

WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA MEETING MINUTES

AUGUST 15, 2017

Jim Graham, Council President called the August 15, 2017, agenda meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Kantor.

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

President Graham advised that he would like a motion to adjourn to executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 (g)(3). Mr. Bailey so moved and Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion. A roll call was taken and the six present members all voted in the affirmative and the meeting adjourned to executive session at 6:34 p.m.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Freimark, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: _____, 2017.

Jim Graham, Council President

WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES – AUGUST 15, 2017

Council President Jim Graham called the regular meeting of Whitehall City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 15, 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:

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

EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS

Mr. Bailey moved to excuse the absent member and Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, the six present members responded in the affirmative and Mr. Kantor was excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Conison moved to approve the Minutes of the August 1, 2017 agenda and regular meetings. Mr. Mr. Gregg seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, the six present members responded in the affirmative and the Minutes were approved as submitted.

POLL PUBLIC

Katie Quincel, 5047 Doral Ave. She asked for favorable consideration on Resolution No. 045-2017. She stated that adding public trails and parks improve the community.

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 – President Graham reported that they met last week 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 Ordinance No. 071-2017 and Resolution Nos. 044-2017 and 045-2017.

City Attorney Michael Bivens – reported there were 248 cases in Mayor's Court for the month of July; 30 of them were of a criminal nature and were committed by Whitehall residents. He congratulated Ms. Quincel on her years of service for the Whitehall City Schools. He said he loves going to the school because it shows the best that our city has to offer through diversity, religion and culture. He said we all serve the city because we love it and the phrase "Opportunity is here" is what Whitehall is about. He said he is outraged on how hatred can come in to a city and destroy it like what happened in Charlottesville last weekend. He explained these different groups are terrorist organizations and they have no place in our society and our heart. He said you can't legislate what is in a man's heart or mind, but if they come to this city and try to get a permit or coordinate a march he will oppose it in every way. He will not allow organizations to come in and try to change the beauty in the hearts and minds of our city. His heart goes out as a father and a marine and someone that loves our city. He quoted Martin Luther King Jr. and said "Unconditional love and Unarmed truth will have the final word." Lastly he thanked his wife for putting up with him for 19 years.

City Auditor Dan Miller – had no official report. He asked for favorable consideration on Resolution No. 043-2017.

Director of Public Service and Development Zach Woodruff – was not present.

Treasurer Steve Quincel – had no official report. He said last weekend they had a class reunion and he said there were many people commenting on all the positive changes of Whitehall. He said they asked him to give everyone kudos that had to do with the improvements. He said they were really impressed with entering Whitehall from the airport. He said Rick Sandoval from Sandoval Buick had a fundraiser at the High School for the High School and it was busy all day. He said the city has worked with Ricky Sandoval and now he is investing back in the city.

President Graham - advised that the following Officials' Reports have been filed in the Council Office since the last meeting: Auditor's Expense Report for July 2017; Auditor's Bank Report for July 2017; Auditor's Statement of Cash Position for July 2017; Auditor's Revenue Report for July 2017; Treasurer's Investment Report for July 2017; Treasurer's Activity Report for July 2017; and Treasurer's Fund Reconciliation Report for July 2017;

THIRD READING

THERE IS NO LEGISLATION FOR THIRD READING.

SECOND READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 065-2017 was read by title only by President Graham:

“APPROVING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF SIXTY THOUSAND AND NO/DOLLARS (\$60,000.00) FROM THE ACCRUED BENEFIT RESERVE FUND 505 TO THE ACCRUED BENEFIT RESERVE EXPENSE ACCOUNT 505.000.51000 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.”

ORDINANCE NO. 067-2017 was read by title only by President Graham:

Public Hearing on 9/5/17

“AMENDING THE ZONING MAP ATTACHED TO CHAPTER 1122 OF THE 1970 CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL, OHIO AND AS SUBSEQUENTLY AMENDED, ALLOWING A SPECIAL PERMIT UNDER 1123.10(c)(21) TO ALLOW COLUMBUS SUPPLY TO OPERATE A WAREHOUSE AND STORAGE FACILITY ON THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 4409 E. MAIN ST., PROPERTY OWNED BY JJR ENTERPRISES LLC.”

