

**CITY OF WILLIAMSTON
CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 9, 2007
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

1. Call To Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Mayor Zichi and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Roll Call:

Mayor Kenneth Zichi, Mayor Pro-tem Robert Hanna, Council Members Penny Davis, Michelle Hyne, George Monroe, and Scott VanAllsburg. Absent: Brian O'Connell (arrived at 7:04 p.m.)

Also Present:

City Manager Lisa Hitchcock, City Attorney Timothy Perrone, JFM Productions, Williamston Theatre representative Emily Sutton Smith, and citizens John Pratt, and Mike Thomas.

4. Approval of Agenda:

Add 9b. Parking Requirements in Zoning Ordinance.

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

Motion passed by voice vote.

Councilman O'Connell arrived at 7:04 p.m.

5. Audience Participation:

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

6. Council Minutes of March 26, 2007:

On page 3, item 9c., 7 lines down, change "sunken" to "separate".

Motion by **Hanna**, second by **Davis**, to approve the minutes of March 26, 2007 as amended. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

7. Accounts Payable:

Councilmember Davis reported that the accounts payable totaled \$60,036.87 and included a bond payment, pool contribution, and other miscellaneous supplies and services. Reference #'s 8479-8553.

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

8. Action Items

8a. 317 S. Circle- Water Bill Dispute:

Motion by **Hyne**, second by **Hanna**, to table the 317 S. Circle Drive water bill dispute until the next meeting. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

8b. Williamston Theatre Resolution:

Emily Sutton Smith, Development Director of the Williamston Theatre, asked the City Council to approve the resolution supporting the Theatre's grant proposal from the Michigan Council of Arts and Cultural Affairs for physical improvements to their building. The Council realized that the budget cuts may affect the outcome of the grant proposal.

Motion by **Hanna**, second by **VanAllsburg**, to approve resolution 03-07 supporting the Williamston Theatre grant proposal. Yes: Hanna, Zichi, Hyne, O'Connell, Davis, Monroe, VanAllsburg. No: None. **Motion passed.**

9. Discussion Items

9a. American Legion Request to Place War Memorial:

Councilman Hanna reported that the American Legion had discussed the war memorial in front of City Hall. The new memorial would be twenty-five feet in length and cost between \$7,000 and \$10,000. The American Legion is concerned with what will happen to the City Hall building.

Councilman O'Connell recommended the American Legion going to the Parks and Recreation Commission to see if there is a place in the park that would be appropriate.

Mayor Zichi commented that the future use of the City Hall and historic designation should be discussed at the budget meeting.

9b. Parking Requirements in Zoning Ordinance:

Councilman VanAllsburg commented that there are three different instances where businesses have expressed frustration over parking requirements.

Mayor Zichi commented that there is a "High Cost of Free Parking" book. The Zoning Ordinance errs on that side.

Councilman O'Connell commented that he believes this should be handled by the Planning Commission and the Council should not be micro-managing.

11. Staff Reports

11a. City Manager:

Manager Hitchcock reported on the Rural Development grants.

11b. City Attorney:

No report.

12. Committee/Sub-Committee Report

12a. Legislative Director:

Councilman O'Connell commented that Legislators are on break.

13. Audience Participation:

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

14. Council Member Comments:

Councilman Monroe commented that he is not planning to move at least for another year.

Councilman Hanna commented that the Zoning Board of Appeals members were very professional and explained why they made the rulings the way they did. He also reported that he heard that the Jubilee Committee and school have agreed on how to handle the Jubilee.

John Pratt explained the proposal.

Councilman Hanna commented that the new fire station lot has been cleared and the bank has agreed to the loan.

Councilman VanAllsburg commented that the new play at the Williamston Theatre has an interesting ending.

Mayor Zichi commented that there is a budget workshop on April 14, and invited the public to attend.

15. Closed Session- FOP Union Negotiations:

Motion by **Hanna**, second by **VanAllsburg**, to go into closed session to discuss F.O.P. union negotiations. Yes: Zichi, Hyne, O'Connell, Davis, Monroe, VanAllsburg, Hanna. No: None. **Motion passed.**

Closed session started at 7:56 p.m.

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

Closed session ended at 8:14 p.m.

Action on Closed Session:

None.

16. Adjournment:

Motion by **Hanna**, second by **Davis**, to adjourn. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

***THE PRECEDING MINUTES ARE A SYNOPSIS OF A CITY COUNCIL MEETING AND DO NOT REPRESENT A VERBATIM RECORD.**

Respectfully Submitted by: _____
Lisa K. Hitchcock, City Manager

Kenneth V. Zichi, Mayor

Date Approved: _____