

**Thursday, March 14, 2019
Williamsport, PA**

Council Vice President Randy Allison brought the Williamsport City Council meeting to order on Thursday, March 14, 2019 at 7:30 PM in City Hall Council Chambers. Chris Cooley did televise the meeting. The invocation was given by Councilman Joel Henderson and was immediately followed by the "Pledge of Allegiance".

Council members present:

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

Absent:

Jonathan Williamson

Also, Present:

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

Approval of the Williamsport City Council minutes dated February 28, 2019 were approved upon a motion from **and Mrs. Katz** a second from **Mr. Slaughter**. **All were in favor. The vote was 6 to 0. Ms. Miele voted yes, Mr. Noviello voted yes, Mr. Henderson voted yes, Mrs. Katz voted yes, Mr. Slaughter voted yes, Mr. Allison voted yes. Dr. Williamson was absent.**

Limited Courtesy of the Floor
Mr. Scott Miller, 822 Tucker St

Just quickly before he talked about the compensation of City Council, he wanted to thank Randy Allison for pointing out that the Council minutes are on YouTube. City Council compensation, I sure wish City Council will have at some point in time go through and do what the cost-of-living allowance increases for every year, what they would have been, and show what councilmembers would be making had everyone received just the State and Federal money that everyone would have gotten. Everybody in private industry and in public says you are only part time, why do you get health insurance? You need to educate people, we can't just say no, I really wish you would all do little bit more to educate the public. At the end of Council meetings when you all get time to talk. Also individually, when you get time to talk at the end of the meeting, explain to people how many hours a week you do. Some people think you only go to two meetings a month, that are an hour or so. They don't realize how many hours you do put in, like if one of you tries to go shopping, how many times have you gone shopping and not been stopped in the store and have people talk to you and ask you questions. I would like you all to educate the public and that people know so there is not hurt feelings about everybody thinking you all have it so easy and you are making all this money and all those great benefits. The last thing I'd say, Mrs. Frank, I don't know whether she's considered Council or not, but she works for Council, you all need to get this woman some help. She does a wonderful job, but she is at her limit and I suggested before that may be an intern or something like that, or an employee for 20 hours a week, so she could not be just treading water, but a little bit ahead and do those things that it would be nice to get done. Have a great evening and happy St. Patrick's Day everyone.

Mr. Allison changed the order of the agenda to accommodate guests.

Resolution #8860
Resolution To Approve & Adopt the Park Avenue Plan

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to adopt the resolution.

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

Ms. Young stated, Council will recall that in December Matt Ingels gave a PowerPoint presentation of the Park Avenue plan. In January we had a community meeting on the draft plan, they made minor additions to the plan and then it was adopted after. Some general reminders, the plan was funded from Pennsylvania Department from community and economic development, UPMC Susquehanna, River Valley transit, and the City of Williamsport. The total project cost was \$89,280. The plan area is by Little League Blvd. to the south, Park to the North, Market to the East, and Campbell Street to the west. A steering committee was created to guide planning efforts for the area, the committee represented diverse interest from the community. They met several times throughout the planning process and also supported and participated in public and stakeholder outreach. Two open house community meetings were conducted for public input. Based on the economic conditions of the area, the plan focuses for stabilization as well as revitalization. The plan components can conclude planning and economic context, principles and priorities and an action plan. She thanked everyone for all the work that went into planning the plan. The plan recognizes and identifies the charges in the Park Avenue area but also offers viable solutions. This plan was reviewed by Public Works committee and Finance committee.

Ms. Miele stated this was forwarded to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation to adopt. The report is very thorough and strikingly realistic, given the lofty goals that we entered into this contract with this. Hopefully this will help us make good solid efforts in the neighborhood and not expect immediately results, but some nice long-term games. The suggestion for the path moving forward as well as suggestions to focus on improving neighborhoods, not just this one are very solid. The one question that she had asked, was who attended the meeting and how was the turn out. What were the suggestions?

Mr. Matt Ingalls, stated we had a good turnout at the public meeting in January. A lot of the comments that we received which was great, there were a couple of them that we revised and added additional information on, was public space, people wanted to make sure that as things progress there would be an opportunity to include public space. And also the mixed-use section was a great addition. We made a couple minor additions to a couple sections that talked about sustainability.

Ms. Miele asked were there just people there from the neighborhood?

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Mr. Ingalls stated there was a bit of healthy mix, there was a number of people from outside the neighborhood, people that come to the neighborhood on a regular basis in terms of the Y and UPMC. They were just interested in the neighborhood which I think was fantastic. We had fewer local residents at the first meeting, but the weather could have some to do with that.

It was discussed that it is important to have some residential input in that type neighborhood.

