

WHITEHALL COUNCIL COMMITTEES

MINUTES – May 25, 2021

Council President Potter called the May 25, 2021 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 Potter
Mayor Kim Maggard
City Attorney Michael Bivens
Service Director Zach Woodruff
Econ. Dev. Manager Jenna Goehring

Council Members

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

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

SPEAKER ADVOCATE FOR RESOLUTION 010-2021

Karen Hewitt, Deputy Director
Kaleidoscope Youth Center

Mayor Maggard introduced Karen Hewitt, Deputy Director at Kaleidoscope Youth Center. She is there to discuss why it is important that the Council of the City of Whitehall support Resolution 010-2021. She thanked Karen for coming.

Karen Hewitt said the Kaleidoscope Youth Center which is an organization that serves and supports LGBTQIA plus youths and young adults. She is there to discuss the importance of cities and communities coming together to pass resolutions that condemn intimidation and violence and ultimately set expectations of community standards, values and ideas. A resolution is a way for leadership, elected officials and civic leaders to publicly and unapologetically demonstrate their commitment to equality under the law and perhaps even more powerful to stand in individual solidarity with minority-marginalized members in the communities for which they represent. In early 2021, Columbus bakery Bake Me Happy received a phone call that produced violent, racially motivated threats against the business. When the owner attempted to call the number back, she was met with more threats and racial slurs. The owner then made the decision to close the store for the next several days in the interest of safety for their team, surrounding neighborhood and community of customers. During this time of closure and multiple days following, a team of security detail was required; the local Police department was engaged and employees were put into a situation where loss of wages were possible, less tangible impacts such as emotional and mental stress, trauma and long lasting, more difficult to measure and are quantified. Gratefully the leadership of Columbus took a strong stand of support and solidarity for the bakeries staff, customers and community. They wrapped their preverbal arms around the owners and communicated a strong clear message that hate, violence and intimidation do not align with the values of the City of Columbus. Bake Me Happy is both LGBTQ and black owned. As a community, they know this is not the first nor will it be the last egregious and violent act made towards minority owned businesses, individuals and our communities. Central Ohio is a vast treasure of diversity and difference, our schools and neighborhoods offer multiple languages, cultures and systems of belief. As the City of Whitehall beautifully exists, a community where approximately sixty percent of its members are black, indigenous or otherwise persons of color. Affirmations, belonging and experiences of safety are necessary for all of us to thrive, a community that invests in the wholeness and well-being of its members as one, which is rich in authenticity and possibility. We live in a time that is loud with calls for unity and this evening she not only asks for them to unite but to also take a non-negotiable and visible stand for the life and humanity for all members of the Whitehall community. A resolution condemning violence and

intimidation is another right step in the right direction to creating a community where everyone feels at home, one our community is proud of and our youth have a visible and representative voice standing for their safety and success. Thank you.

Karen Hewitt answered questions from Councilmembers at this time. She will send her contact information to Mayor Maggard and Mayor Maggard will give it to the Council Clerk to distribute to Council.

Chairperson Morrison said he agreed with what has been said tonight but he had a question for the Mayor as she presented this resolution. When presented, he did not read it but glanced over it and has since read it multiple times. He agrees in this day and time, it is hideous that things of this nature go on. His question is, when presented his question was how it affected Whitehall particularly and if he recalled it was general community surrounding. His issue is with some language. He read, "Whereas, there are reports of mental, physical and verbal assaults on people of all ages at institutions across the county, including central Ohio and in Whitehall." To his knowledge, they do not have that issue here. Whitehall is a very diverse community and the last several years has been spent giving accommodation and recognizing our institutions in this community. He has a problem with Whitehall being pointed out in the legislation.

Mayor Maggard said unfortunately, Whitehall is no exempt from these sort of things. We have to recognize that we do have it going on here in our own community. She knows that last year there was an issue with racial profiling which was off Robinwood. Their next-door neighbor racially profiled some them and the neighbor was charged. We do have those sorts of things going on here in Whitehall.

There was ongoing discussion as to what the terminology of the word institution means.

ORDINANCE NO. 049-2021 DRAFT # 1

AUTHORIZING AN EXEMPTION OF 161.09(A) VACATION AND SICK LEAVE CREDIT CARRYOVER FOR THE PURPOSE OF EMPLOYING A HIGHLY QUALIFIED EMPLOYEE TO THE CITY OF WHITEHALL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

(Comm. Of the Whole – 1st reading – ADOPT 06/01/2021– Rodriguez/Morrison)

RESOLUTION NO. 014-2021 DRAFT # 2

ADOPTING THE TAX BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF WHITEHALL, OHIO, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2022 AND SUBMITTING SAME TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR.

