

WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 20, 2016

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Council President Jim Graham called the regular meeting of Whitehall City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 20, 2016.

At President Graham's request, everyone rose for a moment of silence. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited by those assembled.

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

Larry Morrison  
Bob Bailey  
Chris Rodriguez  
Van Gregg  
Karen Conison  
Wes Kantor  
Lee Stahley

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Conison moved to approve the Minutes of the September 6, 2016 agenda and regular meetings. 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.

VERIFICATION OF COPIES

President Graham 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. All members responded in the affirmative.

THIRD READING

RESOLUTION NO. 048-2016 was read by title only by President Graham:

“RECOGNIZING OCTOBER AS ENERGY ACTION MONTH.”

Ms. Stahley introduced and moved to adopt Resolution No. 048-2016 and Mr. Morrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members responded in the affirmative and RESOLUTION NO. 048-2016 was adopted.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

President Graham read Resolution No. 048-2016 in full and presented it to Christina O’Keeffe, Director of Energy & Air Quality with MORPC. Ms. O’Keeffe thanked the city for being a member of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission and thanked the mayor for being on many of their valuable committees. She explained the regional planning efforts top goal is to reduce energy function per capita. She stated that it is especially important for us because our region has higher energy usage than the rest of the state. MORPC is partnering with Franklin County to do the first ever energy study base line to understand the flow of energy on the supply and consumption side and all those factors. They are developing programs and resources to help local government lead by example and help reduce energy usage in your municipal operations. She thanked council for the adoption of the Resolution and said they are here to help in any way

that is needed. President Graham asked Mayor Maggard to explain how serious the city is regarding energy conservation and what we are working on to conserve energy. Mayor Maggard explained that the City Hall was built in 1962 and has had no infrastructure improvements since that time. She explained the city is adding an energy efficient HVAC system and LED lighting throughout City Hall and the Police Department, which will save money and energy every year. She commended Ms. O’Keeffe on what a wonderful director she is and how well respected she is throughout the state. She said she has learned so much from her and thanked her for helping leaders make decisions that need to be made.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Robert Weilbacher, Veterans Case Worker, Congressman Joyce Beatty’s office, introduced himself. Mr. Weilbacher presented a congressional proclamation to EMS, Timothy Crabtree and Judson Bates. He said that being a veteran he understands that these men probably feel like they were just doing their job, but their extra effort and thoroughness saved an individual’s life. He congratulated and thanked them on behalf of Congresswoman Joyce Beatty’s. President Graham thanked Mr. Weilbacher and Congresswoman Beatty on behalf of council for recognizing the job that our firemen do, especially when they do something extra special.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Director Woodruff and Ryan Andrews from EMH&T displayed the intersection of Broad and Hamilton and the plan for redoing it. A traffic study was conducted on that intersection and it received an F. He said that this project will involve adding and widening lanes and will roughly cost a million dollars. The MORPC grant would cover half of the million and we will try for an ODOT safety grant or Ohio public works commission. He said that intersection was ranked by MORPC as one of the top 30 worst accident prone intersections in the region. Director Woodruff stated that once the project is done it will be similar to Hamilton and Mill Street in Gahanna. Director Woodruff said while working on this project he will try to include what the infrastructure needs to look like for future development in that area. He explained this is a long range project, but the first part is to submit the application for the funding to MORPC. Mr. Bailey asked how this impacts the businesses. Director Woodruff said there is no way they cannot affect the businesses, but this will eliminate people cutting over lanes of traffic to turn. He stated that down the road they will be showing property owners and residents the plan in hopes of getting constructive suggestions and feedback. Mr. Kantor asked if Fairway would still be north and south. Director Woodruff said they are not sure what Fairway will look like after development. He said they anticipate the sidewalk to be brick and to have a Welcome to Whitehall sign. He explained that most people enter in to Whitehall by using I270 or I70. Mr. Rodriguez asked how much more distance will we be getting by lengthening the turn lane. Mr. Andrews said he can’t tell exactly, but it could be doubled in length. Mr. Stahley asked how this is affecting the COTA bus. Director Woodruff said that COTA and pedestrians were taken in to consideration when developing this plan. Mr. Rodriguez asked how this affects the individuals that ride the bus downtown. Director Woodruff pointed out the crosswalks on the map that are close by.

