

WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL  
AGENDA MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 7, 2017

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Council President Graham called the February 7, 2017, agenda meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. All members were present.

President Graham reviewed the agenda and confirmed who would handle the various required motions this evening. The 2016 Year End Review for the Whitehall Division of Fire was distributed to council along with one being placed in council meeting folder.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mary Freimark, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2017.

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Jim Graham, Council President

## WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

### MINUTES – FEBRUARY 7, 2017

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Council President Jim Graham called the regular meeting of Whitehall City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 7, 2017.

At President Graham's request, everyone rose for a moment of silence. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited by those assembled.

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

Chris Rodriguez  
Van Gregg  
Karen Conison  
Wes Kantor  
Lee Stahley  
Larry Morrison  
Bob Bailey

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Conison moved to approve the Minutes of the January 17, 2017 agenda and regular meetings. 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

Zach Woodruff, Director of Development & Public Service presented a power point presentation regarding 2017 Neighborhood Works Grant Program Overview. He also distributed a copy of the presentation to council and one was placed in the council meeting folder. President Graham asked how the city knows if the contractor is reputable. Director Woodruff explained that the city's responsibility is to make sure that each contractor obtains the requirements that are needed to register with the city. He said to protect the city we stop short of having an approved list. President Graham asked if we have anything for the homeowner to make sure they are not being taken advantage of. Director Woodruff said we do have a list of items to look for when hiring a contractor and we always try to guide them to thoroughly investigate their contractor before signing a contract. Mr. Bailey commented that most of these projects on the list look like they will require a permit prior to doing the work. President Graham asked if the playground equipment would be replaced or enhanced. Director Woodruff said if awarded the grant the parks commission and the director will determine what is needed. Ms. Conison commented that she is glad that there is a mailer being sent along with social media.

#### POLL PUBLIC

There were no comments at this time.

#### STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration and Financial Management – Chairperson Bailey reported that they met two weeks ago and their minutes are on file. They will meet again next week, sometime after 6:30 p.m.

Community Engagement – Chairperson Conison reported that they met two weeks ago 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 two weeks ago 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 two weeks ago and their minutes are on file. They will meet again next week, sometime after 6:30 p.m.

Infrastructure, Maintenance and Services – Chairperson Gregg reported that they met two weeks ago and their minutes are on file. They will meet again next week, sometime after 6:30 p.m.

Public Safety – Chairperson Stahley reported that they met two weeks ago 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 two weeks ago and their minutes are on file. He said that he gave a handout to council and administration to read from the new Parks and Recreation Director. He said there are a lot of good things that are coming up this summer. He thanked Mayor Maggard, Katie Quincel, Auditor Miller and the Parks and Recreation Commission on everything that is getting done. They will meet again next week, sometime after 6:30 p.m.

#### OFFICIALS' REPORTS

Mayor Kim Maggard – no official report. She asked for support on the grant program that was presented this evening. She said she was very excited when Julie Smith from Rebuilding Together Central Ohio thought of Whitehall and asked to come talk to her about the grant. She said that she didn't realize it was such a large grant and that could really help a lot of people in the community. She is keeping her fingers crossed that the city will be chosen. She reiterated that there are a lot of families that our struggling in Whitehall and really could use some help.

City Attorney Michael Bivens – reported there were 122 cases in Mayor's Court for the month of January, 39 were Whitehall residents and 28 were cases other than traffic. He was pleased to announce that none of these cases were domestic violence, assault, vandalism, and crimes against property. He hopes that continues in 2017. He said that Whitehall Yearling High School competed in their first mock trial competition and they got an education of their lifetime. It was an amazing experience and it warmed his heart to be a part of it. He invited council and residents to come see them in action. He shared that he was moved by the words that Ms. Conison and Nancy Fitin said during the induction of the Hall of Fame last week. He was especially touched by her experience of diversity and immigrants. He said he loves what he does and he loves what the city does. He wanted everyone to know that the City Attorney's office will make sure that the Constitution of United States and the State of Ohio are followed along with the City of Whitehall Charter. He hopes that we move forward as a community

City Auditor Dan Miller – no official report.

