

**CITY OF WILLIAMSTON
CITY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 26, 2005
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

1. Call To Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Kenneth Zichi and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Roll Call:

Mayor Kenneth Zichi, Mayor Pro-tem Robert Hanna, Council Members James DeForest, Brian O'Connell, Penny Davis, George Monroe, Scott VanAllsburg.
Absent: None.

Also Present:

City Manager Lisa Hitchcock, Deputy Clerk Holly Thompson, City Attorney Timothy Perrone, Executive Secretary Catherine Garnham, JFM Productions, Enterprise Reporter Will Whelton, 55th District Court Judge Tom Boyd, citizens Michelle Hyne, Gwen Hulbert, Art Crawford, Ryan Sweeder, Mike Thomas.

4. Approval of Agenda:

Move item 9b. to item 7.5 and add item 9a. Road Connection.

Motion by **DeForest**, second by **Hanna**, to approve the agenda as amended.

Motion passed by voice vote.

5. Audience Participation:

55th District Court Judge, Tom Boyd introduced himself to the City Council.

6. Council Minutes of September 12, 2005:

Motion by **DeForest**, second by **Hanna**, to approve the City Council Regular Meeting Minutes of September 12, 2005 as presented. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

7. Accounts Payable:

Councilman Hanna reported that the accounts payable totaled \$72,158.30 and included attorney payments, consultant fees, bond payments, utilities and other miscellaneous supplies and services. Reference #'s 5367-5421.

Motion by **Hanna**, second by **Monroe**, to approve the accounts payable as presented. Yes: Davis, DeForest, Hanna, Monroe, VanAllsburg, O'Connell, Zichi. No: None. **Motion passed.**

7.5 A Proposal for Use of the Community Center Gym- Lighthouse Community Church:

Pastor Payton distributed a proposal from the Lighthouse Community Church to use of the Community Center gym for a youth center and Sunday services pending analysis of the space. They would also like to explore the possibility of leasing office space. Councilman Hanna asked if the City would be able to use it occasionally. Mayor Zichi commented that no decisions can be made at this time, until the City owns the building but they will keep the offer in mind.

8. Action Items

8a. Red Cedar Retirement Request for Irrigation Well:

Red Cedar Retirement has requested permission to install an irrigation well for the development. The new well would have no impact on the City's wells. City Manager Hitchcock recommended the proposal to Council citing that it would have less of a drain on the City's water system, but would only recommend granting it in this instance. Councilman O'Connell expressed concerns with the City not allowing anyone else a well, except for one development.

Motion by **O'Connell**, second by **VanAllsburg**, to table this issue until the next meeting. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

8b. Appointments to Parks & Recreation Commission:

Mayor Zichi reported that there are more than enough applications to fill the Parks and Recreation Commission. He recommended the appointments of Gwen Hulbert, John Pratt, Ryan Sweeder, Stacie Mullins, Earl Wolf, Nicholas Schall as youth representative, and Frank Buzzitta as Planning Commission Representative.

Motion by **DeForest**, second by **Hanna**, to concur with the Mayor's appointment.. Yes: Davis, Monroe, VanAllsburg, Hanna, Zichi, DeForest, O'Connell. No: None. **Motion passed.**

8c. Master Plan Contract:

Motion by **DeForest**, second by **Hanna**, to approve the contract for consulting services from Fanning and Howey for the Master Plan in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 based on the Planning Commission's recommendation. Yes: O'Connell, Davis, Monroe, VanAllsburg, Hanna, Zichi, DeForest. No: None. **Motion passed.**

8d. Dixon Engineering for Water Tower Interior Painting:

Motion by **DeForest**, second by **Monroe**, to approve the contract with Dixon Engineering for engineering services related to the water tower interior painting project as presented in an amount not to exceed \$8475. Yes: VanAllsburg, Hanna, Zichi, DeForest, O'Connell, Davis, Monroe. No: None. **Motion passed.**

8e. Red Cedar Lift Station Purchase of Pumps:

City Manager Hitchcock reported that the cost to replace the lift station pumps with new ones was slightly higher than it would cost to refurbish the current ones.

