

Agenda

Williamstown City Council

11/07/17

7:30 PM

City Council Chambers

Type of meeting: Regular Meeting

Attendees: Mayor and City Council Members, City Attorney, and City Clerk

Agenda topics

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Call Roll
4. Minutes of Previous Meeting
5. Pay Bills
6. Second Reading of an Ordinance Authorizing Pay Increases
7. Amendment to Zoning Ordinance
8. Ordinance Amending and Re-enacting Article 1761
9. Approve/Adopt Codified Planning and Zoning Code
10. Request for Zoning Change from Planning Commission

Other Items Which May Be Discussed:

1. Administrative Issues
2. Community Swimming Pool
3. Park Committee
4. Planning Commission
5. Board of Zoning Appeals
6. Tree Committee
7. Water Dept.
8. Sanitary / Storm Water Board
9. Sidewalk Plan

**Please state your name and address when addressing City Council

WILLIAMSTOWN CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
NOV. 7, 2017

The Williamstown City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, November 7, 2017 at 7:30pm. Those in attendance were Mayor Jean Ford, Councilpersons Marty Seufer, Jim Stage, Barbara Lewis, and Ron Erb, City Attorney Blaine Myers, and City Clerk/Treasurer Susan Knopp.

Mayor Ford called the meeting to order and Sgt. at Arms Jeremy Raymond led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion by Stage and second by Lewis to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, all voted yes.

On a motion by Erb and second by Lewis to approve the current bills for payment, all voted yes.

On a motion by Stage and second by Seufer to approve the second reading of an *Ordinance Authorizing Pay Increases*, Ford, Erb, Stage and Seufer voted yes, Lewis abstained.

Atty. Myers stated the ordinance for the Cocobean annexation needed to be amended from Zone II to Zone II-X Commercial. This was just an oversight when the ordinance was adopted. This ordinance will be put on the next agenda.

Atty. Myers presented an *Ordinance Amending and Re-Enacting Article 1761 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Williamstown* dealing with the Building and Safety Commission. He stated new state legislation tightens the notice requirements, so he prepared a new Article 1761 in order to conform to this new legislation. Atty. Myers stated he recommended City Council adopt this ordinance to be able to move forward. He said he understood an issue arose during a meeting at the Mid-Ohio Valley Regional Council causing confusion about whether the City must adopt the State Building Code in order to enforce this, but he said he felt that was not required.

Mayor Ford stated every city at that meeting had adopted the State Building Code.

Atty. Myers said he believes the legislation is clear. He said some may have intended for adopting the Building Code to be a requirement, but that is not what the legislation says.

Councilwoman Lewis said she spoke with the City of Charleston Building Official and the State Fire Marshall and they told her the City wouldn't have the backing of the State of West Virginia if we don't adopt the Building Code.

Councilman Seufer said it bothered him that these other cities adopt the Building Code, but they say they don't enforce it after they pass it.

After some discussion, Atty. Myers said he felt the statute was clear, and you do not have to adopt the State Building Code in order to enforce a dilapidated building ordinance. He said the statute give the City the authority because it is in the public interest.

After further discussion, on a motion by Stage and second by Seufer to adopt the *Ordinance Amending and Re-Enacting Article 1761 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Williamstown* on first reading, Ford, Erb, Stage and Seufer voted yes, Lewis voted no.

On a motion by Stage and second by Erb to adopt the Re-codified Planning and Zoning Code for the City of Williamstown on first reading, all voted yes.

Councilman Stage stated the Planning Commission met on November 6th and approved recommending to Council the re-zoning of three lots on Dodge Ave. between W. 4 ½ Street and W. Third Street from residential to commercial.

On a motion by Seufer and second by Erb to instruct the attorney to draft an ordinance to change the zoning of these lots, all voted yes.

Councilman Seufer stated Scots Landscaping planted Phase I of the trees at the boat ramp park.

Public Works Director Alan Gates stated the maintenance department would be flushing hydrants starting next Monday and continuing for approximately two weeks.

Ellen Fraser, 209 Front Street, stated the corners of the new sidewalks on Front Street are dangerous. She said she fell and broke her wrist. She added that the edge of the sidewalks in front of Hollister's house needs some fill around the edges.

Public Works Director Gates and Councilwoman Lewis said they would go and look at the sidewalks on Front Street with Mrs. Fraser.

Mrs. Fraser said there is also a low place in the boat ramp park that collects standing water and makes for a problem with mosquitos. She added that with the new trees that were planted, she now has five trees in front of her house between her and the river.

Councilman Seufer said he would show her the plans for the park and the trees that would be planted in phases.

Williamstown Girl Scout Rachael Nichols said she was working on her Gold Award for Girl Scouts and invited Council to the dedication of her 'little free library' in the shape of a one room school house in front of the Presbyterian Church this Sunday at 12:30pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08pm.