Director of Service and Development Zach Woodruff – reported that they have been tracking the work of the street crew for the month of December and January. He shared that they have used 434 tons of salt, put down over 12,000 gallons of brine, they marked 240 public utility lines, they inspected 467 sanitary lines and cleaned 18 of them, they inspected 320 storm drops

and cleaned 277 and they have used 26 tons of cold patch to fill 1095 pot holes. He also wanted to comment on the dispatch article regarding bouncing back on home prices. He said Whitehall had the 7<sup>th</sup> highest average increase on home sale prices in the county between 2012 and the end of 2016. He said that the data is clear that we are trending in the right direction. He said that these numbers are important when talking to residents and changing the perception of where Whitehall is and is going.

Director of Public Safety Mark Newcomb – was not present

Treasurer Steve Quincel – no official report.

Council President Graham - advised that the following Officials' Report has been filed in the Council Office since the last meeting: The Division of Fire Overtime Report for December 2016.

### COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND CLAIMS

1. Minutes from the January 5, 2017 meeting of the Planning Commission.
2. Agenda for the January 26, 2017 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission.
3. Agenda for the February 2, 2017 meeting of the Planning Commission.
4. Minutes from the December 8, 2016 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission.
5. Minutes from the December 15, 2016 special meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

### VERIFICATION OF COPIES

President Graham 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. All members responded in the affirmative.

### THIRD READING

There was no legislation for third reading.

### SECOND READING

ORDINANCE NO. 004-2017 was read by title only by President Graham:

“TRANSFERRING FOUR HUNDRED SIXTY-EIGHT THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY-FOUR AND 43/100 DOLLARS (\$468,174.43) FROM THE BOND RETIREMENT ACCOUNT (101-950-57500) TO THE DEBT SERVICE FUND (401).”

ORDINANCE NO. 005-2017 was read by title only by President Graham:

“APPROVING AND MAKING A FUND TRANSFER IN THE AMOUNT OF THREE HUNDRED SIXTY-TWO THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED NINETY-EIGHT AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$362,798.00) FROM VARIOUS ACCOUNTS IN THE WMPITIE FUND (279) TO THE DEBT SERVICE FUND (401).”

ORDINANCE NO. 006-2017 was read by title only by President Graham:

“AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF SEVENTY THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$70,000.00) FROM

UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE GENERAL FUND (101) TO THE PROPERTY ACQUISITION AND MAINTENANCE ACCOUNT 101.950.59850.”

ORDINANCE NO. 009-2017 was read by title only by President Graham:

“APPROVING AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF TWO HUNDRED AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$200.00) FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE MECHANICAL UPGRADES FUND (318) TO THE 318 FEDERAL OBLIGATIONS EXPENSE ACCOUNT (318.000.59650) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.”

Mr. Bailey introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance 009-2017 and Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members responded in the affirmative and the rules were suspended.

Mr. Bailey then moved to adopt Ordinance No. 009-2017 and Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and ORDINANCE NO. 009-2017 was adopted.

#### FIRST READING

ORDINANCE NO. 010-2017 was read by title only by President Graham:

“APPROVING AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TRANSFER IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE MILLION THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$1,300,000.00) FROM THE NORTH HAMILTON ROAD IMPROVEMENT EXPENSE ACCOUNT (308.000.53000) TO THE NORTH HAMILTON ROAD OPWC ISSUE 2 EXPENSE ACCOUNT (308-000-51000) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.”

Mr. Bailey introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance 010-2017 and Mr. Kantor seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members responded in the affirmative and the rules were suspended.

Mr. Bailey then moved to adopt Ordinance No. 010-2017 and Mr. Kantor seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and ORDINANCE NO. 010-2017 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 005-2017 was read by title only by President Graham:

“RESOLVING TO APPROVE ‘THEN AND NOW’ CERTIFICATES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.”

Mr. Bailey introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Resolution No. 005-2017 and Mr. Morrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members responded in the affirmative and the rules were suspended.

