

WHITEHALL COUNCIL COMMITTEES

MINUTES – June 13, 2023

Council President Potter called the June 13, 2023 Council Committees' meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The following members of council and the administration were present:

Members of the Administration

Council President Thomas Potter
Mayor Kim Maggard
City Administrator Zach Woodruff
City Attorney Michael Bivens
City Auditor Steve Quinzel
City Treasurer Shaquille Alexander

Council Members

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

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Councilmembers discussed each of the seven 2023 Charter Review Commission recommendations. Each member received a copy of the recommendations at a prior meeting.

City Administrator Zach Woodruff attended the Charter Review Commission meetings and was able to give context to the recommendations from the Charter Review Commission.

There was discussion as to what the next steps are in the process. City Attorney Bivens gave Council guidance as to what the next steps could look like.

City Administrator Zach Woodruff thought the best course of action would be to ask Ms. Ogg to take each of the seven recommendations and put them into the formal piece of legislation. Then, if there were Councilmembers, who want to make changes, this would be done through an amendment to the legislation.

Councilperson Elmore gave each member of Council a packet of information, which consisted of oaths of office for each Councilperson, current Rules and Procedures for Council and minutes from the January 25, 2022.

Councilperson Elmore spoke as it relates to Councilperson Dixon's violation of the executive session. She presented the documents as each Councilperson has an obligation to the elected seat they hold, to act courageously, to abide by the rules of Council, the rules that govern the city and the Constitution of the United States. As a Council, they need to hold each other accountable. It takes courage.

SECOND READING:

RESOLUTION NO. 020-2023 (*Comm. Of the Whole – 3rd Reading – ADOPT 07/05/2023–Kantor/Conison*)

LEVYING SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FOR PROPERTY MAINTENANCE AT SEVERAL LOCATIONS IN THE CITY OF WHITEHALL, OHIO (ADDRESSES AND PARCEL NUMBERS AS PROVIDED WITHIN THE TEXT OF THIS RESOLUTION), CERTIFYING SUCH COSTS TO THE FRANKLIN COUNTY AUDITOR TO BE ASSESSED AGAINST SUCH PROPERTY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

(This had been added to the agenda as Draft # 1 by mistake)

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Councilperson Bailey opened at 7:37 p.m. and addressed the legislation in his committee, as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 040-2023 DRAFT # 2

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT A GRANT FROM, AND PARTICIPATE IN THE SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY OF CENTRAL OHIO'S PUBLIC EVENT EQUIPMENT GRANT FOR THE PURCHASE OF EVENT RECYLING AND SOLID WASTE EQUIPMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Assistant City Administrator Megan Meyer introduced Taylor Franko, who is an intern that is shared to the city from MORPC.

Ms. Franko explained the grant, which will provide recycling and landfill collection equipment for large events.

(Adm. & Fin. Mgmt. – 1st reading-ADOPT 06/20/2023-Bailey/Heck)

Having nothing further, Councilperson Bailey closed at 7:40 p.m.

COMMUNITY AND ELDER ADVOCACY

Chairperson Dixon opened at 7:40 p.m. and said there are no drafts or pending legislation on the agenda.

There was no discussion in Community and Elder Advocacy.

Having nothing further, Chairperson Dixon closed at 7:40 p.m.

COMMUNITY STANDARDS AND ENFORCEMENT

Chairperson Smith opened at 7:40 p.m. and said there are no drafts or pending legislation on the agenda.

There was no discussion in Community Standards and Enforcement.

Having nothing further, Chairperson Smith closed at 7:41 p.m.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Chairperson Kantor opened at 7:41 p.m. and addressed the legislation in his committee, as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 024-2023 DRAFT # 3

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT WITH COMPANY ETHIOPIAN TEWAHEDO SOCIAL SERVICES TO LOCATE AT 4300 EAST BROAD STREET.

(Economic Dev. – 3rd Reading – ADOPT 07/18/2023–Kantor/Conison)

Having nothing further, Chairperson Kantor closed at 7:42 p.m.

INFRASTRUCTURE, MAINTENANCE AND SERVICE

Chairperson Conison opened at 7:42 p.m. and addressed the legislation in her committee, as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 023-2023 DRAFT # 4

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH AMERICAN STRUCTUREPOINT, INC SAFE BUILT FOR PLAN REVIEW AND INSPECTION SERVICES.

City Administrator Zach Woodruff said he will have the emergency clause removed from the legislation. This legislation will provide for backup services when EMH&T is not available.

(Infra. Maint. & Svcs. – 3rd reading-ADOPT 07/18/2023-Conison/Dixon)

ORDINANCE NO. 041-2023 DRAFT # 5

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING [FRANCHISE] TO OHIO POWER COMPANY , ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, THE RIGHT TO ACQUIRE, CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN, AND OPERATE IN THE STREETS, THOROUGHFARES, ALLEYS, BRIDGES, AND PUBLIC PLACES OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL, STATE OF OHIO, AND ITS SUCCESSORS, LINES FOR THE [TRANSMISSION AND] DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRIC ENERGY TO THE CITY OF WHITEHALL, AND THE INHABITANTS THEREOF FOR LIGHT, HEAT, POWER, AND OTHER PURPOSES, AND FOR THE TRANSMISSION [AND DISTRIBUTION] OF THE SAME WITHIN, THROUGH, OR ACROSS SAID CITY OF WHITEHALL, STATE OF OHIO.

City Administrator Zach Woodruff explained that this legislation holds harmless the community from legal liabilities from/with accidents and equipment failures that affect community property or residents. It will allow AEP to work in the right-of-way and reduce power outages during times when they need to replace poles or wires. He thanked people for their continued patience while ODOT continues the project at Hamilton and Main.

(Infra. Maint. & Svcs. – 3rd reading-ADOPT 07/18/2023-Conison/Kantor)

Having nothing further, Chairperson Conison closed at 7:46 p.m.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Chairperson Elmore opened at 7:47 p.m. and said there are no drafts or pending legislation on the agenda.

Chairperson Elmore recognized the Police Department for showing up at Walmart last week with the Be Smart Program and giving away free gunlocks. Whitehall's new gunshot sensors made their debut last Tuesday and they seem to work perfect.

Having nothing further, Chairperson Elmore closed at 7:48 p.m.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Chairperson Heck opened at 7:48 p.m. and said there are no drafts or pending legislation on the agenda.

Chairperson Heck said the Farmers Market was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Having nothing further, Chairperson Heck closed at 7:49 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Submitted by:

Julie A. Ogg, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: _____, 2023.

Thomas M. Potter, Council President