

**CITY OF WILLIAMSTON
CITY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 12, 2009
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

1. Call To Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers by Mayor Pro-tem Michael Moody and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Roll Call:

Mayor Pro-tem Michael Moody, Council members John Pratt, Carmen Siciliano, Traci Smith, Scott VanAllsburg, and Ken Zichi. Absent: Michelle Hyne.

Also Present:

City Manager Tim Allard, City Clerk Holly Thompson, City Attorney Bonnie Toskey, Police Chief Mark Hetfield, Community Development Director Michelle Aniol, C2AE Engineer Scott DeVries, and citizens W Harrison Smith, Terri Campbell, Larry Stafford, and other members of the public.

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

4. Approval of Agenda:

Add item 10f. Broadstripe Service.

Motion by **Siciliano**, second by **Pratt**, to approve the agenda as amended. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

5. Cliff Hart Proclamation:

The Council asked the Clerk to mail the proclamation to Mr. Hart.

6. Audience Participation:

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

7. Council Minutes of September 28, 2009, and Special Minutes of September 19, 2009:

Motion by **Siciliano**, second by **VanAllsburg**, to approve the special Council minutes of September 19, 2009 as presented. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

Motion by **Siciliano**, second by **Pratt**, to approve the Council minutes of September 28, 2009 as presented. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

8. Accounts Payable:

The accounts payable totaled \$55,380.56 with reference #'s 57147-57174.

Motion by **Siciliano**, second by **Zichi**, to approve the accounts payable as presented, reference #'s 57147-57174. Yes: VanAllsburg, Zichi, Moody, Siciliano, Smith. No: Pratt. **Motion passed.**

Motion by **VanAllsburg**, second by **Pratt**, to authorize the City Manager to pay the Stante payment in the amount of \$202,805.21 as presented. Yes: Moody, Pratt, Siciliano, Smith, VanAllsburg, Zichi. No: None. **Motion passed.**

9. Action Items

9a. Recommendation to award a video recording services contract to mc² for public meetings:

Councilman Pratt requested that the Clerk also get a quote from Jim Jabarra for recording of the meetings.

Motion by **Pratt**, second by **VanAllsburg**, to table this issue until the next meeting. Yes: Moody, Pratt, Siciliano, Smith, VanAllsburg. No: Zichi. **Motion passed.**

9b. Recommendation to award professional services contract to C2AE for development of an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant application for Wastewater Treatment Plant improvements:

Motion by **VanAllsburg**, second by **Pratt**, to direct C2AE to proceed with applying for the grant for a methane generator for \$55,000 and a heat pump for the administrative building for \$65,000 in an amount not to exceed \$3500. Yes: Pratt, Siciliano, Smith, VanAllsburg, Zichi, Moody. No: None. **Motion passed.**

9c. Buck pole application by Chamber of Commerce for use of McCormick Park on 11/28/09:

Council verbally approved the request. Manager Allard will continue to process the request.

10. Discussion Items

10a. Request to convey eastern portion of Nottingham Forest Trail:

Manager Allard reported that the Homeowners Association has requested that the City take over the eastern portion of Forest of Nottingham Trail. He is not in favor of taking it over at this time due to the road's poor condition. He is working with Bill Dyke to address the situation.

10b. N Williamston Road project update:

Manager Allard reported that the plans have been developed by C2AE and they are currently making signs announcing the project. He also reported that the City is on a list for stimulus funds for more sections of Williamston Road.

10c. Developing plans for handicap parking on Grand River Avenue in downtown area:

Manager Allard reported that he is trying to move along the issue of placing handicap parking in front of the downtown businesses.

Director Aniol reported that MDOT removed the on-street handicapped parking spaces previously on Grand River during the reconstruction of M-43, because the spaces did not meet Federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards at the time.

The City Engineer, Scott DeVries stated C2AE prepared a concept and cost estimates for the handicapped parking spaces on Grand River at the request of the previous City Manager.