Mr. Allison stated there were some people that has some real interests and interesting ideas. He stated the total cost was \$89,000, but it is broken down, DCED, put \$29,000 into it, UPMC put \$25,000 into it, the city put \$25,000 into it, and RVT put \$10,000 in.

Mrs. Katz stated we did pass this at public works to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation. We discussed that you not only took into Park Avenue, but you took into the whole city and looked at Gateway and places like that. Even though you are looking at Park Avenue it also encompasses the whole city. We also appreciate that you did not sugarcoat this, and we were also pleased that we understand that this is gonna take anywhere from one year to 15 years to bring it to may bring it to fruition. You outlined this for us and answered so many questions for us.

Mr. Ingalls stated with the context of the whole neighborhood, we certainly would've liked to go in a little bit more in depth more, certainly one of the challenges is what we doing one neighborhood can impact what you doing another neighborhood, and it is important when we move forward to know that. Talking with stakeholders in our neighborhood, we try to do the best we can with the resources that we have.

Mr. Noviello stated the booklet is very well done and he is happy about the professional services. He was also happy with the amount of people that were there. A couple people asked him if this is going to stop at his front door. I don't know that we would want to see an abrupt ending, we want to see as much done as we can. I'm glad we saw the need for stabilization as well as revitalization. So looking to build it from the ground up is a very good and insightful way to look at this.

Mr. Henderson stated he would echo everything that has been said so far. He really appreciates the steps that are laid out in the action plan and who should implement these action steps, and what resources there are. Number three on the list is strategic code enforcement complying assistance, owner engagement, these things are not new, we know about these things and these are things within our ability we can do. Codes matter, Police matters, and paving the streets does matter. These things occur very early in this process and he appreciates that because we need to focus on those basic necessities of our city.

Mr. Allison thanked him, stating having been involved in this process, he was involved in the RFP, and Stephanie Young was a big part of that and we made the right choice going with your firm. You mentioned your impression of the city as a whole.

Mr. Ingalls stated over the past, close to a year now, in his travels of the 15 corridor, he didn't know much about Williamsport, and the more time he spent here, the more he realized how amazing this city is. He has spent a lot of time in small cities, and boroughs and villages and he feels we have a vibrant city. He has spent a lot of time downtown, it is very comfortable walking, there are great restaurants in public streets. So when someone from the outside has had opportunity to spend significant amount of time here, it really is impressive. He looks forward to stopping here on his way south, and he was working on a project in a community, and the other night he chose to stay here because he wanted to spend more time here and see downtown.

Mr. Allison asked for vote on the resolution.

The resolution was carried with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

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

Resolution #8858

Resolution Authorizing the Excavation of Certain Sts for Gas Main Replacement by the City for UGI

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to adopt the resolution.

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

Mr. Gerardi stated these are two resolutions concerning to streets in the City of Williamsport. They are identical resolutions. The first 1 Is Isabella St. gas Main. There are maps attached showing the areas they're going to be working in. It states the city shall require all cuts to have 4 inches of high performance cold patch to the top of the road instead of cold patch for the winter season. The second one and it was we require base replay are, milling and overlaying. There might be a situation when we go out and the roads have to be mailed and overlaid at the same time, they might come back with the request that has to be extended next year. We won't know until we get into the projects. This was reviewed by public works.

Mrs. Katz stated it did go through Public Works and we set up an ordinance couple years ago as to the utilities coming to us and get permission and that we approve the cuts. This is going on a little early, we usually don't start until April 1. There is so much work that's going to be done within the city so we do have the utilities coming to us asking us to approve the work that has to be done. This is more or less housekeeping. We send this to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation.

Mr. Allison asked if there were questions and comments.

The resolution was carried with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

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

Resolution #8859

Resolution Authorizing the Excavation of Certain Sts for a Gas Main Replacement by the City for UGI Utilities

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to adopt the resolution.

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

Mr. Gerardi said this is like the first resolution only this 1 Is Memorial Ave.

Mrs. Katz stated this was sent to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation.

Mr. Allison asked if there were comments or questions.

The resolution was carried with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

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

Ordinance Approving the Editing & Inclusion of Certain Ordinances as Parts of Codified Ordinances (final reading) Bill #1724-19

The City Clerk read the ordinance.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to adopt the ordinance in final reading.

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

Mr. White stated that this was reviewed at the last meeting.

Mr. Allison asked for vote on the ordinance.

The ordinance was carried in final reading with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

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

An Ordinance Amending Article 111 of the Codified Ordinances of the City setting Compensation of Council (final reading) Bill #1725-19

The City Clerk read the ordinance.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to adopt the ordinance in final reading.

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

Mr. White stated he had nothing further to add.

