



**City Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, February 20, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.**  
**In the library meeting room at Five Points, 360 N. Wilmor Road, Washington, Illinois**

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**Call to Order** Mayor Manier called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with a quorum present.

**Roll Call** Present: Alderpersons Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Dingledine, Schone, Stevens and Yoder

**Also Present** Mayor Gary Manier, City Administrator Jim Snider, City Engineer Dennis Carr, Planning and Development Director Jon Oliphant, Public Works Director Brian Rittenhouse, Finance Director Joanie Baxter, Deputy Police Chief Jeff Stevens, City Treasurer Abbey Strubhar, City Clerk Valeri Brod, and City Attorney Keith Braskich

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**Pledge of Allegiance** All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Manier.

**Citizens Wishing to be Heard** John Amdall provided information regarding the Washington Bicentennial Committee. He shared that his wife Sharron, Leri Slonneger and John Stromberg are also present in support. He noted the Bicentennial is in 2025 and shared information about several fundraising events. Mr. Amdall noted partnerships with Washington Park District for tree planting and the Historical Society for three murals. He invited everyone to share organizations with him that might want to have the committee present and share information regarding Washington's history. His letter is attached and made part of these minutes.

**Review Agenda for Deletions or Additions** Nothing was added or deleted at this time.

**Consent Agenda** Mayor Manier presented the Consent Agenda for approval of the following items:

- A. Approve Minutes of the February 6, 2023 Regular City Council Meeting
- B. Accept Financial Reports for Period Ended January 31, 2023
- C. Approve Bills and Payroll
- D. TIF Pay Request #4 - Square Restaurant and Brewpub, 140 Washington Square
- E. Street Department Shop Building Doors Purchase Authorization

Alderson Brownfield motioned to approve; Alderson Stevens seconded.

Alderson Blundy asked for clarification regarding Item B. Finance Director Joanie Baxter provided information for Alderson Blundy pertaining to line items for infrastructure and stormwater management. Alderson Blundy asked if the Stormwater Management Fund and infrastructure were tracked separately. Ms. Baxter confirmed that each fund is tracked separately and details will be provided in the budget. Ms. Baxter shared that we also receive ARPA grant funds.

8 Ayes: Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Dingledine, Schone, Stevens and Yoder  
0 Nays:

Motion carried by roll call vote

**Announcements and Proclamations** Mayor Manier provided the Mayoral appointment of Jeff Labuz to the Fire Board.

Alderson Dingledine motioned to approve; Alderson Stevens seconded.

Alderson Stevens expressed appreciation for receiving the biography and asked for an explanation of the selection process. Mayor Manier shared that Mr. Labuz had reached out to him and he appointed him.

Alderson Blundy asked about updates from the Fire Board. Mayor Manier clarified that the Fire Chief provides updates when he can come to a meeting. Fire Chief Clint Kuhlman, stated that his updates would be similar to that of the Board, but he can bring something different should Alderson Blundy like to receive it.

8 Ayes: Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Dingledine, Schone, Stevens and Yoder  
0 Nays:

Motion carried by roll call vote

Mayor Manier introduced City Clerk Valeri Brod to read a proclamation in honor of her family member affected by M.S. The proclamation proclaims the month of March 2023 as Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month.

Aldersperson Stevens motioned to approve; Aldersperson Adams seconded.  
8 Ayes: Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Dingledine, Schone, Stevens and Yoder  
0 Nays:  
Motion carried by roll call vote

**Finance & Personnel Committee** Finance and Personnel Committee Chairman Buter shared that they provided Item B on the consent agenda.

**Public Safety Committee** Public Safety Committee Chairman Adams introduced Deputy Police Chief Stevens and Fire Chief Kuhlman to provide any updates. Fire Chief Kuhlman shared that they had a total of 84 runs this month.

