

WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA MEETING MINUTES

President Pro Tem Bailey called the September 07, 2021 agenda meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. All members were present with the exception of Ms. Conison, Mr. Kantor and Mr. Morrison.

President Pro Tem Bailey reviewed the agenda and confirmed who would handle the various required motions this evening.

The meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A. Ogg, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: _____, 2021.

Thomas M. Potter, Council President

WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES – September 07, 2021

President Pro Tem Bailey called the regular meeting of Whitehall City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 07, 2021.

At President Pro Tem Bailey'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:

Bob Bailey
Chris Rodriguez
Lori Elmore
Wes Kantor
Jo Anna Heck

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Ms. Elmore moved to approve the August 17, 2021, agenda and regular meeting. Ms. Heck 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:

Mayor Kim Maggard said there is a family in our community, whose son Hunter, had been diagnosed with cancer at the age of seven. He battled cancer for ten months. He is eleven years old now and he is doing great. She read a proclamation on behalf of the Friends of Faith Pruden Foundation in recognition of Childhood Cancer Awareness.

POLL PUBLIC:

Amy E LaCorte
3835 Washburn Street
Whitehall, OH

To the Whitehall City Council and those Members who represent the City of Whitehall.

I would personally like to acknowledge how proud that I was of Whitehall Parks and Recreation programs that were held this past summer. Music in the Park, the Movies under the Moonlight, Jurassic Parks, Archery and some of the other Recreation activities that were available. Whitehall Community Park is just

beautiful. I love the trails and walk my dog, JoJo, 2 to 3 times a week there. During the winter, also. Whitehall Parks and Recreation Department is doing a Wonderful job for Our Community. I felt a need to say, Thank You!

I loved going over to Market on the Green. The Vendors were friendly and the Music was great. I am already looking forward to next year.

And, the Food Stamp benefits were awesome. I am sure this was a positive impact on those who use them. And a final praise, I can not wait for the new "Central Bark" to open. I am excited to have more fun experiences with my JoJo there.

Thank you, once more, to the Whitehall Parks and Recreation Department for keeping the Community of Whitehall active and encouraging Families to be a part of this "City of Pride."

Jeff Thoburn
466 Maplewood Av,
Whitehall, OH

When Whitehall's elected set sail on their OPPORTUNITY IS HERE plan, an older retired homeowner like me was let stay on the City of Pride shoreline, with not even one percent of match money for Home Reinvestment or Sidewalk and Driveway Approach Replacement. And at an age when I needed it most. Nonetheless, my sense of pride in home and community is nearly undaunted as I live next door to the most blighted house that I have lived beside in my 67 years, undaunted as the shady 24/7 comings and goings at the house across the street from me have prompted a Whitehall police presence dozens of times, day and night, over the past couple of years. Undaunted while the very menacing Tree of Heaven species rapidly expands its footprint in my neighborhood, undaunted, but cautious of the disregard here for speed limits, and unapologetic as I bemoan an Enclave at Main that will depreciate the value of my nearly historic neighborhood, in addition to having other negative effects over time. Guaranteed. My pride, though, is shattered by the rampant, blowing littering that IS Whitehall. How could it not be in the best interest of the city to join forces with its retailers to clean up Whitehall? An unmarked car or bicycle transporting a ticket-writing agent around, a few days of citations being issued, word gets out, results follow. With some retailers already paying for parking lot litter clean up, surely their contributions to a couple of weeks worth of some Operation Detrash Whitehall, in union with the city, if the city has funds to spare....couldn't be anything but advantageous. If not a win for the elected, at least one for us old City of Pride types.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administration and Financial Management – Chairperson Bailey reported that the committee met Tuesday, August 24, 2021 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, August 24, 2021 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, August 24, 2021 and their minutes are on file. They will meet again next week, sometime after 6:30 p.m.

Economic Development – Chairperson Bailey reported that they met Tuesday, August 24, 2021 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, August 24, 2021 and their minutes are on file. They will meet next week, sometime after 6:30 p.m.

Public Safety – Chairperson Bailey reported that they met Tuesday, August 24, 2021 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, August 24, 2021 and their minutes are on file. They will meet next week, sometime after 6:30 p.m.

OFFICIALS' REPORTS

Mayor Kim Maggard –presented Auditor Miller with an award from the Auditor of State of Ohio. The award was for excellence in financial reporting in the year 2020.

Auditor Miller said the fact that this award comes in his name it is due to the collaboration with Treasurer Quincel and they work hard at this. He is very proud of this award and is the epitome of his career.

City Attorney Michael Bivens – he said that during the month of August, his office handled two hundred sixty five cases in the Mayor’s Court and Municipal Court and out of those two hundred sixty five cases, about thirty-two them committed by Whitehall residents of a criminal nature. Criminal nature is defined as domestic violence, assault, theft of property, and those things that rise to misdemeanor one level. That is about twelve percent. So far this year they are trending at about thirteen percent, out of the one thousand eight hundred seventy nine cases that were been handled so far. The trend is running about the same as it has been over the past six years since he has been elected. Whitehall residents are consistently not committing the majority of the crimes that occur in Whitehall. The idea is to figure out how to ultimately change that on the opposite side of it, but with the Mayor and Chief of Police we have he is sure those strategies are being put in place. He said everyone wants covid to go away and want it in our rearview mirror; however, covid is not ready to go away. He encouraged everyone within the sound of his voice; let us beat this virus together. He has some ideas on how it can be done. Continue to wear your mask, be vaccinated and at some future pint if there are boosters available, let us get the booster. He believes together this virus can be defeated and get back to how it was in 2019. He encouraged everyone to join him and his family as they defeat this virus together.