Mr. Henderson stated we had a good discussion in our last Council meeting. He wanted to thank Mr. Scott Miller for coming in and saying some things. He just wanted to say that we can start this dialogue, and there will be a good way for us to do that, and Mr. Allison has some ideas about starting that dialogue and walking down this road together. He was a little disappointed with the newspaper coverage, he just wanted to say this it almost sounded like he was quoted as the reason why he's leaving Council is that he is not getting paid enough. I have to I think it is ridiculous and preposterous. And he's very disappointed in that. The point he was making is that he is free, perhaps more so than other Council members because he is not returning to Council. He agrees with the direction of this, and his personal feeling is we can go deeper in the future and perhaps we will. He wanted to set the record straight for that.

Ms. Miele stated since Mr. Cooley did not videotape it last time, the four ordinances that we are about to vote on all address the composition of the elected positions within the city. The major change is, all of the elected officials now will pay a certain percentage into healthcare. 5% of individual covers and 10% with spousal coverage. The reason why that is an important thing to note is that we are asking of the city's unions that we are asking them to pay into their healthcare. Healthcare is becoming exceptionally expensive nationwide. This is an attempt by city Council and other elected officials to take our responsibility as elected officials and require of ourselves the same thing as we are requesting of others. That's important part to her.

Mr. Slaughter stated because it was not on the record or TV last time, he wanted to note that Streets and Parks has taken the lead as far as healthcare with their union contract a year ago. They have already started paying into their healthcare.

Mr. Allison stated people have to understand when dealing with the union you can't make unilateral decisions without negotiations. He has heard all kinds of opinions, some people think we should not be paid anything, and something more, and the vast majority of people that somewhere in between. We need to stake a studied measure approach to this, and we can make change tonight, but is it the right things and what is fair and equitable in the city of Williamsport. It needs to be a thoughtful right decision. Because it says it for the future. The rate of Council was changed in 1972 and there are been one change. Yes Council has healthcare, but when it was granted, healthcare did not cost as much. We want to be leaders and do the right thing.

Mr. Henderson wanted to point out we could change things, but Council will be required to pay in to their healthcare, and he feels it is a good change in the right direction. It will lead to more of a discussion as to what will be the best change someday.

Mr. Allison asked for vote on the ordinance.

The ordinance was carried in final reading with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

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

An Ordinance Amending Article 129 of the Codified Ordinance of the City setting Salary of Treasurer and Tax Collector (final reading) Bill#1726-19

The City Clerk read the ordinance.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to adopt the ordinance in final reading.

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

Mr. White had nothing to add.

Mr. Allison asked if there were any comments.

Mr. Henderson stated the reason we are not delaying this ordinance to have a study, and make the decision again later, because these decisions need to be made before names can be withdrawn from the ballot for this election cycle. There is that time this year and that's why it is before us tonight, but this needs to be done tonight.

Mr. Allison asked if there was any more questions.

The ordinance was carried in final reading with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

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

An Ordinance Amending Article 131 of the Codified Ordinance of the City setting Compensation of City Controller (final reading) Bill#1727-19

The City Clerk read the ordinance.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to adopt the ordinance in final reading.

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

Mr. White stated nothing further to add.

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Mr. Allison asked for vote on the ordinance.

The ordinance was carried in final reading with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

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

An Ordinance Amending Article 123 of the Codified Ordinances of City Setting the Compensation of the Mayor (final reading) Bill#1728-19

The City Clerk read the ordinance.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to adopt the ordinance in final reading.

Mrs. Noviello made the motion and it was seconded by Mrs. Katz.

Mr. Allison asked for vote on the ordinance.

The ordinance was carried in final reading with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

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

Bill #1729-19

An Ordinance Amend & Closing of the 38th year (2012) CBDG Funds(first reading)

The City Clerk read the ordinance.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to adopt the ordinance in first reading.

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

Ms. Young stated starting with the first ordinances, we close out Community Development Block Grant funds for years 2012, 13, and 14. The remaining balance in those years \$289,630.69 will be transferred into the contingency line item for the program in 2015. That will be the oldest year that will be remaining open. We are proposing to transfer hundred \$20,000 to 2016 Brandon Park rehabilitation project. The program year for 2016 will remain open and the transfer to hundred 20,000 for Brandon Park will be reflected in the public facilities line item. The rest of that amends the budget by closing out certain line items in the balancing the budget. The program year for 2017 will also remain open and this ordinance just amends the budget by closing out certain light items and balancing the budget. If you go back to the Brandon Park project where we are transferring the \$120,000, the original budget was 500,000, that includes money from 2016, 2017, and 200,000 of DCNR funds. We have consulting fees and also for construction. We held a bid opening for the general site work and electrical work in the lowest bid was \$599,069. So we are working to reduce the scope of work so we have a total construction budget of \$558,000 so far we have eliminated items that include a sidewalk by the pool house, and planning of number of trees and shrubs. Once the transfer ordinance passes, on final reading, then we would be able to award the bid on City Council and we plan to do that on March 28. All of these ordinances were reviewed by the Finance committee.

