a energy broker. They shop for us. And this is best pricing they found. The only thing to note is this is only for RVT. Specifically. So any -- I don't believe -- refresh my memory on the conversation there, Mr. Winder what happened in the past with anything related to Public Works.

Mr. Winder I believe the City is under someone else. They tried sending us an agreement today for the City side, and I told them we have to forward it on to Mr. Pawlak.

Mr. Yoder Perfect. That's something that might have interconnected tangled item. I don't remember discussing that specifically in transit on Tuesday when we had the discussion about breaking the shared services between RBT and the City. So that seems to be another one that we have found, which is always fun. But nonetheless, they do this every five years. This is locking in the pricing it's good through the end of 2026, correct?

Mr. Winder Yep. And the other thing I'll say is we've been working on the electric bill as well now. There are brokers for that. And we'll explore that option to see if there's something we should lock into at this point.

Ms. Miele This rate will go neither up nor down in the next five years, correct?

Mr. Winder answered > Correct.

Ms. Miele : And this is a historically high time for fossil fuel prices we have reason to believe this won't be a loss for us over the next five years?

Mr. Winder This is a gamble and the way everybody is talking right now and part of the discussion with a broker is they expect gasoline to hit \$5 a gallon by June. So unfortunately this gives us a number to budget on with the state every year. I think it's our safest bet.

Ms. Miele : I mean, I would agree probably in the short term to be able to fix a price like this a is an excellent strategy. But over the next year and a half or two years we might be losing. But I guess I'm thinking about that particular perhaps to the city making a similar deal. This is RVT is working with the state. And we fixed prices represented to the state. I'm not certain if it's in the City's best interest to fix a five-year price with a utility at the moment. But it is tough.

Mr. Winder I would use the gasoline price. When I got my license it was 89-cents a gallon and I haven't seen it under \$3 a gallon for a few years. So I don't think it's going to go back down. I think 3.74 is a good option at this point.

Ms. Miele I would agree I think I was simply wondering with long-range forecast. And a number of those things are well-beyond our control right now and likely to remain there. But anyway, once we fix the price there's no option to go back and renegotiate at some point in the next five years, right correct? It's all. And if we don't fix the price we are exposed to price increases.

Mr. Winder Correct that's a challenge with a public CNG station because then we don't -- the price production waiting so much we would be out there changing it constantly. And it would be a total nightmare.

Ms. Miele I think anyone in a retail position has been dealing with that the last year and a half to change the prices to keep up with your supply. It's hard. Thanks.

Mrs. Katz A quick question. How much -- how many is used by the public? Do they benefit this price?

Mr. Winder The public benefits the price, yes. Mr. Kelley did not send me the exact amount to the public. He sent me the combined amount. The email he sent you did he give you public versus -- I want to say public was around 26, \$28,000-gallons essentially. Which a gallon versus the MMBTUs real close to each other they are almost equivalent to each other.>> Based on credit card usage the public can consume 20,000 balance consumed by RBT. But that's not a --

Mrs. Katz You did say they benefit by this price also?

Mr. Winder > I'm going to try and remember off the top of my head. I think the public usage was around 28,000-gallons. And RVT over the last year wiz somewhere in 100,000.

Mrs. Katz So the public does use it. A quarter of the amount then. : It's more than I thought, truth there any.

Mr. Winder UGI fuels up with us. Frito Lay. There's a sweetener truck that comes in. I want to say for this area, the only CNG public fueling station probably within a 20-mile radius.

Mr. Yoder asked for a vote on the resolution.

The resolution was carried with seven roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0. All were favor.

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

Accept for filing::

Public Works Meeting Minutes 12/07/21

Finance Committee Minutes 12/07/21

WMWA Minutes 12/15/21

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

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

The minutes were carried with seven roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0. All were favor.

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

Announcements

The next regularly scheduled City Council meeting will be held on Thursday, March 31, 2022 at 7:00 PM, Trade & Transit II, 144 West Third St. 3rd Floor, Williamsport, PA

Upcoming Meetings:

Friday, March 4	1:00 PM	ERC Committee
Monday, March 7	12:00 PM	Planning Commission*
Tuesday, March 8	3:30 PM	O& E Pension *
Monday, March 14	4:00 PM	Recreation Commission*
Tuesday, March 15	11:30 AM	Public Safety
	1:00 PM	Finance Committee
	2:30 PM	Public Works
	6:30 PM	HARB*
Wed. March 16	10:00 AM	Blighted Property^
Thursday, March 17	10:30 AM	Zoning Hearing Board*
	7:00 PM	City Council Meeting*

MEETINGS MARKED WITH * are in person at Trade & Transit II, 144 West Third St. 3rd Floor, Williamsport, PA

Comments:

a. City Council

Mrs. Katz stated I would like to acknowledge Jon Markley with the gold rider association in Williamsport, they donated \$500 to the K9 unit and we all appreciate that tremendously.

Mr. Yoder Thank you very much, absolutely

b. Administration

There were none

c. Members of the Public

Mr. Ralph Keller, Hughes ST. . A couple comments about the Little League debacle. I am not anti recreation. I served on the commission for a few years. I pour cider and drove in parades and set up homemade days and did a lot. And ran the Sienna House trains for seven years. So I think it's important. But I think what I'm hearing here is we need to look at the totality of the recreation program. I think it's lacking. It needs something done, it needs funding. But from what I hear is + too much emphasis on these two fields versus the entire recreation program, first point. Secondly, those fields are in horrible state. They are disgusting to look at every day. They are falling into deteriorated state. What I'm asking is doing something, do it right. If you're going to just redo those fields, I don't know how you can spend a \$1 million, but if you are, bulldoze the whole thing, start over, get a professional design, put one or two field in, make it look pretty. And fix it so it's appropriate. And water, yeah, I can show you photos. You wouldn't believe how bad the water problems really are over there. The last point I hear a lot about economic incentives and what this is

going to do to the city. Okay, there's a lot of reasons people move to a city. Just those two fields I don't think have the importance I'm hearing here tonight. When someone wants to move here or stay, they are making it the totality of what the area offers. Are there good jobs? Good pays jobs? Shopping? Affordable housing? What are the taxes? What are the insurance rates? What are housing prices? What public services do we have? Do we have paid fire, paid police? Shopping. What are the schools like? And they are looking at the recreation program as part of it. But not just baseball, but is there soccer, tennis, swimming, other outdoor sports? Other things people are going to look at is they pick up the gazette, and say, oh, another murder in Williamsport, do I want to move there?

d. News Media

There were none.

Adjournment

Mr. Yoder asked for a motion to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned upon motion by **Mrs. Katz and a second by Mr. Allison Meeting adjourned at 9:38 PM with unanimous ayes.**

Submitted by:

**Janice M. Frank
City Clerk**