(Comm. Of the Whole – 3rd reading – ADOPT 07/06/2021–Elmore/Conison)

THIRD READING:

RESOLUTION NO. 010-2021 *(Comm. Of the Whole – 3rd reading – ADOPT 06/01/2021– Elmore/Heck)*

APPROVING A RESOLUTION OF AND BY THE CITY OF WHITEHALL CONDEMNING INTIMIDATION AND VIOLENCE, REAFFIRMING EQUALITY UNDER THE LAW, AND COMMITTING TO REVIVING CIVILITY BETWEEN ALL PEOPLE.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Councilperson Bailey opened at 6:50 p.m. and addressed the legislation in his committee, as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 050-2021 DRAFT # 3

APPROVING AND MAKING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF EIGHTY-SEVEN THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$87,000.00) FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE MUNICIPAL FIBER PROJECT FUND (320) TO THE MUNICIPAL FIBER PROJECT EXPENSE ACCOUNT (320.000.50000) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Chairperson Bailey said the City received funding through the State Capital Bill to install dark fiber and these funds need legislative approval for appropriation.

(Admin/Fin. Mgmt. – 1st reading – ADOPT 06/01/2021– Bailey/Rodriguez)

ORDINANCE NO. 051-2021 DRAFT # 4

MAKING A FUND TRANSFER IN THE AMOUNT OF TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED THIRTY-SIX AND 06/100 DOLLARS (\$25,736.06) FROM THE BOND RETIREMENT ACCOUNT (101-950-57500) TO THE DEBT SERVICE FUND (401) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Chairperson Bailey said this is to pay for the energy upgrades to City Hall, the Garage and Police Department buildings.

(Admin/Fin. Mgmt. – 1st reading – ADOPT 06/01/2021–Bailey/Rodriguez)

RESOLUTION NO. 015-2021 - DRAFT # 5

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

(Admin/Fin. Mgmt. – 1st reading – ADOPT 06/01/2021– Bailey/Rodriguez)

SECOND READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 043-2021 *(Admin/Fin. Mgmt. – 3rd reading – AMEND & ADOPT 06/15/2021–Bailey/Morrison)*

MAKING A FUND TRANSFER IN THE AMOUNT OF FORTY-SIX THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED FORTY-ONE AND 64/100 DOLLARS (\$46,241.64) ~~TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED EIGHTY AND 36/100 DOLLARS (\$25,880.36)~~ FROM THE BOND RETIREMENT ACCOUNT (101-950-57500) TO THE DEBT SERVICE FUND (401) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilperson Bailey said this legislation would need amended at the June 01, 2021 meeting.

Having no further business, Councilperson Bailey closed at 6:53 p.m.

COMMUNITY STANDARDS AND ENFORCEMENT

Chairperson Rodriguez opened at 6:53 p.m. and addressed the legislation in his committee, as follows:

SECOND READING:

ORDINANCE NO.046-2021 *(Comm. Standard & Enf. – 3rd reading – ADOPT 06/15/2021– Rodriguez/Elmore)*

PUBLIC HEARING 06-15-2021

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 3540 E. MAIN STREET, AND 739 & 721 MAPLEWOOD AVENUE, PARCEL NUMBERS 090-002122, 090-001890, 090-003640, 090-001900, 090-002485, 090-003638, 090-008240 FROM R-3 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT AND GENERAL COMMERCE DISTRICT (GCD) TO A-2 APARTMENT DISTRICT, PROPERTY OWNED BY MAMA COMPANY INC.

ORDINANCE NO.048-2021 (*Comm. Standard & Enf. – 3rd reading – ADOPT 06/15/2021– Rodriguez/ ?*)

PUBLIC HEARING 06-15-2021

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 1123.06(c)(7) TO ALLOW AN APARTMENT DWELLING STRUCTURE CONTAINING MORE THAN TWELVE DWELLING UNITS ON THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT ON 3540 E. MAIN STREET, AND 739 & 721 MAPLEWOOD AVENUE, PARCEL NUMBERS 090-002122, 090-001890, 090-003640, 090-001900, 090-002485, 090-003638, 090-008240, PROPERTY OWNED BY MAMA COMPANY INC.

