



**Town of Williamsport
Mayor & Town Council Regular Session
November 13, 2023**



On November 13, 2023, the Mayor & Town Council for the Town of Williamsport held a Regular Session to conduct business of the town.

Those in attendance included Mayor William Green, Assistant Mayor Denny Grove, Councilperson Margaret Yaukey, Councilman Earle Pereschuk, Councilman Charles Brown, and Councilman Jim Braswell. Employees in attendance included Town Manager Chad Rooney, and Town Attorney Ed Kuczynski, and Town Planner Linda Kuczynski.

Mayor Green called the meeting was called to order at 6:52pm.

Mayor Green asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes for the Regular Session on October 9, 2023, and the Work Session on November 6, 2023. Councilman Brown motioned to approve the minutes of October 9th; the motion was seconded by Councilman Tinsley; the motion passed unanimously. Councilman Tinsley motioned to approve the meeting minutes of November 6; the motion was seconded by Councilman Braswell; the motion passed unanimously.

The Mayor presented a thank you card for the use of the park for Harvest Hoedown and noted a successful event.

The Mayor indicated no report was provided by the Board of Elections Supervisors, Board of Zoning Appeals, History & Museum Board, Planning Commission, Land Use, nor Legal Counsel.- The Mayor did note the school bell currently housed at the library will be moved to the museum.

Councilperson Yaukey explained the waiting for a final report from Optimize Renewables which will be presented to the Town Council once it is completed. Councilman Brown offered the lights are being installed in Byron Park and trick or treat went very well. Assistant Mayor Grove outlined progress at the Springfield Barn and installation of a cement sidewalk to connect the pull off near the event room to the new additional party space. Councilman Tinsley had no report. Councilman Braswell outlined progression of the sewer lining project and upcoming holiday parade preparations. He added information regarding the JFK 50 miler ending here in Williamsport.

Mayor Green added information related to the continuation of the sewer project and lining which will take care of numerous areas of concern for the town.

Mayor Green explained there is no Old Business.

Mayor Green offered the Community Development Block Grant application for funding to update the Comprehensive Plan for consideration. Councilman Brown made a motion to direct the Mayor and Town employees to complete the application and any additional documents to secure the funding; Councilman Tinsley seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Green offered Ordinance 2023-08 Update Regarding the Washington County Livability Code for further discussion and consideration. Following brief clarity by the Town Attorney in which he reiterated the intention of identifying the proper code for enforcement purposes, Councilman Tinsley made a motion to formally introduce the ordinance as presented; Councilperson Yaukey seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Green then presented the idea to advertise Request for Proposals 2023-10 Byron Memorial Park Restroom Facility Improvement Project for consideration. Councilman Pereschuk motioned to approve the advertisement of the RFP; Councilman Brown seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Green introduced the proposed 2024 Activities and Holiday schedule for consideration. Assistant Mayor Grove made a motion to approve the document as presented; Councilman Tinsley seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Resident Pamela Godlove expressed her concern regarding recent break-ins of vehicles, feral cats, and community nuisance. Deputy Kuhns of the Washington County Sheriff's Office responded to the concern about break ins and delayed arrest as this was an enforcement tactic to ensure felony charges would be brought following his investigation.

Heath Barnes, Mayor of Woodsboro, announced his candidacy for United States House of Representatives.

Councilman Tinsley made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Councilman Yaukey seconded; the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:11pm.

Cordially Tendered,



Chad P. Rooney
Town Manager / Clerk / Treasurer

William "Bill" Green, Mayor
Dennis Grove, Assistant Mayor

Chad P. Rooney, Town Manager
Clerk/Treasurer



Jim Braswell, Councilmember
Charles Brown III, Councilmember
Earle Pereschuk, Councilmember
Ben Tinsley, Councilmember
Margaret Yaukey, Councilmember

TOWN OF WILLIAMSPORT

MAYOR & TOWN COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR SESSION AGENDA

November 13, 2023; 6:45pm

CALL TO ORDER – PUBLIC HEARING 6:45P

PUBLIC HEARING – MARYLAND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING FOR WILLIAMSPORT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

OG/JBT Letter submitted -

MOTION TO ADJOURN PUBLIC HEARING 6:52

CALL TO ORDER – REGULAR SESSION

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- October 9, 2023 Regular Session - JBT; BT
- November 6, 2023 Work Session - BT; JB