Mr. Allison asked if there was anything more discussion.

Mr. Henderson asked for an explanation of the reason why we have to do it this way. Just to explain the reasoning why.

Ms. Young stated this is basically the record-keeping system, HUD as a totally different system and we try to make them compatible, they are very different, but this is just some internal housekeeping so we can keep track of our budget make sure we don't overspend from year to year. Each grant is its own budget in every year we get an allocation. She stated you can never move money backward, you can just move it forward.

Mr. Allison stated that we are thankful for a Community Development Department that is able to accurately keep track of all these and keep us in good standing with the federal government.

Ms. Young stated we are little bit behind with these ordinances, but the hope is to come back the same time next year and clean things up.

Mr. Henderson stated this money has been awarded for specific purposes and it is important that the representatives of the people, maintain that and watch that. We are not just using funds for whatever reason. While it's cumbersome, it is important, so we are thankful that these are used for what it is appropriated to.

Mr. Allison asked for vote on the ordinance.

The ordinance was carried in first reading with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

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

Bill #1730-19

An Ordinance Amend & Closing of the 39th year (2013) CBDG Funds(first reading)

The City Clerk read the ordinance.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to adopt the ordinance in first reading.

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

Mr. Allison asked if there were any questions.

The ordinance was carried in first reading with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

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

Bill #1731-19

An Ordinance Amend & Closing of the 40th year (2014) CBDG Funds(first reading)

The City Clerk read the ordinance.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to adopt the ordinance in first reading.

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

Mr. Allison asked if there was any discussion.

The ordinance was carried in first reading with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

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

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Bill #1732-19

An Ordinance Amend & Transferring of the 41st year (2015) CBDG Funds[\(first reading\)](#)

The City Clerk read the ordinance.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to adopt the ordinance in first reading.

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

Mr. Henderson stated we are not closing out this year. He wanted Ms. Young to review this.

Ms. Young stated the contingency balance from the prior three years is reflected in this ordinance. So that \$289,000 was moved into 2015 and from that we are taking money out to move that into the Brandon Park rehabilitation project.

Mr. Allison asked for vote on the ordinance.

The ordinance was carried in first reading with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

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

Bill #1733-19

An Ordinance Amending the 42nd year (2016) CBDG Funds[\(first reading\)](#)

The City Clerk read the ordinance.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to adopt the ordinance in first reading.

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

Mr. Allison asked if there were questions or comments.

The ordinance was carried in first reading with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

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

Bill #1734-19

An Ordinance Amending the 43rd year (2017) CBDG Funds[\(first reading\)](#)

The City Clerk read the ordinance.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to adopt the ordinance in first reading.

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

Ms. Miele stated to be clear, this is just housekeeping. We are not moving any money from any funds.

Mr. Allison asked for a vote on the ordinance.

The ordinance was carried in first reading with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

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

Mr. White stated it came to his attention because the last meeting was not televise it would probably be good for us to read into the record the salaries of each of them.

City Council members, from 2020 to 2023 - President \$3,500, Vice President \$3,250 and Council \$3,000

The Treasurer 2020 - \$20,956 2021- \$21,375.12, 2022 - \$21,375.12 - 2023 - \$21,802.62

The Tax Collector 2020 - \$20,956 2021 - \$21,375.12 2022 - \$21,375.12 2023 - \$21,802.62

The City Controller 2020 \$41,914 , 2021 - \$42,752.28 – 2022 - \$42,752.28 2023 - \$43,607.32

The Mayor 2020 - \$72,995 - 2021 - \$74,454.90 2022 - \$74,455.90 2023 - \$75,943.99

These all have the premium contributions for Health Care. 5% and 10% contributions.

Bill #1734-19

An Ordinance Amending Part 15 Fire Prevention Code, Article 1521 Fee Schedule [\(first reading\)](#)

The City Clerk read the ordinance.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to adopt the ordinance in first reading.

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

Chief Heckman said this is to amend the current existing fire prevention code. He placed the changes that were made with the packet. This went to public safety.

