

Agenda *Williamstown City Council*

04/17/18

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*
- ***Swear in New Police Officer*
- 4. Minutes of Previous Meeting*
- 5. Pay Bills*
- 6. Approve Levy Rates for Fiscal Year 2019*
- 7. Cheyenne Oakes, Riverfront Roar 2018*
- 8. Discuss and Consider a Proposal from the Wood County Board of Education for Property on Williams Ave.*
- 9. Resolution authorizing Retention of the Law Firm of Marc J. Bern & Partners, LLP to represent Williamstown in Opioid Class Action Lawsuit*
- 10. Discuss Salaries of Mayor and Council*
- 11. National Day of Prayer Ceremony, May 3, 2018 at Noon*

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
APRIL 17, 2018

The Williamstown City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, April 17, 2018 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 Chief of Police Shawn Graham led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Ford swore in new Patrolman David Massey. Officer Massey retired yesterday after 20 years with the Wood County Sheriff's Department.

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 Stage to approve the current bills for payment, all voted yes.

On a motion by Seufer and second by Lewis to approve the levy rates for 2018-2019, Class I 12.50/\$100, Class II 25.00/\$100 and Class IV 50.00/\$100, all voted yes.

Cheyenne Oakes, Representative from the Riverfront Roar, said she was again asking Council's permission to set off fireworks from the boat ramp. The fireworks will be held July 7th, and the rain date will be July 8th, at 9:30pm. The boat ramp will be closed at 7:00pm and will reopen 20 minutes after conclusion of the fireworks.

Council gave approval for the fireworks display.

Mayor Ford said she discussed with the Board of Education the possibility of the City using the newer section of the elementary school on Williams Ave. as a community center after the new school is built on the Fenton property. She said she and Councilman Seufer both attended a BOE meeting where the Board made a motion to give the property to the City with two conditions. The first condition is the City will take down the old part of the school within 12 months. The second condition is the City can never sell the property, and the property would revert back to the BOE if the City no longer wanted the community center. Mayor Ford said it had been a wish of hers to have a community center in town.

Councilman Seufer said the last thing we want to see is a boarded up school building in the middle of town.

After some discussion, on a motion by Seufer and second by Stage to accept the property with the conditions stated, and to have Mayor Ford send a letter to the Wood County BOE stating this, all voted yes.

Councilman Stage suggested getting some estimates for demolition of the old part of the school.

Atty. Myers said he had no problems with the contract for the law firm of Marc J. Bern & Partners, LLP to represent the City of Williamstown in the Opioid Class Action Lawsuit. This was approved at the last meeting contingent on his review of the contract.

Councilwoman Lewis discussed the current salaries of mayor and council and the need for a salary increase. She said Council would like to raise the mayor's salary to \$18,000/yr. and council's salary to \$2,400/yr.

Atty. Myers said salary increases must be done by ordinance and council is not permitted to raise salaries during their own term. The salary increase will take effect on July 1st for the newly elected mayor and council, but the two council seats whose term expires in 2020 will not receive the raise until their new term begins.

On a motion by Lewis and second by Stage to approve the ordinance increasing the mayor and council's salaries on first reading, all voted yes.

Mayor Ford announced the ceremony for the National Day of Prayer will be held May 3rd at noon in front of the City Building.

Mayor Ford stated that the annual Arbor Day Celebration will be held April 27th at 1:30pm in the Lions Club shelter in Tomlinson Park. This is Williamstown's 30th straight year as a Tree City USA.

Councilwoman Lewis invited the public to attend the Arbor Day Celebration, which will include participation by 5th grade students from Williamstown.

On a motion by Stage and second by Lewis to appoint Jason Buttrey to the Board of Zoning Appeals, all voted yes.

Councilwoman Lewis said the pool is hiring employees and preparing to open.

Councilman Seuffer said he had received comments about some issues in the park. He and Public Works Director Gates looked over the park and there are some maintenance issues that will be addressed, but no major concerns.

Public Works Director Gates said the park maintenance position has been filled by Calvin Blevins. He added that May 15th will be flower planting day in the City with help from Wood County Christian School students. Also, youth from the Presbyterian Church will be cleaning up in the park this weekend.

Councilman Stage said the Planning Commission is still awaiting full prints from Developers Mondo and Martin.

Chairman of the Board of Zoning Appeals Shane King stated the Board would meet on April 30th at 6:00pm.

Public Works Director Gates said the City will begin sweeping streets, and then fire hydrants will be flushed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.