

Thursday, January 21, 2021
7:00 PM Remote
Williamsport, PA

Council President Randy Allison brought the meeting of the Williamsport City Council meeting to order on Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 7:00 PM per remote. Chris Cooley did livestream the meeting.

Council members present:

Randy Allison, President
Elizabeth Miele, Vice President
Bonnie Katz, Councilwoman
Adam Yoder, Councilman
Vince Pulizzi, Councilman
Jon Mackey, Councilman, t
David Banks, Councilman

Absent:

Also, Present:

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

Approval of the Williamsport City Council minutes for the 01/07/21 were approved upon a motion **Mr. Yoder and a second from Mrs. Katz. All were in favor. The vote was 7 to 0.**
Mr. Allison announced that there was an executive session at 6 :30 PM just before this City Council meeting.

Public Hearing on Zoning Text Amendment

Mr. Allison declared the public hearing open. He asked for comment from anyone opposing, there were none. He asked for comment from anyone in favor. There were none.

Mr. Yoder made a motion for the public hearing and it was seconded by Mr. Banks

Mr. Allison asked for a vote on the motion.

The motion was carried with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0.

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

An Ordinance to Revise Certain Requirements within Primarily Business Zoning Districts regarding allowed uses, certain dimensional requirements and to add additional standards (first reading)

The City Clerk read the ordinance.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion and second on the ordinance.

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

Mr. Knarr what i'm presenting you tonight is the City of Williamsport Zoning Text Amendment over the past year, year and a half the Planning Commission as well as has been looking at obviously the zoning and trying to modernize it a little bit and bring some other businesses to basically to be able to develop in this area.

in doing so over the last year, like i said. Primarily looking at the zoning ordinance with commerce yellow zoning districts in addition to some of these changes, one of the concerns is within the commercial district nowadays you are looking at pedestrian traffic in these areas. We want to make it a little bit more pedestrian friendly a lot of it stems to allowing pedestrian friendly access as far as we had some as far as dealing with the set backs that they offset the surrounding buildings in that area. i can go over the areas there is a lot in here that we have.

i can explain any questions that we do have but to highlight some of it, again when you get into your zoning districts someone wants to build a brand new building and requirement is to set it back off of the public right away when they do that you take out. In a lot of our areas most of the buildings are up to the property

line. that building kind of sets back detracts from that area so the setback requirement where he brought that up.

one of the main critical ones is pedestrian. it allows the pedestrian from a public like right away to have access to a parking lot safely. some of the other things that we were looking at is when it gets into your residential.

we are trying to keep the zoning districts. We'll allow mixture use and some residential dwellings provided the first floor is kept for commercial facility and also down at the gateway that is something that came across with the college and one of the focuses they have as well as. You also get into some of your user friendly like hair salons that normally would have to put a person through a process to be in those zoning districts make them have ability to be permitted by right. Some of the other areas within this ordinance as you look at it deals with right now, if someone wanted to put a driveway through in, that has to go through a process. Nowadays every type of business pretty much

wants a driveway whether it be a pharmacy, bank or restaurant. Right now we are slowing that progresses down though we require them to do through an additional process. some is to make us more user friendly and help further development within the zoning district.

i can answer any questions at this time.

Ms. Miele stated i would defer to other committees of the member especially councilman banks who drove the modifications here and he may be better able to discuss it but this is, some elements of this are simply house keeping things that mr. knarr said make us a little more friendly for development it is just a little easier.

You kind of simplify things to open you go a business here in the city and some are geared toward equality of life

improvements making it parking and pedestrian requirements, a little more pedestrian friendly. And again to reiterate the majority we went through a year ago with planning and the solicitors reviewed them wean met with ERC and made modifications were pedestrian friendly access and the set backs. The dimensional set backs to bring the buildings that are being developed in harmony with the other ones they are reviewed by planning and the solicitors and underneath one had a question or concern at this time.

Mr. Mackey stated one thing you didn't put too much into is the new parking requirements. Could you give more information on that?