CORRESPONDENCE

- None - Church Honest Hoe down & Thanks for use of Park

REPORTS

- Board of Elections Supervisors - No
- Board of Zoning Appeals - No
- History & Museum Board - School Bell/Cans to Libary
- Planning Commission - Fri - Commnd Traffic Syn
- Land Use - No - Police presence
- Legal Counsel - No
- Sheriff's Report - October - 125 ants, 14, 4 ants, 17 Traffic stops
- Town Council Reports - my - optimize report forthcoming
- Mayor's Report - JBT - Lights - tick treat work well

OLD BUSINESS

- None
- 18th ST - Sun project
- Parade Dec 1
- 18th JFK 50 miler

NEW BUSINESS

- Consider Community Development Block Grant Application to Fund Comprehensive Plan Update - JBT, BT
- Consider Ordinance 2023-08 Update Regarding the Washington County Livability Code (2006) - BT, my 45 normal - introduction -

NEW BUSINESS (Cont.)

- Consider Advertisement of Request for Proposals 2023-10 Byron Memorial Park Bathroom Project Advertisement
- Consider Approval of Calendar Year 2024 Activities and Holiday Schedule *OG, BT*

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment on items not included on the agenda will be limited to 5 minutes. Members of the public must first be recognized by the Mayor and will state their full name prior to speaking for the record. Any member of the public requiring more than 5 minutes shall request to be placed on a future meeting agenda to present their concerns.

↳ Pamela Goddard
↳ thefts around town
↳ fiscal cuts
↳ Newsman

INFORMATION ONLY

- None

MOTION TO ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING

↳ BT, MY

↳ Heath BARKES

- Woodstock mayor
- Running for Congress

Minutes



**Town of Williamsport
Mayor & Town Council Regular Session
October 9, 2023**



On October 9, 2023, the Mayor & Town Council for the Town of Williamsport held a Regular Session to conduct business of the town.

Those in attendance included Mayor William Green, Assistant Mayor Denny Grove, Councilperson Margaret Yaukey, Councilman Earle Pereschuk, Councilman Charles Brown, and Councilman Jim Braswell. Employees in attendance included Town Manager Chad Rooney and Town Attorney Ed Kuczynski.

Mayor Green called the meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

Mayor Green acknowledged the lack of attendance of Matt Breeding, Washington County Treasurer, who requested to be on the agenda.

Mayor Green presented the meeting minutes for September 11, 2023, Public Hearing; September 11, 2023, Regular Session; September 11, 2023, Executive Session; and October 2, 2023, Work Session for consideration. Councilman Braswell made a motion to approve all minutes as presented; Councilman Brown seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Green requested reports; no report was provided by the Board of Elections Supervisors, Board of Zoning Appeals, History & Museum Board, Land Use, nor Legal Counsel. Deputy Koontz provided the following information for the Month of September: 121 events, 16 reports, 5 arrests including 3 emergency petitions, traffic stops 13 with 1 DUI and 28 traffic violations. There is an ongoing investigation into recent vehicle break-ins.

Councilperson Yaukey explained the Town is awaiting the final version of the electric report from Optimize Renewables and she, the Mayor, and the Town Manager will present the information to Town Council in the future. Councilman Pereschuk had no report. Councilman Brown recognized another successful Harvest Hoedown this year. Assistant Mayor Grove observed the work currently underway at the Springfield Barn; cement curbing and flooring is being completed next.

Councilman Braswell outlined the progression of the Parking Committee, and it is advisable to proceed with replacing meters at this time. He also explained an interest in implementing a credit card pay system to allow users to pay with their cell phone. Councilman Braswell made a motion to direct the Mayor and Town Manager to begin working on a strategy and implement said strategy to replace parking meters as the Town can afford to do so and engage companies to offer pay by phone services; Assistant Mayor Grove seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Green reported a successful lobbying campaign in the Town of Crisfield where he and the Town Manager promoted the Route 11 Bridge project and acquisition of the Manor House.

Mayor Green explained there is no Old Business.

For New Business, Mayor Green presented the proposed *Unexpected Excessive Water/Sewer Consumption Policy* to be used in the event residents or business owners approach the Town for reduction of their utility bill because of unexpected, elevated consumption. Assistant Mayor Grove motioned to approve the policy as presented; Councilman Pereschuk seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Green presented a request to hold a trunk-or-treat event on town property; Councilman Brown motioned to approve the request; Councilperson Yaukey seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Green presented a request for the town to initiate a military banner program starting in Byron Park; Councilman Brown motioned to approve the request; Councilman Braswell seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor green explained the sign at the Cushwa Basin had previously been approved for updating and this portion of the project has been completed. He further outlined some hesitation by Town Council to install solar lighting at the location and sought direction for he and the Town Manager. Town Council took no action.

