

WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL  
AGENDA MEETING MINUTES

President Potter called the August 17, 2021 agenda meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. All members were present.

There was discussion on amending Ordinance 061-2021 Section 1 (a) (ii) to read: One hundred percent (100%) of such surcharge shall apply to all bills rendered for the billing period beginning on and after July 1, 2023 and Section 1 (b) (ii) to read: One hundred percent (100%) of such surcharge shall apply to all bills rendered for the billing period beginning on and after July 1, 2023.

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Julie A. Ogg, Clerk of Council

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

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Robert Bailey, Council President Pro Tempore

## WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

### MINUTES – August 17, 2021

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President Potter called the regular meeting of Whitehall City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 17, 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:

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

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Ms. Conison moved to approve the August 03, 2021, agenda and regular meeting and the August 10, 2021 Agenda and Emergency Special Meeting Minutes. 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.

### SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

Ryan Andrews, EMH&T and Director of Public Service and Economic Development Zach Woodruff gave a presentation on the Ohio Public Works Commission Application for the East Broad Street Road Improvements.

Director Woodruff said what they are proposing is the first of what will be a three-phase application so, a proposed application in 2021, 2022 and 2023 for improvements along Broad Street from the western corporation limit to Big Walnut Creek. The first phase, which Council will have legislation for next week and will be asked to be voted on by the deadline of September 13, is from the western corporation limit to Robinwood Avenue. He reminded Council that the OPWC program is very competitive and certainly gotten more competitive over the last number of years so as he and Ryan work together their goal is to not only find projects that are needed and worthwhile, but to evaluate how they would score competitively as it relates to other rounds. They then can get a gauge on whether or not they believe that the projects can be funded. In OPWC, projects can qualify for two tracks. The first is a seventy-five percent grant and a twenty-five percent loan. That loan to the city, our match is converted to an interest free loan for the useful life of the project. For projects like this, it is typically twenty-two to twenty-six years. The other track, depending on the project and other factors in the scoring is a one-hundred percent grant funded with no match or loan from the city. In previous rounds, the city received that for the Broad and Hamilton Intersection Improvement Project as well as the Poth Road Project that is going on right now. Typically, those awards are geared towards infrastructure projects that have a significant economic development component and at this time, we are unsure whether this project would score high enough for that. We are

confident that putting together the application, that it is a worthwhile project and they can be funded. This is a three-year project and they intend to apply for each year for the next three years. Construction, if awarded this project, engineering and design would begin in 2022, bid of the project and construction would be in 2023 with subsequent phases in 2024 and 2025. The reason the western edge was selected is that construction season for this project would be in 2023, which is the same time as the Broad, and Hamilton Intersection Improvement Project is scheduled to be under construction and they did not want to have two different projects, with two different contractors being in the same area conflicting with each other. They are going to start on the western edge and move east.

Ryan Andrews said that they are seeking Ohio Public Works funding for the Broad Street Phase 1 Improvement Project, which is what we are calling it from the western City limits to Robinwood Avenue. This is a very competitive process and one of the things they need to do as part of the grant application and will continue to do during the design phase, is public involvement. Points are given on the application by having meetings where the public is involved. He passed around a sign-in sheet to document attendance and a form to provide written opinions on the project. All feedback will be included in the application. The project itself is not really changing what is out there now. They are not looking to add or widen lanes or change the footprint of the road. This will be heavy maintenance, with full reconstruction of the pavement because the pavement has passed its useful life. It does not look too bad on the surface because it was resurfaced about ten years ago through an ODOT program but it does need to be rebuilt. There are many issues with the drainage, some of the storm sewers and inlets are failing. They are looking to improve the drainage, the pavement and are proposing to add a bike trail on one side of the road, a multi-use path and then redo the sidewalks on the opposite side of the road. There will still be walking paths on both sides of the roads with one being a slightly wider paved path. They are proposing to add street lighting like what was placed on Hamilton Road to the north by the park. Those are the elements of the project. Again, it is a competitive process with their application due September 13, 2021, they will find out if they have received funding on December 17, 2021 and from there the funds become available to the City of Whitehall on July 1, 2022. That is about the time they would start doing the design and planning, getting that ready for construction bid in 2023. OPWC is gasoline tax money, which is a good opportunity to bring money that is, collected statewide back to the City of Whitehall for a project. The loan portion is interest free and they typically go for seventy-five percent grant and twenty-five percent loan. They believe this project will have a cost of three-million dollars.