**Public Works Committee** Public Works Committee Chairman Brownfield introduced staff to provide the following updates.  
City Engineer Carr shared that Hilldale is out for bid and the opening will be on March 1st. They are working with Terra for Freedom Parkway and working with IDOT for land acquisitions. Staff is also working with Core and Main. They are looking to purchase property for easements and Walmart said it is with their legal counsel. Their goal is to make the March deadline with land acquisitions. Mr. Carr shared that Nofsinger requires 11,000 cubic yards of fill and Freedom Parkway has about the same amount in waste so they hope these can be tied together. They are reviewing sanitary sewer needs under the road near Nofsinger and they have been talking with a drainage team about pending projects.  
Planning and Development Director Oliphant shared that the project team for the Comprehensive Plan will have a draft ready in early March for public review and they hope to have presentation ready for the first meeting in April. Mr. Oliphant noted that the Enterprise Zone may need expansion to accommodate Sam Miller's business expansion. is looking at the Enterprise Zone could cover his properties. They will hold public hearings regarding this.  
Public Works Director Brian Rittenhouse shared the weather has been nice for them and Distribution and Collections is continuing sewer maintenance. He also shared that we have a full salt shed as we purchased 750 tons and we will wait another month before ordering the remainder. He stated that the commodity opening was last Wednesday and he will bring items to Public Works for review.

**Mayor** Nothing additional at this time.

**City Administrator** Nothing additional at this time.

**Resolution:** Mayor Manier provided the following Resolution for consideration.  
*Resolution Authorizing Amended Employment Agreement with Jim Snider, City Administrator*  
**Synopsis:** Adoption of this resolution would provide for an amended employment agreement between the City of Washington and City Administrator, Jim Snider retroactive to December 13, 2022 including salary and monthly vehicle allowance.  
**Title:** A Resolution Authorizing Amended Employment Agreement with Jim Snider, City Administrator

Aldersperson Dingledine motioned to approve; Aldersperson Schone seconded.

Mayor Manier highlighted that Mr. Snider's salary rate is \$151,372 and his vehicle allowance is \$750.

8 Ayes: Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Dingledine, Schone, Stevens and Yoder  
0 Nays:  
Motion carried by roll call vote

City Administrator Snider thanked everyone and expressed his appreciation for the support. He acknowledged the hard work of the department heads and employees and stated that it is an honor working with them.

**Second Reading Ordinance** City Administrator Snider provided the following Ordinance for consideration:  
*W. Jefferson Property Rezoning Request*  
**Synopsis:** Adoption of this ordinance would rezone a parcel near the intersection of N. Wilmor Road and W. Jefferson Street from R-1A, Single-Family Residential, to C-3, Service Retail.  
**Title:** An Ordinance Approving W. Jefferson Property Rezoning Request

Aldersperson Stevens motioned to approve; Aldersperson Butler seconded.  
8 Ayes: Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Dingledine, Schone, Stevens and Yoder  
0 Nays:  
Motion carried by roll call vote

**Second Reading Ordinance** City Administrator Snider provided the following Ordinance for consideration:  
*W. Jefferson Property Special Use Request*  
**Synopsis:** Adoption of this ordinance would allow for a light fabrication, welding, and repair business to be located on a parcel near the intersection of N. Wilmor Road and W. Jefferson Street.  
**Title:** An Ordinance Approving W. Jefferson Property Special Use Request

Aldersperson Stevens motioned to approve; Aldersperson Brownfield seconded.

8 Ayes: Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Dingledine, Schone, Stevens and Yoder  
0 Nays:  
Motion carried by roll call vote

**Second Reading** Snider provided the following Ordinance for consideration:  
**Ordinance** **Synopsis:** Adoption of this ordinance would designate the intersection of Monroe Street  
*Monroe and Hamilton* and Hamilton Street as a yield intersection.  
**Yield Sign** **Title:** An Ordinance Approving Monroe and Hamilton Yield Sign

Aldersperson Brownfield motioned to approve; Aldersperson Adams seconded.  
8 Ayes: Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Dingledine, Schone, Stevens and Yoder  
0 Nays:  
Motion carried by roll call vote

**Second Reading** Snider provided the following Ordinance for consideration:  
**Ordinance** **Synopsis:** Adoption of this ordinance would designate the intersection of State Street and  
*State and Vine Yield* Vine Street as a yield intersection.  
**Sign** **Title:** An Ordinance Approving State and Vine Yield Sign