Mr. Knarr stated and what this does is in those districts again, it requires a new development that basically is going to put something in there a parking lot or wean they put the being in the parking lot in. How is someone who wax whether it be from the colleges that have some of the commercial zones to access the facility that may not drive? What this requires a developer to do is provide them with a public access with one of the streets that is on the side of the building and a pedestrian walkway to get to that business without basically having to park into a parking lot because again. Nowadays a lot of people are more pedestrian friendly, walking "riding. Again we put these raiments in there that require these new developments to have the access for the pedestrians.

Mr. Allison stated this is a broader strategy to atrack businesses that would provide a business to one another if you have more walkable environment so we'll keep plugging away at these codes and keep at it. it is all for the goal of business generation. We'll keep at it.

Ms. Miele stated all i was going to say is i think more and more across the U.S. and perhaps across the world for all i know it is a game for municipalities use their ordinances to define the sort of community that they want to be. it is not that we're necessarily geared to zoning indistinct out or in but we are attempting to do is slow the chore is bring our zoning ordinances in line with the sort of development that we it wouldn't see in our community and that gives us the power to build a walkable bikable liveable community in a way that other avenues don't.

It's the nuts and bolts changes but it can really be have an incredible impact in the long run. Parts of the game though of course is utilizing the expertise of Mr. Knarr what works here, what doesn't? what works elsewhere and with a do we want to see in the city of Williamsport in to do that its not just those of us on council. This can come from members of the community. we saw that with the Dollar General development. City Council had a huge amount of input this is not the sort of the development we want in our come to the extent that we are able to listen to that. we do you know. We try to motive on ordinance to make certain that the sort of community our citizens want to live in is the community that we are building.

Mr. Allison asked for other comments or questions from council I think any time we can streamline and simplify the process for developers and be people that want to build, definitely a priority i think we all have to make it easier for people to go by the law but make the law more that the law makes more sense the way it is presented to them. Thank you for that effort Mr. Knarr and our committee for banging away at this. this can be kind of a lot of people would find it dry, things they get into but it just seems to me you drive through a community that you finned it he at the timeicallly pleasing. i'm guesses that my fellow members found these amendments a lin little incidence. We are trying to accomplish and the one commitment i think we need to make as we are looking at updating our zoning requirements within the city is to try to make it as easy as possible to under for the lay people who will hopefully come into us and say hey i want to start a business. i want to buy a building, what do what do i need to do? that's not something we have done in the past. How do we bundle permits? how do we explain? Clear language what is required so people feel a to say we want them to open businesses in Williamsport some the people who can't afford to hire an army of lawyers to meet all the requirements that we have in our code. so i think that is something that moving forward that we need to begin looking at. Thank you.

Mr. White, the solicitor stated can i just make it clear for the record that i did check the public comments system and there were no comments submitted on this issue within that.

Mr. Knarr stated if i can add to that Mr. Allison, when we do this under the Pennsylvania Planning Code to advertise these, we did two separate advertisements and i didn't get any calls or questions and want to review the amendments. Mr. Allison said okay we obeyed all of the requirements under the law to make this public and well-known as we could. so, those good to know as well.

Mr. Allison asked for a vote on the ordinance in first reading

The motion was carried with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0.

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

Resolution #9097

Resolution Exonerating the City Treasurer from Collection of 2020 Real Estate Taxes

The City Clerk read the resolution.

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

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

Mr. Grimes addressed Council and continued I historically we would have on the agenda discussion item on the tax revenue report that i gave all members of council i didn't notice until right now it acquaint on the agenda. He stated that he had sent a packet to everybody on January 14 that had all the revenue breakdowns. The first page is a comparison report of city tax revenue collection frs 2020-2019. These a have a hand in through our office the first piece is city real estate taxes that's broken down in regular clerkses an the intirms that we collect. Those are real estate tax bills that come outline later in the year do to an digs on the property. are up but that's normal for a tax rate increase. That's where the majority of that increase came from. our business prismg taxes 2020 was the first year collecting that in house and we are pleased to say we saw a very large increase in collections for business privileges that certainly was not being extremely aggressive with taxpayers that was through good customer service reducing the friction and doing our due dlilings here. this year where he clebtd over \$2,000,000 and we saw an increase by about 23,000 and last year a decrease in business privilege so we've really over come that we expect 2021 to be a different story because receipts are based on that. But to see such a dramatic increase in 2020 i think that will be helpful in 2021. On the contrary to that we did collect in our office in 2020 but saw a decrease because that's rel time based on employment in the city filed per quarter. Just like earned income tax with unemployment going up and wages going