City Auditor Dan Miller – had no official report.

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.

President Pro Tem Bailey – advised that the following Officials’ Reports have been filed in the Council Office since the last meeting: The Treasurer’s Investment Report for July 2021, The Treasurer’s Activity by Fund Report for July 2021 and The Treasurer’s Fund Reconciliation Report for July 2021.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND CLAIMS:

There were no Communications, Petitions and Claims filed in the Council Office since last Council meeting.

VERIFICATION OF COPIES:

President Pro Tem Bailey 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. 070-2021 was read by title only by President Pro Tem Bailey:

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.

Mr. Rodriguez introduced and moved to adopt Ordinance No. 070-2021 and Ms. Elmore seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 070-2021 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 071-2021 was read by title only by President Pro Tem Bailey:

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.

Mr. Rodriguez introduced and moved to adopt Ordinance No. 071-2021 and Ms. Elmore seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 071-2021 was adopted.

SECOND READING:

THERE WAS NO LEGISLATION FOR SECOND READING.

FIRST READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 076-2021 was read by title only by President Pro Tem Bailey:

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE PUBLIC ENTITIES POOL OF OHIO (PEP) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 077-2021 was read by title only by President Pro Tem Bailey:

AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENT TO THE SALARY OF THE OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER, EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2021 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Rodriguez introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance No. 077-2021 and Ms. Heck seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 077-2021 was suspended.

Mr. Rodriguez moved to adopt Ordinance No. 077-2021 and Ms. Heck seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 077-2021 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 078-2021 *was read by title only by President Pro Tem Bailey:*

AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE AMENDMENT OF 161.13 SPECIAL LEAVE WITH PAY AND APPROVING SECTION 161.13(d) "PAID PARENTAL LEAVE" AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 079-2021 *was read by title only by President Pro Tem Bailey:*

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. Rodriguez introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance No. 079-2021 and Ms. Elmore seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 079-2021 was suspended.

Mr. Rodriguez moved to adopt Ordinance No. 079-2021 and Ms. Elmore seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Ordinance No. 079-2021 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 020-2021 *was read by title only by President Pro Tem Bailey:*

RESOLVING TO APPROVE "THEN AND NOW" CERTIFICATES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Rodriguez introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Resolution No. 020-2021 and Ms. Heck seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Resolution No. 020-2021 was suspended.

Mr. Rodriguez moved to adopt Resolution No. 020-2021 and Ms. Heck seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Resolution No. 020-2021 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 021-2021 *was read by title only by President Pro Tem Bailey:*

APPROVING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL FOR TAX YEAR 2020.

RESOLUTION NO. 022-2021 *was read by title only by President Pro Tem Bailey:*

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND / OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM(S) AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Heck introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Resolution No. 022-2021 and Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Resolution No. 022-2021 was suspended.

Ms. Heck moved to adopt Resolution No. 022-2021 and Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and Resolution No. 022-2021 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 023-2021 was read by title only by *President Pro Tem Bailey*:

TO AGREE TO AN ADJUSTMENT TO THE CITY'S BOUNDARIES BY CONSENTING TO TRANSFER APPROXIMATELY 3.34+/- ACRES FROM THE CITY OF COLUMBUS TO THE CITY OF WHITEHALL.

POLL PUBLIC:

No comments at this time.

COMMUNITY DATE BOARD:

Chairperson Heck said this Friday there will be a community performance by the marching band at the stadium at 7:00 p.m. Alumni will be there as well.

Chairperson Kantor said the reason this activity was not cancelled is that there is alumni coming in from all over the United States. Even though they have cancelled the parade, the bonfire and the football game they have not cancelled this activity. Those activities are rescheduled for October 1 and 2.

Chairperson Elmore said 9/11 Patriots Day of Remembrance Ceremony is from 11:00 am -12 noon on Saturday at the VFW Post 8794, 4100 East Main Street.

POLL COUNCIL:

Mr. Rodriguez wished Lori a happy birthday. He thanked Amy and Jeff for their letters. He said it is hard to believe that twenty years have passed since 9/11. You will always remember where you were at on that day. He said to Attorney Bivens that what he said was on point. He lost a cousin just yesterday. Something hitting that close to home brought up many emotions and personal memories back. He knows that God has a plan for him. We have to do whatever it takes to get this virus under control.

Ms. Elmore thanked Amy and Mr. Thoburn for their poll public. She thanked a new resident for attending Council tonight. She thanked God for allowing her to take one more trip around the sun. As Councilman Rodriguez said, you will always remember where you were when 9/11 hit. It is something she will always remember. She sat her children down and had a conversation with them so they were not traumatized. She knows God's grace is sufficient.

Mr. Kantor thanked everyone for coming and said he hope the new visitor comes back. Exactly what Mr. Bivens, Mr. Rodriguez and Ms. Elmore said, it is tough to follow that. He thanked them for their comments. He wished Ms. Elmore a happy birthday and he hopes her birthday was nice. He will see everyone in two weeks.

Ms. Heck thanked Amy and Jeff for writing in, everyone watching from home and those in attendance. She agreed with what Mr. Bivens said. She would like to move forward and get past covid. She hope to see many faces on Friday at the Community Concert as well as the 9/11 Memorial on Saturday.

President Pro Tem Bailey thanked everyone for his or her comments.

Having nothing further, Mr. Rodriguez 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 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A. Ogg, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: _____, 2021.

Thomas M. Potter, Council President