

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, NOVEMBER 12, 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: SHERRI HAIRSTON BROWN
JUDITH HAMRICK
MATTHEW NEWSOME

CITY ATTORNEY: JOSHUA FERRELL

Councilman York Smith was absent from the meeting due to illness.

Carol Williamson with the Appalachian Brotherhood approached the Council requesting the organization have permission to hold Rally in the Valley in the City again this year. They requested to hold the event in downtown from June 3, 2016 to June 5, 2016. They requested the use of Second Avenue and Logan Street for the event. A motion was made by Councilwoman Judith Hamrick to approve the Rally in the Valley to be held on June 3, 2016 through June 5, 2016, which motion was seconded by

Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown, and carried. The Council will take up the approval of the use of the streets at a later date.

Jada Hunter, President of Action in Mingo, gave the Council an update on the Great White Way, which is held annually in downtown. Ms. Hunter requested the use of Logan Street between Hurley Drug Store and First National Bank and Second Avenue from the Coal House to the end of the block in front of the Court House. A motion was made by Councilwoman Judith Hamrick to approve the request, and said motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown, and carried.

Ms. Hunter requested the Council contribute two hundred and twenty five dollars toward the bake off competition held during the Great White Way event. A motion was made by Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown, and carried.

Ms. Hunter then asked the Council to consider waiving the fifteen dollar fee previously imposed by the Council. After a short discussion, the Council tabled a vote on waiving the fee.

Sherry Hatfield approached the Council with concerns about the ditches and trees along Mulberry Street. She informed the Council that the ditches along the street had not been cleared. It was mentioned in a previous meeting that the ditches would be cleaned out. She is concerned a hard raid

will cause the ditches to over flow. The Council requested again that Jason Allen, Project Manager for Veolia Water, look into these issues.

Madonna Shapiro informed the Council that a tree was growing on land owned by the City and it was leaning toward her house and her neighbor's house. She also expressed concerned about pine trees growing on her neighbor's property and hitting her windows. The Fire Chief has been up to the area and inspected the issue. The Fire Chief will check on this matter again.

Teresa McCune with Citizens for a Better Williamson informed the Council about their work to revive the Halloween event at the Williamson Field House. The group had over one thousand children attend the event.

Ms. McCune expressed concerns about trees on the Fairview Cemetery. The Mayor informed that he had spoken to the Judge requesting assistance from the Judge's Work Program in cleaning up the Cemetery.

Ms. McCune also questioned if material requested by the West Virginia Public Service Commission would be submitted by the deadline. They Mayor informed her that he had spoken with Mr. Rodecker, attorney for the Utility Board, and he anticipated all items would be submitted on time.

Dee Kapourales informed the Council that someone had dumped old furniture on the sidewalk on Elm Street. She presented the Council with pictures of the furniture. It is unclear who has dumped the furniture. She also mentioned an old mattress that has been on Logan Street near the old Central Fruit store. She also mentioned the lights are all out in the walkway underpass. Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown requested that the Police Department cite individuals for placing garbage illegally on the streets, and the garbage department crews pick it up instead of leaving it to create an eyesore.

Mayor Carlton requested approval of the Minutes of the meetings held October 22, 2015 and special meeting November 5, 2015. Whereupon, Councilman Matthew Newsome moved to approve said Minutes and which motion was seconded by Judith Hamrick. Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown pointing out a few corrections need to be made. The motion carried. The Clerk will make the necessary corrections.

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.

The Mayor then requested the Council consider having a Christmas party for city employees, city residents and “friends.” After a brief

discussion, the Mayor requested a motion be made to approve the party.

With no Council member making a motion, the request died due to a lack of motion.

Mayor Carlton then presented General Fund bills in the amount of \$120,480.00, and following review thereof, Councilman Matthew Newsome moved to approve the said bills as the money is available, and which motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown and carried.

Mayor Carlton then presented Coal Severance bills in the amount of \$4,913.02, and following review thereof, Councilwoman Judith Hamrick moved to approve the said bills as the money is available, and which motion was seconded by Councilman Matthew Newsome and carried.

The Mayor requested the Council consider approval of the Proclamation proclaiming the week of November 22, 2015 through November 28, 2015 as Christian Heritage Week in the City of Williamson as requested by Governor Earl Ray Tomblin. A motion was made by Councilman Matthew Newsome to approve the proclamation and was seconded by Councilwoman Judith Hamrick, and carried.

The Mayor presented the Council with second 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 Judith Hamrick to accept the second reading of the amended Ordinance, and said motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown, and carried.

The Mayor presented the Council with first reading of the amendments to Ordinance 345.36. The changes will add access to the future campground by allowing ATV's to use Route 52 along fourth avenue, and access from the Hatfield McCoy trail connector to West Williamson via old Route fifty-two. The riders will be required to have a Hatfield McCoy Trail pass to access the roads. A motion was made by Councilwoman Judith Hamrick to accept the second reading of the amended Ordinance, and said motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown, and carried.

The next item brought before the Council was a request by the Mayor to consider updating the emergency service response fees. The fees cover automobile accidents and fires. The current fees are as follows: house fire is five hundred dollars and automobile accident is two hundred fifty dollars and five hundred dollars if extrication is required. The Fire Chief explained the fees are charged to the individual's insurance policy, not the individual.

The Ordinance does not allow individuals to be charged if they do not have insurance on their home. The Council did not take action on the request.

The Mayor then requested approval of a Homeland Security Grant in the amount of twenty eight thousand five hundred dollars. Councilwoman Judith Hamrick explained that the grant for VOAD to fund a trailer for emergency service. The grant must be passed through a local government, and VOAD has requested it pass through the City. A motion was made by Councilwoman Judith Hamrick and seconded by Councilman Matthew Newsome to approve the grant, 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