Mr. Henderson stated this came to Public Safety, we have been working on it for a while, as it stands gives us the authority to bill the libel parties for costs incurred during a rescue operation, and vehicle accidents. Our current ordinance as it stands places the responsibility of that billing process on the director of finance. That is a lot for our finance department, and consequently we haven't been very effective in doing what we are authorized to do already. So the idea was brought that we could hire a third-party billing service to do this. In order to hire 1/3 party, we would have to amend our current ordinance, and parted the amendment is just inserting, those who would build the liable party, would be the director of finance and personnel or the authorized third party billing agent. This will allow us to hire someone to be able to do this for us, and in so doing we should see a lot of revenue coming in that will be a great help to us. In addition to just changing those few words and adding the authorized third-party billing agent, we also have to outline the exact process that we would go through. So that is outlined in this as well. We have to amend the fee schedule that would go along with that. That way when we do hire a third-party billing agent, they can look at what our fee schedule is and the charge of that liable party in accordance with our fee schedule. These fees are very similar to our budget and what we passed this December. There is a revenue line item which is dependent on this right here. It would be a great benefit for the city to do. We sent this to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation.

Chief Heckman stated this is almost 3 years of work here and the way the insurance initially reads, I don't know how we would've accomplish this in house. There was an attempt at this in the original ordinance, and there's no reason to try and gain this. We approached Pennsylvania Recovery Fire and Rescue services located in Southeast PA., 90% of the fire agencies are using them. He has been up here before with us and has answered all the questions. Right now we have no revenue. If we go out in the late hours, we have nothing to recover the time for additional costs. This is a good step in the right direction.

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Mr. Henderson stated up to this point, city taxpayers have been eating the cost of things that come through, like have a crash on the highway and city taxpayers are paying for it. This is actually designed for this. We send this to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation.

Ms. Miele asked what number did we plug into the budget for this? The answer was \$20,000.

Chief Heckman explained how this is going to work and the information that we are going to need to retain, we are looking at existing numbers on call, we paid out 30 or \$40,000 that we could've recouped.

Mr. Noviello stated at 30 or \$40,000 we are not talking incidental expenses here. He thanked the Chief and stated this is one of the elements that brings us into the 21st century. It is long past due.

Mrs. Katz stated she always thought that this was so foolish that we haven't done this before and we could have been saving tax payer's money. This is wonderful that we are doing this. There are so many different things, where we lost so much money with cleanup.

Mr. Henderson stated this is a big costs for that kind the cleanup, this ordinance takes care of this, it's been a concern for years and we are glad we are able to address this.

Mr. Slaughter stated this company only get paid if we collect the money, so it is important to note that to the tax payers.

Mr. White stated in the ordinance under section 1520, there is a provision in their for authorizing the city, city's attorney to file, one thing that is available is the ability to file a municipal claim as well. We could add a comma there that says or a municipal claim. It gives us another tool in the toolbox.

Mr. Henderson made a motion to make an amendment to say or a municipal claim. Ms. Miele seconded the motion.

Mr. Allison asked for vote on the amendment to the ordinance.

The amendment to the ordinance was carried in first reading with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

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

Mr. Allison asked if there was any other questions on the ordinance.

The ordinance was carried in first reading with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

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

Resolution #8855

Resolution Authorizing an Agreement between the City of Williamsport & the PA Fire Recovery Service

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to adopt the resolution.

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

Chief Heckman stated this is actually the contract, the actual agreement with them. This went through Public Safety, and in there you see they collect 15% of what the Bill is. If it drags out where it is 60 or 90 days out and it hasn't been resolved, they can collect up to 30% of the bill because they are the ones doing the legwork and chasing with phone calls. If it comes to a point where we get down the road, we can actually walk away from it. For instance when somebody just has no money, we can walk away from the claim. But the history of this company and how it's done is why we looked at these folks.

Mr. Henderson stated this did come before Public Safety and we forwarded to the full body of Council with positive recommendation. As Chief Heckman mentioned, they will collect 15% after six months they can collect 30%, and again the reason for that is pretty much litigation kind of issues. He made some personal phone calls to several chiefs in the State that use this company, and his question to them was do you see some people delay to get that 30%? And they said no there's no indication of that. This is one year agreement, which will automatically renew every year, and there's a 60 day out for both parties, and so if things are not going well we can discontinue it. Then we can look elsewhere if we so desire.

Mr. Allison asked for vote on the resolution.

The resolution was carried with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

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

Resolution #8856

Resolution 2018 State Fire Grant

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to adopt the resolution.

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

Chief Heckman stated this resolution is the yearly grant we go after, this comes out at this time every year and it is up to \$15,000. That is the most that a department can go after. Every fire department in the state is competing for this. So some years, we got roughly \$14,687 some years we have gotten less and some years we have got the whole 15,000. This money is going to be used for our command vehicle and will come back to Council in several weeks. This was reviewed by Public Safety.

Mr. Henderson stated this grant is earmarked for two projects. The first would be for the purchase of new pagers and updating these pagers with the three year warranty. That will be the first 5000 or so. The remaining will go for a down payment on a command vehicle. We are looking at purchasing that by financing it over the next two or three years. Those details will come to us in a meeting later on. We are glad to be able to get this grant and use it for much needed reasons. We send this to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation.