Director Woodruff passed out site plans and an elevation for the Sandusky Builders site at Maplewood and Main. This is slated to be a 102 unit four story building. He and Jenna have had a follow-up meeting with the applicant today. They are still working with them on the east elevation given the length down Maplewood. This is what they are proposing at the corner of Maplewood and Main. As seen, they are proposing an awesome plaza out on the corner, which is welcoming folks into the project. They are excited about what this project will do for the corner of Maplewood and Main. The building is pulled up along Maplewood approximately 20 feet off the right of way. The driveway will be to the north of the building with one way in and one way out. There is a significant amount of mature trees and growth to the north of the single family home. The applicant intends to add additional landscaping along that northern edge as well and all of the parking is shielded in the back. They are calling for four of the bio-basins along Maplewood and one along Main Street. It will add to the curb appeal of the project.

Director Woodruff answered questions from Council at this time.

Having nothing further, Chairperson Rodriguez closed at 7:08 p.m.

COMMUNITY AND ELDER ADVOCACY

Chairperson Elmore opened at 7:08 p.m. and said there are no drafts or pending legislation on the agenda.

Chairperson Elmore said on May 21, 2021 she and the Whitehall Bexley Rotary volunteered to plant trees in Whitehall. Present were Lois Kolada from Priority Design and Fred Everett from Thomas Everett Investments representing the Chamber of Commerce. It was good to meet people from the community that make up our business partners. Sunday she was in Dublin and had an opportunity to experience what a DORA was. It was nice and it reminds her that there are some renderings just like the building that was presented tonight and she thinks they will enjoy that opportunity. She thanked the Mayor for sending them the information regarding the municipal tax that was done in 2011. She was not here during that time and it was good to go back and read to see what that information entailed and the impact or the effect of that legislation.

Having no further business, Chairperson Elmore closed at 7:10 p.m.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Chairperson Morrison opened at 7:10 p.m. and addressed the legislation in his committee, as follows:

THIRD READING:

ORDINANCE NO.039-2021 (*Economic Dev – 3rd reading – ADOPT 06/01/2021– Morrison/Kantor*)

PUBLIC HEARING JUNE 01, 2021

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 A DRIVE THROUGH WINDOW AND/OR DRIVE THROUGH FACILITY ON THE

PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3596-3648 EAST MAIN STREET, PARCEL 090-000548,
PROPERTY OWNED BY WHITEHALL RETAIL VENTURES LTD.

ORDINANCE NO.040-2021 (*Economic Dev – 3rd reading – ADOPT 06/01/2021– Morrison/Elmore*)

PUBLIC HEARING JUNE 01, 2021

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 A DRIVE THROUGH WINDOW AND/OR DRIVE THROUGH FACILITY ON THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 890 SOUTH HAMILTION ROAD, PARCEL 090-000052, PROPERTY OWNED BY GREAT EASTERN OWNER LTD.

Having nothing further, Chairperson Morrison closed at 7:13 p.m.

INFRASTRUCTURE, MAINTENANCE AND SERVICE

Chairperson Heck opened at 7:13 p.m. and said there are no drafts or pending legislation on the agenda.

There was no discussion in Infrastructure, Maintenance and Services.

Having nothing further, Chairperson Heck closed at 7:13 p.m.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Chairperson Conison opened at 7:13 p.m. and said there are no drafts or pending legislation on the agenda.

Mayor Maggard said there is a promotional swearing-in tomorrow at the Fire Station at 1:00 p.m.

Having nothing further, Chairperson Conison closed at 7:14 p.m.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Chairperson Conison opened at 7:14 p.m. and said there are no drafts or pending legislation on the agenda.

There was no discussion in Parks and Recreation.

Having nothing further, Chairperson Conison closed at 7:14 p.m.

Director Woodruff respectfully requested an Executive Session.

President Potter said before they do that he would like to on behalf of himself, everyone on City Council and the Administration as well, would like to extend their condolences and their thoughts to Wes Kantor and his family during this difficult time.

President Potter advised that he would like a motion to adjourn to executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 (g)(8) to consider confidential information related to the marketing plans, specific business strategy, production techniques, trade secrets, or personal financial statements of an applicant for economic development assistance, or to negotiations with other political subdivisions respecting requests for economic development assistance. Mr. Bailey so moved and Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion. A roll call was taken and all members in attendance voted in the affirmative and the meeting adjourned to executive session at 7:15 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 7:31 p.m.

Economic Development Manager Jenna Goehring gave a brief update on the DORA application. She heard from Liquor Control after they put together their application that there was a typo in reference to the boundaries. There was a chart asking for the even and odd addresses and the even addresses were left out. This left one of our required establishments out but has since been updated and fixed. She wanted to keep everyone updated. They will be coming to Council next week and under Officials Reports, there will be a memo that will be read into the record.

Chairperson Conison said the splash pad at John Bishop Park would open on May 29 with reservations being handled online. The splash pad will have a variety of hours.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A. Ogg, Clerk of Council