down because of the pandemic we saw a decrease of about 6 percent in local service tax collections which legislator that what we saw. That's a direct hit because of coronavirus and a good resource to use to say okay employment with us down based on the number of weeks that people worked and the amount of wages that they earned. We saw the biggest decrease of that in the second quarter of 2020 where we had almost a 15 percent decrease directly related to the height of the pandemic. That covers earned income tax. local traffic fines that fluctuates it was down compared to last year. magistrate Clients were also down rates were down to collect in delinquent taxes they collected 1.3 million in taxes its not we are exon spyrating those as you can tell by the numbers all al of the taxes are collected we just collect 95 percent of them in current year and the rest through delinquent collections at the county and earlier in the year it picked up as people were comfort and able to pch properties that can fluctuate we see them bought and sold within the city because it is a specific percentage of real estate sold in the city over outline our total collections was 21.1 million compared to last year of 20.5 million.

Now just for clarity some of the numbers you get in the audit and he stated that Joe Pawlak and his numbers will not match these numbers its not because we don't agree we use different accounting method.

if the delinquent s pays me for November and December of 2020 and i get it in february of 2021 i log that as income for 2021, Joe Pawlak will accrue that interest that in the month it was actually for. that's the difference in the numbers that you'll see. On the next page we breakdown how the collections are are the real estate. it shows a at the top and that's the amount to be collected in the city. The total amount of real estate taxes was 14.9 million when you follow that down you see 14.9 million was collected about a million went we also collect for the school certainly not within your scope but we put that comparison there. it was about the same. collections were a little less for the school than the city. in compared to 2019, 2019 our total collection rate for city taxes was 92 .4%.

He stated we had a lot of concerns earlier in the year that they would be down because people wouldn't have the money to pay their real estate tax bills but because of our lightensy and guidelines and increased unemployment because the response with checks from the federal government stimulus chex even this at the didn't need it got and gave them extra money maybe i couldn't afford my tax bill and now i have enough to pay it which is why i think that as i bill the city real estate collections were higher than the school because the school came later in the year.

I think it was an the agenda tonight you'll be consolidating a considerable a. it doesn't change the amount of land on the city. it is just consolidating parcels. that happens more than people splitting parcels out and some of the hospital expansion withs a big part of that but that's hundreds of properties that the hospital continues to pay on in real estate taxes. it won't show as taxable parcels but taxes are still being paid. and you see since we've been keeping track of starting in 1988 this is the best year that we've had in collections since then. We have tasked to collect \$30,000,000 in real estate taxes it shows how it was split 50/50 with the city and school district. that disparte used to be greater and we collected more for the school than the city. i think 2020 was the first year that the city duplicate was more than the school. its the same properties and the school has a higher tax rate the difference is the school has a homestead exclusion that residents that live in their home get a reduction. not that the school doesn't collect had a money the state pays them that it is not part of our collections. i'm contracted to collect had a 14 million-dollar you guys have to exonerate me from what i didn't collect and this they go to the county.

Mr. Allison thanked him and asked for a vote on the resolution.

The motion was carried with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0.

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

Resolution #9098

Resolution Uncollected City Real Estate Taxes for 2020

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion and second.

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

Mr. Allison stated that Mr. Grimes explained this one with the explanation of the last resolution. So he asked for the vote on the motion.

The motion was carried with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0.

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

Lot Consolidation 636 W. Third St.

Mr. Knarr stated this is kind of a two fold proposal question from for a lot consolidation and a subdivision the first part it is all one plan to . It is required two votes because one is a lot consolidatation and one is a division.

it is house cleaning for zoning purposes as you know the former complex which is basically the property as well as as parking lot is consisting of 11 parcels and normally you are not allowed to develop over a lot line they are requesting is consolidate all of the parcels into one lot for possible future development.

Mr. Banks asked when the was originally put in why was the lot consolidation not done at that time?