Director Woodruff explained how the shared use path would connect to the Eastmoor Green Line that the City of Columbus will be constructing in 2022 and 2023 and to other areas.

At this time, Ryan Andrews and Director Woodruff answered questions from Councilmembers.

#### POLL PUBLIC:

Gerald Dixon, 3877 Doney Street, Whitehall, OH said in 061-2021, the Ordinance that regulates the rate charged to public utilities, it is declared an emergency measure, immediately necessary for the preservation of the public health, peace, safety and welfare. In the City's Charter, it gives the citizens the right to circulate and file a petition opposing Ordinances and Resolutions up to twenty days after passage by Council. Ordinance 061-2021 curious inclusion of the emergency measure aligns then with another proviso, also in the Charter that states that Ordinances and Resolutions shall not be subject to referendum, are those passed as emergency measures. Denying then the citizens option of twenty days to organize a petition. So then, those things beg to concern for every citizen about the legitimacy of the emergency measure being included in this Ordinance. Unless everyone is going to be immediately swallowed by crumbling infrastructure, it does not make sense that the citizens exercising their rights within twenty days of the Ordinances passage would be precluded by any necessity by this emergency measure, immediately or otherwise. Certainly if it was, this body and with the Administration had ample time to remedy this emerging crisis long before the situation got to the point where you had to include an emergency measure

in this Ordinance. Given these facts and their critical analysis there seems no other logical conclusion to reach than this emergency measure is included not due to actual threat but rather by design. It was not included to save our City from imminent threat from our infrastructure but rather the imminent threat to this governmental body from the voice and will of the people. Those who have a right to reasonably exercise their power as they see fit, as outlined and guaranteed in our very Charter. This unjustified emergency measure then robs the citizens of those rights. Those, which this Administration is willing to disregard and quite honestly, trampled over, to obtain what, they want, while also deflecting attention from their own irresponsibility in this matter. That which, you tonight have the ability to either enable for the Administration or reject for the citizens in the name of responsibility and right. As a final note, he was just curious if the inclusion of the emergency measure in 061-2021 was confirmed with legal, that it does not violate the City Charter, Section 12 Emergency Measures. Thank you.

Clerk of Council Julie Ogg read the following:

Jodie Martin-Oiler  
3848 Washburn St  
Whitehall, Oh 43213

To Members of City Council,

As a taxpayer of Whitehall, I am requesting Council to do the right thing by the people that put you in office and vote NO on a surcharge on our water bills or an increase of tax of any kind to pay for sewer repairs. As a senior, living alone I just had a \$385.00 water bill. I cannot afford to pay any more! As a homeowner who was hit with the sewer backup both in March and May of 2020. I now have a \$25,000 loan I am paying on for the repairs of the damage and to replace lost items. I am also paying for the back flow valve that was installed. I suggest council come up with a different plan for paying for these much-needed repairs, besides trying to pass the expense onto the citizens once again. How about charging an IMPACT FEE to the apartment builders in Whitehall. They have a lot more money than the citizens living here! If I had known I was trading these repairs, which could have possibly saved me from flooding, for so much being spent on parks I don't believe I would have been so supportive of the new parks. We need to take care of the necessities before spending on so many luxuries. Thank you for your time and giving serious thought on this matter that so many people are upset about!!

Cortney N White  
3685 Etna Street

Dear Council,

My name is Cortney White. I own my home at 3685 Etna Street. I have heard very little about issues with water and sewer until recently, however in the past, I did receive information regarding surveys, new parks and City land purchases as well as the levy for astro-turf for the football field, etc., all the 'fun stuff' so to speak.

I would like to express my opposition to the water and sewer surcharge Ordinances. I believe that spending has been frivolous and misguided and that priorities were pushed aside in an attempt to turn Whitehall into something it is not and will not be anytime soon. We did not need a splash pad, Dog Park, or new parks with things like disc golf and kayak ramps.

When you keep raising the cost of living in Whitehall, the renters will just move. It is not as easy for homeowners, especially when so many of us are working ourselves to death just to live paycheck to paycheck. Yet poor decisions and irresponsible spending, for example - on the promise of a splash pad are punishing us.

Sometimes people make promises they can't keep. Its part of life and people get over it.

Jeff Thoburn  
466 Maplewood Avenue  
Whitehall, OH

Whitehall City Council,

Had this city the wherewithal to utilize Impact Fees to pay for sewer repairs, I wouldn't need to voice a resounding NO to 61-dash-2021.

Moreover, existing in a prime logistical area (270/670/airport) does not equate to a need to "sell the farm" in order to attract development.