Aldersperson Dingledine motioned to approve; Aldersperson Butler seconded.  
8 Ayes: Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Dingledine, Schone, Stevens and Yoder  
0 Nays:  
Motion carried by roll call vote

**Aldersperson's** Aldersperson Stevens read a statement regarding her voting record. It is attached and made  
**Comments** part of these minutes.  
Aldersperson Blundy stated that he wanted to add clarity about the police evidence building. He noted that during a budget meeting, he asked about payment and used the example of ARPA funds. He noted that Chief received grant money that couldn't be used for the building which made him feel that we should pull back and look at the needs of all departments if general funds will be used. Aldersperson Blundy shared that he attended a Peoria Council meeting where they discussed a TIF project. He stated that he was impressed that there were a lot of questions for the city manager and the developer that were not confrontational. He feels it was a great example.

**Adjournment** At 6:59 p.m. Aldersperson Schone moved to adjourn; Aldersperson Brownfield seconded.  
Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

  
Valeri L. Brod, City Clerk

# Washington City Council Comments

## Washington Bicentennial – February 20, 2023

We are John and Sharon Amdall who live in Washington. We are here today to give a quick update on the Washington Bicentennial Committee.

The Washington Bicentennial Committee was formed in 2017 under the leadership of Mary Kerr. When Mary passed, Jewel Ward and Leri Slonneger became co-chairs of the Washington Bicentennial Committee.

The purpose of the Washington Bicentennial Committee is to create awareness about Washington's Bicentennial in 2025, coordinate events, and promote these events.

Each year the Washington Bicentennial Committee has organized awareness events, including the fourth Trivia Night later this week on February 23 at Tres Rojas Winery. Details are available at our website [WashingtonBicentennial.org](http://WashingtonBicentennial.org) and on social media.

Later this year there will be a 5K race on April 29, 2023, and the third annual Sip & Shop on December 7, 2023. We will also be selling vintage T-Shirts with logos of historic Washington businesses for the third year, beginning at the Trivia event this week.

As one example of coordinating with other organizations, the Washington Park District has a program to plant 200 Illinois native trees by 2025. They are currently well over 50 trees that have been planted. Another example is the Historical Society that has sponsored 3 historically-significant murals to celebrate our history.

The Washington Bicentennial Committee is currently making presentations to organizations in Washington to invite them to start their planning for the Bicentennial.

We would like to close with two requests:

First, if you are aware of an organization that would like to hear from the Washington Bicentennial Committee, please let us know. We are certainly available to make a presentation.

Second, please take some time to read about Washington's history. The [WashingtonBicentennial.org](http://WashingtonBicentennial.org) website has the Centennial and Sesquicentennial history as well as a link to Washington Rewind that contains over 100 short stories about Washington's history. We think you will find these stories uplifting and give you a new appreciation for Washington's rich historical past.

Thank you,

John & Sharon Amdall  
901 Wellington Dr  
Washington, IL  
[WashingtonBicentennial@Gmail.com](mailto:WashingtonBicentennial@Gmail.com)



At the present meeting: 7-22-23

Unfortunately I was not able to be present in person at last week's Committee of the whole meeting. Participating remotely had its challenges with the main challenge being the inability to hear what was said due to the poor audio quality.

I acknowledge that business owners have concerns and hearing concerns first hand helps in making informed decisions. Providing first hand concerns also helps us make informed decisions.

We voted on supporting or not supporting a provision in the act. The information that's provided in the memo for tonight's Board agenda for a 4th Request for Renewal is in the amount of \$3,592.50 bringing the total for professional services to \$149,152.50 and 200K as per the terms for reimbursement. I voted YES.

For this point, the votes have been requested regarding the resolution.

transport project I have voted  
YES to transit.

Voting YES clearly shows my  
support for the project.

Asking questions does not mean  
that I do not support this project.  
It means I am making sure I  
have as much information as  
possible in order to make an informed  
decision when voting.