

WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL  
AGENDA MEETING MINUTES

President Potter called the July 06, 2021 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 6:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Julie A. Ogg, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

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Thomas M. Potter, Council President

## WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

### MINUTES – July 06, 2021

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President Potter called the regular meeting of Whitehall City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 06, 2021.

At President Potter's request, everyone rose for a moment of silence. He asked that those in attendance to keep Brian Hamler and his family in their thoughts through this very difficult time. Those assembled then recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Ms. Conison moved to approve the June 15, 2021, 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:

Gerald Dixon, 3877 Doney Street, Whitehall, OH said it was nice to see everyone at the parade. He thanked Ms. Heck for her vote two weeks ago on the zoning change legislation.

### STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administration and Financial Management – Chairperson Bailey reported that the committee met Tuesday, June 22 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 Tuesday, June 22 and their minutes are on file. They will meet again next week, sometime after 6:30 p.m.

Community Standards and Enforcement – Chairperson Rodriguez reported that they met Tuesday, June 22 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 Tuesday, June 22 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 Tuesday, June 22 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 Tuesday, June 22 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 Tuesday, June 22 and their minutes are on file. They will meet next week, sometime after 6:30 p.m.

### OFFICIALS' REPORTS

Mayor Kim Maggard – she said the City of Whitehall flags are at half-staff in memory of Brian Hamler and they will remain like this until the end of the day Thursday and again her thoughts and prayers are with his family. It is important that recognition be given to Brian's dedication to the community and he will be sorely missed. She asked for favorable consideration on Resolution 014-2021 regarding the tax budget. The state requires municipalities to do this yearly.

City Attorney Michael Bivens – he said the official report from the City Attorney's Office is that they handled 344 cases in the month of June with only 44 of those being of a criminal nature committed by Whitehall residents. That is about 12%. So far, to date the City Attorney's Office has handle 1,318 cases so they are trending up a little higher from 2020. He feels that is natural and is to be expected. His office received about 50 applications for the paralegal position. Several rounds of interviews have taken place. He hopes to make an offer pending the background check of the new paralegal. Kristen Lippert's last day will be July 30 and then she will be on her way to law school. He echoes the sentiments of the Mayor as it relates to Brian Hamler. He offered his sincere condolences on behalf of himself and his wife to the Hamler family. Brian was always welcoming to him and his family even while his wife was on the school board. He was crushed when he heard the news. He texted with Mr. Smathers and it has been a tough time. He will be sorely missed. He was a champion of the students in Whitehall. There will be a gap. He wants the family to know he was loved, he was cared for by not only them, but also by him and his family and he will miss Brian tremendously.

City Auditor Dan Miller – was not present.

Director of Public Service and Development Zach Woodruff – had no official report.

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 2021, The Treasurer's Investment Report for May 2021, The Treasurer's Activity by Fund Report for May 2021 and The Treasurer's Fund Reconciliation Report for May 2021.

### COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND CLAIMS:

1. Agenda for the July 01, 2021 Planning Commission Meeting.

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:

RESOLUTION NO. 014-2021 (*Comm. Of the Whole – 3rd reading – ADOPT 07/06/2021–Elmore/Conison*)  
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.

Ms. Elmore introduced and moved to adopt Resolution No. 014-2021 and Ms. Conison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Resolution No. 014-2021 was adopted.

SECOND READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 055-2021 *was read by title only by President Potter:*

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CERTAIN CODE VIOLATIONS AS PAYABLE CITATIONS NOT REQUIRING A PERSONAL APPEARANCE AT COURT.

ORDINANCE NO.056-2021 *was read by title only by President Potter:*

AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 049-2011 TO UPDATE THE TAX EXEMPTIONS AVAILABLE WITHIN THE EAST BROAD STREET DISTRICT COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA.

ORDINANCE NO.057-2021 *was read by title only by President Potter:*

AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 051-2011 TO UPDATE THE TAX EXEMPTIONS AVAILABLE WITHIN THE MAIN STREET EAST COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA.

ORDINANCE NO.058-2021 *was read by title only by President Potter:*

AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 048-2011 TO UPDATE THE TAX EXEMPTIONS AVAILABLE WITHIN THE TOWNE SQUARE DISTRICT COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA.

FIRST READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 059-2021 *was read by title only by President Potter:*

APPROVING AND MAKING A FUND TRANSFER FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE GENERAL FUND (101) IN THE AMOUNT OF EIGHTY-SEVEN THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$87,000.00) TO THE ACCRUED BENEFIT RESERVE FUND (505); APPROVING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF EIGHTY-SEVEN THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$87,000.00) FROM THE ACCRUED BENEFIT RESERVE FUND (505) TO THE ACCRUED BENEFIT RESERVE EXPENSE ACCOUNT (505.000.51000) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Bailey introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance No. 059-2021 and Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 059-2021 was suspended.

