

WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA MEETING MINUTES

President Potter called the March 1, 2022 agenda meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. All members were present with the exception of Councilperson Bailey.

President Potter reviewed the agenda and confirmed who would handle the various required motions this evening.

President Potter said that after this evening, Council would resume prior-covid rules for Poll Public. Now that the mask mandate is gone and the numbers are moving in the other direction, you will no longer be able to email Poll Public comments to Clerk of Council Ogg.

Chairperson Kantor asked for clarification as to why Ordinance 006-2022 was going on first reading. He felt this was not an emergency measure and that it should go on at least two readings if not three.

Mayor Maggard said that Auditor Quincel will be there later and he can answer any questions that Council may have.

City Attorney Bivens said he is sure that Treasurer Alexander has made application for bonding and there is more than likely a time limit on that.

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A. Ogg, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: _____, 2022.

Thomas M. Potter, Council President

WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES – March 1, 2022

President Potter called the regular meeting of Whitehall City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 1, 2022.

At President Potter's request, everyone rose for a moment of silence. Those assembled then recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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

Mr. Kantor moved to excuse the absent member and Ms. Elmore seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members responded in the affirmative and Chairperson Bailey was excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Ms. Conison moved to approve the February 15, 2022, agenda and regular meeting minutes. Mr. Kantor seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members responded in the affirmative and the minutes were approved as submitted.

POLL PUBLIC:

Jeff Thoburn
466 Maplewood Avenue
Whitehall, OH

With some in my family circle, and some folks in my social circles still dealing with the financial aftereffects of the Covid pandemic, and with the mayor's Fiscal Year 2022 Adopted Budget message alluding to financial uncertainty due to the Buckeye v. Kilgore work-from-home case still looming in the Ohio Supreme Court, Whitehall sees the timing as right to invest in major city building construction and to ask its property-owner residents to help fund it. It doesn't take a Warren Buffett to know that embracing density equates to increased demands on city services, or to know that tax incentive offerings have an effect on city finances. It would be interesting to know who here tonight will have any incentive, heck, have any opportunity, to partake of what will be the actual property tax receipts three decades from now on projects which are being TIF'ed today. Bottom line, having champagne tastes is for those who can afford champagne. Smart incremental development by regional builders with actual skin in the game in central Ohio is for beer-budget development gurus fostering main street hookah joints. Thank you.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administration and Financial Management – Chairperson Conison reported that the committee met last Tuesday and their minutes are on file. They will meet again next week, sometime after 6:30 p.m.

Community and Elder Advocacy – Chairperson Dixon reported that they met last Tuesday and their minutes are on file. They will meet again next week, sometime after 6:30 p.m.

Community Standards and Enforcement – Chairperson Smith reported that they met last Tuesday and their minutes are on file. They will meet again next week, sometime after 6:30 p.m.

Economic Development – Chairperson Kantor reported that they met last Tuesday and their minutes are on file. They will meet again next week, sometime after 6:30 p.m.

Infrastructure, Maintenance and Services – Chairperson Conison reported that they met last Tuesday and their minutes are on file. They will meet again next week, sometime after 6:30 p.m.

Public Safety – Chairperson Elmore reported that they met last Tuesday and their minutes are on file. They will meet again next week, sometime after 6:30 p.m.

Parks and Recreation – Chairperson Heck reported that they met last Tuesday and their minutes are on file. They will meet again next week, sometime after 6:30 p.m.

OFFICIALS' REPORTS

Mayor Kim Maggard – she wanted to remind everyone of the State of the City on March 10, 2022 at Whitehall Community Park YMCA and she encouraged everyone to register on the city's website. This will be an in person event. She will have updates about everything that is going on in the City of Whitehall. This will be a fun positive environment.

City Administrator Zach Woodruff – was not present.

City Attorney Michael Bivens – the City Attorney's office prosecuted two hundred ten cases in the month of February. Of those two hundred ten of a criminal nature, Whitehall residents committed thirty and that is about fourteen percent.

City Auditor Steve Quincel – gave an update on HB 519. The testimony scheduled for today is postponed until next week. He asked for consideration on Ordinance 006-2022 and Ordinance 007-2022.

Public Safety Director Van Gregg – was not present.

Treasurer Shaquille Alexander– had no official report. He is working on getting his office caught up and reporting to Council his reports for December, January and February.