Mr. Bailey then moved to adopt Resolution No. 005-2017 and Mr. Morrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and RESOLUTION NO. 005-2017 was adopted.

#### POLL PUBLIC

Lori Elmore, 645 Fairway Blvd. She complimented council president, the leaders and elected officials on the great job they are doing for the city of Whitehall. She said they moved here over 3 years ago because they knew that Whitehall was very progressive and they are very happy they did. She thanked the mayor for her forward and progressive thinking and said that the city is benefiting from that. She stated that they were awarded the reinvestment grant and were able to do some improvements to their home and she doesn't think any other city is doing this for their residents. She congratulated Mayor Maggard and Director Woodruff on the great job they are doing for Whitehall, especially on staying on the cutting edge on what is happening. She said she watched the national program on mock hearings in high schools and she is happy that Whitehall is a part of that. Ms. Elmore congratulated Ms. Conison on her induction to the Whitehall Hall of Fame and said she enjoyed the heartfelt words she spoke. She complemented her on the great job she is doing and how excited she is for the international programs in the future. Lastly, she commended everyone on the great job they are doing and she is glad she is a part of the city of Whitehall.

#### COMMUNITY DATE BOARD

Mr. Stahley said that Eastview United Methodist Church is having a free Valentine's Day dinner.

Events are listed on the City's Website.

#### POLL COUNCIL

Mr. Rodriguez congratulated Ms. Conison on her induction into the Whitehall Hall of Fame. He complimented Attorney Bivens for the words he said. He stated that the diversity in Whitehall has been around for years. He congratulated Director Woodruff on the neighborhood works program. He wished his father a Happy 92<sup>nd</sup> Birthday on Valentine's Day. Lastly, he wished Mr. Bailey a Happy Birthday.

Mr. Gregg thanked everyone for coming and for all the good words that were said tonight from Director Woodruff, Attorney Bivens and Ms. Elmore. He thanked the Parks and Recreation Commission and Mr. Kantor for the new basketball hoops at John Bishop Park. He said it is nice to see the courts filled with kids and he enjoys watching them..

Ms. Conison thanked everyone for the kind words. She explained that she grew up in Whitehall and she remembers even as a child this community understood diversity. She said she felt it was a teaching opportunity while growing up here. She said she is happy and proud to be a part of this community and thanked everyone for being here.

Mr. Kantor thanked Attorney Bivens and asked for a date on the next Mock Court Trial. He agreed with Mr. Gregg on the new basketball courts and thanked him for mentioning them. He wished Mr. Bailey a Happy Birthday.

Mr. Stahley said that he thinks that Ms. Elmore hit the nail on the head. He said that last year he presented a quote to council that he would like to reiterate "However we don't look backwards we keep moving forward, opening new doors and trying new things, curiosity keeps leading us down new paths." He said he feels that is exactly what is happening in our community. He said look at the examples given with administrators from grant programs approaching us and

our youth competing in mock trials, which could lead them in the direction of law or even a Supreme Court Justice. He feels big doors are opening for our community and thanked everyone.

Mr. Morrison thanked everyone for coming and for everyone's input.

Mr. Bailey congratulated Ms. Conison and said that he feels that this year they picked someone that makes sense. He said he can only think of something Bob Dylan said "times they are changing". He stated it is a new Whitehall and he said we are making the possibilities happen and you can feel it. He believes through the efforts of this Council, Administration, Parks and Recreation Commission and the residents, perceptions, are changing for Whitehall and that is exciting. He said he appreciates everyone's comments tonight.

President Graham said he would like to thank everyone for being here this evening. He said that there is no doubt that the Whitehall saying "Opportunity is here" is true for the residents along with many businesses. He stated that he has spent years training people from ages 18 to 65 and he has seen this country changing. He said that there has been a much greater shift in diversity and inclusiveness over the last few years and he feels that this is due to the millennials and their teamwork philosophy. They include everybody in everything and have no problems with diversity because that is the way they were raised. He said he just wanted to share his personal observation.

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 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mary Freimark, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2017.

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Jim Graham, President of Council