

**Thursday, November 19, 2020
Williamsport, PA**

Council President Randy Allison brought the Williamsport City Council meeting to order on Thursday November 19, 2020 at 6:30 PM on Zoom. 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,
David Banks, Councilman*

Absent:

Also, Present:

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

Mr. Allison announced they was an executive session that we just came out of and we discussed legal matters potentially involving personnel.

Approval of the Williamsport City Council minutes for the 11/5/20 were approved upon a motion **Mr. Pulizzi and a second from Mrs. Katz. All were in favor. The vote was 7 to 0.**

Limited Courtesy of the Floor

There were no requests.

Appointments – Accessibility Committee

Tyler Mogovarar

Max Moore

Ms. Miele stated that we interviewed both of these candidates in the finance committee as well as we have done a number of interviews in the finance committee. Both of these candidates seemed exceptionally competent.

I think we're familiar with Max Moore and stated that she went to high school with his mother.

And Tyler as well seemed -- seemed as though they would both be assets to the a accessibility committee.

I'm not sure if Mr. Mackey wants to address the candidates further.

Mr. Mackey stated that he was able to sit in on both interviews for both Tyler and Max and both gentlemen expressed a lot of interest early on in the process. I think after speaking with both of them I think they will both be real assets to this commission. And I look forward to working with them.

Mr. Allison thanked Mr. Mackey for all of his diligence and hard work on putting this together.

Any other comments or questions from council members?

Ms. Miele asked if these two potentially appointments to council where do they leave us in terms of members that we need -- that we still need on the accessibility commission?

Mr. Mackey answered City Council will still need one more. And then the mayor will also appoint two members. I still am actively working on getting some more names. So -- and I don't know if the mayor can speak to where he is at.

Mayor Slaughter stated that he has reached out to a few, but still doesn't have any confirmations as of yet. I'm hoping in the very near future to hear something one way or the other. One -- one seems a little promising, but we will have to see.

Mr. Mackey told Mayor Slaughter that he will e-mail you tomorrow just to make sure that we're not talking to the same people. But I hope to have at least two more candidates on committee agendas next -- I guess it would be the -- the 1st would be the next committee meeting.

Ms. Miele stated we spoke to both of these individuals in the finance committee. Both seemed exceptionally competent and capable of advising us in particular on this matter. But frankly they're people who would be an asset to city government in general. I would recommend both serve on the commission.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion and second for Mr. Mogovaro for appointment to the accessibility committee.

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

Mr. Allison asked for a vote.

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

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.

Mr. Allison asked for a motion and second for appointment of Mr. Moore.

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

Mr. Allison asked for a vote on the motion.

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

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.

Ordinance – Forty Seventh Year (2021) Community Development Budget(first reading)

The City Clerk read the ordinance in first reading.

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

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

Mr. Memmi Good evening, Mr. Chairman and members of council. We presented this to the finance committee on Tuesday. And I'll try to give a brief synopsis of the information that you have in front of you. And then I'm willing to entertain any questions that you might have. This is the 2021 budget for CDBG and Home. The anticipated revenue is 1,362,506, 1,03900.00 of Home Program. And Home program income of \$115,000. The anticipated expenditures are as followed: Under public facilities and improvements, we're looking at \$716,864. And that gets broken down into street construction and reconstruction of \$400,000. The removal of architectural barriers at \$80,000. The Willow Sstreet design is and program delivery is \$52,950. Under public services we're looking at a total of \$21,530. And that breakdown is as follows. The county SPCA for their spay and neuter program and their live catch and spay neuter program \$10,000. Fire Tree for after school program for the youth Williamsport \$8,000. Program delivery of \$3,530. The next major item is the housing rehab and preservation program. And that total will be \$330,753 broken down as to owner occupied single-family grants and loan program for code and safety repair of \$141,016. Handicapped accessibility is \$15,000. The program delivery is \$174,737.

Then we have the home buyer assistance through our coto which we are required to set aside 15%.

And that would be the greater habitat for humanity of \$30,000 and then the city's home buyer assistance program of \$15,000. So the home buyer assistance program's total is \$45,000., Under blight and elimination, we're looking at a total expenditure of \$19,709. Codes related demolition, 15,000.

Program delivery, \$4,709. A question that finance committee had asked, we did complete a demolition through the codes office in the first quarter of 2020. And looking to do another one. Hopefully before the end of the year. Then we have the Home and CDBG administration of \$228,650. 20% of that is the allocation under CDBG and 10% comes from the home program. Those are the maximums as allowed by housing and urban development.

Ms. Miele stated that finance forwarded it to the full body of Council with a positive recommendation..

The majority of discussions centered around some questions related to the Willow Street design.