President Potter – advised there were no Official's Reports filed in the Council Office since the last meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND CLAIMS:

There were no Communications, Petitions and Claims filed in the Council Office since the last meeting.

VERIFICATION OF COPIES:

President Potter requested a roll call on whether each member of council received a copy of each item of legislation listed on the agenda prior to the meeting, including any add-on legislation. On a roll call vote, all members responded in the affirmative.

THIRD READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 005-2022 was read by title only by President Potter:
AMENDING 143.15 (d)(1) TITLED EMERGENCY MEDICAL BILLING.

Ms. Conison introduced and moved to adopt Ordinance No. 005-2022 and Ms. Smith seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 005-2022 was adopted.

SECOND READING:

There was no legislation for Second Reading.

FIRST READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 006-2022 was read by title only by President Potter:
AMENDING 161.30 TITLED SURETY BONDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Conison introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance No. 006-2022 and Ms. Heck seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 006-2022 was suspended.

Ms. Conison moved to adopt Ordinance No. 006-2022 and Ms. Heck seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 006-2022 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 007-2022 was read by title only by President Potter:
VOIDING AND RESCINDING CHAPTER 707 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL TITLED "AMUSEMENT DEVICES".

ORDINANCE NO. 008-2022 was read by title only by President Potter:
AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE AMENDMENT OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES TITLED "FRINGE BENEFIT ENTITLEMENT", 161.24(B).

RESOLUTION NO. 010-2022 was read by title only by President Potter:

RESOLUTION CONFIRMING AN APPOINTMENT TO THE CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES (COTA) BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Kantor introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Resolution No. 010-2022 and Mr. Dixon seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, Kantor, yes; Heck, yes; Smith, yes; Dixon, yes; Elmore, abstain; Conison, yes and Resolution No. 010-2022 was suspended.

Mr. Kantor moved to adopt Resolution No. 010-2022 and Mr. Dixon seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, Kantor, yes; Heck, yes; Smith, yes; Dixon, yes; Elmore, abstain; Conison, yes and Resolution No. 010-2022 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 011-2022 was read by title only by President Potter:

DESIGNATING A PORTION OF VARIOUS PARCELS ALONG BROAD STREET AND HAMILTON ROAD AS CITY OF WHITEHALL PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY RIGHT-OF-WAY, AS SHOWN AND DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT AND LABELED AS WD'S AND T'S.

POLL PUBLIC:

No comments at this time.

COMMUNITY DATE BOARD:

Chairperson Elmore said there is a blood drive on March 10, 2022, from one to seven p.m. at the Whitehall Fire Department.

Chairperson Heck said soccer sign-ups for the Whitehall Parks and Recreation Department could be found online at the city's website.

Chairperson Conison said to save the date of April 9, 2022 for the Easter egg hunt. Fill the egg date will be forthcoming soon.

POLL COUNCIL:

Chairperson Kantor thanked everyone for watching and coming in tonight. He expressed his thanks to Bob Straits for his many years running Whitehall Youth sports. He has been instrumental in making the league what it is today.

Chairperson Heck thanked everyone for watching and coming in tonight. She thanked Jeff Thoburn for his Poll Public.

Chairperson Smith thanked everyone for watching and coming in tonight.

Chairperson Dixon thanked the one person who came in tonight and those watching from home. He has been in that position many times. He thanked Mr. Thoburn not just for his poll public today but also for

exercising his first amendment rights for the letter to the editor in today's Columbus Dispatch. He is not a constant Dispatch reader but he did read it today and there was Mr. Thoburn's letter. He sent out his appreciation of all those in Ukraine's heroism and courage during this difficult time.

Chairperson Elmore thanked everyone for viewing on Facebook. She expressed her gratitude for being appointed to the COTA Board of Trustees. This month is National Woman's History Month. It is a time when all the accomplishments of strong, determined woman.

Chairperson Conison thanked everyone for watching and for those that have not seen a smile in a long time. She smiled for them.

President Potter congratulated Councilperson Elmore for her appointment to the COTA Board of Trustees. He knows she will do a wonderful job representing the City of Whitehall. He thanked those watching at home as well as the audience member this evening.

Having nothing further, Mr. Kantor moved to adjourn and Ms. Elmore seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all members responded in the affirmative and the meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A. Ogg, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: _____, 2022.

Thomas M. Potter, Council President