

WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA MEETING MINUTES

President Potter called the July 20, 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,

Julie A. Ogg, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: _____, 2021.

Thomas M. Potter, Council President

WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES – July 20, 2021

President Potter called the regular meeting of Whitehall City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 20, 2021.

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:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Ms. Conison moved to approve the July 06, 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:

Jeff Thoburn, 466 Maplewood Avenue, Whitehall, OH said he put down his thoughts in advance in an attempt to be concise and within the time constraints. Both he and his wife, who are registered voters, are not in favor of a four story, density-embracing, behemoth of subsidized-living being erected at the mouth of a relatively peaceful, nearly historic residential neighborhood for so many reasons. Correct him if he is wrong, but on his drive along Main Street through Bexley and Reynoldsburg, he does not recall seeing any massive subsidized apartment complexes erected front and center on Main for posterity sake, replete with some given percentage of tenants who hang outside wondering what to do for the day that will be profitable or exciting or both. He would ask Whitehall's elected to consider the legacies they leave and to consider the everlasting effects on our suburban lives of this pillar of density project and then require that the City's economic arm broaden its visions for abetting MAMA in acquiring new owners for their properties. A bank desiring to build a branch or offices, a religious organizations interested in erecting some community serving facility, viable retail business all while maintaining the two existing residential plots. He has seen homebuyers revamp houses in his neighborhood in remarkably positive ways but again that harkens back to the City of Pride thing he knows. He does not have the best answer in all this because he is not charged with engaging the property owners or potential buyers, nor is he proficient in community development. His development skills would find him still paying regularly to practice his golf game alongside many others at the driving range on East Broad, as opposed to seeing a field of weeds; he means a field of business park dreams. Has anyone given thought to the potential ramifications of youth and teen residents, even adult residents, of this proposed Onclave on Main meandering on to the blighted section of Main between Barnett and James for their social interactions? Whitehall's sewer and water infrastructure is antiquated, as

discerned by the City's elected. Residents living on the three wide straight west end streets already knows, no disrespect to the police force, already knows the City does not have the resources to confront and control speeders who will, day in and day out, run stop signs and pass two to three cars at a time. A task that requires speeds of fifty plus miles an hour to accomplish. Already, Maplewood since its recent paving has needed to be cut open and patched back over about twenty times. Another one hundred plus families feeding some density embracing beast does not seem logical, unless in the current City management's eye, the sky is the limit for future water and sewer surcharges for the homeowners. If you cannot say no to an Onclave, look up that words origin; consider building it north of Maplewood where Kroger backed away from development. There is ample space there to add the Onclave Bar and Grill, a DORA zone, City sponsored social get-togethers events and more for the Onclavians. If Onclave residents would get all happy and loud up there, our aforementioned, relatively peaceful, nearly historic neighborhood would be none the worse for wear. He wanted to close by reading an excerpt from Shakespeare's play, All's Well That Ends Well, Act III, Scene iii. "No legacy is so rich as honesty."

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 will meet again 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 asked for favorable consideration on Ordinance 064-2021 on the first reading. Police Chief Crispin will be giving a press conference tomorrow about 10:00 am in partnership with Columbus Police regarding the speeding ATV's that have been going through Columbus and the suburbs. She thinks all suburbs have been inundated with speeding ATV's.

City Attorney Michael Bivens – thanked everyone for coming out this evening. He is pleased to announce that the City Attorney's office has found and selected a candidate to replace Kristen Lippert as their paralegal. Her name is Rachel Boyce, she has just passed her first round of background checks, and everything looks good. They are going to try to onboard her in the next week or so. Once she is trained and

acclimated to the City Attorney's office, he will have her come to Council so that they can meet and maybe ask her some relevant questions. She comes from the City of Columbus, very well trained, just an amazing candidate and he is very pleased. It was a collaborative effort from the City Attorney's office and they all had input on bringing in a new person. When they put out the notice to replace Kristen Lippert, he was only expecting a few applications, and they ended up getting over fifty applications. Many individuals were interested in wanting to come work for the City of Whitehall and they interviewed quite a few candidates. Whitehall's reputation is phenomenal and many people wanted to come and work for the City of Whitehall because of its reputation of being the City of Opportunity. Whitehall is the city that is up and coming place to be. He was pleased to go through that process. Mark your calendars for August 14, 2021. It is the African American Male Wellness Walk. As seen, there were some flyers put out with his face on it, as he is the Ambassador for Whitehall to promote that event. It is not just for African Americans but all persons. The lineup begins at 9:00 am - 9:30 am. It is a festive, great event and starts at 760 East Livingston Avenue in front of Nationwide Children's Hospital. You will be able to meet your neighbors, new people and there will be thousands in attendance. They will be walking for the sole purpose of the health of African American men who unfortunately, throughout all bad statistics rate the highest in diabetes, high blood pressure and chronic heart disease. This is an event to promote the wellness in the health of those individuals. Thankfully, he is one of those African American men who does not have any of those issues. He is pleased to be an Ambassador for the City of Whitehall and he invites everyone to come out and celebrate and support this worthy cause.

