

**WILLIAMSTOWN CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
September 5, 2023
6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Mayor Christopher; John Coleman; Kim Crupper; Greg Middleton; Jayson Payne; Bob Perry; Gina Smith; Emily Brown; and Vivian Link

ALSO PRESENT: Chris Collins; Rick Willoby; Hans Philippo; Nate Adams; Randi Sandlin; Mark Miller; Tom Hutchins; Renee Koerner; Tim Bray; David Ecklar; Brent Berkemeier; Bill Dennison; Johnny Philippo; and Debby Lucas Angel

Mayor Christopher called the Meeting to order.

Mayor Christopher welcomed all in attendance and requested all to sign in.

INVOCATION: Kim Crupper

Corrections and Approval of Minutes for Regular Council Meeting of August 7, 2023, and Special Council Meeting of August 15, 2023

Bob Perry made the motion to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of August 7, 2023, and Special Council Meeting Minutes of August 15, 2023. Gina Smith seconded the motion, and the vote was as follows:

John Coleman	yes	Kim Crupper	yes
Greg Middleton	yes	Jayson Payne	yes
Bob Perry	yes	Gina Smith	yes

All voted in favor. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. The next Special Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 19, beginning at 6 p.m.
- b. Setting dates for 2023 City Property Tax Rate Public Hearing and additional Special Council Meetings for 2023 City Property Tax Rate Ordinance (please see Memo for timeline details)
 - *Property Tax Rate Public Hearing: Thursday, September 21, at 12:00 noon
 - *Special Council Meeting: Thursday, September 21, at 12:15 p.m. (first reading of Property Tax Rate Ordinance)
 - *Special Council Meeting: Monday, September 25, at 12:00 noon (second reading of Property Tax Rate Ordinance)

Bob Perry made the motion to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance 2023-12, Zone Change for PFLP, LLC, (Rising Waters Cabin and RV Resort) for 336.37-acres tract located on Kentucky Highway 36 West from Residential-One (R-1) and Agricultural-One (A-1) to Residential-Four (R-4). Kim Crupper seconded the motion, and the vote was as follows:

John Coleman	yes	Kim Crupper	yes
Greg Middleton	yes	Jayson Payne	yes
Bob Perry	yes	Gina Smith	present not voting

All who voted, voted in favor. Motion carried.

Renee Koerner of Big Fish Farms-update on paddlefish

Renee Koerner of Big Fish Farms was present to give an update on the Paddlefish per Mayor Christopher's request.

Ms. Koerner stated in 2014, 6,100 paddlefish were stocked in Lake Williamstown. The fish take approximately 9 to 10 years to mature and it will take approximately 3 years to harvest the fish. Bob Perry stated the harvesting needs to start this year due to people not wanting them in the Lake as well as Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife not wanting them there. Ms. Koerner stated the Department of Fish and Wildlife issued them a permit to allow this. She also stated that 100% of the fish will not get removed from the Lake. Further discussion occurred. Mayor Christopher stated the contract with Big Fish Farms was extended by the previous administration. Bob Perry stated he was not aware of an extension of the contract.

Mayor Christopher asked Ms. Koerner if she knew how much revenue would be generated. At this time, Ms. Koerner stated she will email him once the numbers are crunched. Ms. Koerner feels like no one knows the fish are in the Lake and they will not hurt or destroy property. The fish make really good caviar. Bob Perry stated as long as the fish are in the Lake, the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife will no longer patrol or stock Lake Williamstown. Discussion continued. Mayor Christopher questioned how much profit other Lakes have seen. Ms. Koerner stated the City should see revenue within 60 days of harvesting. Kim Crupper asked if Ms. Koerner would let City Council know when they do arrive to harvest to contact them. He would like to see what they look like.

Former Mayor Skinner arrived at the meeting and asked to speak. Mr. Skinner stated the extension was done before the first fish went in and it was approved by City Council. Further discussion occurred.

City Council discussion and consideration/approval of how to proceed with paddlefish

Gina Smith made the motion to honor the contract with Big Fish Farms and allow her to harvest the paddlefish. Kim Crupper seconded the motion, and the vote was as follows:

Brent Berkemier was present to discuss the sewer request for The Garden RV Resort. He stated 586 feet-10" sewer lines will be installed. Mr. Berkemier stated he will be covering the cost of the sewer installation. No upfront costs are being asked for. Mr. Berkemier is asking for the City to take over and maintain after the installation.

Mark Miller was present to present his concerns. Mr. Miller stated the 10 feet line would be fine but does not want it to go any deeper, in case of an emergency. The City does not have the equipment to maintain any deeper. Mr. Miller further stated he believes it is a great idea and would increase the value of property. The development will get sewer closer to where it is needed. Further discussion occurred.

Mark Miller did make one final request. He would like the City to take over the sewer line after a year of it being approved and certified.

City Council consideration/approval of The Garden RV Resort's sewer request

Greg Middleton made the motion to approve The Garden RV Resort's sewer request that the City will maintain the line after a year of it being installed, approved and certified. John Coleman seconded the motion, and the vote was as follows:

John Coleman	yes	Kim Crupper	yes
Greg Middleton	yes	Jayson Payne	yes
Bob Perry	yes	Gina Smith	present not voting

All who voted, voted in favor. Motion carried.

City Council consideration/approval for City to seek financing for vehicles with Forcht Bank:

***Two (2) Police vehicles (includes cost of equipping vehicles) \$67,000 each, which is a total of \$134,000**

***One (1) Pick-up truck for Wastewater Treatment Plant in the amount of \$52,000**

Vivian Link presented Council a memo showing the different interest rates obtained from banks in the area. Forcht Bank quoted the lowest rate of 4.75% fixed for five years. Total amount of the loan would be \$186,000.

Mayor Christopher stated he would like to see the Police Department get two new vehicles per year. The Enterprise Fleet Management discussed earlier was not feasible.

Chris Collins, Assistant Police Chief, would like to finance five new vehicles @ \$335,000 instead. He stated the loan payments would still be within the Police Department's budget. Discussion continued on what the payments would be and the length of time of rotating the vehicles out. At this time, Council requested to do more research on the request.

Gina Smith made the motion to table the approval for the City to seek financing with Forcht Bank in the amount of \$186,000. Bob Perry seconded the motion, and the vote was as follows:

All present voted in favor. Motion carried.

No votes were taken while in Executive Session.

Adjourn

Gina Smith made the motion to adjourn. Bob Perry seconded the motion, and the vote was as follows:

John Coleman	yes	Kim Crupper	yes
Greg Middleton	yes	Jayson Payne	absent
Bob Perry	yes	Gina Smith	yes.

All present voted in favor. Motion carried.

Signed:

10/3/23

DATE

Vivian Link

Vivian Link
City Clerk/ Treasurer

Mark Christopher
Mark Christopher, Mayor
City of Williamstown, Kentucky