On a broader scale, as Whitehall's elected servants go about the task of doing their constituents bidding and business, they need bear in mind that technology, and increasingly so, permits voters to monitor, and then scrutinize information about the workings of government, and at the city level as well.

Franklin County Auditor Stinziano's 'first-of-its-kind in Ohio' Tax Incentive Hub, where voters can now track actions and outcomes of tax incentives and TIF projects granted by Whitehall's elected, is just one example.

As well, social media, with its ability to dispatch news, views, and relevant dialogue on current affairs, is another can of worms that the city's elected should remain conscious of.

Long gone are days when only tables of locals reading their newspapers and discussing politics at the town coffee shop was citizen action. In 2021, its maximum information exposure and engagement at a finger's click via an electronic dispensary of facts.

All of that information availability should and does, for council, translate into the fact that:

Being elected and earning permission from voters to "provide for the exercise of all powers of local self-government" and "possessing the power to levy taxes and incur debts" grants privileges to the elected that come with Whitehall citizens' rights to vet their servants' use of those powers granted.

In the words of Thomas Jefferson:

"I predict future happiness for Americans, if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of them."

Leslie LaCorte  
5066 Etna Rd

Council,

I am opposed to Ordinance 61-2021.

I request for you to think of the Citizens of our Community as you vote with the extreme impact you are putting on many with this water bill increase...our seniors on fixed incomes...our young families with children and many citizens who are living with government assistance. Your efforts have been minimal to address this situation in the last 10 years and it is not us citizens that should have to step up AGAIN! It is time YOU take an active approach, make cuts from your wants of Opportunity and in the budget, instead of depending on us citizens to make cuts from our livelihood and survival.

Erica Wickham  
4132 Wright Park,  
Whitehall OH 43213

Dear council I am opposing the ordinance of 61-2021 for the sewer repairs. Sincerely Erica Wickham

Lisa Vanderbilt  
602 Collingwood Ave.  
Whitehall, OH

To All City Council members:  
VOTE **NO** on ORDINANCE 61-2-21

I would appreciate your sharing my email with all city council committee members PRIOR to the meeting on Tues. Aug. 17th of this week. I am opposed to ordinance 61-2021 NOT because I don't want our sewers brought up to the 2021 standards, I am opposed to it because of the mismanagement of money over the years. Knowing the city has antiquated sewers from the 1950's, I find it hard to accept that the mayor chose to ignore her promise to repair/replace our sewers. I didn't need or want a dog park, nor new parks. I find it unbelievable for her to provide salary increases, positions that were unnecessary and an overall disregard for residents who were deluged with repeated floods and water filled basements. I ask you to vote no on ordinance 61-2021 and force the mayor to find other methods of funding sewer replacement which she should have done back in 2012-today.

Tammy Thomas  
4404 Allen Drive  
Whitehall Ohio 43213

I support this measure. The sewer lines were originally established in 1954, judging by the date on the man hole covers. They are in deprecate need of repair. This slight raise in taxes will facilitate the repairs needed. Hopefully reducing street flooding in the process I support this increase. It will improve our city overall.

Sincerely Tammy Thomas

Jeff Patterson  
4091 Chandler Dr.  
Whitehall, OH

Dear Council,  
I am opposed to Ordinance 61-2021. How with good conscience could you pass this ordinance?!?!?!?  
Regards, Jeff Patterson

#### 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 Ordinances 061-2021, 062-2021 and 063-2021. Thank you.

City Attorney Michael Bivens – he thanked the Mayor and her leadership as it relates to what they had to do today with respect to Mayor's Court. There was a potential outbreak of covid in the building necessitating changing Mayor's Court and he thanked his staff for stepping up to the plate by getting Mayor's Court continuances. Mayor's Court will resume August 31. The cases that were set for today have been set for September 17 and the cases next week will be set for September 24. The plan, even today, they were able to get the continuances out. They had a good-sized docket today, with only about twenty people not getting the notice and they were fine with the rescheduling of their cases. They have kept up their covid protocol over the past few weeks since the mask mandates have been lax and it has been phenomenal. Even the Mayors staff has agreed with the way Mayor's Court is handled. They do not want to have a super spreader event in the City of Whitehall and to date they have received no notice of such event. He thanked everyone involved for holding the line. He knows everyone wants to get back to normal but Covid is not normal. It does not care about your civil liberties, freedoms or thought and feelings. We have to stay vigilant and protect each other's life, health and safety. He lost a very dear friend of his yesterday. His heart grieves and weeps for his family and all those involved in his life. We are going to have to protect each other and love our neighbors as ourselves. That love means if it costs you to wear a mask to protect your life and the life of others then wear the mask! Your life is too important. He wants to serve this City and make sure that when we come to this place we are safe and he knows that every member of Council feels the same way and he hopes the public does too. They will be here, ready to serve, on August 31 and he looks forward to court resuming and they will continue business as usual then. Thank you.

