

**CITY OF WILLIAMSTON  
CITY COUNCIL  
JUNE 22, 2009  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**1. Call To Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers by Mayor Michelle Hyne and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**3. Roll Call:**

Mayor Michelle Hyne, Mayor Pro-tem Michael Moody, Council members John Pratt, Carmen Siciliano, Traci Smith, Scott VanAllsburg, and Ken Zichi. Absent: None.

Also Present:

Interim City Manager Timothy Allard, Treasurer Alan Dolley, City Attorney Dave Stoker, Police Chief Mark Hetfield, JFM Productions, Deputy Treasurer Geral Jeffrey, citizens Chad Amutagunda, Dave Minack, Larry Stafford, Paul Joseph, Dawn Marie Joseph, Terri Campbell, Howard Dahlstrom, W Harrison Smith, John, Vickie, Tyler, and Blake Parmer, and other members of the public.

**4. Approval of Agenda:**

Add McKenna and City Attorney as items 10g. and 10h. and move item 9c. to item 9b.

Motion by **Moody**, second by **VanAllsburg**, to approve the agenda as amended. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

**5. Recognition of Eagle Scout Blake Parmer for offer to provide improvements to Community Center:**

Mayor Hyne presented a proclamation to Blake Parmer for his community involvement.

**6. Audience Participation:**

Chad Amutagunda commented that he wants to shoot an independent film in Williamston.

Dave Minack, 628 Williams, thanked the City for the cleanup of the foreclosed home on Williams Street.

Larry Stafford commented that he supports Mr. Allard as City Manager.

Paul Joseph, 2833 Linn Road, thanked the City for their effort in getting the liquor license for Gracie's Place.

Dawn Marie Joseph, 2833 Linn Road, thanked the City for their effort in getting the liquor license for Gracie's Place.

**7. Council Minutes of June 8, 2009:**

Motion by **VanAllsburg**, second by **Zichi**, to table the June 8, 2009 Council minutes until section 10 can be transcribed. Yes: Siciliano, Smith, VanAllsburg, Zichi, Hyne, Moody. No: Pratt. **Motion passed.**

**8. Accounts Payable:**

Councilman Siciliano reported that the accounts payable totaled \$86,765.51 with reference #'s 56685-56755.

Motion by **Siciliano**, second by **VanAllsburg**, to approve the accounts payable as presented, reference #'s 56685-56755. Yes: Smith, VanAllsburg, Zichi, Moody, Siciliano. No: Hyne, Pratt. **Motion passed.**

**9. Action Items**

**9a. Consideration of Precorp Resolution for Renaissance Zone:**

Motion by **VanAllsburg**, second by **Moody**, to create a Renaissance Recovery Zone for Precorp Tool and Die for ten years as provided in the resolution in the packet. Yes: VanAllsburg, Zichi, Hyne, Moody, Pratt, Siciliano, Smith. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**9b. Recommendation to adopt 2009/2010 Fiscal Year Budget:**

Motion by **Smith**, second by **VanAllsburg**, to adopt the resolution approving the 2009/2010 fiscal year budget as presented. Yes: Hyne, Moody, Pratt, Siciliano, Smith, VanAllsburg. No: Zichi. **Motion passed.**

Motion by **Moody**, second by **VanAllsburg**, to have the City create a priority schedule for 2009/2010 budget and decide what projects can be included and removed from the 2009/2010 budget document to be completed by the end of August. Yes: Moody, Pratt, Siciliano, Smith, VanAllsburg, Zichi, Hyne. No: None. **Motion passed.**

-Hyne left at 9:00 p.m.

**9c. Proposed Budget Amendments for FY 2008-2009:**

Motion by **Pratt**, second by **VanAllsburg**, to approve the 2008/2009 budget amendments as presented. Yes: Pratt, Siciliano, Smith, VanAllsburg, Zichi, Moody. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**9d. Request of American Red Cross to temporarily utilize the Community Center as an emergency public shelter:**

Motion by **Pratt**, second by **Siciliano**, to approve the resolution supporting the Red Cross using the Community Center as a temporary emergency public shelter and present the resolution to the schools for their support. Yes: Siciliano, Smith, VanAllsburg, Zichi, Moody, Pratt. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**9e. Recommendation to authorize SME to proceed with additional environmental study of CSX Railroad property:**

Motion by **Siciliano**, second by **VanAllsburg**, to approve the SME phase II as presented for an amount not to exceed \$15,000. Yes: Smith, VanAllsburg, Zichi, Moody, Pratt, Siciliano. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**9f. Recommendation to approve temporary construction easements and drainage maintenance agreements pertaining to Industrial Park project – Progress Court:**

Motion by **Pratt**, second by **Zichi**, to grant the construction easement as presented with the authorization for the Mayor to execute the documents. Yes: VanAllsburg, Zichi, Moody, Pratt, Siciliano, Smith. No: None. **Motion passed.**

**9g. Committee request to consider City Manager contract offer:**

Motion by **Pratt**, second by **VanAllsburg**, to have the City Manager contract committee meet with the Interim City Manager Tim Allard and negotiate a contract for full time employment.