POLL PUBLIC

There were no comments.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING - September 20, 2016

Administration and Financial Management – Chairperson Bailey reported that they discussed Ordinance Nos. 089-2016, 090-2016 and 091-2016. They met last week and their minutes are on file. They will meet again next week, sometime after 6:30 p.m.

Community Engagement – Chairperson Conison reported that they met last week and their minutes are on file. The committee will meet next week, sometime after 6:30 p.m.

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

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

Infrastructure, Maintenance and Services – Chairperson Gregg said that they met last week and discussed Ordinance Nos. 092-2016 and 093-2016. Their minutes are on file. They will meet next week, sometime after 6:30 p.m.

Public Safety – Chairperson Stahley said they met last week and their minutes are on file. He asked for prayers for Safety Director Underwood. The Safety Committee will meet next week, sometime after 6:30 p.m.

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

### OFFICIALS' REPORTS

Mayor Kim Maggard – She stated that there was a swearing in yesterday for our new Assistant Police Chief Dan Kelso and next Monday at 10:00 a.m. Chief Mike Crispin will be sworn in as Chief of Police. She shared that the city is having a town hall meeting on October 5 at 6:30 p.m. at the high school auditorium. This meeting will be about how to make the Fourth of July fireworks as safer environment.

City Attorney Michael Bivens – He said in addition to October being Energy Action month it is also Domestic Violence month. He explained that the younger people like Whitehall so much, they end up staying here. Unfortunately, according to BCI through the Attorney General's website, Whitehall is the number one suburb for Domestic Violence. The city attorney's office has reached out to Bryan Handler and the city's school board to set up three focus groups to offer to the students. He thinks if we can educate the young people on domestic violence awareness not just from the victim's perspective but from the prevention perspective, then maybe we can reduce these numbers. The goal is to use our victim advocate with law enforcement officers and maybe even some victims to educate them on how not to become a statistic. In the upcoming month he said we will be hearing more about those focus groups.

Director of Service and Development Zach Woodruff – He asked for favorable consideration for Ordinance 093-2016 and Resolution 060-2016. He thanked council for their continued support for the North Hamilton Road project which is moving along and will be done by November. He stated he thinks the new entrance to Community Park and Heartland Bank looks really nice.

City Auditor Dan Miller – He asked for favorable consideration of Ordinance Nos. 089-2016, 090-2016 and Resolution 051-2016

Safety Director Chuck Underwood – was not present

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Treasurer Steve Quincel – Had no official report.

Council President Jim Graham said the following Officials' Reports have been filed in the Council Office since the last meeting:

- A. The Auditor's Expense Report for August 2016;
- B. The Auditor's Bank Report for August 2016;
- C. The Auditor's Statement of Cash Position for August 2016;
- D. The Auditor's Revenue Report for August 2016;
- E. Mayor's Report to Council for August 2016;

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND CLAIMS:

- 1. Agenda for the September 22, 2016, meeting of the Whitehall Parks and Recreation Commission.
- 2. Minutes of the August 25, 2016, meeting of the Whitehall Parks and Recreation Commission.

SECOND READING:

There was no legislation for second reading.

FIRST READING

ORDINANCE NO. 089-2016 was read by title only by President Graham:

“APPROVING AND MAKING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF THREE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED EIGHTY-SEVEN AND 73/100 DOLLARS (\$3,387.73) FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE WMPITIE FUND (279) TO VARIOUS ACCOUNTS IN THE WMPITIE FUND (279) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.”

Mr. Bailey introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance No. 089-2016 and Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members responded in the affirmative and the rules were suspended.

Mr. Bailey then moved to adopt Ordinance No. 089-2016 and Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and ORDINANCE NO. 089-2016 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 090-2016 was read by title only by President Graham:

“APPROVING AND MAKING APROPRIATION TRANSFERS FROM VARIOUS WMPITIE FUND EXPENSE ACCOUNTS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF TEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED TWENTY-TWO AND 29/100 DOLLARS (\$10,522.29) TO THE TIF FEES ACCOUNT (279-000-59600) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.”

