

WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA MEETING MINUTES

MAY 2, 2017

Council President Graham called the May 2, 2017, agenda meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. All members were present.

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

At this time, Mr. Rodriguez made a motion at President Graham's request, to adjourn to executive session pursuant to ORC Section 121.22(g)(3) Conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action; and Mr. Bailey seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all seven members voted in the affirmative and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned to executive session at 6:34 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 6:48 p.m.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Freimark, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: _____, 2017.

Jim Graham, Council President

WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES – MAY 2, 2017

Council President Jim Graham called the regular meeting of Whitehall City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 2, 2017.

At President Graham's request, everyone rose for a moment of silence in memory of Helen Roberts who was a frequent visitor to the council meetings. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited by those assembled.

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Conison moved to approve the Minutes of the April 18, 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.

POLL PUBLIC

Eugene Fletcher, 213 Woodland Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43203. Mr. Fletcher asked where the plans were for the development at 51-91 S. Hamilton Rd. He continued by asking if he was out of line for asking. President Graham stated he was asking the wrong person. Mr. Fletcher asked then who he should ask. President Graham said he assumes it would be the Director of Development. Mr. Fletcher turned to Director Woodruff and asked him where the plans are. Director Woodruff said that he does not have them with him. Director Woodruff stated to President Graham as a point of order this is not a question and answer session, this is poll public and the plans are not being voted on this evening. President Graham agreed with Director Woodruff. He explained to Mr. Fletcher that the way poll public works is individuals can come up and make a statement about this, that or the other and it is not a question and answer period. He said if you want to ask council or administration a question you can ask before or after council meetings, email or call them. Mr. Fletcher said he called the other day and he was told they couldn't talk. He concluded by saying he understands and that he is a "to the point" kind of person. President Graham said he understands. Mr. Fletcher said he guesses that is it for right now.

Harold Ray, 61 S. Hamilton Rd. Mr. Ray read a letter that he had written. He previously gave a copy of the letter to President Graham and Director Woodruff. A copy of the letter was placed in council's electronic folder and the meeting file. The letter stated that he is owner of the Shrimp Hut at 61 S. Hamilton Road and on April 26 he had a meeting with Mr. Ryan and Mr. Woodruff and was informed that the said property will be taken over by the City of Whitehall. Director Woodruff said he would like to keep Mr. Ray's business in Whitehall and will look for a

building. At that time he was told there will be no funds given to him by the City of Whitehall. Therefore, any monies that he would receive would have to come from the lease agreement with his landlord. Mr. Ray explained that he has invested everything he owns in to the business and still has outstanding loans. He said the business was plagued from the start with the crime ridden apartment complex on East Broad Street and he has survived and maintained a respectful business. He understands the purpose and concept of Norton Crossing and fair market value, but he also feels that the city needs to treat existing small businesses fair and with the same level of gratitude and respect. He said that he is willing to move his business to another building in Whitehall; however he is requesting financial assistance from the City of Whitehall for the sudden and untimely displacement. He finished by requesting that this discussion goes on record along with the letter. President Graham said it will.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration and Financial Management – Chairperson Bailey 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 Engagement – 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.

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 Gregg 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 Stahley said they met last week and their minutes are on file. They will meet next week, sometime after 6:30 p.m.

Parks and Recreation – Chairperson Kantor reported that they met last week and briefly discussed the splash pad and their minutes are on file. They will meet next week, sometime after 6:30 p.m.

OFFICIALS' REPORTS

Mayor Kim Maggard – asked for favorable consideration on first reading on Ordinance No. 037-2017.

City Attorney Michael Bivens –reported there were 210 cases in Mayor's Court for the month of April; only 25 were of a criminal nature and were citizens of Whitehall. He said that means 11% were Whitehall residents that were prosecuted through Whitehall's Mayor's Court. He said he would like to update the work of the City Attorney's Office, the Victim Advocate and the city prosecutors. They were successful on getting the domestic violence case that he had discussed at the last council meeting escalated. The individual was indicted in Ron O'Brien's office as felonies and have very high bonds. He reiterated how proud he was of his office and the work they did to make sure that case went through the proper channels.

