

Town of Williamsport Mayor & Town Council Regular Session Meeting Minutes – May 13, 2024

On May 13, 2024, the Mayor & Town Council for the Town of Williamsport held a Regular Session. Those members of the elected body who were present included Mayor William Green, Assistant Mayor Dennis Grove, Councilman Jim Braswell, Councilman Charles Brown, Councilman Earle Pereschuk, Councilman Ben Tinsley, and Councilperson Margaret Yaukey. Town employees in attendance were Chad Rooney, Town Manager, and Ed Kuczynski, Town Attorney. Honorary Mayor for a Day Gabriel Pricepa.

Under the direction and guidance of Mayor Green, Honorary Mayor for a Day Gabriel Pricepa called the meeting to order at 6:54pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Under the direction and guidance of Mayor Green, Honorary Mayor for a Day Gabriel Pricepa asked if there was a motion to approve the meeting minutes of April 15, 2024, Regular Session. Councilman Braswell motioned to approve the minutes as presented; Assistant Mayor Grove seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Under the direction and guidance of Mayor Green, Honorary Mayor for a Day Gabriel Pricepa asked if there was a motion to approve the meeting minutes of May 6, 2024, Work Session. Councilman Brown motioned to approve the minutes as presented; Councilman Pereschuk seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Honorary Mayor for a Day Gabriel Pricepa presented a thank you letter from the Williamsport Memorial Library Board for use of Town Hall during the months their facility was closed for remediation.

Honorary Mayor for a Day Gabriel Pricepa asked if there were reports; there was no report for the Board of Election Supervisors, Board of Zoning Appeals, History & Museum Board, Planning Commission, Land Use, Legal Counsel, nor the Sheriff's Office.

Councilperson Yaukey, Assistant Mayor Grove, and Councilman Tinsley had no report, Councilman Pereshuck attended the meeting for lifeguards and met with the Mayor, Town Manager, and officials from Washington County to discuss summer programming. Councilman Brown outlined base level information regarding vandalism in Byron park and that the Mayor handled the issue in short order. Councilman Braswell outlined activity with the road project, park maintenance, and various youth activities about to take place in town; he offered that the final day for the school year is June 6.

Honorary Mayor for a Day Gabriel Pricepa presented his essay which was selected for first place in the region. He attended a ceremony at the Governor's Mansion and was recognized for his writing. The Town Manager presented for consideration several designs for the Military Banners to be hung in Byron Park. Councilman Brown made a motion to select the first design presented; Assistant Mayor Grove seconded; the motion was approved unanimously.

The Town Manager presented a request to hold a 5k and half marathon starting and ending in Riverbottom Park. The requester holds about 150 similar events per year and will be required to provide their own insurance. Councilman Brown made a motion to approve the request for February/March 2025 as presented; Councilman Braswell seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

The Mayor presented the agreement for the Community Deputy Program and outlined how the program has functioned historically. At a cost of nearly \$23,500, the Mayor recommended not continuing the program. Councilman Tinsley motioned to not provide authorization to sign the agreement and end the program; Assistant Mayor Grove seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

The Mayor presented the agreement for the Resident Deputy Program and outlined how the program has functioned historically. Councilman Brown motioned to provide the Mayor authorization to sign the agreement and continue to program; Councilman Tinsley seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

The Town Manager outlined the concept of a master agreement and how it pertains to our electric purchases. Councilperson Yaukey made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign a master agreement; Councilperson Pereschuk seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

The Mayor presented the two options before Town Council to either sign an agreement to lock in a set rate, currently at \$0.50 per kilowatt hour, or allow our current agreement to end on May 31, 2024, and authorize the Mayor to sign a long-term agreement once the market hits \$0.45 per kilowatt hour or below if it looks like the rates may drop further. Assistant Mayor Grove motioned to allow the current agreement to end and follow market prices until a long-term rate as presented is offered to the town; Councilperson Braswell seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

The proposed Fiscal Year 2025 Utility Rates were presented, and Ordinance 2024-03 was offered to Town Council for consideration to introduce. Councilman Tinsley motioned to introduce Ordinance 2024-03 as presented; Councilman Pereschuk seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

The proposed Fiscal Year 2025 General Fund, Water/Sewer Fund, and Electric Fund Operational Budgets were presented and Ordinance 2024-04 and offered to be considered for introduction. Councilman Tinsley motioned to introduce Ordinance 2024-04 as presented; Assistant Mayor Grove seconded; the motion passes unanimously.

The proposed Ordinance 2024-05 related to parking in Town Center was presented with included recommended changes for consideration to introduce the ordinance. Councilperson Yaukey motioned to introduce the ordinance as presented; Councilperson Tinsley seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Green recognized Honorary Mayor for a Day Gabriel Pricepa with a Proclamation outlining his essay selection and congratulating him for a well thought out essay.

Councilman Tinsley made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session; Councilman Braswell seconded; the motion passed unanimously; the meeting adjourned at 7:27pm.

Respectfully Tendered,

Chad P. Rooney Town Manager