



## ACTION MINUTES OF THE WILLOWS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD AUGUST 24, 2021

Meeting audio is available at the City of Willows website. This is not a live feature. Audio recordings are posted the succeeding business day following the scheduled City Council Meeting.

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1. Mayor Domenighini called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
2. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Council Member Flesher.

### **3. Roll Call:**

Council Members Present: Council Members Williams, Flesher, Warren, Vice Mayor Hansen, Mayor Domenighini

Council Members Absent:

Staff Present: Interim City Manager Marti Brown, City Attorney David Ritchie Via Zoon, Fire Chief Wayne Peabody and City Clerk Tara Rustenhoven

Mayor Domenighini announced that item 9, closed session will be removed from the agenda.

### **4. Ceremonial Matters (Proclamations, Recognitions, Awards:**

- a. Reading of a Proclamation "A Day to Remember"

Mayor Domenighini presented Barbara LaDoucer with the "A Day to Remember" proclamation.

### **5. Public Comment/ Written Communications:**

Kathy Baker-wanted to make comments regarding the sewer rate adjustment. She also wanted to know if City Council members each have a department that they over-see.

### **6. Consent Agenda:**

- a. Approval of general checking, payroll & direct deposit check registers Z45117-Z45141, 38952-38958, 051393-051434.
- b. By motion, adopt a resolution entitled; **RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILLOWS ESTABLISHING FY 2021-22 APPROPRIATION LIMIT.**
- c. By motion, adopt a resolution entitled; **RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILLOWS, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, TO APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES.**

Council Member Williams wanted to pull item 6b for discussion.

### **Action:**

Motion: Council Member Hansen/Second: Council Member Warren

*Moved to approve the Consent Agenda items 6a and 6c as presented above and the following item(s).*

The motion passed unanimously 5/0 carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Williams, Flesher, Warren, Vice Mayor Hansen, Mayor Domenighini

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

**Action:**

Motion: Vice Mayor Hansen/Second: Council Member Warren

*Moved to approve the Consent Agenda item 6b as presented above and the following item(s).*

The motion passed unanimously 3/2 carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Warren, Vice Mayor Hansen, Mayor Domenighini

NOES: Williams, Flesher

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

**7. Regular Business:**

a. By motion, authorize the Interim City Manager, or her designee, to execute a two-year contract with Andy Heath, Finance Consultant, not to exceed \$75,000 for financial consulting services to the City of Willows.

Council Member Williams wanted to point out a couple concerns and comments he has with the contract to hire the above finance consultant.

Jeannie Hanks wanted to know who is currently helping with the finances and how many hours a week do they help per week.

Ardythe Brandon, had questions about the fees that are being paid to the City Attorney.

Peggie White, wanted to if there was an RFP for the position.

Theresa suggested raising the salary to hire a full-time Finance Manager.

Jeannie Hanks asked Interim City Manager the hours and pay for the finance

Theresa Stewart had comments/questions on item 6b and questions regarding the sewer fees.

Keith Corum, district 4 supervisor, wanted to point out that the County is in the same situation as the City when it comes to trying to find new employees.

Casey Hofhenke shared that he believes the city isn't going to benefit in hiring a contract finance consultant in the community when it comes to our tax dollars. Suggested coming up with a better plan.

Doug Ross, resident of Willows suggested forming a citizens advisory committee.

Tom Brandon 105 S Marshall-wanted to say it was wrong that the chamber room was not set up with enough seating to fit all the community members at tonight's meeting.

Williams had a few more comments regarding the hiring of a finance manager.

There was discussion between Council and staff.

Mayor Domenighini asked for a 10-minute recess.

**Went into recess at 8:02 p.m.**

**Reconvened into open session at 8:14 p.m.**

**Action:**

Motion: Vice Mayor Hansen/Second: Council Member Warren

*Moved to authorize the Interim City Manager, or her designee, to execute a two-year contract with Andy Heath, Finance Consultant, not to exceed \$75,000 for financial consulting services to the City of Willows.*

The motion passed unanimously 4/1 carried by the following voice vote:

AYES: Williams, Flesher, Warren, Vice Mayor Hansen, Mayor Domenighini

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

b. Consideration by City Council of the City of Willows for censure of Council Member Jeff Williams for inappropriate conduct toward city staff.

Mr. Williams was appreciative of everyone that came on his behalf and wanted to read a statement.

**Public Comments:**

Various members of the community wanted to speak on behalf of Council Member Williams.

Williams wanted to thank everyone for all comments that were made.

**Action:**

Motion: Vice Mayor Hansen/Second: Council Member Warren

*Moved to approve the censure of Council Member Williams for inappropriate conduct toward city staff in the four specific findings identified in the report; sustained item 1) Did Williams greet \_\_\_ by calling her "little lady"; sustained item 2) Did Williams tell \_\_\_ he "was waiting for her to be alone" and the he "didn't want to leave a paper trail"; sustained item 3) Did Williams ask \_\_\_ how she could think about having children if she didn't follows politics, sustained item; 4) Did Williams ask about her relation to\_\_\_ and tell her she shouldn't tell people of their association?*

The motion passed 3/1/1 carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Warren, Vice Mayor Hansen, Mayor Domenighini

NOES: Flesher

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN: Williams

**8. Council/Staff Reports/Comments:**

a. Staff Reports/Comments: None

b. b. City Council Reports Comments: Council gave comments/reports on activities and various meetings they attended.

**10. Adjournment:**

The Meeting was adjourned at 10:03 p.m.

Dated: September 8, 2021

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Tara Rustenhoven, City Clerk