

WHITEHALL COUNCIL COMMITTEES

MINUTES – February 27, 2024

Council President Potter called the February 27, 2024 Council Committees' meeting to order at 7:16 p.m.

The following members of council and the administration were present:

Members of the Administration

Council President Thomas Potter
Mayor Michael T. Bivens
City Attorney Bradley S. Nicodemus
City Auditor Steve Quincel

Council Members

Gerald Dixon
Larry Morrison
Amy Smith
Jo Anna Heck
Lori Elmore
Devin Brown
Amy Harcar

ADMINISTRATION/COUNCIL OF THE WHOLE MATTERS:

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

RESOLUTION NO. 003-2024 DRAFT # 1

RECOGNIZING SHANE MCGEE AS THE 2023 POLICE OFFICER EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AND AWARDING HIM A ONE-TIME PAYMENT OF THREE HUNDRED FIFTY AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$350.00) AS ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

(Comm. Of the Whole. – 1st reading- SUSP & ADOPT 03/05/2024-Morrison/Elmore)

RESOLUTION NO. 004-2024 DRAFT # 2

RECOGNIZING FRANK BLEVINS AS THE 2023 LABOR /SERVICE EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AND AWARDING HIM A ONE-TIME PAYMENT OF THREE HUNDRED FIFTY AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$350.00) AS ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

(Comm. Of the Whole. – 1st reading- SUSP & ADOPT 03/05/2024-Brown/Heck)

RESOLUTION NO. 005-2024 DRAFT # 3

RECOGNIZING IAN FELLERS AS THE 2023 FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AND AWARDING HIM A ONE-TIME PAYMENT OF THREE HUNDRED FIFTY AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$350.00) AS ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

(Comm. Of the Whole. – 1st reading- SUSP & ADOPT 03/05/2024-Morrison/Elmore)

RESOLUTION NO. 006-2024 DRAFT # 4

RECOGNIZING JULIE HARRIS AS THE 2023 ADMINISTRATIVE/SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AND AWARDING HER A ONE-TIME PAYMENT OF THREE HUNDRED FIFTY AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$350.00) AS ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

(Comm. Of the Whole. – 1st reading- SUSP & ADOPT 03/05/2024-Dixon/Morrison)

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Councilperson Elmore opened at 7:18 p.m. and addressed the legislation in her committee, as follows:

SECOND READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 010-2024 (Adm. & Fin. Mgmt. – 2nd reading- SUSP & ADOPT 03/05/2024- Elmore/Morrison)

AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF TWELVE THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$12,000.00) FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE GENERAL FUND (101) TO THE BUILDING LOT MAINTENANCE EXPENSE ACCOUNT (101.950.53300) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mayor Bivens sent an email to Clerk Ogg referencing switching the live stream from Facebook Live to YouTube. He has his Community Affairs person do a why as to this transfer. One of the things he has been listening to in open meetings they have had is the need for transparency, the need for openness and being able to reach a larger segment of the community so he put together a little slide show about City Council YouTube live stream. The city's YouTube will be modeled after the City of Columbus YouTube live, which has a dedicated YouTube channel. The proposal is that Whitehall City Council move to this format that is specific to Council. They would have introductory commercial so to speak; welcome to Whitehall City Council. They have someone in mind to do the voice over. He can talk about the Rules of Council, it could have a dropdown and a link for any person who is watching can actually pull up the rules. You will be able to do highlights of individual City Council members as it pertains to individual committees. With YouTube, you do not have to scroll down all of Facebook to find a meeting. With YouTube, you will enter the date of the meeting and it will bring it right up. YouTube is open to anyone. You do not need an account to see the YouTube channel and this will open it up to a larger segment of the community.

There was discussion on how YouTube would work amongst Councilmembers and the Administration at this time.

Having nothing further, Councilperson Elmore closed at 7:42 p.m.

COMMUNITY AND ELDER ADVOCACY

Chairperson Harcar opened at 7:42 p.m. and said there are no drafts or pending legislation on the agenda.

There is going to be a celebration at John Bishop Park on April 8 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm for the solar eclipse. The 2024 State of the District & Visioning for the Future Community Conversation that will take place on February 28, 2024 at 5:30 pm. at the high school. Life Care Alliance sent an invitation for participation in the March for Meals, Community Champions Week March 18 through March 22 by delivering meals or by preparing meals in the kitchens.