Chairperson Rodriguez wished City Attorney Bivens a happy belated fiftieth birthday from all of Council and the Administration.

City Auditor Dan Miller – he had no official report other than what is in front of Council at this time.

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

Public Safety Director Van Gregg – was not present.

Treasurer Steve Quincel – had no official report but he did want to take a moment to recognize King Gyros, Yanny and his crew who are celebrating thirty years in Whitehall this week.

President Potter – advised that the following Officials' Reports have been filed in the Council Office since the last meeting: The Auditor's Expense Report for June 2021, The Auditor's Bank Report for June 2021, The Auditor's Statement of Cash Position Report for June 2021 and The Auditor's Revenue Report for June 2021.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND CLAIMS:

There were no Communications, Petitions and Claims filed in the Council office since last 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:

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.

Mr. Rodriguez introduced and moved to adopt Ordinance No. 055-2021 and Mr. Kantor seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 055-2021 was adopted.

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.

Mr. Morrison introduced and moved to adopt Ordinance No. 056-2021 and Ms. Heck seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 056-2021 was adopted.

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.

Mr. Morrison introduced and moved to adopt Ordinance No. 057-2021 and Ms. Conison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 057-2021 was adopted.

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.

Mr. Morrison introduced and moved to adopt Ordinance No. 058-2021 and Ms. Elmore seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 058-2021 was adopted.

SECOND READING:

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.

Mr. Rodriguez introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Resolution No. 017-2021 and Mr. Kantor seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Resolution No. 017-2021 was suspended.

Mr. Rodriguez moved to adopt Resolution No. 017-2021 and Mr. Kantor seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Resolution No. 017-2021 was adopted.

FIRST READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 061-2021 *was read by title only by President Potter:*

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 913, SANITARY REGULATIONS, AS CONTAINED IN TITLE ONE, STREETS AND UTILITIES, OF PART NINE, STREETS AND PUBLIC SERVICES CODE, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL, OHIO, BY CREATING SEWER AND WATER SURCHARGES FOR THE USERS OF EACH UTILITY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 062-2021 *was read by title only by President Potter:*

AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF THE WATER UTILITY FUND (841), APPROPRIATING TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$200,000.00) FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE WATER UTILITY FUND (841) TO THE WATER UTILITY EXPENSE ACCOUNT (841.000.50000) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 063-2021 *was read by title only by President Potter:*

AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF THE SEWER UTILITY FUND (840), APPROPRIATING TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$200,000.00) FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE SEWER UTILITY FUND (840) TO THE SEWER UTILITY EXPENSE ACCOUNT (840.000.50000) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 064-2021 *was read by title only by President Potter:*

AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING AN APPROPRIATION TRANSFER IN THE AMOUNT OF TWENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND AND NO DOLLARS (\$28,000.00) FROM APPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE 101.700.51500 STAFF PT EXPENSE ACCOUNT TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT EXPENSE ACCOUNT 101.700.51550 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Bailey introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance No. 064-2021 and Mr. Kantor seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 064-2021 was suspended.

Mr. Bailey moved to adopt Ordinance No. 064-2021 and Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 064-2021 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 065-2021 *was read by title only by President Potter:*

APPROVING AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF FORTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$40,000.00) FROM THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST FUND (550) TO VARIOUS EXPENSE ACCOUNTS IN THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST FUND AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Bailey introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance No. 065-2021 and Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 065-2021 was suspended.

Mr. Bailey moved to adopt Ordinance No. 065-2021 and Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 065-2021 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 066-2021 was read by title only by President Potter:

MAKING AND APPROVING A FUND TRANSFER IN THE AMOUNT OF FIVE THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$5,000.00) FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE GENERAL FUND (101) TO THE STREET MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR FUND (201); MAKING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF FIVE THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$5,000.00) FROM THE STREET MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR FUND (201) TO THE SIGNALS/SIGNS EXPENSE ACCCOUNT (201.000.53500) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Bailey introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance No. 066-2021 and Ms. Heck seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 066-2021 was suspended.