The Mayor and Town Manager explained the need to change banks; M & T Bank adamantly expressed the Town must close their accounts and find an alternate financial institution. The Town Manager explained this includes all accounts including a Certificate of Deposit. The Town Manager further outlined he and the Mayor met with several institutions and are recommending First United to service the Town because of their lower fees, higher rates, and professional interactions. Assistant Mayor Grove motioned to allow the signatories for the Town to work with M & T Bank and First United Bank & Trust to close all accounts and open new accounts on behalf of the Town; Councilman Pereschuk seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Assistant Mayor Grove made a motion not to renew the certificate of deposit and to open a new certificate of deposit with First United Bank & Trust; Councilman Pereschuk seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Green explained the need to submit an application for Community Development Block Grant funding to update the Town's comprehensive plan. Councilman Brown made a motion to allow Town employees to move forward with the grant application; Assistant Mayor Grove seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Green then requested Town Council consider raising the cleaning fee on Barn rentals to \$500.00; Councilperson Yaukey made the motion so moved; Councilman Pereschuk seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Green announced the grand opening of the Proud Peacock on November 2; all of Town Council is invited.

Councilman Braswell made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Councilman Pereschuk seconded; the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:16pm.

Cordially Tendered,

Chad P. Rooney
Town Manager / Clerk / Treasurer



**Town of Williamsport
Mayor & Town Council Work Session
November 6, 2023**



On November 6, 2023, the Mayor & Town Council for the Town of Williamsport held a Work Session to conduct business of the town.

Those in attendance included Mayor William Green, Assistant Mayor Denny Grove, Councilperson Margaret Yaukey, Councilman Earle Pereschuk, Councilman Charles Brown, Councilman Ben Tinsley, and Councilman Jim Braswell. Employees in attendance included Town Manager Chad Rooney, Town Attorney Ed Kuczynski, and Town Planner Linda Kuczynski.

Mayor Green called the meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

Mayor Green announced the intentions for the town to complete a public hearing prior to next week's Regular Session to satisfy application requirements for the Community Development Block Grant application. During the last Regular Session, Town Council authorized town employees to begin working on the application and seek this funding.

Mayor Green then presented an update to the approved Livability Code as it pertains to municipal infractions. He then turned over the item to the Town Attorney for explanation. The Town Attorney lengthily outlined his desire to have Town Council "clean up" references in the ordinance to the Washington County Livability Code 2006. Councilman Tinsley expressed his strong concerns related to enforcement of the ordinance and municipal infractions to clean up properties around town. Councilman Tinsley submitted a list of properties in June which he felt violated the Town's codes. The Town Attorney and Town Planner explained the inability enforce the ordinances up to recent times, was the lack of a violation book which has since been provided and the ensuring the specific codes being violated were properly referenced, such as this proposed language change. The Town Attorney continued to explain the parameters for enforcement including active and passive techniques. Assistant Mayor Grove explained the changes and documents involved would require some digestion on the part of each Councilmember. Councilman Tinsley expressed the number of renters compared to owners is high and these individuals need protection of the Town to enforce the Livability Code to ensure their safety. After an animated discussion related to enforcement, update of the referenced ordinance, and Town Attorney's desire to ensure language in the ordinance is properly cited; Town Council was not able to provide any level of consensus to move the item to the following week, Mayor Green provided everyone the guidance the item would be on the agenda for potential consideration.

Mayor Green announced the public hearing for the CDBG grant funding will be held next Monday at 6:45pm and going straight into the Regular Session once it concludes.

The Town Manager intends to request directions to draft and advertise a Request for Proposals for improvements to the bathrooms near the Little League field in Byron Park.

Mayor Green presented the 2024 Event and Holiday schedule for consideration at the Regular Session.

Councilperson Yaukey requested an update on the Main Street Manager position being vacated by former Town Manager, Donnie Stotemyer. Mayor Green announced a full-time person may need to be sought, but a meeting with Main Street, state level coordinators is being held this week for further guidance. Councilperson Yaukey referred to the ability for the Town to cease the program and allow businesses to create a coalition.

The Mayor and Town Council continued their conversation regarding the Livability Code and potential ordinance update. Tom Freeman, a resident, offered his concerns related to delaying an active enforcement program.

There was no Public Comment offered. Mayor Green adjourned the meeting at 7:53pm.

Cordially Tendered,

Chad P. Rooney
Town Manager / Clerk / Treasurer