Chief Heckman gave a rundown on the pagers. It will have about eight different frequencies and it, and the price hasn't gone sky high. This will bring us up to hundred percent pager renewal.

Mr. Allison asked if there were any grants or any pool of money in the State granted for specifically paid fire companies.

Chief Heckman answered no, there seems to be a little division, where the volunteer fire companies get a little bit more than we do. This is an election year so I don't know what will or won't happen. In retrospect to the money coming into the city, we get pension contribution monies, our monies go towards the pension fund. We are digging every day for fire grants.

Mr. Allison asked for vote on the resolution.

The resolution was carried with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

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

Resolution #8857

Resolution Authorizing the City to Accept a GTRP Grant Previously Awarded to Lycoming County.

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to adopt the resolution.

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

Mr. Nichols stated this resolution authorizes the City of Williamsport to accept a Greenway Trails and Recreation grant which was previously awarded to Lycoming County for the Proposed Basin St., Susquehanna River walk connection project. The total cost of the project as established by the grant application submitted by the county is \$243,167. The grant provides \$180,000 towards the project. The county will make the 15% local match in the amount of \$65,852. The county pursued this project as an important part of the \$25 million public private partnership to revitalize Old City, Old City Gateway Project, the new admission center under construction by Lycoming college as well as surrounding improvements. They are being taken in jointly by PennDOT and the city of Williamsport. Since the college and the city already have contracts with Larson design group which is the design architect for basin Street. The county recognizes for county and city coordination. The county will be providing all local match requirements as indicated in the recently old city revitalization project. Finance committee did review this at their meeting on Tuesday.

Ms. Miele stated Finance did forward this to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation. We did double check the county's 15% match, they are actually doing 30% match. Luckily we get the money and it doesn't cost us anything. The remainder of the discussion centered around the plans for the Riverwalk. There's no intention to change the disbursement because we are accepting the funds. We think the county for doing this.

Mr. Noviello stated this is what he considers one of the long going long-term projects, this is a quality of life thing that we are dealing with, and user-friendly access is a key component here. It falls in place at a real good time here and again we don't have to spend any money and it is a win-win effort. Thank you Mr. Nichols.

Mr. Nichols stated the county started this the project last year and we really appreciate their participation. Larson Design and Basin Street all the way down to Via Bella and this will just pick up from there so it obviously makes unsupported through our project management activities.

Mrs. Katz made a motion to amend the resolution to say Lycoming County, not Lycoming County commissioners. Mr. Noviello seconded it.

Mr. Allison asked for a vote on the amendment to the resolution.

The amendment to the resolution was carried with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

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

Mr. Allison asked for a vote on the resolution.

The resolution was carried with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

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

Resolution #8861

Resolution to Approve Change Order #3 to the Master Service Agreement between the City & Wood

The City Clerk read the resolution.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to adopt the resolution.

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

Mr. Benner stated this is a resolution for the approval from change order number three of the City of Williamsport and Wood. The amount will not exceed \$64,100. The City of Williamsport is required to work within the SWIFT plan to remediate those deficiencies which were performed by the Army Corps of Engineers. City Council approved resolution 8719 for the completion by Wood. The agreement was also approved by resolution 8749. This change order allows them to complete the design and engineering work to fix the cross pipes, which encompasses the levy section protecting reach Road and the industries that reside on Reach Road. This was reviewed by the solicitor.

Ms. Miele this was reviewed by Finance and forwarded to the full body of Council with positive recommendation. We did have \$100,000 set aside in this year's budget for levy expenditures, and this amount is obviously less than \$100,000. The other piece of information that we were provided relates to another million that we have spent thus far with Wood and how much that we have outstanding on those contracts. Our current open contracts with Wood is about \$134,000?

Mr. Nichols stated that's the original contracts, the number, Mr. Winder stated \$252,000 is Woods.

Ms. Miele continued that we have total contracts with them closely to the amount of \$452,000. That includes this one that we are about to authorize. The other discussion that we had relating to the finance issue is that Penn Strategies has been doing some work on levy funding and we need to firm that up that we can do a match.

Mr. Nichols stated his concern is that some grants don't recognize expenditures prior to the approval, so if we can use other sources before we use those bond funds which were restricted by Council.

Mr. Benner stated the county assures us that 10% of that \$500,000 can be used for match for engineering purposes of the money that is going to the Wood so that would be 50,000 out of that.

Mr. Allison stated we did budget \$100,000 for 2019 and we talked a little bit about some of the other money that we have spent. So we have been working on this all along, and we haven't been sitting here hoping it was going to take care of itself. There are other grants and funds that the county shared with us. There is a possible \$4 million grant that has a 50% match. The important thing to know is we have a plan, we have a short-term plan and a long-term plan arrange for the levy. We have a plan to get the money.