City Auditor Dan Miller – was not present.

Director of Public Service and Development Zach Woodruff – he 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 July 2021, The Auditor's Expense Report for July 2021, The Auditor's Bank Report for July 2021, The Auditor's Statement of Cash Position Report for July 2021 and The Auditor's Revenue Report for July 2021.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND CLAIMS:

1. Notice from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control for a new D3 liquor permit for TRANQUIL LADY INC. & PATIO, 4263 EAST MAIN STREET, WHITEHALL, OH 43213.
2. Minutes for the August 5, 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:

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.

Ms. Heck introduced Ordinance No. 061-2021 and moved to amend the second sentence of Section 1 (a) (ii) to read: One hundred percent (100%) of such surcharge shall apply to all bills rendered for the billing period beginning on and after July 1, 2023 and to amend the second sentence of Section 1 (b) (ii) to read: One hundred percent (100%) of such surcharge shall apply to all bills rendered for the billing period beginning on and after July 1, 2023 and Mr. Morrison seconded the motion.

Chairperson Bailey thanked Councilperson Heck for proposing the amended sections as she read into the record.

Director Woodruff said for clarification for those that do not have the legislation in front of them. What the proposed amendment would do is half of the proposed surcharge would go into effect on July 1, 2022 and the remaining half would go into effect instead of January 1, 2023 as currently in the legislation would instead go into effect on July 1, 2023. He wanted to make sure everyone knew what the amendment was.

Chairperson Rodriguez asked for clarification that they were voting on the introduction and amendment first.

City Attorney Bivens said that the amendment as read has no impact on the emergency measure.

On a roll call vote, Heck, yes; Morrison, yes; Bailey, yes; Rodriguez, yes; Elmore, yes; Conison, yes; Kantor, yes; and Ordinance No. 061-2021 was amended.

Ms. Heck moved to adopt Ordinance No. 061-2021 and Mr. Morrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, Heck, yes; Morrison, yes; Bailey, yes; Rodriguez, no; Elmore, yes; Conison, yes; Kantor, yes; and Ordinance No. 061-2021 was adopted.

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.

Mr. Bailey introduced and moved to adopt Ordinance No. 062-2021 and Ms. Conison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 062-2021 was adopted.

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.

Mr. Bailey introduced and moved to adopt Ordinance No. 063-2021 and Mr. Morrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 063-2021 was adopted.

SECOND READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 070-2021 was read by title only by President Potter:

MAKING A FUND TRANSFER IN THE AMOUNT OF THIRTY-THREE THOUSAND EIGHTY-TWO AND 06/100 DOLLARS (\$33,082.06) FROM THE BOND RETIREMENT ACCOUNT (101-950-57500) TO THE DEBT SERVICE FUND (401) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 071-2021 was read by title only by President Potter:

MAKING A FUND TRANSFER IN THE AMOUNT OF SIXTY-FIVE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED FORTY-SEVEN AND 96/100 DOLLARS (\$65,247.96) FROM THE BOND RETIREMENT ACCOUNT (101-950-57500) TO THE DEBT SERVICE FUND (401) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

FIRST READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 074-2021 was read by title only by President Potter:

APPROVING AND MAKING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF NINETY-SIX THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED FORTY-THREE AND 18/100 DOLLARS (\$96,943.18) FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TRUST FUND (241) TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TRUST ACCOUNT (241-000-50000) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Conison introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance No. 074-2021 and Ms. Heck seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 074-2021 was suspended.

Ms. Conison moved to adopt Ordinance No. 074-2021 and Ms. Heck seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 074-2021 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 075-2021 was read by title only by President Potter:

APPROVING AND MAKING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF FOUR THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$4,000.00) FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE GENERAL FUND (101) TO THE CREDIT CARD FEES EXPENSE ACCOUNT (101.950.59620) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Bailey introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance No. 075-2021 and Mr. Kantor seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 075-2021 was suspended.

Mr. Bailey moved to adopt Ordinance No. 075-2021 and Mr. Kantor seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 075-2021 was adopted.

#### POLL PUBLIC:

No comments at this time.