The CDBG budget is perhaps simpler this year than it usually is. For the last several years we've had a small portion of the budget going to the rescue workers and sometimes we have a handful of projects in that -- in that sort of first category where we handle streets. But this year it is pretty cut and dry.

So the main discussion item was the amount of funding that we had incorporated for the willow street design and exactly what was intended moving forward with the willow street project.

We had received several years ago and you will excuse me me, I did not remember to look this up.

But a couple of years ago we had received a million dollar grant for -- to create a green alley on willow street. But the grant funds are for infrastructure for the actual buildout of the design -- the design cannot be taken out of those grant funds. Consequently we will be funding the design portion.

But I believe from the discussion at finance committee that in terms of the money that we have in the willow street project which of course is part of the larger 3rd street project, we have \$67,000 from the -- the foundation, the First Community Foundation. And the \$11,000 from the city from a line of borrowing, I believe, but you may need to correct me there. As well as this designated funding from community development. And the concept is we have -- we have about -- we have seven bids for the design work. And we will be looking at those and choosing one in December according to the city engineer.

The idea would be that between the amount of the bid and the administrative costs within community development, that \$183,000 -- \$183,914 would cover the total of the design cost.

The major issue of course will be exactly what we wind up including in that design and to what extent the design -- the cost of the design is in line with what we had originalled estimates several years ago now when we asked for and received the grant funding. Everything was in line with the budget.

And Mr. Memmi did an admirable job presenting it under the circumstances. City hall had been briefly shut down and Mr. Memmi was working at home without all of the documentation.

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

The ordinance was carried in first reading with seven yes roll call votes. The vote was 7 to 0. All were in favor.

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.

Accept for Filing:

Public Works Meeting Minutes 07/07/20

Public Safety Meeting Minutes 07/07/20

Finance Meeting Minutes 11/03/20

ERC Meeting Minutes 10/23/20

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

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

Mr. Allison asked for a vote on the minutes.

The minutes were accepted for filing 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.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 19, 2020

Budget Session #1 is Monday, November 30, 2020 at 7:00 PM and Budget Session #2 is Wednesday, December 2, 2020 at 7:00 PM. The next regularly scheduled City Council meeting will be held on Thursday, December 3, 2020 at 6:30 PM, **per remote.**

Upcoming Meetings:

Friday, Nov. 19	11:00 AM ERC
Thursday, Nov. 26	Thanksgiving Day
Friday, Nov. 27	CITY HALL CLOSED
Monday, Nov.30	7:00 PM Budget Session #1
Tuesday, Dec. 1	11:30 AM Public Safety 1:00 PM Finance Meeting 2:30 PM Public Works Meeting
Wednesday, Dec.2	7:00 PM Budget Session #2
Thursday, Dec. 3	6:30 PM City Council meeting

[Meetings Held in Trade & Transit, Unless Otherwise Noted – [scr] = William Sechler Community Room]

Mr. Allison asked for comments from members of Council.

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

Mr. Allison asked for comments from members of the Administration.

Mayor Slaughter stated Just as, you know, COVID is starting to rear its head again here an uptick in our area, remind everybody to stay vigilant. Try to adhere to the guidance and continue to work together.

You know, stay healthy, stay safe as we all try to get through this together. Just ask people to, you know, continue to hang in there and, you know, let's work together to get through this.

Mr. Allison asked for comments from members of the General Public

President Council Allison,

My name is Jay Harner. I interviewed on November 3 to be part of the Accessibility Commission for the City.

After my interview, Councilman Mackey emailed me questioning my address and exactly where I lived in connection within the City. After a little research, it appears that I do not live within the city limits and do not qualify to be part of the commission. I want to state to the Council how disappointed I am to not be able to provide my insight, experience, thoughts, and ideas to the proposed Commission.

Being a quadriplegic for the past 23 years, I have dealt many prejudices, lack of access and many misunderstandings that come along with having a disability. It was my hope that being part of the Commission would bring some of these experiences to the forefront involving accessibility throughout the City. While I may not live directly inside City limits, I am a full-time employee that works within the City of Williamsport. I also pay Williamsport City taxes and my children go to Williamsport Area School District. I believe by limiting the pool of applicants to directly live within the City limits, you are handcuffing yourself to potential candidates for the Commission. I understand this statement may be too little too late for the Commission and its structure but I believe the Commission should have a voice be heard for those who live directly outside the City. If it is possible, I urge you to reconsider adding a position onto the Commission for someone who fits this description.

Jay Harner
4350 Bloomingrove Road
Williamsport PA 17701

Adjournment

Mr. Allison asked for a motion to adjourn. **Mrs. Katz made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Pulizzi.** Meeting was adjourned with at **7:04 PM** with unanimous ayes.

Respectfully Submitted by

Janice M. Frank
City Clerk