

WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 31, 2022

Council President Thomas Potter called the special meeting of Whitehall City Council to order at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, January 31, 2022.

On roll call by the president of council, the following members of council were present:

Gerald Dixon
Wes Kantor
Amy Smith
Jo Anna Heck
Karen Conison
Lori Elmore
Robert Bailey

President Potter advised that he would like a motion to adjourn to executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 (g)(1), to interview candidates for the appointment to the unexpired term of the office of City Treasurer.

Mr. Bailey so moved and Mr. Kantor seconded the motion. A roll call was taken and all members voted in the affirmative and the meeting adjourned to executive session at 6:31 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 8:02 p.m.

President Potter said they have finished the interviews for the three candidates for the Treasurers position. Moving forward, at tomorrow's City Council meeting before they vote on any legislation one of two things can occur. The first one being a public discussion on the interviews or any discussion Council would like to have with each other, which would be the time for that to take place in the public forum. The second being if they chose not to have a public discussion then they would accept a motion for a vote, which someone would have to bring forward, then a second, and this body would vote on it in its entirety.

Chairperson Dixon asked if the motion to vote on a particular person, he takes that as nominating.

President Potter said a motion will be made and seconded it would take a majority vote to pass.

Chairperson Dixon said and if that certain person does not pass with four then we move on.

President Potter said then someone would bring forward a second motion for another individual, and then seconded and then a vote would be taken.

Chairperson Dixon said so in other words have your decision made.

President Potter said no. if they chose to open up their discussion tomorrow night and get free flow of conversation which is certainly allowed then you can make a decision based on that and some new information that might sway you one way or another.

Chairperson Dixon said so they will not be having that here tonight.

President Potter said they would not be having that tonight because it was not on the agenda for the special meeting so to follow the letter of the law, they will not be having the conversation tonight.

Chairperson Bailey said they needed to allow time for Chairperson Elmore's questions and to have the time to review them.

Chairperson Elmore's plan is to have the results by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 1, 2022. She will get with Ms. Ogg before tomorrow night's meeting.

Chairperson Bailey said there is a possibility that they might not be ready to make a motion tomorrow.

President Potter said if that is the case then nobody makes a motion. That is perfectly up to Council. A motion does not have to be made tomorrow. You will have the opportunity to do so if you choose. If no one makes a motion, then they will go right to the legislation. Then they will wait until their next voting meeting, which is in two weeks. He does not want anyone to feel any undue pressure that a discussion has to be made tomorrow because they do not. They have as much time as they want to study resumes and things of that nature.

There was discussion on whether they would be out of line if they called the candidates to talk to them. It was discussed that there could be a second interview as well.

Chairperson Dixon said he was advised beforehand because he had concerns, like Bob, if it was ethical to talk to the candidates outside of this venue. He was advised that it was okay to do so.

President Potter said they would wait to see what happens tomorrow night or what does not happen tomorrow night as it is very fluid and that will determine what the next course of action is.

Chairperson Dixon said he feels they have the right as individuals to ask questions they want to ask. They may not be the same as others but as individuals, they have every right to ask the questions.

Having nothing further, Mr. Kantor moved to adjourn and Mr. Dixon seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all members responded in the affirmative and the meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A. Ogg, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: _____, 2022.

Thomas M. Potter, President of Council