City Auditor Dan Miller – had no official report.

Director of Public Service and Development Zach Woodruff – reported that work continues on the 2017 road projects, which includes curb and gutter on Kumler, curb and gutter and resurfacing on Pierce, Westphal and Beechwood and they still have work on San Jose. He stated they had a preconstruction meeting for the Etna Road project last week and they will be holding a Town Hall meeting Monday, May 8 at 6:30 p.m. in City Hall chambers. They mailed out over 240 letters to residents that are in that general area notifying them of the town hall meeting and letting them know the impact the project will have. Once the project gets under way, Etna Rd. will become a one way road running eastbound from Hamilton to Country Club. This will allow them to safely replace the water line, storm sewer and widen the road. He said the schedule should be wrapped up by the end of November, but he anticipates that the majority of the time Etna Rd. will stay one way. He said they are communicating with the school district and the parks to keep them updated. He stated once they are done he is confident that the project will give Etna Rd. a complete new look.

Treasurer Steve Quincel –asked for favorable consideration for Resolution No. 023-2017.

Council President Graham - advised that the following Officials' Reports have been filed in the Council Office since the last meeting: Mayors Report to Council for March 2017; Treasurer's Investment Report for March 2017; Treasurer's Activity Report for March 2017; Treasurer's Fund Reconciliation Report for March 2017.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND CLAIMS

1. Agenda for the April 27, 2017 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission.
2. Minutes from the March 23, 2017 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission.
3. Agenda for the May 4, 2017 meeting of the Planning Commission.
4. Minutes for the April 6, 2017 meeting of the Planning 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 the members responded in the affirmative.

THIRD READING

ORDINANCE NO. 024-2017 was read by title only by President Graham:

“TO AUTHORIZE THE PROVISION OF A REAL PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT FOR A NEW PROJECT IN THE AIR SOUTH COMMERCE PARK WITHIN THE POTH ROAD COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENCOURAGING THE CREATION OF NEW JOBS WITHIN THE CITY AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THE RELATED COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA AGREEMENT.”

Mr. Morrison introduced and moved to table Ordinance No. 024-2017 until May 16, 2017 and Mr. Stahley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members responded in the affirmative and ORDINANCE NO. 024-2017 was tabled.

ORDINANCE NO. 030-2017 was read by title only by President Graham:

“AUTHORIZING THE REPEAL OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY CLEANUP AND STREET CLEANUP BONDS AND INCREASING THE AMOUNT THAT MAY BE REQUIRED FOR STREET CLEANUP AT COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES.”

Mr. Gregg introduced and moved to adopt Ordinance No. 030-2017 and Mr. Morrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and ORDINANCE NO. 030-2017 was adopted.

SECOND READING

ORDINANCE NO. 031-2017 was read by title only by President Graham:

“MAKING AND APPROVING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF FOURTEEN THOUSAND, TWO HUNDRED THIRTY EIGHT AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$14,238.00) FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE GENERAL FUND 101 TO VARIOUS GENERAL FUND EXPENSE ACCOUNTS.”

Mr. Bailey introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance 031-2017 and Mr. Stahley 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. 031-2017 and Mr. Stahley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and ORDINANCE NO. 031-2017 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 035-2017 was read by title only by President Graham:

“AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF WHITEHALL TO APPROPRIATE THREE PARCELS TOTALING APPROXIMATELY 1.16 ACRES FROM H. EUGENE FLETCHER, LOCATED AT 61-91 S. HAMILTON ROAD, FOR THE PUBLIC PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING A ROADWAY TO BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC WITHOUT CHARGE.”

RESOLUTION NO. 023-2017 was read by title only by President Graham:

“APPROVING REVISIONS TO THE INVESTMENT POLICY OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.”

