

WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL  
AGENDA MEETING MINUTES

President Potter called the June 16, 2020 agenda meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. All members were present.

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Julie A. Ogg, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

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Thomas M. Potter, Council President

## WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

### MINUTES – June 16, 2020

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President Potter called the regular meeting of Whitehall City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 16, 2020.

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:

Jo Anna Heck  
Larry Morrison  
Bob Bailey  
Chris Rodriguez  
Lori Elmore  
Karen Conison  
Wes Kantor

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Ms. Conison moved to approve the Minutes of the June 02, 2020, agenda and regular meeting. 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:

No comments at this time.

#### STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administration and Financial Management – Chairperson Bailey 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 Elmore reported that they met last Tuesday and their minutes are on file. They have no pending legislation and they will meet next week, sometime after 6:30 p.m.

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

Public Safety – 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.

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

### OFFICIALS' REPORTS

Mayor Kim Maggard – she wanted to remind everyone that the income tax deadline is July 15, 2020. It was changed from April 15, 2020 due to Covid-19. For the safety of everyone, when entering City Hall, you are required to wear a mask. She has been talking with Director Sorrell and the Whitehall Youth Athletic League is trying to get some drop-in games scheduled for July. There may possibly be a few Music in the Park series in July. There will be reminders to social distance and there will be no passing out of hotdogs, popcorn and water. She is hoping they can bring a little bit of fun to a different way of doing things now. Her staff is still working on the program to reduce sewage backflow into people's homes and trying to come up with an equitable way to which everyone can have a chance of applying for the program. There should be details forthcoming by the end of June or the first part of July on how to apply for the program. At this time, income tax collection is down by more than ten percent and over a year's time that could be three and one half to four million dollars. Keep your fingers crossed that businesses can get back up and open so the city can get the revenue needed to serve our citizens the best as possible.

City Attorney Michael Bivens – was not present.

City Auditor Dan Miller – was not present.

Director of Public Service and Development Zach Woodruff – was not present.

Public Safety Director Van Gregg – was not present.

Treasurer Steve Quincel – was not present.

President Potter – advised that the following Officials' Reports have been filed in the Council Office since the last meeting: The Mayor's Report to Council for May 2020, Auditor's Expense Report for May 2020, the Auditor's Bank Report for May 2020, the Auditor's Statement of Cash Position Report for May 2020 and the Auditor's Revenue Report for May 2020.

### COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND CLAIMS:

1. Minutes for the June 04, 2020 meeting of the Planning Commission.

### 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. 041-2020 was read by title only by President Potter:

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER A PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT AND OTHER APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY TO SELL APPROXIMATELY .2 ACRES OF PARCELS 090-005410 AND 090-001974 TO CONTINENTAL REAL ESTATE OR THEIR DESIGNEE.

Ms. Elmore introduced and moved to adopt Ordinance No. 041-2020 and Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 041-2020 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 043-2020 was read by title only by President Potter:  
***PUBLIC HEARING 07/07/2020***

AMENDING THE ZONING MAP ATTACHED TO CHAPTER 1122 OF THE 1970 CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL, OHIO AND AS SUBSEQUENTLY AMENDED, CHANGING THE ZONING ON PROPERTY LOCATED ON EAST BROAD STREET, PARCEL NUMBER 090-008249, FROM EXCEPTIONAL USE DISTRICT (EU) TO GENERAL COMMERCE DISTRICT (GCD), PROPERTY OWNED BY OFFICE CITY INC.

Mr. Rodriguez made a motion to continue Ordinance 043-2020 to July 07, 2020 and Mr. Kantor seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 043-2020 was continued to July 07, 2020.

RESOLUTION NO. 014-2020 was read by title only by President Potter:

APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP-WHITEHALL JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT.

Mr. Morrison introduced and moved to adopt Resolution No. 014-2020 and Ms. Heck seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Resolution No. 014-2020 was adopted.

#### SECOND READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 047-2020 was read by title only by President Potter:  
***PUBLIC HEARING 07/07/2020***

AMENDING THE ZONING MAP ATTACHED TO CHAPTER 1122 OF THE 1970 CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL, OHIO AND AS SUBSEQUENTLY AMENDED, ALLOWING A SPECIAL PERMIT UNDER 1123.10(c)(1) TO ALLOW ARMSTRONG DEVELOPMENT TO OPERATE A DRIVE-IN WINDOW AND DRIVE-THROUGH FACILITIES ON THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 4720 E. MAIN STREET, PROPERTY OWNED BY SUGAR PROPERTIES LLC.

