

**CITY OF WILLIAMSTON
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 14, 2005
MINUTES**

Mayor Zichi called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 161 E. Grand River Ave., Williamston, Michigan. Mayor Zichi led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Zichi, Mayor Pro-Tem Wittrup, Council Members Davis, DeForest, Hanna, Monroe, VanAllsburg
Absent: None
Others: City Manager Hitchcock, Attorney Perrone, Executive Secretary Garnham, Police Chief Ambs
Visitors: Enterprise Reporter Will Whelton, CADL Representative Nancy Bujold, Ernie St. Pierre, Jeff Bartrem

4. Approval of Agenda

Motion by **DeForest**, second by **Wittrup** to approve the agenda as presented. Voice vote all Yes. **Motion carried.**

5. Audience Participation (non-agenda items)

There was no audience participation.

6. Approval of Minutes – Regular Council Meeting of February 28, 2005

Motion by **DeForest**, seconded by **Wittrup**, to approve the minutes as presented. Voice vote all Yes. **Motion carried.**

7. Accounts Payable

Hanna reported that the accounts payable, reference numbers 4307-4394, total \$129,008.67 and include payroll, consultant and attorney fees, utilities, insurance premiums and other miscellaneous supplies and services. Motion by **Hanna**, seconded by **Wittrup**, to approve the accounts payable as presented. Yes: Davis, Monroe, VanAllsburg, Hanna, Zichi, DeForest, Wittrup. No: none. **Motion carried.**

8. Action Items

a. Library Trust Expenses

Prior to the February 28, 2005 City Council Meeting, the Library Foundation had submitted invoices totaling \$3,500 to the City with a request for payment from the Library Trust Account. During the February 28, 2005 meeting, Council tabled the issue of payment of the invoices pending inquiry as to whether the Capital Area District Library (CADL) would pay them. An additional invoice for \$1,500 was submitted by the Library Foundation just prior to this meeting, bringing the invoice total to \$5,000.

City Manager Hitchcock stated that CADL would not pay for the invoices as they were for items not normally covered by CADL and the expenses had not been pre-approved.

Zichi stated that the Trust Account contained proceeds from fundraising activities, and that the intent of the fundraisers as presented to the public was for construction of a new library. Jeff Bartrem stated that the funds were to have been held by the City for the Foundation pending the Foundation's incorporation as non-profit (501)(c)(3) organization, and were to have been turned over to the Foundation at that time.

Motion by **Wittrup**, seconded by **VanAllsburg** to pay the Library Foundation invoices as presented, totaling \$5,000.

Further discussion ensued.

Mayor Zichi called for a vote on the motion. Yes: Wittrup, Davis, Monroe, VanAllsburg, Hanna. No: Zichi, DeForest. **Motion carried.**

b. Board Appointment

Mayor Zichi stated that he had spoken with Keith Honey, a long-time member of the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA), and that Mr. Honey wished to resign. Mayor Zichi stated that Joseph Rozovics, a member of the Planning Commission, was interested in serving on the ZBA. The Mayor referred to the legal opinion regarding appointment of a Planning Commission member to the ZBA, pointing out the language about conflicts of interest. Motion by **DeForest**, seconded by **Wittrup** to affirm the Mayor's appointment of Joseph Rozovics to the ZBA with a term to end January 1, 2008. Voice vote all Yes. **Motion carried.**

c. Library Property Lease Resolution

Mayor Zichi stated that he had met with representatives of Williamstown Township and Wheatfield Township to discuss formation of a Joint Building Authority for construction of a new library, and that all parties to these discussions concurred that the current library site, owned by the City, was the preferred location for a new library due to cost concerns. However, the Townships had requested confirmation that the terms which had been discussed had the support of the City Council.

The Mayor further stated that Locke Township had been mentioned in the resolution so that in the event that they wished to participate in construction of a new library, the groundwork was in place.

Motion by **DeForest**, seconded by **Wittrup**, to approve City Council Resolution 04-05 as presented. Yes: Davis, Monroe, VanAllsburg, Hanna, Zichi, DeForest, Wittrup. No: none. **Motion carried.**

d. Title VI Policy Statement

City Manager Lisa Hitchcock stated that a Title VI policy was required by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) in order to receive federal funds. VanAllsburg questioned the omission of several possible grounds for discrimination, such as sexual preference. Attorney Perrone said that the policy as presented used the federally approved language. VanAllsburg also questioned the concept of Title VI accomplishments and goals as stated in the policy. City Manager Hitchcock stated that the goals were to comply with the policy, and to include Title VI language in contracts, publications, etc.

Motion by **DeForest**, seconded by **Wittrup**, to approve the Title VI policy as presented. Yes: Hanna, Zichi, DeForest, Wittrup, Davis, Monroe, VanAllsburg. No: none. **Motion carried.**

9. Discussion Items

None.

10. Correspondence Received / Information Only

Mayor Zichi passed out two letters: one from Joel Yauk, a Boy Scout from Troop 63 regarding the City's proposed Park and Recreation Plan; and the Mayor's reply.

11. Staff Reports

a. City Manager

City Manager Hitchcock submitted a written report. She added the following items verbally: the closing on the property at 105 High Street had been scheduled for March 16th; she met with Councilman DeForest to discuss Charter Amendments for the November 2005 election; she received comments from Attorney Bonnie Toskey regarding the draft Personnel Manual which would be passed on to the Labor Committee; the old DPW garage will be used for collection of household hazardous waste on March 19th; she spoke with a representative of CSX regarding Right of Way issues.

b. City Attorney

No report.

c. Police Chief

No report.

d. Treasurer

Treasurer Alan Dolley submitted budget printouts for February 2005. Zichi questioned the amount spent on repair and maintenance in the Police Department budget. City Manager Hitchcock stated that it appeared that items for the new police car had been charged to the wrong budget line.

12. Committee / Sub-Committee Reports

a. Legislative Director

DeForest submitted a written report. He added the following items verbally: the State budget will be late; Wolverine Pipeline has had issues with Right of Way for a new pipeline to transport gas to Traverse City; Toronto has a long-term contract with a commercial dump for disposal of their trash (approximately 400 truckloads per day); Proposition 2 may be a source of revenue for replacement of water/sewer mains.

13. Audience Participation (non-agenda items)

There was no audience participation.

14. Council Member Comments

VanAllsburg – appreciated article about the library in the Enterprise.

Hanna – asked about CPR training confirmation.

Wittrup – stated article about Monroe in the Lansing State Journal was great.

Zichi – Monroe deserves the recognition from the Lansing State Journal.

DeForest – also stated that article about Monroe was deserved.

Davis – also congratulated Monroe. Stated that she still sees people parking on sidewalk at Speedway.

Monroe – none.

15. Adjourn

Motion by **DeForest**, seconded by **Wittrup**, to adjourn. Voice vote all Yes.
Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Catherine Garnham, Executive Secretary

Kenneth V. Zichi, Mayor

Date approved: _____