Mr. Bailey moved to adopt Ordinance No. 059-2021 and Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 059-2021 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 060-2021 was read by title only by President Potter:

MAKING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF TWENTY-THREE THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$23,000.00) FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE RECREATION TRUST FUND (860) TO THE RECREATION TRUST FUND EXPENSE ACCOUNT (860-000-50000) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Bailey introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance No. 060-2021 and Mr. Kantor seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 060-2021 was suspended.

Mr. Bailey moved to adopt Ordinance No. 060-2021 and Mr. Kantor seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 060-2021 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 017-2021 was read by title only by President Potter:

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.

POLL PUBLIC:

No comments at this time.

COMMUNITY DATE BOARD:

Ms. Heck said on Friday there will be music and a movie at John Bishop Park. Music is 6:30 to 8:00, bouncy houses from 7:00 to 9:00 and the movie is from 9:00 to 11:00. The movie is Spiderman. Tomorrow is unlimited trash day. On Saturday, there will be Fitness on the Green and Family Fitness is Wednesday 7:00 to 8:00 and Thursday 10:00 to 11:00 at Kelly Green. Market on the Green is every Tuesday through the end of August.

### POLL COUNCIL:

Ms. Elmore thanked everyone for viewing and Jerry for attending. Another successful Whitehall July parade and it was good to see everyone that was out. The kids enjoyed the candy. She echoed everyone else's sentiments regarding Brian Hamler. She worked with him on the Superintendent Advisory group. He was dedicated to the kids and sought out every program and wanted input regarding what improvements could be made. He will be missed. Her condolences and prayers go out to his family.

Ms. Conison thanked everyone for watching. She talked with Wendy and Blake yesterday and that was hard enough. She worked very closely with him while co-chairing the school levy and got to know him on a personal level. He was a good man, honest, very transparent and he will be missed.

Mr. Kantor said he had the opportunity to play softball with Brian for many years and in a mixed league with him and Wendy. As kids, they would have the Elbern group vs the mayflower group. They played whiffle ball, football and basketball. He and his brothers were always there. This city is going to miss this man. He was dedicated to his staff and he loved his kids. It is sad that we have lost him at such a young age. His condolences go out to Wendy and to Blake, Rick and Randy and to the rest of the family. He thanked the Mayor for lowering the flags. The fireworks were phenomenal. The parade route had so many faces and loads of candy thrown.

Ms. Heck thanked everyone for watching and thanks to Jerry for coming. It was nice to see everyone at the parade and over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. She gave a shout out to Lorena Lacey for the phenomenal job she did singing. Brian will be greatly missed. He was a huge leader in the community and her thoughts and prayers are with Wendy and the rest of his family.

Mr. Morrison offered his condolences to the Hamler family and friends. He agreed the fireworks were great this year. He thanked Jerry for coming tonight and all those watching.

Mr. Bailey said the Hamler family is in their thoughts and prayers. This is a big loss for this community. He thanked the Service Department, Zach and the Mayor for the work that was done around Lamby lane and Beechwood Road and Police and Fire for the way they handled everything. He does not think there were any incidents and the few things that popped up they took care of very quick. There was not a lot of trash the next day. It was a good experience. All the folks walking around were happy and saying hello. It was a good thing to have especially after last year.

Mr. Rodriguez said it was nice to get a chance to go to Market on the Green last Tuesday. He thanked everyone for watching. The parade was fantastic. The fireworks for him were emotional and he text the Mayor afterwards saying best ever. He did not know Brian as well as most, but he was always good to him. He was friendly and always kind and that is the measure of a man. He has done a number of eulogies for folks and one of the lines he uses is from Serendipity, they did not ask what the man did but did he have passion. That is one thing about Brian is he had passion. He had passion for the schools, for his job, for his community, for his kids, for his country, for baseball and for the Reds. He wished he had known him better. Brian, hasta la vista.

President Potter offered his condolences to the Hamler family. He certainly had a major impact in the city, was a great family man and will be sorely missed. The holiday celebrations were wonderful and it was great to see everyone back out. A lot of energy and excitement. He looks forward to that again next year. He is hoping the quality of the transmission of the meetings for the ones streaming at home will improve.

President Potter advised that he would like a motion to adjourn to executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 (g)(3) conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning

disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action. Mr. Bailey so moved and Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion. A roll call was taken and all members voted in the affirmative and the meeting adjourned into executive session at 7:24 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 8:12 p.m.

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 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Julie A. Ogg, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

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Thomas M. Potter, Council President