#### FIRST READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 049-2020 was read by title only by President Potter:

TO AFFIRM THE FRANKLIN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DECLARATION ASSERTING THAT RACISM IS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS AND THE CITY OF WHITEHALL RECOGNIZES AND AFFIRMS THAT BLACK, BROWN AND OTHER PEOPLE OF COLOR LIVE EVERYDAY UNDER THE UNJUST BURDENS OF SYSTEMATIC CULTURAL AND INDIVIDUAL RACISM AND TO SET FORTH APPROPRIATE AND MEASURABLE ACTIONS TO COMBAT RACISM IN THE CITY OF WHITEHALL SO THAT THE COMMUNITY MIGHT BETTER SERVE AS A MODEL OF INCLUSIVENESS AND EQUITY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Elmore introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance No. 049-2020 and Mr. Bailey seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 049-2020 was suspended.

Ms. Elmore moved to adopt Ordinance No. 049-2020 and Mr. Bailey seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 049-2020 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 050-2020 *was read by title only by President Potter:*

MAKING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE HUNDRED TWENTY THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED FIFTEEN AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$120,315.00) FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE GENERAL FUND (101) TO THE BUILDING AND LOT MAINTENANCE ACCOUNT (101-950-53300) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Bailey introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance No. 050-2020 and Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 050-2020 was suspended.

Mr. Bailey moved to adopt Ordinance No. 050-2020 and Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 050-2020 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 051-2020 *was read by title only by President Potter:*

AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF THE CARES ACT GRANT FUND (205), APPROPRIATING TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$25,000.00) FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE CARES ACT GRANT FUND (205) TO THE CARES ACT GRANT EXPENSE ACCOUNT (205.000.50000) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Bailey introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance No. 051-2020 and Mr. Morrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 051-2020 was suspended.

Mr. Bailey moved to adopt Ordinance No. 051-2020 and Mr. Morrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 051-2020 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 016-2020 *was read by title only by President Potter:*

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

Mr. Bailey introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Resolution No. 016-2020 and Ms. Conison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Resolution No. 016-2020 was suspended.

Mr. Bailey moved to adopt Resolution No. 016-2020 and Ms. Conison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Resolution No. 016-2020 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 017-2020 *was read by title only by President Potter:*

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT FUNDS FROM THE FEDERAL CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY ACT (CARES).

Mr. Kantor introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Resolution No. 017-2020 and Ms. Heck seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Resolution No. 017-2020 was suspended.

Mr. Kantor moved to adopt Resolution No. 017-2020 and Ms. Heck seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Resolution No. 017-2020 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 018-2020 *was read by title only by President Potter:*

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT FUNDS FROM THE FEDERAL CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY ACT (CARES).

President Potter said the title verbiage of Resolution 017-2020 is the same as Resolution 018-2020. Resolution 017-2020 is a letter to Michael Stinziano, Auditor of Franklin County, Ohio and Resolution 018-2020 is going to a different entity.

Mr. Rodriguez introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Resolution No. 018-2020 and Ms. Elmore seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Resolution No. 018-2020 was suspended.

Mr. Rodriguez moved to adopt Resolution No. 018-2020 and Ms. Elmore seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Resolution No. 018-2020 was adopted.

POLL PUBLIC:

No comments at this time.

COMMUNITY DATE BOARD:

Chairperson Heck said meals will be given out this week at New Life Church from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. Monday – Friday. The meals will continue on a week to week basis as long as there is funding.

POLL COUNCIL:

Ms. Heck thanked all those tuning in and she hoped everyone stays safe.

Mr. Morrison said he is shocked that Ordinance 049-2020 is even necessary in today's society and that we would have to do something like this. He thanked everyone for watching and hoped everyone has a good week.

Mr. Bailey said he would like the whole country to sit back and take a deep breath and relax. Right now it is very hard to process all these social issues, these political issues and not to mention the health issues that are still out there. This is really a tough time in our country. It is hard to watch the news. It is like anxiety and craziness. He would like for everybody to take a break and relax, let's process some of this and when we move forward on some of these issues let's do it with thought and not knee jerk reactions.

