

WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA MEETING MINUTES

President Pro-Tempore Bailey called the April 5, 2022 agenda meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. All members were present with the exception of President Potter.

President Pro-Tempore Bailey reviewed the agenda and confirmed who would handle the various required motions this evening.

City Auditor Steve Quincel explained the add-on pieces of legislation to City Council.

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A. Ogg, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: _____, 2022.

Robert Bailey, President Pro-Tempore

WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES – April 5, 2022

President Pro-Tempore Bailey called the regular meeting of Whitehall City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 5, 2022.

At President Pro-Tempore Bailey’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:

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Ms. Conison moved to approve the March 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.

RESOLUTION NO. 012-2022 was read by title only by President Pro-Tempore Bailey:

RESOLUTION DECLARING THE MONTH OF APRIL “CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH” AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Kantor introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Resolution No. 012-2022 and Ms. Conison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Resolution No. 012-2022 was suspended.

Mr. Kantor moved to adopt Resolution No. 012-2022 and Ms. Conison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Resolution No. 012-2022 was adopted.

Ali Donaldson from the Center for Healthy Families thanked City Council and the Administration for their advocacy and partnership in supporting them as they work with Child and Family Services in Columbus, Ohio on the National Child Abuse Prevention Awareness. Miss Mohammed, Miss Wilson and Miss Eaton addressed Council individually on their roles in addressing and spreading the word about child abuse prevention in Franklin County.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

City Attorney Bivens expressed his heartfelt pride in hearing Miss Mohammed, Miss Wilson and Miss Eaton express their passion and advocacy in regards to child abuse in Franklin County. It is very appropriate that they came on this night because his office is doing a special presentation on domestic violence and abuse.

Prosecutor Kylie Keitch gave a presentation on strangulation in intimate partner violence. Strangulation is defined by the obstruction of blood vessels and/or airflow in the neck resulting in asphyxia. One in four women will experience intimate partner violence (IPV) in their lifetime. Of the woman at risk, up to sixty eight percent will experience near-fatal strangulation by their partner. Loss of consciousness can occur within five to ten seconds and death within minutes. Ninety-seven percent are strangled manually (with hands), thirty-eight percent report losing consciousness, thirty-five percent are strangled along with sexual assault/abuse and nine percent are pregnant. Seventy percent of strangled women believed they were going to die and odds for homicide increase seven hundred fifty percent for victims who have been previously strangled, compared to victims who have never been strangled. However, oftentimes, even in fatal cases, there are no external signs of injury. She gave an overview of the signs and symptoms of strangulation, the psychological injury and delayed fatality. Today, forty-nine states have felony strangulation laws on the books. Ohio is the only state without a felony law.

Prosecutor Kylie Keitch answered questions from Council at this time.

POLL PUBLIC:

No comments at this time.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administration and Financial Management – Chairperson Conison reported that the committee met Tuesday, March 22, 2022 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 Tuesday, March 22, 2022 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 Tuesday, March 22, 2022 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 Tuesday, March 22, 2022 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 Tuesday, March 22, 2022 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 Tuesday, March 22, 2022 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 Tuesday, March 22, 2022 and their minutes are on file. They will meet again next week, sometime after 6:30 p.m.

OFFICIALS' REPORTS

Mayor Kim Maggard – she thanked Kylie for sharing the informative information on strangulation and she is looking forward to the Matters of the Heart. She asked for favorable consideration on Ordinances 008-2022 and 012-2022.

City Administrator Zach Woodruff – gave an update on roadwork that is being performed within the city. The curb has been placed on Maplewood Avenue for the two traffic-calming medians and some leftover works is being done on Etna Street between Robinwood and Collingwood on the bridge that was replaced last year.

City Attorney Michael Bivens – in the month of March the City Attorney's office prosecuted two hundred ninety-five cases with fifty of those cases being committed by Whitehall residents. That is about sixteen percent.

City Auditor Steve Quincel – said last month he provided testimony in opposition of HB 519 because it severely limits the ability to access late fees and penalties. It subjects the city to rule they cannot possibly meet. A floor amendment was offered up however the Ohio House rejected the amendment. HB 519 was passed last Wednesday and will now go to the Ohio Senate to begin that process. In the meantime, he has sent letters in opposition to the Senators Maharath and Craig. The Ohio Supreme Court last week declined to hear the Buckeye Institutes appeal of their lawsuit against the City of Columbus. This ends the lawsuit in Franklin County and upholds the constitutional right of municipalities to have withheld income taxes based on taxpayer's place of work for tax year 2020 during the covid-19 pandemic. He asked for favorable consideration on Ordinances 014-2022 and 015-2022 and Resolution 013-2022.

Public Safety Director Van Gregg – had no official report.

Treasurer Shaquille Alexander– was not present.

President Pro-Tempore Bailey – advised the following Official's Reports were filed in the Council Office since the last meeting: The Mayor's Report to Council for February 2022.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND CLAIMS:

1. Agenda for the April 7, 2022 Whitehall Planning Commission.

VERIFICATION OF COPIES:

President Pro-Tempore Bailey 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. 007-2022 was read by title only by President Pro-Tempore Bailey:

VOIDING AND RESCINDING CHAPTER 707 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL TITLED “AMUSEMENT DEVICES”.