Having nothing further, Chairperson Harcar closed at 7:44 p.m.

COMMUNITY STANDARDS AND ENFORCEMENT

Chairperson Smith opened at 7:44 p.m. and addressed the legislation in her committee, as follows:

THIRD READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 001-2024 (Comm. Stand & Enf. – 3rd reading – ADOPT 03/05/2024-Smith/Heck)

Tabled until 03/05/2024 with Public Hearing March 5, 2024

AMENDING THE ZONING MAP ATTACHED TO CHAPTER 1104.01 OF THE 2023 CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL, OHIO AND AS SUBSEQUENTLY AMENDED, ALLOWING A SPECIAL PERMIT UNDER SECTION 1104.03(H) TO PERMIT BUY & BUY AUTO

SALE, LLC COMPANY TO OPERATE A VEHICLE AND LARGE EQUIPMENT REPAIR BUSINESS
IN THE MAIN STREET DISTRICT.

FIRST READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 005-2024 (*Comm. Stand & Enf.*)

(Tabled on January 16, 2024 for further discussion.)

AMENDING SECTION 1103.02(C) (BUILDING PLACEMENT), AMENDING THE ZONING MAP ATTACHED TO CHAPTER 1104.01 OF THE 2023 CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL, OHIO AND AS SUBSEQUENTLY AMENDED, AND CHANGING THE ZONING ON PROPERTY LOCATED ON FAIRWAY BLVD., PARCEL NUMBERS 090-001774, 090-001812, 090-001819, 090-001775, 090-001776, 090-001010, 090-001777, 090-001735, 090-001778, 090-006752, 090-001780, 090-001781 and 090-001782, FROM STUR TO RESIDENTIAL ESTATE DISTRICT.

Having nothing further, Chairperson Smith closed at 7:45 p.m.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Chairperson Dixon opened at 7:45 p.m. and said there are no drafts or pending legislation on the agenda.

There was no discussion in Economic Development.

Having nothing further, Chairperson Dixon closed at 7:45 p.m.

INFRASTRUCTURE, MAINTENANCE AND SERVICE

Chairperson Brown opened at 7:46 p.m. and said there are no drafts or pending legislation on the agenda.

Mayor Bivens gave a reminder for old Councilmembers and new Councilmembers as well, last year there were a number of presentations regard the infrastructure but particularly the underground lines and the need citywide to do something to replace and abate some of the problems. There was a plan put in place to get these lines fixed and replaced. Obviously, not coming from the general fund or the capital dollars because the expense was so high, the Auditor and the previous administration looked into doing an infrastructure loan on that. They have not talked about this in a very long time. What he proposes, and he has spoken to the Auditor as well as his staff and he wants to come to Council to do a full presentation of what the infrastructure loan would be, what projects it would encumber and what would be the timeline on that. Before he intends to sign any loan documents, obviously this needs to start from scratch so that Council is fully aware and can give it the full green light with their understanding and knowledge and they let the public know whether or not they want the city to go forward in fixing a portion of underground lines that are in desperate need of repair. He wanted to fill Council in, as this is a precursor to a more robust conversation.

Having nothing further, Chairperson Brown closed at 7:48 p.m.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Chairperson Morrison opened at 7:49 p.m. and said there are no drafts or pending legislation on the agenda.

Mayor Bivens said next week Chief Crispin will come in and do a presentation that has not been named yet, but essentially it is a Whitehall Public Safety Advisory Group and the plan is to open up a collective group to address safety concerns and implement active measures that enhance public safety. It is similar to a citizen advisory group, but it would include Mayor, Fire Chief, Police Chief, Service Director, HR Director, Councilmember and three to five community leaders that would be on this advisory group. This would be a group that would address

public safety concerns to enhance and give directive to assist the Public Safety Director and assist the public with those concerns. Chief Crispen will be there to talk about that and he wanted to prepare Council for that.

Having nothing further, Chairperson Morrison closed at 7:50 p.m.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Chairperson Heck opened at 7:50 p.m. and said there are no drafts or pending legislation on the agenda.

There was no discussion in Parks and Recreation.

Having nothing further, Chairperson Heck closed at 7:50 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Submitted by:

Julie A. Ogg, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: March 5, 2024

Thomas M. Potter, Council President