

WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL  
AGENDA MEETING MINUTES

President Potter called the June 02, 2020 agenda meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Bailey, Mr. Morrison and Ms. Elmore.

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Julie A. Ogg, Clerk of Council

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

---

Thomas M. Potter, Council President

WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES – June 02, 2020

---

President Potter called the regular meeting of Whitehall City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 02, 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:

Wes Kantor  
Jo Anna Heck  
Chris Rodriguez  
Karen Conison

Mr. Rodriguez moved to excuse the absent member and Ms. Heck seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members responded in the affirmative and Mr. Bailey, Mr. Morrison and Ms. Elmore were excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Ms. Conison moved to approve the Minutes of the May 19, 2020, agenda and regular meeting and the Minutes of the May 26, 2020, agenda and special 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 – President Potter 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 – President Potter 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 – President Potter 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 – said she would like to give a brief report regarding flooding mitigation in the City of Whitehall. The City is actively working with multiple entities in order to increase financial partnership in this program. The City is not financially capable of funding this one hundred percent so they are actively engaging and working on partnerships with other entities, as well as working to examine and to create parameters for the program such as what it will cover, how much it will cover, vendors, plumbing aspects and contracts with vendors. It is not as easy as slapping something down on paper. There are lot of behind the scenes work to be done and they are still working on that and they are dedicated to helping citizens find solutions to and for the flooding that has happened the last two times in Whitehall. It is imperative that they continue to do this to work on a program because with the changes now in the weather that is becoming the norm regarding increased rainfall in less than twenty-four hours it is imperative that they bring something to the public that will help support them in their goal to have dry basements and a healthier interaction with their home during these torrential rains. Thank you very much.

President Potter said he appreciates the time the Mayor is taking with this. Obviously everyone is anxious to get something done rather than later so it is really a fine line to use all the resources available to you and the City to get the maximum financial benefit for the residents and he believes that is the most important thing people need to remember. The Administration is very anxious to get this done but wants to do it correctly the first time.

Mayor Maggard gave an update on the food program. The City has partnered with World Central Kitchen out of New York and Scotty's Café in Bexley on E. Broad Street. We are now in the eighth week of distributing dinners to whomever needs it. This is the last week that the City will be helping with this endeavor and they are at New Life Church on Yearling Road from 5-6 p.m. She gave a reminder to all those watching that the meals will be available through Friday of this week.

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 at the moment but President Potter requested that they reserve the opportunity for Mr. Woodruff to give his report later in the meeting.

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 Treasurers Investment Report for April 2020, the Treasurers Activity by Fund Report for April 2020 and the Treasurers Fund Reconciliation Report for April 2020 and the Mayor's Report to Council for February and March 2020.

### COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND CLAIMS:

1. Agenda 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. Not only does this hold true for Council members in attendance but also Council member who are not in attendance tonight. On a roll call vote, all members responded in the affirmative.

THIRD READING:

There was no legislation for third readings.

SECOND 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.

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.

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.

FIRST 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.

POLL PUBLIC:

No comments at this time.

COMMUNITY DATE BOARD:

No community date board events at this time.

## POLL COUNCIL:

Mr. Kantor wanted to thank all those who are watching and the Mayor for explaining the homeowner flooding mitigation to Council. He knows there have been questions and he knows the Administration would not come to Council with something that would be thrown at them. He greatly appreciates the Mayor doing this for homeowners and hopefully this can be done very soon. Council is looking forward to seeing this. He believes Whitehall is the only suburb with a program such as this. He feels 2020 has been a tough year so far. He woke up the other morning and everything was good and by the end of the day there was an individual that was murdered by a police officer. This is a horrible thing. Watching it unfold on video was very disturbing and heartbreaking. The other day he saw something that said "We must learn to live together as brothers or we will perish as fools" which was quoted by Martin Luther King. He feels very sad for Mr. Floyd's family. He knows many police officers but he does not know any bad police officers. Whitehall has a very good police department and they have a tough job to do and he stands behind the Whitehall Police Department one hundred percent. He thanked the Mayor again.

Ms. Heck thanked all those watching from home and thanked the Mayor for the update which she appreciated. She hopes everyone has a good day and stays safe.

Mr. Rodriguez thanked all those watching from home. He said these last few months have been tough and it has been one thing after another. He shared the following: A minister decided that a visual demonstration would add emphasis to his Sunday sermon. Four worms were placed in four separate jars. The first worm was put in a container of alcohol, the second in a container of cigarette smoke, the third into a container of chocolate syrup and the fourth into a container of good clean soil. At the conclusion of the sermon the minister reported the following results: the first worm in alcohol – dead, the second worm in cigarette smoke – dead, the third worm in chocolate syrup – dead, the fourth worm in good clean soil – alive. So the minister asked the congregation "So my friends, what did you learn from this demonstration?" Maxine, who was sitting in the back quickly raised her hand and said "As long as you drink, smoke, and eat chocolate you won't have worms."