Mr. Bailey moved to adopt Ordinance No. 066-2021 and Ms. Heck seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 066-2021 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 067-2021 was read by title only by President Potter:

APPROVING AND MAKING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF FIVE THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$5,000.00) FROM THE GENERAL FUND (101) TO THE FIRE HYDRANTS EXPENSE ACCCOUNT (101.000.53600) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Bailey introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance No. 067-2021 and Mr. Morrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 067-2021 was suspended.

Mr. Bailey moved to adopt Ordinance No. 067-2021 and Mr. Morrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 067-2021 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 018-2021 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. 018-2021 and Ms. Conison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Resolution No. 018-2021 was suspended.

Mr. Bailey moved to adopt Resolution No. 018-2021 and Ms. Conison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Resolution No. 018-2021 was adopted.

POLL PUBLIC:

Jeff Thoburn, 466 Maplewood Avenue, Whitehall, OH said he was a little late to be making noise on this noise and too early on the next round. Over the recent Fourth of July, there were sixteen hours that he had fireworks, he would say at the minimum was once every five minutes. The whole thing with fireworks, to tell a consumer or a resident that they can set off consumer grade fireworks is like telling a little kid they can get in the cookie jar but they cannot have the Oreos and they can only have the sugar free ones. What he was hearing were not commercial or residential grade fireworks. His point is, he would encourage the City for next year, and it will not put fear into everyone, but maybe try to establish hours. Fortunately, the Governor vetoed the bill allowing seven holidays for fireworks over the course of a three-day period. He just vetoed that on the tenth, thank God. Many for next year think about setting some hours and maybe someone will at least follow the rule. His wife was in the hospital and he was feeling a little stressed. He had to get up early in the morning. He went and slept in the basement and he could still hear his windows vibrate. It was not all Whitehall and some of it was east of him. The person three doors down from him set off fireworks daily over a three-week period leading up to and after. He would encourage the City to try to put out in front of the residents some type of hours or days for the Fourth of July to do fireworks. Thank you.

COMMUNITY DATE BOARD:

Chairperson Elmore said Saturday, July 31 from 11:00 am to 10:00 pm is the Food Truck Festival. Thursday, July 29 at 6:30 pm in Council Chambers is the Water and Sewer Utility Surcharge meeting where you can learn more about the analysis, proposed surcharges and the facts. August 3 is National Night Out at John Bishop Park from 5-8 pm. July 21 is the virtual only Community Backyard Workshop. The summer reading program is still going on until July 31. Walk in Recovery is at multiple locations from 12:00 – 8:00 pm on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and Market on the Green every Tuesday at Kelly Green from 4:00 – 6:30 pm through August 31.

Chairperson Conison said this Sunday is Music in the Park at 6:30 pm.

Chairperson Heck said free meals are still available for kids at Etna Elementary from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm, Monday through Friday. There is Yoga on Saturday's at Kelly Green at 9:00 am.

POLL COUNCIL:

Ms. Conison thanked everyone for coming and thanked Jeff for coming up and speaking. It is so nice to see familiar and new faces, that is always nice and they need more people to come. Thank all those for viewing in and see everyone next time. She wished everyone who is celebrating a happy Eid.

Mr. Kantor thanked everyone for viewing and those in attendance. He thanked Mr. Thoburn for his comments especially on the fireworks, as those were more than what you buy over the counter. He knows what Mr. Thoburn is saying. He welcomed the Mayor back and wished Mr. Bivens a happy belated birthday.

Ms. Heck thanked everyone watching from home and in attendance. She thanked Jeff for getting up and speaking. She hopes to see some of those in attendance at the upcoming events they are having.

Mr. Morrison thanked everyone for coming; he thanked Jeff for his input and he thanked everyone for watching.

Mr. Bailey said ditto on everything said tonight but he did want to thank everyone for coming tonight and Jeff for his comments.

Mr. Rodriguez said it was nice to see some new faces and thanked them for coming out and folks watching as well. He thanked Jeff for his comments. He always says Buy Whitehall. He said he was gassing up earlier and it was so nice that Vicky and Tim came out and talked with him for a moment. It is just so nice to have that interaction, it is nice to buy from those you know, and they always give back to the community as well.

Ms. Elmore thanked those for poll public and those that came out today. She wanted to congratulate the Whitehall Academy Police graduates and she is proud of them. She encouraged everyone to attend the August 14 African American Wellness Walk. She has attended it a couple of times and it is a great event. There are numerous health checks available and everyone needs to make sure that they are in good health. She thanked everyone for being present and happy Birthday to Mr. Bivens and Michole Spicer.

President Potter echoed the sentiments of his colleagues. He thanked everyone for coming out and Mr. Thoburn for sharing his comments with them. He wished everyone a good and safe week.

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 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A. Ogg, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: _____, 2021.

Thomas M. Potter, Council President