Motion by **DeForest**, second by **Hanna**, to approve the purchase of two new pumps for the Red Cedar lift station from Detroit Pump and Manufacturing Company in an amount not to exceed \$7092 as presented. Yes: Davis, Monroe, VanAllsburg, Hanna, Zichi, DeForest, O'Connell. No: None. **Motion passed.**

9. Discussion Items

9a. Road Connection:

Art Crawford of Southfield Dr. commented that there was not enough notification before the Department of Environmental Quality issued the permits for the road connection at Southfield Dr. He spoke with the City Manager and cleared up several misconceptions he had. He added that dead end streets are more attractive to home owners and a connection may decrease property values and no one on Southfield Dr. is in favor of the connections. Mayor Zichi commented that this project has been discussed since 1996. Mike Thomas commented that he is in favor of connecting the roads for security and emergency reasons. Matt Crumback commented that he chose his house on a dead end street because he has a small child and wanted to avoid excessive traffic. Toben Allen asked if the City would also be addressing the re-paving, curb and gutter, and sidewalks on Southfield Dr. when the extra traffic causes further deterioration of the street. Councilman O'Connell asked if there will be more background information for the public to review before the special meeting is held to discuss this issue further. Mayor Zichi answered that there will be. Jeff Shane commented that Southfield Dr. was not engineered to handle high traffic volumes. The Special Meeting to discuss this issue further will be scheduled during the next regular Council meeting.

9b. Granger Agreement:

City Manager Hitchcock reported that the deadline has lapsed on the Granger agreement. She believes that the agreement needs to be reviewed and changes need to be made and suggested the formation of a sub-committee to work on a revised agreement.

Motion by **Hanna**, second by **Monroe**, to create a sub-committee to work with Granger with Mayor Zichi as the Council representative, an EDC/TIFA representative, a Planning Commission representative and staff representatives. Yes: Monroe, VanAllsburg, Hanna, Zichi, DeForest, O'Connell, Davis. No: None. **Motion passed.**

11. Staff Reports

11a. City Manager:

Manager Hitchcock submitted a written report for Council review and added that there will be a Chamber after-hours mixer at the Brookshire Inn on October 5th. There are seven candidates running for City Council in November. The Governor has approved the Charter amendments to go on the ballot.

11b. City Attorney:

No report.

11c. Police Chief:

No report.

11d. Community Development Director:

Director Alfredson submitted a written report for Council review.

11e. August 2005 Water and Wastewater Reports:

A written report was submitted for Council review.

11f. Treasurer- Budget Printout- August 2005:

Treasurer Dolley submitted a budget printout for August 2005.

12. Committee/Sub-Committee Reports

12a. Legislative Director:

James DeForest reported that Senator Bernero expressed general concerns about legislation taking imminent domain and concerns of revenue sharing. Representative Byrum did not see a decrease in revenue sharing for the next year.

13. Audience Participation:

Mayor Zichi called for public comment at this time and there was none.

14. Council Member Comments:

Councilman VanAllsburg commented that the sculpture in the City Hall planter box was created by Mark Chatterly who has developed his own glaze for his pieces. Councilman O'Connell commented that he attended the Library ~~Foundation~~ **Foundation** meeting and was not allowed to participate as they still believe Councilmember Davis is still the representative. Councilman DeForest commented that he enjoyed the Homecoming Parade and congratulated the sophomores on winning the float contest with the theme of Candy Land. Mayor Zichi commented that he also enjoyed the Homecoming Parade.

15. Closed Session – Pending Litigation – Brook Development, LLC vs. City of Williamston; FOP Union Negotiations, and Land Acquisition:

Motion by **DeForest**, second by **Hanna**, to go into closed session for pending litigation- Brook Development, LLC vs. City of Williamston, Fraternal Order of

Police Union Negotiations, and Land Acquisition. Yes: Zichi, DeForest, O'Connell, Davis, Monroe, VanAllsburg, Hanna. No: None. **Motion passed.**

Closed session started at 8:35 p.m.

Motion by **DeForest**, second by **Hanna**, to return to open session. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

Closed session ended at 9:15 p.m.

Action on Closed Session: No action was taken on closed session.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by: _____
Holly M. Thompson, Deputy Clerk

Kenneth V. Zichi, Mayor

Date Approved: _____