Ms. Conison said the last year has been rough. There has been a lot of negativity and hatred. Obviously this has been going on for a long time and history always seems to repeat itself. Where we are we are the great melting pot and yet we are not acting like it. She is usually the most upbeat person but lately this has gotten to her. Everybody knows her family and she posts quite often on social media pictures of her beautiful grandchildren. Anybody that knows her and has seen them has noticed that there is a bit of a difference between them. Both of them are absolutely children but there is definitely one she is going to worry about more than the other and she should not have to. The child's parents went to another country and on their way back they were detained. Why were they detained? Because of the color of his skin, because of his name and yet her daughter was not detained. That is wrong on so many accounts and it saddens and sickens her, it makes her mad, it makes her want to scream. What has been going on here in the last few days, she commends these people for protesting but protest the right way. Let's stop damaging. They are damaging their own city and it is not helping anything. Do things the right way. She knows most everyone knows she is Jewish so talk about that poor child being a Jewish, Muslim, bi-racial child. She has everything either thrown at her but she is strong and they will make her stronger. She remembered when her son was four years old and there was an incident at Children's Palace. Her son really liked matchbox cars and they meet another African American couple and they begin talking. This couple has a child about the same age and he likes matchbox cars too. Her son decides he wants a pink ice-cream truck. She asked him if he was sure he wanted that matchbox. He answered yes and that he liked ice cream and he liked pink. Then he looked at the little boy and said you are black and I really like black and I am white and I really like white. The other parents commended her on raising such a good child. What he just did here is said, "I see you, I hear you and I love you." They ended up embracing this other couple because of just that encounter. She sees all this negativity on social media and she wants to say, communicate with one another. If you do not understand, ask a question. Find out the proper things and the proper ways of saying things to one another. Just because somebody says something that somebody disagrees with, explain to them why

you disagree with it. There is much that can be accomplished and fixed by communication. Please be kind to one another. Thank you.

Director Woodruff said he did want to briefly recap a couple points from last weeks' presentation with SWACO regarding the trash proposals. As was mentioned last week, the City's current trash contract does end at the end of this year. For the third time the City of Whitehall has looked to SWACO to put together a group of jurisdictions to go out to bid that results in a larger number of residents that need curbside service and so therefore they are able to get better pricing. SWACO has taken the lead on behalf of the City. Their legal counsel develops the bid packet, it is published and they work to solicit as many bids as they can get by companies that are interested. Regardless of whether or not a cart system is used or stay with the status quo, residents are going to see an increase in their trash bill. They have not seen an increase in their trash bill in the last ten years so the last two five year contracts kept the price the same. It is not abnormal to see an increase in price after ten years. There have been some questions about the carts. The carts would not be rented. The city would purchase the carts so they will own them. He has heard the concerns about trash cans being damaged by Local Waste and other haulers so if that were to happen residents would call the city and they will be repaired or replaced. When the additional fee was discussed last week, it was for families who the one ninety-six was not sufficient enough and if you would need another one there would be an additional two-dollar charge added to your bill. By going to a cart system, while there would be an increase, the vast majority of residents would see a decrease over if we stayed with the status quo. It is cheaper for everyone to go to the cart system. He just wanted to make those points because he feels that those are some of the points that got lost for the general public last week and given the pandemic and the inability for the City to hold a town hall meeting about this and have everyone come in so they can answer their questions he wanted to supply as much information as possible to residents. Next week during Councilperson Heck's committee, SWACO will be back to make a presentation regarding litter, waste diversion and the benefits of the cart system. On Monday, Council along with ten residents should have received your carts so you can partake in this pilot program. He appreciates the questions and feedback he has received from Council as well as the community. He just wants to make sure the community gets a clear understanding of the benefits of this system and why it is not more expensive to go with the cart system. They have gotten good feedback from a limited number of seniors on the idea they do not produce as much trash so they could downsize their can and be able to save additional money.

President Potter said this information is on the City of Whitehall's website so the folks who have availability to the internet can get the information. Will there be a mechanism in place to get the message communicated to folks who do not have access to this?

Director Woodruff said they are working on that. It is terribly expensive and at a time where they are trying to be cognizant of the City's finances they are trying to strike a balance. They certainly are going to be engaging the local media once SWACO does their presentation to try to get them to do some information and a story about this as well. SWACO will be in this room next week and their presentation will be broadcast live on Facebook.

President Potter said we all know as a society and a global community have really been face with some challenges that we frankly didn't think could get any worse. Sadly, we were disproven on that and he knows they all share the disgust of the events of approximately a week ago. We just have to remember at this point we need to take care of each other. It is okay to disagree but you do not need to be disagreeable. Be civil and be caring. We just have to resonate with that. He truly believes everyone needs to be positive because there is just no return on being negative and buying into the negativity that is out there. Social media seems to have a bit of a major hand it that and you just can't get pulled into that cesspool of negativity. It is just not healthy for us so we have to emerge stronger and better as we come out of this. Thank you.

Having nothing further, Mr. Rodriguez moved to adjourn and Ms. Conison seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all members responded in the affirmative and the meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Julie A. Ogg, Clerk of Council

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

---

Thomas M. Potter, Council President