Mr. Bailey introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance No. 090-2016 and Mr. Stahley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members responded in the affirmative and the rules were suspended.

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Mr. Bailey then moved to adopt Ordinance No. 090-2016 and Mr. Stahley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and ORDINANCE NO. 090-2016 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 091-2016 was read by title only by President Graham:

“APPROVING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF FIFTEEN THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$15,000.00) FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE 201 FUND TO THE 201.000.55000 STREET MISC. EXPENSE ACCOUNT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.”

Mr. Bailey introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance No. 091-2016 and Mr. Gregg seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members responded in the affirmative and the rules were suspended.

Mr. Bailey then moved to adopt Ordinance No. 091-2016 and Mr. Gregg seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and ORDINANCE NO. 091-2016 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 092-2016 was read by title only by President Graham:

“AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE STATE OF OHIO FOR BRIDGE INSPECTION PROGRAM SERVICES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.”

Mr. Gregg introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance No. 092-2016 and Mr. Kantor seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members responded in the affirmative and the rules were suspended.

Mr. Gregg then moved to adopt Ordinance No. 092-2016 and Mr. Kantor seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and ORDINANCE NO. 092-2016 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 093-2016 was read by title only by President Graham:

“APPROVING AND MAKING A FUND TRANSFER OF ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$100,000.00) FROM PREVIOUSLY UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE WMPITIE FUND (279) TO THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT/PROJECT FUND (311); MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$100,000.00) FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT/PROJECT FUND (311) TO THE NORTH HAMILTON TRESTLE EXPENSE ACCOUNT (311-000-56000) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.”

Mr. Gregg introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance No. 093-2016 and Mr. Morrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members responded in the affirmative and the rules were suspended.

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Mr. Gregg then moved to adopt Ordinance No. 093-2016 and Mr. Morrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and ORDINANCE NO. 093-2016 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 059-2016 was read by title only by President Graham:

“ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION, AUTHORIZING NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.”

Mr. Rodriguez introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Resolution No. 059-2016 and Mr. Stahley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members responded in the affirmative and the rules were suspended.

Mr. Rodriguez then moved to adopt Resolution No. 059-2016 and Mr. Stahley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and RESOLUTION NO. 059-2016 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 060-2016 was read by title only by President Graham:

“TO AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT TO FILE AN APPLICATION WITH THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING FUNDS THROUGH THE MORPC-ATTRIBUTABLE FEDERAL FUNDING PROGRAM FOR TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS.”

Mr. Gregg introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Resolution No. 060-2016 and Ms. Conison seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and the rules were suspended.

Mr. Gregg then moved to adopt Resolution No. 060-2016 and Ms. Conison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and RESOLUTION NO. 060-2016 was adopted.

POLL PUBLIC

There were no comments at this time.

COMMUNITY DATE BOARD

Events are listed on the City’s Website.

POLL COUNCIL

Mr. Morrison thanked everyone for showing up and said he hopes everyone has a good week.

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Mr. Bailey thanked Mr. Bivens on understanding the needs in the community and especially partnering up with the school district to help with a serious issue in our city.

Mr. Rodriguez thanked our firefighters and safety forces.

Mr. Gregg thanked the fire department for everything they do and he hopes everyone has a good week.

Ms. Conison thanked Attorney Bivens for his efforts with Domestic Violence. She said it is a big topic in her family because her daughter-in-law works for United Way and that is one of her focuses. She said the Whitehall Police Academy had a very good group of people this time and she congratulated them on their graduation.

Mr. Kantor thanked Director Woodruff and for the presentation and commended Attorney Bivens on his efforts. He congratulated firefighters, Justin Bates and Tim Crabtree.

Mr. Stahley said thank you for coming.

President Graham thanked everyone for coming.

Mr. Bailey said Happy Birthday to Mr. Rodriguez.

Having nothing further, Mr. Rodriguez moved to adjourn and Mr. Bailey seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all members responded affirmative and the meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mary Freimark, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

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Jim Graham, Council President