

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, MARCH 10, 2016, AT 6:00 P.M.

The City Clerk, Larry Brown, called the meeting to order and called the roll.

The Clerk ascertained the following persons were present, in person:

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

Mayor, Robert Carlton, was absent from the meeting.

After determining there was a quorum present, the City Clerk requested a motion to appoint a Mayor pro-tem to conduct the meeting. A motion was made by Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown to appoint Matthew Newsome Mayor Pro-tem, which motion was seconded by Councilwoman Judith Hamrick, and carried.

Mayor pro-tem, Matthew Newsome, requested that those present please bow their heads for prayer and remain standing for the Pledge of Allegiance, with the prayer being offered up by Roy Rolen.

Charlene Tincher approached the Council with her concerns about the mudslide on Goodman Avenue. The hillside has slid into her house. Ms. Tincher asked that the Council do something immediately to correct the problem, but Mayor Pro-tem Newsome explained that we have filed an insurance claim so the City cannot work on the slide because it will mitigate the claim. The City Clerk, Larry Brown, explained that the insurance will be contacting Ms. Tincher in the near future. After a lengthy discussion, Mayor Pro-tem Newsome explained to Ms. Tincher that the Council has received

recommendations to correct the issue from a civil engineer and will be discussing those recommendations later in the meeting.

Terry Hale came before the Council to discuss her concerns with individuals living at the water tower behind her house on Goodman Avenue. The Police Chief and Jason Allen, Project Manager for Veolia Water, will check on this.

Teresa McCune asked the Council about the City making an agreement concerning the ongoing water issue. She was informed that a meeting occurred between the Utility Board Attorney and the West Virginia Public Service Commission concerning that agreement. Mayor Pro-tem Newsome explained to Ms. McCune that if an agreement has been made concerning the water and sewer issue, the Council has not been included in those discussions.

Ms. McCune went on to raise concerns about complaints she had received about the police department making Williamson a “speed trap.” Mayor Pro-tem Newsome informed Ms. McCune that the Council did not have any issues with the police department enforcing the law.

Tom Gannon, a resident of Peter Street, approached the Council about problems with trash on the street, dilapidated buildings and houses on the street, and stray dogs on the street. The Chief of Police will address the trash issues, and the City Clerk will contact the County Commission concerning the issue with stray dogs. Mayor Pro-tem Newsome suggested Mr. Gannon contact the County Commission concerning the dilapidated buildings on the street because they have funding for a program to possibly remove those structures.

There being no other public comments, Mayor Pro-tem Newsome requested approval of the Minutes of the special meeting held February 24, 2016 and the Minutes of the regular meeting held on February 25, 2016. Whereupon, Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown moved to approve the

minutes and which motion was seconded by Councilman York Smith, and carried.

Mayor Pro-tem Newsome moved on down the agenda to Old Business. Councilwoman Judith Hamrick met with the Civil Engineer concerning the repairs on Goodman Avenue and on Vinson Street. In a lengthy presentation, she went over the engineer's report which contained recommendations to rectify the issues in both locations. The Council will wait to hear from the City's Insurance before taking action.

The Council discussed the issue with Park Street. FEMA had previously approved funding to do the repairs. It was determined by the City Attorney that bids will need to be accepted since the original bidder, approved by FEMA, could not do the repairs. A motion was made by Councilwoman Judith Hamrick and seconded by Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown to bid out the repairs, and carried. Jason Allen will take care of the bids.

Mayor Pro-tem requested the Council approve the February financial report as presented by the City Clerk. Whereupon Councilwoman Judith Hamrick made a motion to approve the report as presented, and which motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown, and carried.

Mayor Pro-tem then presented General Fund bills in the amount of ninety seven thousand six hundred ninety eight dollars and fifty-seven cents and following review thereof, Councilman York Smith made a motion to approve the payment of the bills when the money becomes available, and which motion was seconded by Councilwoman Judith Hamrick, and carried.

The Fire Chief requested the Council give approval of a memo of understanding between the Williamson Fire Department and Mingo County Emergency Services because the Fire Department is used as a shelter during emergency events. A motion was made by Councilwoman Judith Hamrick to

approve the memo of understanding and which motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown, and carried.

The Fire Chief gave the Council a brief update on the status of the ambulance, and requested a workshop with the Council to go over the proposal in more detail. The Council was in agreement to hold a workshop.

Councilwoman Sherri Hairston-Brown asked the Police Chief about an accident earlier today that involved a police cruiser. The Chief briefly explained the incident to the Council. Councilwoman Hairston-Brown then asked the Police Chief to address the ongoing issue with Mike's Tires blocking Pike Street and taking up parking spaces on the Police Department's parking lot to work on cars. She requested the end of the parking lot being used by the business be blocked off with barriers to prevent them from using it. The Council was in agreement to block off that section of the parking lot. The Chief of Police requested the Council consider leasing that section of the parking lot to Mike's Tires, but the Council did not approve the request.

Councilwoman Hairston-Brown then requested Jason Allen address issues on Vinson Street with City drains not being cleaned out. The Councilwoman has cleaned several of the drains herself, and asked that Mr. Allen have the others cleaned. Mr. Allen will have the drains cleaned out.

Councilwoman Judith Hamrick addressed the issues with litter in the City and encouraged the news media and the citizens to assist with keeping the City clean.

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

MAYOR

CITY CLERK