

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, JANUARY 28, 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 the Mayor himself.

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

Shawn Williamson approached Council requesting an update on the request, made by the City Council, for the FBI to investigate the Williamson Utility Board. Mayor Carlton informed Mr. Williamson that the West Virginia Public Service Commission had conducted a complete audit of the Williamson Utility Board and that he was satisfied with the results of that audit. Mr. Williamson was not satisfied with the Mayor's response and repeated his question. Councilwoman Judith Hamrick informed Mr. Williamson that she had personally contacted the U.S. Attorney's Office inquiring about the status of the request made by Council. The U.S. Attorney's Office informed her they were busy with a "Coal Company Case" at that time. She went on to inform Mr. Williamson that she has since received a letter from U.S. Attorney, Booth Goodwin, informing her that he

had received the request to conduct an investigation, but he could not comment on any possible investigations.

There being no other public comments, Mayor Carlton requested approval of the Minutes of the meeting held January 14, 2016. Councilman Newsome pointed out an error on page three of the minutes in which it was stated that he had seconded a motion. Mr. Newsome was absent from said meeting. He asked that it be corrected by the Clerk. The Clerk will make the correction. Whereupon, Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown moved to approve the minutes with the corrections and which motion was seconded by Councilman York Smith, and carried.

The Mayor moved on down the agenda to Old Business. The only item of business presented under old business was the approval of the lease for Wright's Tree Service in Fairview Addition. Councilwoman Judith Hamrick had requested Jason Allen, Project Manager for Veolia Water, and Fire Chief Joey Carey to use the single GPS coordinate provided by the Wright's Tree Service and create a parcel map from that point. The map was presented to the Council with the boundaries being two hundred feet in all four directions from the GPS point provided. The Council asked Mr. Allen to make adjustments to the map that would encompass the entire parking lot on the map and present it to the City Attorney. A motion was made by Councilwoman Judith Hamrick to table to lease approval until next meeting and which motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown, and carried.

Mayor Carlton then presented General Fund bills in the amount of \$22,995.05, and following review thereof, Councilwoman Judith Hamrick moved to approve the payment of 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. A motion was made by Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown to go into executive session and was seconded by Councilman Matthew Newsome, and carried. The Council went into executive session at 6:13 P.M.

At 7:23 P.M., the Mayor reconvened the meeting. The Mayor informed those present that the personnel items had been addressed.

The Mayor presented Ordinance 175.03 to Council for approval. The amendment removes the language requiring the Municipal Judge to be a resident of the City of Williamson and replacing it with language requiring the Municipal Judge to be a resident of Mingo County. Whereupon a motion was made by Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown to approve the amendment to Ordinance 175.03 and which motion was seconded by Councilwoman Judith Hamrick, and carried.

Fire Chief, Joey Carey approached the Council with an update on the Emergency Service Fees. He presented the members of Council with copies of an Ordinance prepared by the City Attorney. Chief Carey pointed out issues with the language in the proposed Ordinance. It reads that the City will bill commercial property owners at a rate of one thousand dollars per hour for services provided by the Williamson Fire Department. He suggested that it read the maximum billing amount will be one thousand dollars since most insurance has a maximum of one thousand dollars that can be billed for fire services in the owner's policy. The same language was included in the section for residential billing, too, and Chief Carey suggested the language should read the maximum billing amount will be one thousand dollars for service provided for residential property owner's since most

insurance has a maximum of one thousand dollars that can be billed. Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown asked Chief Carey if this was the same Ordinance he presented in the previous meeting. Chief Carey informed the Councilwoman that it was not and this Ordinance was prepared by the City Attorney. The Mayor informed the Council that he had made the changes to the Ordinance. His changes reflected what he “thought should be billed for services.” The Council did not take action on the Ordinance, and instructed Chief Carey to work with the City Attorney and prepare Ordinance that includes the language as recommended by the Chief.

Chief Carey then presented the Council with a contract from Medical Claims Assistance for billing services. Medical Claims Assistance will be responsible for billing insurance companies for services of the Williamson Fire Department. The Mayor requested a “thirty day kick out clause” in the contract. Councilwoman Judith Hamrick stated she wanted the “kick out clause” to be for sixty days instead of thirty days because sixty days would more appropriate for billing purposes. The contract was tabled until the next meeting.

The Chief of Police, Barry Blair, gave the Council an update on fuel cards. He contacted Automotive Resource International and the State of West Virginia concerning the cards. The cards can only be used to purchase fuel. This would eliminate the need for the City to keep fuel tanks at the City garage on Vinson Street. The Mayor expressed his satisfaction of the good work the Chief does for the City, and Councilwoman Judith Hamrick stated she hoped the Chief would have everything ready by the next meeting so the Council could approve the cards. The Council discussed the benefits of using cards and the ability to assign accountability to each employee. The

Clerk informed the Council that the Auditor's keep "writing us up" since we do not have these controls in place.

The Mayor reported the success of the job fair held last week at the Field House. He also informed everyone of the recent Public Service Commission hearings held concerning the Water and Wastewater rates.

Councilman York Smith commended Veolia Water for their efforts in keeping the streets plowed during the recent snow storm, and commended the Fire Department for checking on him during the storm.

Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown also applauded Veolia Water and the Fire Department for their work during the snow storm. She stated she had not received any complaints during the storm. She also praised the Police Department for being out during the storm, even though they only had "one cruiser that could get out during the storm."

Councilman Judith Hamrick expressed her satisfaction with the Fire Departments response during the storm. She explained she had checked with the departments before the storm hit Williamson, and the City Clerk had also checked with the departments. She was pleased how every department was prepared ahead of time for the storm, and stated "that is how you get it run right—they did the job." She thanked all departments for their work. Councilwoman Hamrick then asked Marvi Rosen if she had a chance to speak with the County Commission concerning the Fairview Cemetery. Mrs. Rosen advised she had not and needed to find out when the next meeting will be. Councilwoman Hamrick volunteered to assist Mrs. Rosen once she finds out.

Councilman Matthew Newsome also expressed his satisfaction with the work of all departments during the snow storm, too. He requested that Veolia Water make the roadway from the rail road crossing to the

Williamson PK-8 school a priority because he had received several complaints of how bad the roadway was when school went back in session after the storm.

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

MAYOR

CITY CLERK