Ms. Elmore introduced and moved to adopt Ordinance No. 007-2022 and Mr. Dixon seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 007-2022 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 008-2022 was read by title only by President Pro-Tempore Bailey:

AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE AMENDMENT OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES TITLED” FRINGE BENEFIT ENTITLEMENT”, 161.24(B).

Ms. Elmore introduced and moved to adopt Ordinance No. 008-2022 and Ms. Conison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 008-2022 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 011-2022 was read by title only by President Pro-Tempore Bailey:

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.

Ms. Conison introduced and moved to adopt Resolution No. 011-2022 and Mr. Kantor seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Resolution No. 011-2022 was adopted.

SECOND READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 009-2022 was read by title only by President Pro-Tempore Bailey:

AMENDING SECTION 933.11 TITLED “STORAGE OF GARBAGE AND OTHER REFUSE” OF THE STREETS AND PUBLIC SERVICES CODE OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL.

FIRST READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 011-2022 was read by title only by President Pro-Tempore Bailey:

AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE MAY 2022 REPLACEMENT PAGES TO THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL.

ORDINANCE NO. 012-2022 was read by title only by President Pro-Tempore Bailey:

AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A FUND TRANSFER IN THE AMOUNT OF SIXTY THOUSAND AND NO/DOLLARS (\$60,000.00) FROM THE GENERAL FUND 101 TO THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND 311; AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF SIXTY THOUSAND AND NO/DOLLARS (\$60,000.00) FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND 311 TO THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT EXPENSE ACCOUNT 311.000.54000 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 014-2022 was read by title only by President Pro-Tempore Bailey:

AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF SIXTY ONE THOUSAND, SIX HUNDRED SEVENTY TWO AND 63/100 DOLLARS (\$61,672.63) FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE 101 GENERAL FUND TO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT REPAIR OF EQUIPMENT ACCOUNT 101.970.56800 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Conison introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance No. 014-2022 and Mr. Dixon seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 014-2022 was suspended.

Ms. Conison moved to adopt Ordinance No. 014-2022 and Mr. Dixon seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 014-2022 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 015-2022 was read by title only by President Pro-Tempore Bailey:

APPROVING AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF SEVENTEEN THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$17,000.00) FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE PARKS & RECREATION TRUST FUND (860) TO THE YOUTH SOCCER EXPENSE ACCOUNT (860.000.52000) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Conison introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance No. 015-2022 and Ms. Heck seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 015-2022 was suspended.

Ms. Conison moved to adopt Ordinance No. 015-2022 and Ms. Heck seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 015-2022 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 013-2022 was read by title only by President Pro-Tempore Bailey:

RESOLVING TO APPROVE “THEN AND NOW” CERTIFICATES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Conison introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Resolution No. 013-2022 and Ms. Elmore seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Resolution No. 013-2022 was suspended.

Ms. Conison moved to adopt Resolution No. 013-2022 and Ms. Elmore seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Resolution No. 013-2022 was adopted.

POLL PUBLIC:

No comments at this time.

COMMUNITY DATE BOARD:

Chairperson Conison said all the Easter eggs have been stuffed and the Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 9 at 11:30 am at Whitehall Community Park.

Chairperson Heck said that First Responders Weekend will be held on Saturday, April 9 from 9:30 to 11:00 am at Whitehall Community Park YMCA.

POLL COUNCIL:

Chairperson Smith thanked everyone for viewing and all those in attendance, especially the young women who spoke and the City Attorney's office. It is a wonderful feeling that they are being reactionary and that make a big difference.

Chairperson Dixon thanked Ms. Donaldson, Miss Mohamed, Miss Wilson and Miss Eaton for their participation and he appreciates it. He thanked Attorney Bivens and Ms. Keitch for their presentation. He has a very personal relationship with domestic violence. Whenever and wherever this very difficult topic is brought up and to light, he appreciates it. He thanked everyone who came in tonight and all those watching from home.

Chairperson Elmore thanked everyone for viewing on Facebook and those that gave presentations. The young women who spoke tonight, their work and advocacy for children who cannot speak for themselves, they can be the voice for them. Their voices are needed. The City Attorney's office does amazing work and the people in your office make it that much more amazing. She is proud of the way they inform the residents of Whitehall. The presentation were informative and thought provoking.

Chairperson Conison thanked everyone for viewing and attending. It is so wonderful to see such strong women and to know this is what they have to look forward to and thanks for coming.

Chairperson Kantor thanked everyone for viewing tonight and those in attendance. He thanked the young women for an informative presentation. He reminded everyone to wear blue on April 13 and no maize. He thanked Kylie for her presentation on domestic violence.

Chairperson Heck thanked everyone for viewing and those that presented tonight. It was very informative.

President Pro-Tempore Bailey said all the women are a blessing because of the strength of their commitment. As he was in his moment of silence, he realized he wanted to leave them with the following thought, Let everyone reflect and maybe the power will help. Say a prayer for the people of Ukraine. There are no words to describe that.

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 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A. Ogg, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: _____, 2022.

Robert Bailey, President Pro-Tempore