Mr. Knarr answered Maybe the 40s, 50s but a lot of times back then if you look Throughout the city there are a ton of properties like that. What i try to do since i've been here when i come across them if Someone is going to motive that parcel in anyway way we require them To clone that up.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion and vote.

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

The motion was carried with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0.

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

Sub Division Plan 636 W. Third St.

Mr. Knarr stated this is a subdivision of that parcel in a you approved to consolidate to one lot.

What they are requesting subdivide that in two lots it has been sitting vacant for two or three years. They currently have a tenant in the front part of the building which is a plasma center so they occupy the front part leaving the back part vacant what the owner is requesting to do is subdivide that down the middle to develop for a samueler business or sell that out of their purchase that were on the part but not the whole part of the building. So as part of the subdivision question again two lots divided right down the middle and again lot 1 and lot 2 as you see on its drawings underneath one of them will meet the zoning requirements so therefore in September 17, 2020 the zoning and hearing board approved the two different variances and what it is lot number 1 when they subdivide that it does not meet the zoning so they immediately a variance to do that. Lot number # didn't meet the lot depth so they required a variance and they did not interpret approving both of those and again it was reviewed by both our city planning as well as the county, the county as you have been provided are the comments plans before you are the corrected plans we have already had them connected based on the comments and at that point the subdivision meets the requirements with the variances that are granted for a subdivision of the parcel.

Mr. Banks asked Mr. Knarr the building will be subdivided then, correct? Is there some sort of the condominium agreements?

Mr. Knarr answered it won't come before you at all. We did reach out to the solicitors and believe it or not there are a lot of properties in the city that have that. A lot are are you residential dwellings where they have a double. There's nothing legally that we go through it is has been reviewed to make sure the building meets the code requirement for the separation.

Mr. Gerardi stated we had subdivision all I know is to rent it out or sale the other half of the building we would not necessarily be part of knowing I can keep you informed of that. It gets record and to separate tax parcels. Whether they try to look to do or put in there has to meet it has to come before me for what I classify as a letter of intent. I would be apprised of anything that they do and I work with Hutchinson company since I've been here. We require them to submit a letter of intent and that it is permitted and in addition to that when they go to occupy they come in for permits and then Mr. Gerardi will go out an occupancy requirement and now it meets the code we issue a zoning certificate as well as a building occupancy permit.

Mr. Banks asked once again Mr. Knarr, when land is consolidated is there any mechanism to very nice an assessment done?

Mr. Knarr answered that is a lot consolidation and once it is recorded it will be a copy that is sent to the assessment office. When once a building permit issued they don't get go back out and reassess it.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion and a second and then the vote.

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

The motion was carried with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0.

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

Demolition – 835 First Street

Mr. Allison asked for a motion and a second.

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

Mr. Gerardi, good evening what I have before you is a demolition request from Reality Works it was located in a commercial zoning district the address is 835 First St. it is on the corner of First and Maynard the structure was used for warehousing that is vacant. The owner wishes to deposition nor further commercial use.

Mr. Banks asked is there any development that they have in mind at this point?

Mr. Gerardi answered at this point they don't have any to my knowledge. What they are looking to go do is it ready for a pad ready site. It is easier to sale when there is no structure on it. They are in will now doing asbestos removal. Commercial buildings have to go through that.

Mr. Allison asked for a vote on the demolition.

The demolition was carried with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0.

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

Certificate of Appropriateness – 133 East Third St

Mr. Gerardi this is certificate of appropriateness to remove and replays in the same location basically the same size and look just a different color the color is presently a green and is going to like a burgdy. And I have pictures of what's there now and what will be there.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion and a second and then the vote.

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

The motion was carried with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0.

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

Certificate of Appropriateness - 120 W. Fourth St.

Mr. Gerardi stated this request is for Jackson Hut to put a sign which I think I have a picture of showing you.

They are presently located in Williamsport in downtown they are relocated to bring the existing sign.

actually the sign color is what was there at one time because bank is a blue face with a background if you notice.

If you have any questions of me I'm happy to try to answer them.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion and a second and then the vote.

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

The motion was carried with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0.

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

Certificate of Appropriateness – 380 W. Fourth St.