Mrs. Katz stated this came to Public Works and we send it to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation. We looked at the infrastructure part of it. We been working on this for seven years and we are going to break ground in the Spring. We looked at this is a total project before, and it was all

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encompassing and it was disturbing because we didn't know how we were going to fix this problem. Sen. Yaw pointed out to us at one meeting we had to break it down to small pieces. By taking this piece by piece we were able to get more funding and explain things better. We do have people that go into Washington DC constantly. Fran McJunkin has been a savior for us because she is constantly looking for funding. Mr. Benner has been going with her and once we spend over million dollars on these fundings and studies, it is disturbing. We are especially working at the Reach Road areas, because they have been told that we were not doing anything, and we had to explain to them that we have been doing things with the levy. At this point our status has been changed by the Army Corp. The other point I we make in the levy we keep on saying this and reiterating this, we have been maintaining that levy for several years. There are things that need to be changed at this point. That's why Katrina was the catalyst. Anywhere in the country you are facing this issue and I think that we were one the first to jump on this. Mr. Noviello stated he agrees with Mrs. Katz and we are the leaders on this.

Mr. Slaughter asked if we are keeping track of this and we want to make sure we don't go back and do some of the things we have already done.

Mr. Benner answered yes we are starting to keep track of this and he and Adam have spoken about it. He is comparing everything to the periodic inspection by the Army core and making sure the highest priority items are addressed first and nothing gets double taped.

Mr. Slaughter stated his concern was we've already spent of ton of money and we don't need to go back and repeat some of the things that we've already done.

Mrs. Katz stated sometimes the Army Corp and FEMA don't agree on some the things that need to be done, but we are keeping track.

Ms. Miele stated we have been working on this for almost 7 or eight years now. So the secondary note is if a project that sends out this long, we need to know the status of the pipes, if this project extends out for another five or 10 years.

Mr. Allison stated it's very complicated in some ways but the Army Corp. begin this process by saying check out everything we have. This \$61,000 is so we can get the reach Road area done because this became a hot button, so we want to protect the businesses of their and their insurance concerns were valid.

Mr. Nichols stated he understands Mr. Slaughter's point and from what happened in the past, we need to make sure were not duplicating the expending. This project was going on for many many years, and to add on to his point, we should evaluate the consultant at some point. When you start with the consultant and you go so many years, maybe you should do an evaluation of all the parties to make sure were getting the right service. We need to talk about performance and make sure that everything is where it should be going.

Mr. Allison asked for vote on the resolution.

The resolution was carried with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

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

Accept for Filing:

Finance Committee 12/04/18
Public Works Minutes 11/20/18
ERC Minutes 11/27/18
Controller Report January 2019
Veteran's Memorial Park 2/4/19

Mr. Allison asked for vote to accept the minutes for filing.

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

The minutes were accepted for filing with six yes roll call votes. The vote was 6 to 0.

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

Announcements

. The next regularly scheduled City Council meeting will be held on Thursday, March 28, 2019 at 7:30 PM, in City Hall Council Chambers. (Enter through the police department at rear of building for meetings after 5:00 PM.)

Upcoming Meetings:

Monday, March 18	12:00 PM Planning Commission
Tuesday March 19	10:00 AM Blighted Property
	3:30 PM ERC
	6:30 PM HARB
Wednesday, March 20	4:00 PM Board of Health
Thursday, March 21	10:30 AM Zoning Hearing Board
Tuesday, March 26	11:00 AM Historic Perseveration
	1:00 PM Finance Committee
	2:30 PM Public Works
	3:30 PM Public Safety
	7:00 PM Citizen Corp
Wednesday, March 27	11:30 AM Redevelopment Authority
Thursday, March 28	7:30 PM City Council Meeting

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

Room]

Mr. Allison asked if there were any questions from members of City Council.

Mr. Slaughter stated he knows the Mayor is absent again, but there are a number of questionable items floating around, that at some point those questions need to be addressed by the administration, via agenda items or discussions, because we haven't had those discussions. I can't answer questions from people without members of the administration, and when members of the administration are not here, it

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makes it more difficult. Just to be clear and transparent to the taxpayers, I will be able to answer questions that they have, we need to have that discussion about those items.

Mr. Allison stated that Megan Dayhoff, Director of Human Resources for the City of Williamsport has been awarded the prestigious designation of senior certified professionals by the Society for human resource management. The candidate for the designation must demonstrate strong understanding of the academic discipline in addition to the clinical experience in the real world. She is getting a good dose of that here in Williamsport Pennsylvania. In any case she has done a good job and she has been recognized for that.

Mr. Allison asked if there was any comments from the administration.

Mr. Nichols stated tomorrow is his father's 90th birthday so he wants to shout out happy birthday. He has served the community for many many years and still does. So I just thought I'd say happy birthday dad. He is probably asleep though.