FIRST READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 070-2017 was read by title only by President Graham:

“MAKING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF FIFTY EIGHT THOUSAND, SEVEN HUNDRED SIXTY AND 03/100 DOLLARS (\$58,760.03) FROM THE TAX INCREMENT FINANCING FUND (279) TO VARIOUS EXPENSE ACCOUNTS IN THE 279 FUND AND AUTHORIZING THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE PORTION OF THE TOTAL SERVICE PAYMENTS ATTRIBUTABLE TO EACH TIF TO THE AFFECTED VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT FROM THE TAX INCREMENT FINANCING FUND (279) IN THE AMOUNT EQUAL TO 100% OF THE PROPERTY TAX PAYMENT THE VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT WOULD HAVE RECEIVED OF FIFTY EIGHT THOUSAND, SEVEN HUNDRED SIXTY AND 03/100 DOLLARS (\$58,760.03) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.”

ORDINANCE NO. 071-2017 was read by title only by President Graham:

“AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND AND NO/DOLLARS (\$125,000.00) FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE GENERAL FUND 101 TO THE BOARDING OF PRISONERS EXPENSE ACCOUNT 101.960.59500 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.”

Mr. Bailey introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Ordinance No. 071-2017 and Mr. Morrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, the six present members responded in the affirmative and the rules were suspended.

Mr. Bailey then moved to adopt Ordinance No. 071-2017 and Mr. Morrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, the six present members voted in the affirmative and ORDINANCE NO. 071-2017 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 043-2017 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. 043-2017 and Mr. Stahley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, the six present members responded in the affirmative and the rules were suspended.

Mr. Bailey then moved to adopt Resolution No. 043-2017 and Mr. Stahley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, the six present members voted in the affirmative and RESOLUTION NO. 043-2017 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 044-2017 was read by title only by President Graham:

“AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A FISCAL AGENT AGREEMENT WITH RESTORE REBUILDING BROKEN LIVES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.”

Mr. Bailey introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Resolution No. 044-2017 and Ms. Conison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, the six present members responded in the affirmative and the rules were suspended.

Mr. Bailey then moved to adopt Resolution No. 044-2017 and Ms. Conison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, the six present members voted in the affirmative and RESOLUTION NO. 044-2017 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 045-2017 was read by title only by President Graham:

“SUPPORTING THE 2017 EASTMOOR GREEN LINE, CITY OF COLUMBUS RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.”

Mr. Rodriguez introduced and moved to suspend the rules on Resolution No. 045-2017 and Mr. Bailey seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, the six present members responded in the affirmative and the rules were suspended.

Mr. Rodriguez then moved to adopt Resolution No. 045-2017 and Mr. Bailey seconded the motion. There was no discussion. On a roll call vote, the six present members voted in the affirmative and RESOLUTION NO. 045-2017 was adopted.

POLL PUBLIC

Joy Bivens, 4985 Doral Ave. She said she was at the meeting tonight to share that the events at Charlottesville stirred up something in her heart. She complimented the mayor on being one of the first people she had heard to speak out against hate. She wanted to let everyone know she is going to make it a personal mission to engage as many people as she can with an ethnic background from this community. She said we need to have diverse voices in our community, community settings and community activities. She said she knows how to win a street fight and that is to get out in the street. She is getting in the street and representing the residents that are not sitting in the meetings that we gather in. She said that her and her husband will make it a mission to represent those diverse people. She stated that Whitehall is a very diverse community and there are no hate crimes because we love each other. It is important to show the rest of central Ohio who Whitehall is as it relates to those types of issues.

Alex Maggard, 600 Link Road. He said he has lived in this city for 36 years and he has never spoken in front of council, but what he saw over the weekend disturbed him. He said Attorney Bivens and Joy Bivens are right on target. All races, ethnicity and religions have to stand

together and say clearly we will not stand for this type of bigotry and hatred. It is not what we stand for as a country. He is ashamed that people that look like him are the ones that are leading this effort and he will do everything he can to help stop this hatred. He asked if council would clearly explain where they stand at closing remarks tonight. He said this council represents the most diverse population in the county and maybe the state and he thinks their constituents need to know where they stand.