Mr. Gerardi Attached is a certificate of appropriateness to Construct a handicap ramp i have attached photos of it and style with Color they did was installed a handicap ramp you'll see the Picture i have of the elevation of it they are going to under the up a Black railing fence which i showed a picture of it and the style of The railing.

Where the block is there are going to match the gray behind it. Right now it is hard to match that particular stone.

They are go to go try to blend that in with the color.

Ms. Miele asked if this meets all current ADA requirements...

Mr. Gerardi replied yes.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion and a second and then the vote.

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

The motion was carried with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0.

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

Resolution #9099

Resolution Awarding the Professional Engineering Services Design Proposal for Willow Street Project to Dewberry Engineers, Inc

Mr. Allison asked for a motion and a second.

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

Mr. Sander stated last Fall i was nudged by a administration to put out a request for Proposal for the Willow street program i received 7 proposals from seven Engineers firms for the design of Willow St. He named the firms and stated let me clarify it is it is not based on low bid. This is a qualification and price. I got seven proposal.

From there i kind of narrowed them down to i guess the top four in my opinion The project willow street is a

reconstruction of the ally from Market Street to Basin street and the intention is a mixed use pedestrian

And vehicle pathway that utilizes infrastructure in the design concept. Its part of the connect williamsport initiate and

the intent there is to bring growth to downtown. Back to the bids i chose Dewberry myself personally and folks and the

Administration concurred. For a excellantl reasons. had the best proposal and Multiple award winning designs in their proposal. So Dewberry has decades of experience working with PennDot .

Ms. Miele said this was reviewed in Finance and sent to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation.

We discussed a handful of things clearly Dewberry's existing work on The Third street project was a factor in making them one of the most Qualified bidder on this element but their connections with pendot Will be helpful.

One of the questions i asked Mr. Sander to look into with Dewberry as We work on Willow street that it was designed as a conduit, it was Designed as a pathway that idea lie would help wean college kids went

Downtown. Low traffic, easy access point for pedestrians however when you get to Market street there is not really any getting across market street at Willow safely and so one of the things i thought that dewberry might

Truly be able to help us with is giving us pointers and how approach a safe crossing if we are intending to make will

estreet a pathway Between the east way of town and the central district. Other than that we discussed lighting.

It is you know a well written bid that seems it will meet our needs

The motion was carried with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0.

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

Discussion on 2020-2021 Budget

Mr. Allison stated I am going to open this up we have talked during last year during our budget deliberations especially towards the end as we made a lot of Decisions and cuts and work with the administration worked with the Department heads who stepped up to the plate and finally came down to the end for that point but there was a Possibility legally of us opening the budget backup in January. And then by February making more adjustments if we were able to. I think we didn't need a motion tonight to open the budget i think for a Few reasons but i do want to say to revisit that past time during our deliberations again. Thank all of council for working together so diligently to reduce a Lot of that tax increase on real estate to get it down to a half mil that was an effort by everybody.

Everybody pitched in there were ideas across the board and we were able to work with as i said department heads an the administration to get that down. So we did accomplish that goal it was difficult but to really make any bBig changes going forward it would have taken this time constraints Obviously to opening up the budget in January and having to have some things done by February. Things that would be material that would effective the budgets and That he too tight of a time frame to do the research it takes to explore the feasibility of some of the ideas that would amount to decent savings a material amount of money savings. For that reason we are going to discuss tonight because different Members of council have ideas and thoughts about moving forward on one Of the main thoughts for the 20-22 budget consenting that we need to start this earlier. We need to start now on some of the ideas to work on. So we are go to go have this discussion item tonight not just to, some concrete things about moving forward. So at that point i'm going to open it up to whoever would like to begin. Whoever has a few thoughts they want to begin with or would like to discuss moving forward and ow budget in 2022 that's going to be here before you know it.

