

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILLIAMSON, WEST VIRGINIA, HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF CITY HALL ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015, AT 6:00 P.M.

Mayor Robert Carlton opened the meeting by requesting that those present please bow their heads for prayer and remain standing for the Pledge of Allegiance, with the prayer being offered up by Chief of Police, Barry Blair.

The Mayor next requested a Roll Call and it was ascertained by the City Clerk the following persons were present, in person:

| | |
|------------------|--|
| MAYOR: | ROBERT CARLTON |
| COUNCIL MEMBERS: | YORK SMITH SHERRI HAIRSTON BROWN JUDITH HAMRICK MATTHEW NEWSOME |
| CITY ATTORNEY: | JOSHUA FERRELL |

Mayor Carlton requested approval of the Minutes of the meetings held October 8, 2015. Whereupon, Councilman Matthew Newsome moved to approve said Minutes and which motion was seconded by Judith Hamrick, and carried.

Teresa McCune questioned the Council about information she obtained from the West Virginia Public Service Commission's website stating the Williamson Utility Board is not providing the Public Service Commission with the financial data they have requested. She thinks the

citizens should know what is going on. The Mayor explained to Ms. McCune that he is working with Mr. Rodecker, the Williamson Utility Board Attorney, to provide the Public Service Commission with all of the information they have requested.

Shawn Williamson informed the Council of a one thousand dollar donation from Logan Regional Hospital. He also informed that the Appalachian Regional Hospital will be donating five hundred dollars. The donations were for the Williamson Board of Parks and Recreation to purchase mulch for the playground by the Community Center.

Steven Hager asked the Council if the West Virginia Department of Highways will be “fixing” all of Vinson Street. Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown stated the City placed the pipes up Vinson Street, so the City should be responsible for replacing them. Mr. Hager questioned why Veolia employees were working on the repairs. Jason Allen, Project Manager for Veolia Water, explained that the state provided the materials and funding to get the repairs finished and the road reopened sooner. It was then questioned if the State was paying the Veolia workers. Mr. Allen informed that the State is not paying the Veolia employees. Mr. Hager explained a situation with a sink hole in the yard of a residence who has an Autistic child. Mr. Hager questioned if the City could place a metal sheet

over the hole to prevent the child from accidentally falling in. Mr. Allen explained that the City does not have a metal sheet large enough to cover it.

With no further comments from the audience, the Mayor moved on down the agenda to Old Business. The Council did not have any old business to address at this time.

Mayor Carlton then presented General Fund bills in the amount of \$11,870.67, and following review thereof, Councilwoman Judith Hamrick moved to approve the said bills as the money is available, and which motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown and carried.

The next item on the agenda was personnel, whereupon a motion was made by Sherri Hairston-Brown to go into executive session and which motion was seconded by Councilman York Smith, and carried. The Council went into executive session at 6:31p.m.

7:24p.m. Mayor Carlton reconvened the meeting.

Mayor Carlton deviated from the agenda and requested Brandon Ball, Director of the Williamson Board of Parks and Recreation give an update on the Park Board. Mr. Ball had to leave early due to a prior commitment.

After Mr. Ball's report, the Mayor returned to the agenda.

The first personnel matter before the Council was adjustment to the City Clerk's salary. A motion was made by Councilwoman Judith Hamrick

to adjust the City Clerk's salary to \$36,000, which motion was seconded by Councilman York Smith, and carried.

The next personnel item brought before the Council was the termination of a custodian. A motion was made by Councilwoman Judith Hamrick to terminate the most recently hired custodian, and said motion was seconded by Councilman York Smith, and carried.

The Mayor explained that he had previously agreed to serve as Municipal Judge providing doing so would not interfere with his private law practice. He informed the Council that the City Attorney had informed him that it would in fact interfere. Mayor Carlton respectfully declines the position of Municipal Judge. Councilwoman Judith Hamrick thought it would be necessary to amend the current Municipal Judge Ordinance to allow the Council a broader search area for the position. Whereupon a motion was made by Councilwoman Judith Hamrick to have the City Attorney prepare an amended Ordinance removing the clause requiring the City Attorney to be a resident of Williamson, and the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown, and carried.

The final personnel item was brought before the Council by Fire Chief Joey Carey. Chief Carey requested the Council employee Zachary Collins, Ashley Collins, and Jonathan Carola as part-paid firefighters. Ashley

Collins is not certified as a firefighter, but will be enrolling in a class immediately. The other two men are certified firefighters, with Jonathan Carola also certified as a paramedic. Chief Carey explained to the Council that part paid firefighters are paid only fifteen dollars per call. Whereupon a motion was made by Councilman York Smith to hire the three men recommended by Chief Carey, with said motion being seconded by Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown, and Carried.

The Mayor presented the Council with first reading of the amendments to Ordinance 175.07 and Ordinance 175.08, which amendment removes the funds from being restricted to Municipal Court, and now restricts the funds for equipment for the Williamson Police Department. A motion was made by Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown to accept the first reading of the amended Ordinance, and said motion was seconded by Councilman York Smith, and carried.

The Citizens for a Better Williamson group requested the Council make a contribution to the Halloween party scheduled to be held on the night of Trick-or-Treat, October 29, 2015, at the Williamson Field House. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown to contribute two-hundred dollars to the Williamson Board of Parks

for the Halloween party, and motion was seconded by Councilwoman Judith Hamrick, and carried.

Sergeant John Hall, with the Williamson Police Department, approached the City Council requesting an amendment to Ordinance 345.36, the Ordinance allowing Hatfield McCoy trail riders to use certain streets in the City.

The Mayor asked if any members of Council had any comments. Councilwoman Sherri-Hairston Brown requested the ditch lines on Mulberry Street be cleaned out, parking meters to be placed on Court Street, tickets be placed on vehicles parking in spaces reserved for Coal House visitors also on Court Street, and the Court House employees be stopped from parking in the grass along the floodwall on first avenue. Jason Allen has supplied the City Clerk with a quote for parking meters. Mr. Allen will purchase the meters to install on Court Street.

Councilman Matthew Newsome requested limbs on a tree, owned by the City, to be cut because they are overreaching Mr. Verdell Banks property and blocking the light from the street light. Councilman Newsome also requested the street department repair potholes on Reservoir Loop. Jason Allen will work on Councilman Newsome's request.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the same was adjourned, upon motion by Councilwoman Judith Hamrick seconded by Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown, and carried.

MAYOR

CITY CLERK