COMMUNITY DATE BOARD

Ms. Conison stated tomorrow is the first day of school for Whitehall so be extra careful for children.

Mr. Stahley said that September 11 at 6:30 p.m. at the Whitehall Police Department they will be honoring community first responders, veterans and military. The Terry McDowell memorial is August 24 at 6:30.

Events are listed on the City's Website.

POLL COUNCIL

Mr. Bailey thanked everyone for being here tonight. He thanked Attorney Bivens and Treasurer Quincel for their comments. He said to Mr. Maggard that his comments touched him emotionally and he cannot add anything else. He said he is proud to be a member of this community especially when he hears all the comments that were made tonight. He feels it is a pleasure to serve for people that have that kind of commitment to their community. He said he is glad that his wife and he choose to stay and raise their family in Whitehall. He is excited to be able to be a part of all the positive changes. He expressed that what took place over the weekend was horrible and that is not the way a society should behave. We have lost that system of checks and balances and the good people can stand up for themselves.

Mr. Rodriguez said it doesn't know what to say on what we are seeing in this country. He thought that they were better than this and that the country was past this. We can continue to praying for this country and move forward as a country. He said he can't imagine raising kids in the country we live in right now with all this hatred. We just need to take a knee and pray that God comes over this country again. He thanked Mr. Maggard for his comments.

Mr. Gregg thanked everyone for coming. This truly hits emotions. As an educator and teaching with the diversity he has experience hatred. He knows both sides of these people and it is terrible. He has always preached diversity and he has always treated people the way he has wanted to be treated and that is how he supports the American cause. He stated the politics of it is that he feels President Trump is scary and that is all he has to say about that.

Ms. Conison said Happy Anniversary to the Bivens and Happy Anniversary to Katie Quincel on 25 years of service with the schools. She said what is happening in our country has hit her hard emotionally and it is extremely hard to talk about. She said she worries about the hatred that is out there for just having an ethnic last name. She stated that there is so much hatred and bullying in this world and kids can't be kids anymore. She said we need to take a look at gun laws and our government and stand up and persecute. We need to make sure this hatred doesn't come in to our community. She thanked Mr. Maggard for speaking up against hatred.

Mr. Stahley said he feels emotional empty and he is not sure why this hatred has come in to our country. Why do these Americans who claim to be Americans stand by these ideologies that we fought so strongly against. He said he would hate to see children grow up and be afraid of the color of their skin. We need to stand up against a small group of people that bring bigotry and hatred in to our country. He said America is a land of opportunity no matter what your religion, race and sexuality are.

Mr. Morrison said we have a constitution, but we do not have the ability to legislate against stupidity. He said we have to start teaching within our homes and our communities. He thinks the media is keeping it well publicized and that maybe it is getting better. He said this is just a small minority within our country. He enjoys living in this diverse city and thinks we need to stand up and fight to keep the hatred out of our community. He said people need to learn to get a long and respect each other and that starts in the home. He stated if he hears stupid, he addresses stupid, but you can't legislate against stupid. He thanked everyone for sharing their comments. He stated live by example and respect people for who they are.

President Graham said he is proud of being an American. He is not proud of what is going on in the country and it is the first time in his life he is worried about this country. He commented that everyone in the room has something in common. He doesn't consider people that try to put down, take advantage or act violently with another group of people Americans. He is not in agreement with the things that are happening in our country and believes it is troubling times. He said he grew up in a time that the lyrics from music told you how America should be and how people should be. He asked everyone to listen to a song called "Eve and Destruction". He believes the lyrics of this song explain exactly what our country is experiencing. He stated that he is not in favor of everything that is going on in our country, but he is in favor of free speech and free assembly as long as it is lawful.

Auditor Miller said he is a lifetime Whitehall resident and growing up he thought it was normal to be surrounded by diversity. He said the people of Whitehall always come together and he is proud to live here. He stands on the side of right.

Having nothing further, Mr. Bailey moved to adjourn and Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, the six present members responded in the affirmative and the meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Freimark, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: _____, 2017.

Jim Graham, Council President