#### COMMUNITY DATE BOARD:

Chairperson Heck said Whitehall City Schools open next week. There will be many kids walking and you will see buses. The Career Center has already started back this week. Slow down and be aware of your surroundings. There is an away game on Friday at Granville. On Saturday, there is a Dinosaur Fossil at Whitehall Community Park at 10:00 am.

Chairperson Kantor said Parks and Recreation would meet tomorrow night at 7:00 pm at the Parks Office

#### POLL COUNCIL:

Ms. Heck thanked everyone for tuning in attended tonight and those who wrote in. She thanked everyone who has contacted them about the issue that many spoke on tonight on public record.

Mr. Morrison thanked everyone for watching, those that took the time to come in and those who had comments. He hopes everyone has a safe week.

Mr. Bailey thanked everyone for coming in and especially those who wrote in and expressed their thoughts. He appreciates that. He always appreciates the City Attorneys insight and the heartfelt things he

shares. They do hit home and as he said, our court is generally fourteen percent of the cases are from Whitehall. These folks could be coming in from all around Columbus and he appreciates that the Mayor and the Administration's response to our covid protocols. He thanked President Potter for his comments also.

Mr. Rodriguez thanked everyone who took the time to come in tonight and all those out in Facebook land. Last Saturday, he had the pleasure of having a conversation with a young woman at Blocks Bagels. You could see just how much love she has for the City. Seeing that in the next generation with such a positive outlook and feeling for the community made him feel the proverbial hope for the future. He hopes that person continues or gets further involved in the community and continues her enthusiasm. He hopes someday she is part of the greatness that is Whitehall.

Ms. Elmore thanked everyone who took the time to write in for Poll Public and she thanked Jerry for his comments and those who came out to see what Council is all about. She spoke to the water and sewer issue. She can relate to some of the people who actually wrote in about the issue with water and sewer. She has had two floods in her basement, both needing repairs and floors dug up. She understands and she sympathizes, she empathizes with those people. She is one of those people, because of repairs that have not been maintained or sewage system that has not been maintained. The fact that there has been nothing done but the (?) repairs to keep it up and running is the reason we are where we are. One of the residents wrote in and stated 1954. Now if we take 1954 and there have been no changes and no updates to our present infrastructure and sewer system, it is no wonder why we are experiencing these things as far as the flooding goes, water going back into people's houses and the backflow and all of that. Although she sympathizes, she can relate to all of that. At what point do we decide that it is time to repair a failing infrastructure? We need to repair a failing infrastructure. This is more than a twelve-year problem. With that said, surely we can come to some understanding that it might not be what we want to do but what we have to do. This should not be a contentious issue because it is what we need and everybody's homes at one point or another is going to experience. Some type of flooding, some type of backflow, something, the foundation caving in because you do not have what is needed in order to keep things running. No City can continue to prosper, improve without repairs and although it is a difficult issue to address, it is something we need to do. The friendly amendment that was offered, in her opinion will help some folks but at the end of the day we cannot live in a house without maintaining it. That is in a City also. We have to keep our City running and the way to keep our City running is to continue to improve the infrastructure and things needed to keep it improved. She has expressed her concerns and she is glad everyone else has expressed their concerns but at the end of the day, this is our City. All of them. They need to come together on this issue. She thanked everyone for the comments.

Ms. Conison thanked everyone for coming, for viewing and let us be kind to one another.

Mr. Kantor thanked everyone who wrote in, those that are watching and those in the audience. He wished a happy belated anniversary to the two people he has come to love over the nine years he has known them. He actually met him on the field watching his daughter run track with my son. Michael, you and Joy are beautiful people. Happy Anniversary. Last Tuesday night he had the honor and joy of being at Whitehall Yearling High School. He thanked all those that came up to him and he explained he had a younger daughter who will be attending high school there this year. Isabella's counselor is the same counselor that his older daughter and son had. His youngest daughter will be playing volleyball at New Albany and he plans to make it to all her games. He thanked everyone for coming in and said God Bless America. Pray for the men, woman and children in Afghanistan.

President Potter thanked everyone for taking the time to write in his or her comments and the folks coming forward this evening. As Ms. Elmore said it is not an easy issue but it needs addressed and he thanked the Administration supported by Council, is doing the responsible things to move this forward. Again, it is not always the popular thing but it is something that needs done and he supports it.

Having nothing further, Mr. Bailey moved to adjourn and Mr. Kantor seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all members responded in the affirmative and the meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Julie A. Ogg, Clerk of Council

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

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Robert Bailey, Council President Pro Tempore