The Council requested this item be on the next agenda for action.

10d. Overview of the Michigan Green Communities Challenge:

Director Aniol reported that the green communities challenge is not recommended at this time due to the tight timeline. The challenge is meant to assist cities in identifying green projects to pursue in order to apply for funding at a later date.

10e. Pawnbroker Licensing:

Manager Allard reported that he and City staff are still working on the issue for pawnbroker licensing.

10f. Broadstripe Service:

The Council stated that since there is no local control to regulate cable companies, they recommended that Mr. Groves speak with the Better Business Bureau or look into another provider like Arialink or Millennium Digital Media.

12. Staff Reports

12a. City Manager:

- Hickory Lane street improvement update: Manager Allard reported that the construction is moving along well and a deal between the contractor and one of the homeowners is being worked out for improvements to their driveway.
- Progress Court update: The 12" water main was fully constructed a week ago and is now up and running. The project is slightly behind due to the weather.
- Band Shell update: Mack Electric has started work on the band shell. There is an issue with the stairs not meeting the building codes and they are continuing to work to resolve the issue.
- Community Center security improvements: Manager Allard reported that there was vandalism from kids breaking a window and entering the community center then spraying the hallways and stairwells with a fire extinguisher. The City has recently installed security gates to help with the vandalism issues.
- Conveyance of Centurion Way to City: Manager Allard reported that the conveyance of Centurion Way is still being worked on because of outstanding issues that need to be taken care of before the road is turned over to the City.
- 781 Progress Court proposals for presentation to TIFA board: Manager Allard reported that the TIFA board approved the building inspection, environmental assessment, and topographic survey for the property at 781 Progress Court. They also discussed the salt storage facility but have taken no action at this time.

12b. Community Development Director:

A written report was submitted for Council review.

12c. Utilities Director:

A written report was provided for Council review.

12d. City Attorney:

Attorney Toskey reminded Council to use caution when accepting the dedication of property. She also stated that Attorney Perrone provided a sample document of a pawnbroker license form and outlined the procedures for adopting the license and fees.

12e. Treasurer:

A budget printout was submitted for Council review.

13. Audience Participation:

W Harrison Smith commented that the City needs to better inform the community about vandalism in the Community Center to deter it in the future.

14. Council Member Comments:

Councilman VanAllsburg commented that there is a new play out called 'An Infinite Ache' at the Williamston Theatre and encouraged everyone to see it.

Councilman Siciliano reported that the Planning Commission will have a public hearing for the drafted Zoning Ordinance on Thursday, November 5th to receive public comment. He encouraged Council to review the drafted ordinance on the City website. Member Siciliano also stated that the Boy Scout haunted house will be at the old fire station and NIESA has asked them to leave the walls up so the fire department can use them for training.

Councilmember Smith commented that she appreciates the City Manager's pro-active approach to matters.

Councilman Zichi commented that the High School band performed at the Chelsea and Grand Ledge festivals and did a wonderful job.

Mayor Pro-tem Moody commented that the Williamston Schools have received the silver medal award for excellence.

15. Closed Session- To Consider the Purchase of Real Property:

Motion by **VanAllsburg**, second by **Zichi**, to go into closed session to discuss purchase of real property. Yes: Zichi, Moody, Pratt, Siciliano, Smith, VanAllsburg. No: None. **Motion passed.**

Council recessed at 9:25 p.m.

Council reconvened at 9:32 p.m.

Closed Session started at 10:06 p.m.

Motion by **Zichi**, second by **Siciliano**, to return to open session. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

Closed Session ended at 10:06 p.m.

Action on Closed Session:

No action was taken on closed session.

*Member Siciliano left at 10:10 p.m.

16. Adjournment:

Motion by **Smith**, second by **Zichi**, to adjourn. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

***Meeting Adjourned at 10:15 p.m.**

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

Michael Moody, Mayor Pro-tem

Date Approved: _____