Mr. Allison stated we join you in that Mr. Nichols.

Mr. Nichols stated he was on the first city Council back in the charter commission back in the 70s.

Mr. Allison stated among other things he was one of the founding members of the STEP Board, that has been a great benefit to the city.

Mr. Allison asked if there were any comments from the general public.

Charles Woltz, 2226 Rural Ave. He stated I come before you tonight to try to get somebody to help me clean up my neighborhood. I live in Jamesburg, been there all my life from birth, I worked at the same job and retired. My neighborhood is falling apart and it is deplorable. We have some landlords that don't care and they live in Florida.

There are five adults in the rental next door, they tear cars apart it is a deplorable situation. I live on rural Avenue, and I pay huge taxes, and my tax base is light industrial. I have a beautiful home and it is worthless because my neighborhood. If I could get codes out there, I've had the mount three or four years, they come out and clean the place up, and a week later it is the same. It is just deplorable. I big Council, the administration especially, I need codes to come out there and enforce this. They do come out when I called them but it just is not working. I would like your help.

Gary Knarr has been out there a few times, and he has helped me. We have one lady who has hundred cats and I have seen a rat. But our neighborhood looks worthless. And on the agenda about the levy, I like that idea. I appreciate the time and I see you have a meeting on the agenda from blighted properties, I will probably be back for that.

Mr. Allison stated that's good idea and we will be in contact with him.

Mr. Dennis Loner, 226 Eldred St. back in 2010, there was a string of burglaries in East End. His home was one of them. Mayor Campana had a Townhall meeting occurred in school regarding crime, I believe Councilman Smith was there and some others. At the meeting I suggested, as a way to fight crime or prevent crime was for the city to get rid of the high-pressure sodium lights. Go to white lights. Technology has changed and this is 2010, there are brighter lights out there. A couple days later Mayor Campana contacted him, met him at his house along with John Markley, and he directed John to replace one of the lights on the corner of Franklin and Eldred Street. He recently did some research on LED lights. Municipalities from all over are either in the process of replacing them with LEDs or they've already done it. The reasons are safety, crime prevention, and more importantly to them cost savings. Some municipalities estimate between 40 and 50% they will save on their electricity costs. Loyalsock is in the process, if any of You Drive Sheridan St., Lafayette Parkway look at their streetlights. I'm not sure how many lights the city owns, PPL also owns poles, from what he saw on the website, if there is a placard on the pole, there is a contact on it. I'm not standing appear asking you to go out and replace every streetlights with new LED luminaires. The ones in Loyalsock, they average \$400 luminaire. I am asking you as you look forward to the future to start looking at replacing the city streetlights. As I said crime prevention/cost savings. I'm not sure if there are grants out there that can be had for safety, energy savings, but we are looking at paving streets. Hopefully curb to curb, when you replace the curbs, why not replace the lights with the nice LED. Then you get a nice bright Street. I know we are doing more pathways on phase 4, we are putting up the historical streetlights, why not do the overhead lights as well. So that's why am here. I believe from the website, the city has repaid over 1300 lights, I don't know if that's all overhead streetlights are actually along the streets. But if you have a light out there that needs to be replaced four times, maybe the city looks at replacing it with LEDs. I also think that these lights we have now make the city look dark and they are ugly looking. Some of you are too young, but we used to have white lights when I was kid. I'd like to see the city, as they go into the future looking at replacing lights and going to nice LED lights. Your cost may be higher initially but in the long run you'll save some money.

Mr. Winder stated, it has been started by Mr. Markley, and so this past year we have picked up, from Campbell Street heading west, so this past year it's going from Memorial Avenue from Campbell Street all the way to the bridge you will see there are LED lights up. So we are looking into it.

Mr. Loner stated the ones he has seen in Loyalsock are much brighter and better. Let's start revamping the City.

Mr. Nichols stated if anyone has been traveling on Fourth Street, near Bowman Field, they will notice a new traffic sign where beginning April 1, Fourth Street will be closed from the bridge to Arch Street. So all the traffic that comes up for Street will be going down to Third Street and then on in. He has some concerns, Joe just offered a letter to PennDOT requesting information we are concerned about detours in traffic. This is not enabled. This is a reality. He wanted to alert everybody that we are working on that. This will be quite a destruction and is going to be there for a long time and we are trying to be on top of that. It is a PennDOT project and this is the beginning. There was additional discussion on this.

Mr. Allison stated there will be an executive session following this meeting.

Adjournment

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned upon motion by **Mr. Katz and seconded by Mrs. Miele**

Motion was carried by a **unanimous at 9:49 PM** "ayes".

Submitted by:

Janice M. Frank, City Clerk