Mr. Yoder stated I was very happy and proud to work together to minimize what we could but it is disappointing that we can't continue that work. i think there were a number of things out there that could have been explored but it was a very unique year, but moving forward i think the administration has 9-10 months to look at a lot of them. Some of our support services that we have in city government we need to look at potentially to maybe out source them with a long term savings and we had a lot of discussion and ideas shared about using regional services. Whether or not to bring in supplemental public safety services to help our current public safety services. I'm hoping they will be explored as we had discussed and have an opportunity to regionalize our existing services as well. Many many ideas out there that we both need to discuss and i'm sure that we all have or we can streamline our costs so we are not running into this next year. We have a very long runway ahead of us to look at all of those. The other key component of that that we have briefly discussed a little bit is how do we grow our revenue? It is two fold and we haven't had a clear consistent strategy. We have a couple of votes on the agenda tonight where we talked about Zoning and the impact at that it has on economic and community Development. The committee has started to turn the wheels on a program and these are all great tools that we have at our disposal but we need as a city to have a strategy that will work. As much as i love being a part of it and all seven of us like to be a part of it you know the administration needs to as well be a large part

of that. So you know there is a handful of things out there on both sides that I think i will be looking forward to next year for me to support a budget next year. I'm hopeful that we'll get that. Like i said 9-10 month for the administration to dive into a lot of the items discussed and i'm expecting to see them reflected in next years But i'll leave it at that for now.

Mrs. Katz stated as we discussed all last year it was going to be a difficult financial year and next year we are going to encounter a lot of difficulties i'm begging the administration to really start working with the departments to start thinking outside the box as far as what we can do with our government at this point. Obviously we realize that the tax revenues coming in do not pay enough, give us enough to pay all of our bills and i really feel bad Under the circumstances that even though it is a half now and for some people it is kind of difficult for some of our citizens this year. You don't realize how many people have not had jobs. who are not getting pay check and it just you know, this has been a very dishearting year. I think we would all like to sit down with the administration.

to think about can we do to bring business into this area. I'm talking about big business. Lets get moving on the Park Avenue project. Maybe we can bring some businesses in there in conjunction with the Hospital and what worker's compensation do in that area. What we don't have going on is new buildings. our permits are going to be down and i think Joe Gerardi can attest to that. I think we have to do after and go outside of the city for people willing to develop in our area to help with the permits, taxes and so many other areas. i hope we can work in conjunction with one another not against one another that we can start working as soon as possible.

I don't think you can start working in this October. We need to start working on this now. to see where we can go to save money where we can use all of our resources at this point. Because i think the next couple years are going to be a little bit difficult as you know this is going to take awhile for some of the Businesses to get back.

Once you lose a day of pay in a business you never make that up. We have so many businesses that are hurting even though they've gotten help from the government, grants and things. It is still not enough to help them out.

Mr. Allison said It was well-said and that our sentiments are in the same direction. to help you as much as everybody else wants to help one another. I'm looking forward to working hard this year because we really do have to work hard this year. Okay I think things have been said tonight from talking to other council members over the period of the last couple of months and Into this new year pretty much i'd say that's unanimous consent of Council tonight because that's the way we are looking at 2021, as well as tightening up council's agenda moving forward this year and other things to do there.

Accept for filing:

Controller's Report 11/31/20

Williamsport Municipal Water & Sanitary Authority Minutes 11/18/20

Finance Committee Minutes 07/07/20

Codes Reports – Nov. & Dec. 2020

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to accept minutes for filing.

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

The minutes were accepted for filig with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0.

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

Announcements:

The next regularly scheduled City Council meeting will be held on Thursday, February 4, 2021 at 7:00 PM, Remote

Upcoming Meetings:

Friday, January 22	11:00 AM	ERC
	12:00 PM	Housing Needs
Tuesday, Feb 2	11:30 AM	Public Safety
	1:00 PM	Finance Meeting
	2:30 PM	Public Works Meeting
Thursday, Feb 4	7:00 PM	City Council meeting

All meetings are held remotely unless indicated with an * asterisk, whereas will be held at Trade & Transit, II, 144 West Third St, 3rd Floor, Williamsport, PA.

Mr. Allison asked if there were any comments from City Council.
There were none.

Mr. Allison asked if there were any comments from the administration.
There were none.

Mr. Allison asked Mr. White if there were comments from the general public.
There were none.

Adjournment

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to adjourn

Meeting adjourned upon motion by **Mrs. Katz and a second by Mr. Pulizzi. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM with unanimous ayes.**

Submitted by:

Janice M. Frank
City Clerk