Motion by Zichi, second by Siciliano, to call the question. Yes: Zichi, Siciliano, Smith, VanAllsburg. No: Moody, Pratt. Motion passed.

Vote on the motion: Yes: Moody, Pratt, Siciliano, VanAllsburg. No: Zichi, Smith. **Motion passed.**

Motion by **Siciliano**, second by **Zichi**, to direct City staff to contract Mr. Richards from MML about scheduling a meeting or worksession as soon as possible. Yes: Moody, Siciliano, Smith, VanAllsburg, Zichi. No: Pratt. **Motion passed.**

Motion by **Smith**, second by **VanAllsburg**, to authorize the ordering of an actuary if it will preserve our right to offer program/benefits for the City Manager only as B4 instead of B3 and all other options the same as non-union employees. Yes: Moody, Pratt, Siciliano, Smith, VanAllsburg. No: Zichi. **Motion passed.**

**10. Discussion Items**

**10a. New information on MML Proof of Loss statement:**

Manager Allard reported that there was a question of the \$419,000 and he found that it was for the replacement of the annex building. Since there is a significant difference between rebuilding the annex and taking the payout, he is looking to trying to get an extension.

**10b. International Council of Shopping Centers Idea Exchange conference in Novi, MI:**

There is a conference coming up in Novi that would showcase cities to promote companies to move to.

**10c. Filing of Wellhead Protection grant application:**

There is a grant opportunity of \$40,000 to help identify the geographic location of the aquifers and inform people entering those areas.

**10d. Habitat for Humanity lease renewal for space at 1500 W. Grand River Ave.:**

There is a lease with the EDC who holds the lease on the 1500 building. The lease with Habitat for Humanity has expired and they are working on terms for a new lease.

**10e. Cancellation of Williamston Music Festival for this summer:**

Manager Allard reported that the sponsors have pulled out of the music festival and it has been cancelled for the rest of the summer.

**10f. Roadway improvement project for Williamston Road:**

Because of the extensive review process for the Williamston Road improvements grant the project will not be able to be started until next spring.

**10g. McKenna:**

Councilman VanAllsburg asked Manager Allard to provide a report of what the City has paid McKenna for services not including extra work for the Planning Commission, EDC/TIFA and DDA. He wants to see if the City is getting a better quality of service from McKenna than they would with two full time employees.

**10h. City Attorney:**

Councilman VanAllsburg asked if anyone is reviewing the Attorney bills thoroughly. He wants to be sure the charges are warranted. He also asked if the attorney rate is negotiable and if the attorney is in line with what other communities are being charged. Manager Allard offered to do a survey of other comparable communities and provide the information to Council.

**12. Staff Reports**

**12a. City Manager:**

Manager Allard reported that he met with the Ingham County Drain Commission regarding the dedication of the City's storm drains to the Drain Commission. There is a grant possibility that he is pursuing for energy efficiency and block grant program. He is also looking into rural development dollars that Councilmember Smith recommended he look into. He commented that the City Hall grounds are in disrepair and he is working to improve City Hall and the surrounding landscaping. In McCormick Park there is a dead wire with temporary supports and is supposed to be removed soon. The parking lot next to City Hall is being improved where the Farmers' Market takes place. There was a tree that fell on the Waste Water Treatment Plant fence and it is still being decided who the tree belongs to. He will be vacationing July 6-20<sup>th</sup>.

**12b. City Attorney:**

No report.

**12c. Planning and Zoning Administrator's Report for April, May 2009:**

Written reports for April and May were submitted for Council review.

**13. Audience Participation:**

Mayor Pro-tem Moody called for public comment at this time and there was none.

**14. Council Member Comments:**

Councilman Pratt wished Manager Allard a safe trip to Chicago for the EDA grant and wished everyone a happy Jubilee

Councilman VanAllsburg commented that the Complete Works of William Shakespeare will be starting at the Williamston Theatre soon.

Councilman Siciliano commented that there may be interest in using the old fire hall for the Boy Scout haunted house. He added that there is graffiti at Deer Creek Park that needs to

be removed preferably before Jubilee. He encouraged people to attend the Jubilee and announced that he will be participating in the demolition derby.

Councilmember Smith commented thanked Manager Allard for waiting around for them before the meeting.

Mayor Pro-tem Moody commented that Manager Allard is doing a great job.

**16. Adjournment:**

Motion by **Siciliano**, second by **Pratt**, to adjourn. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

**\*Meeting Adjourned at 11:15 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Holly M. Thompson, City Clerk**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Michelle A. Hyne, Mayor**

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_