Mr. Rodriguez thanked Mr. Bailey for his comments and he knows that a lot of people are thinking the same way. He thanked Ms. Ogg for everything she does. He believes she is always smiling behind that

mask. She has been such a wonderful person to work with in different areas of the city and just thank you for you. Right now the Georgia peach truck is up around here and he found out that his grandkids love peaches so he went and got a carton of peaches. When he got back home he was getting out of his truck and there were three little kids playing across the street and their mom was watching them. He asked them if they liked peaches and they were taken a little aback so he asked their mom if he could give each of them a peach. He gave each one a peach and gave one to the mom. He wishes we could get back to that. There was no consideration of anything except that this nice man was giving some young kids some peaches. When he was leaving to come to Council he heard someone saying “hi” and up in the window on the second floor was one of those little kids waving at him. That is what it is about. He just wants to get back to that.

Ms. Elmore thanked everyone that was viewing. She wanted to thank her colleagues and the Mayor and the Administration for passing such an important and historical ordinance regarding racism as a public health crisis and yes, Councilperson Morrison it is a shame that we are back to 1960 or 1940. We are back to the same. We are not on a treadmill. It is time to get off the treadmill. When you are watching something, your mind captures what you see and it is hard to erase what you have seen. She thinks as a society, out of chaos comes creativity. She said that because her, her husband and great grand-daughter took a ride down High Street and looked at all of the beautiful artwork that is there. If you have not seen it, it will do your heart really good to see that out of all this there is beautiful artwork that is downtown, in the short north area, on the side streets, right where the Ohio Theatre is located and it is absolutely beautiful. You have to go down and see it. Take a ride. She encourages you to take a ride because it tells you a great story. She knows that they have talked about doing artwork in Whitehall. She hopes they can get a piece of that artwork. It is indicative of the things happening in Franklin County. It is a piece of our history and her hope is that they are on the right side of history. She knows with this piece of legislation they are on the right side of history. She told Mr. Rodriguez that all it takes is an act of kindness from one person and it has a ripple effect. Those children came back and showed you how they felt about what you did. If we all are just able to exercise love towards one another and be kind, there are more people that believe collectively in what we are doing than those that are apart from what is happening. She takes heart in knowing that we have more going for us than we do against us. She is very proud to be a part of the Whitehall City Council and the Administration with us working together to make Whitehall a better place that is more inclusive and equity for everyone and we are on the right track.

Ms. Conison said she was watching the news the other day about how they are going to save all the pieces of artwork. They have not decided what they are going to do with them yet but she can certainly see them maybe being dispersed or all coming together as one. She also wanted to say Happy Pride Month.

Mr. Kantor wanted to thank all those watching. He felt there were a lot of great comments tonight, Mr. Bailey, Mr. Morrison and Ms. Elmore thank you so much. He also took a drive downtown and he was shocked. As he came back he actually looked. He took his time and he took many pictures. There is a lot of beauty down there. He actually wondered if Director Sorrell can get some of this if we ever have an art show again. This is a tough time we are going through. We have to respect each other. It is very important that we do. He is glad Whitehall has done something to help us move forward. Thank you Mayor Maggard, City Council President Potter and City Attorney Bivens. He was not present last week but he did watch. There are sign-ups daily for Whitehall Youth Sports from noon to 7:00 p.m. at John Bishop Park. It is free to Whitehall residents. They are going to try to start play around July 7<sup>th</sup> although that may change. Sign-ups have been good so far. This will also include t-ball, 4 to 6 year olds. Fortunately, Ken and Josie Euman saw the big picture and they stepped back this year looking out for the parents and all the children of t-ball. There will not be uniforms but it is a chance for the kids to get out there. Bring your teams. If you are a Whitehall resident and you are playing in our leagues, chances are you are going to play for free. He commends Bob Straight and the Board for stepping up, also Director Sorrell and the Commission. The playgrounds are now open and are being cleaned weekly. Signs are encouraging distancing and the wearing of masks with a limited number of people which is very hard to enforce. The splash pad may open in July and the Mayor will give us a date when we are good to go. It is a slow process but things are getting

opened. The Parks and Recreation website is up to date if you have questions. You can also send a question in. He looks forward to seeing everyone again soon.

President Potter said he felt that there were some very good comments and he wanted to thank this Council for passing Ordinance 049-2020. Clearly everyone agrees it is the right thing to do and he thinks this whole time has made us sit, take a step back, breath it all in, think about it. To Ms. Elmore's comment, being polite to each other, thinking of what the others thinking, saying and how to speak. Mr. Rodriguez had a great example too. He thinks it is time to take stock and act accordingly moving forward to just take something away from the whole experience to improve, enhance and to make us better people as a community.

Having nothing further, Mr. Bailey moved to adjourn and Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all members responded in the affirmative and the meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Julie A. Ogg, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

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Thomas M. Potter, Council President