FIRST READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 037-2017 was read by title only by President Graham:

“AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING AN APPROPRIATION TRANSFER IN THE AMOUNT OF FIFTY EIGHT THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$58,000.00) FROM THE IT CONTRACT EXPENSE ACCOUNT 101.200.52500 TO THE DIRECTOR OF IT SALARY EXPENSE ACCOUNT 101.200.51600 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.”

Mr. Bailey introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance 037-2017 and Mr. Stahley 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. 037-2017 and Mr. Stahley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative and ORDINANCE NO. 037-2017 was adopted.

POLL PUBLIC

Eugene Fletcher, 213 Woodland Ave. Columbus, Ohio 43203. President Graham said he will let Mr. Fletcher speak again even though he spoke under the first poll public because he feels he didn't understand the rules. Mr. Fletcher said he still doesn't understand the rules. President Graham explained that this is not a question and answer period and if he has any questions for council he can call any of them or talk to them before or after a meeting. Mr. Fletcher said he asked about the plans earlier and Director Woodruff said he didn't have the plans. President Graham reiterated that this is not a question and answer period. Mr. Fletcher said "you are right" and that he is just frustrated. President Graham said he understands.

Ken Euman, 4467 Broadhurst Dr. Mr. Euman said he is president of the Whitehall Tee ball league, but he is not here for that. He stated he went to a Parks and Rec. Meeting and was informed that the restrooms will not be open for them this year because they do not support Tee Ball. He said he has been in the city for 48 years and he doesn't understand why they won't open up a restroom for a citizen of Whitehall. He said Tee Ball is doing fine on their own, he is just asking for the restrooms to be open for the children because the Porta Johns aren't the best in the world. He said they have taken care of these restrooms all these years and they have supported the city and still support the city. He said it makes no sense to him and he is asking council for help. He stated he is hoping the mayor will be showing up for opening day and that everyone has been invited. He said he hopes to see the restrooms opened for them.

COMMUNITY DATE BOARD

Ms. King stated that this Saturday, May 6 is Rebuilding Together Central Ohio in the Glencoe area. They are still looking for volunteers. The shifts are two to three hours long. She said next Saturday they are having "The Whitehall Great American Clean-up" from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Whitehall Community Park. If you volunteer you get a buy one get one free coupon from Chipotle. Mr. Kantor announced that Tuesday through Friday, Whitehall Yearling is hosting the first mid-state league championship in track. Mr. Stahley said that the Tee Ball grand opening is this Saturday at 9:00 a.m.

Events are listed on the City's Website.

POLL COUNCIL

Mr. Bailey thanked everyone for coming and said he was happy to see a lot of new faces. He thanked Mr. Ray for sharing his feelings and told him that a number of people in the room do care and understand. He said they will be there for the Tee Ball opening day and the Glencoe project on Saturday.

Mr. Rodriguez said it is good to see a big crowd and wished everyone to have a good night.

Mr. Gregg said it has been a long time since they have had a good crowd. He wished Tee Ball and the Whitehall clean up good luck.

Ms. Conison thanked everyone for coming out and said she hopes to see everyone in two weeks.

Mr. Kantor thanked everyone for coming out and thanked the three speakers. He thanked Mr. Bivens for the crime statistics because sometimes he gets asked by the public how the crime is in Whitehall. He said he has been telling people for years it is not the citizens of Whitehall that commit the crimes. He stated he will see everyone this Saturday.

Mr. Stahley thanked everyone for coming out. He congratulated the Whitehall Police Department on their second retail blitz. He said they are sending a message out to the surrounding communities that Whitehall is not the place to do crime. This is a very safe place.

Mr. Morrison thanked everyone for coming and said it is a joy to see some of the seats filled. He said he doesn't want people to think that council doesn't pay attention to their concerns because their concerns are Council's concerns.

President Graham thanked everyone for coming out this evening and said it was nice to see some fresh faces. He hopes everyone comes back.

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 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Freimark, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: _____, 2017.

Jim Graham, President of Council