

WHITEHALL COUNCIL COMMITTEES

MINUTES – April 23, 2024

Council President Potter called the April 23, 2024, Council Committees' meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The following members of the council and the administration were present:

Members of the Administration

Council President Thomas Potter
Mayor Michael T. Bivens
City Attorney Brad Nicodemus
Dir. of Public Service Casey Thomas

Council Members

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

ADMINISTRATION/COUNCIL OF THE WHOLE MATTERS:

Erin Schmerschneider, Director of Sales, and Matt Backiewicz from Worthington Energy and Trebel presented Community Choice Aggregation to the Council and the Administration. Trebel has a proven process to make aggregation simple by providing community education, ballot initiative, usage analysis, strategy development, RFP and contract coordination, governing body approval, and monitoring and management.

Ms. Schmerschneider answered questions from the Councilmembers at this time.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

ORDINANCE NO. 032-2024 DRAFT # 1

AUTHORIZING ADOPTION OF THE MAY 2024 REPLACEMENT PAGES TO THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL.

(Comm. Of the Whole. – 3rd reading – ADOPT 06-04-2024-Morrison/Dixon)

RESOLUTION NO. 012-2024 DRAFT # 2

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND ENTER INTO A WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND (WPCLF) AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL, OHIO FOR PLANNING, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE 2024 SANITARY AND STORM REPLACEMENT PROJECT; AND DESIGNATING A DEDICATED REPAYMENT SOURCE FOR THE LOAN.

Director Casey Thomas said this would be a loan through the Ohio EPA for the 5600 linear feet of sanitary that they are rehabilitating and replacing. The loan is for about 1.1 million dollars and will be paid back with the surcharges they receive from the sanitary. It will be paid back in 30 years.

(Comm. Of the Whole. – 3rd reading – ADOPT 06-04-2024-Brown/Heck)

SECOND READING:

RESOLUTION NO. 011-2024 (Comm. Of the Whole– 3rd reading –ADOPT 05/21/2024-Morrison/Dixon)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE OFFICIAL FLAG FOR THE CITY OF WHITEHALL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

There was discussion on the flag that is flying at the City of Whitehall. Director Casey Thomas will provide the Council a picture of the flag with the colors inverted and brighter.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Councilperson Elmore opened Administration and Financial Management at 7:27 p.m. and addressed the legislation in her committee, as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 033-2024 DRAFT # 3

AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A FUND TRANSFER IN THE AMOUNT OF FORTY FIVE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED FIFTY EIGHT AND 34/100 DOLLARS (\$45,958.34) FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE EVIDENCE SETASIDE FUND (245) TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TRUST FUND (241) AND MAKING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION ON THE AMOUNT OF FORTY FIVE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED FIFTY EIGHT AND 34/100 DOLLARS (\$45,958.34) FROM UNAPPROPRIATED FUNDS IN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TRUST FUND (241) TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TRUST FUND EXPENSE ACCOUNT (241.000.50000) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

The drug seizure money has been through the courts and is settled. These particular cases are partnered with Franklin County and the City of Bexley Police Department. This money needs to be moved to the expense account so that their share can be paid out.

(Adm. & Fin. Mgmt. – 1st reading- SUSP & ADOPT 05-07-2024-Elmore/Morrison)

Having nothing further, Councilperson Elmore closed at 7:29 p.m.

COMMUNITY AND ELDER ADVOCACY

Chairperson Heck opened Community and Elder Advocacy at 7:29 p.m. and said no drafts or pending legislation are on the agenda.

There was no discussion in Community and Elder Advocacy.

Having nothing further, Chairperson Heck closed at 7:30 p.m.

COMMUNITY STANDARDS AND ENFORCEMENT

Chairperson Smith opened Community Standards and Enforcement at 7:30 p.m. and addressed the legislation in her committee, as follows:

THIRD READING:**THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES WILL HAVE PUBLIC HEARINGS ON MAY 21, 2024**ORDINANCE NO. 019-2024 (Comm. Stand & Enf. – 3rd reading – ADOPT 05-21-2024-Smith/Heck)

Referred to Planning Commission for May 2, 2024 Meeting

AMENDING SECTION 1109.04-TITLED “COMMUNITY GARDENS AND URBAN AGRICULTURE” OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING CODE OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 020-2024 (Comm. Stand & Enf. – 3rd reading – ADOPT 05-21-2024-Smith/Morrison)

Referred to Planning Commission for May 2, 2024 Meeting

AMENDING CHAPTER 1113 TITLED “LANDSCAPING” CODE OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL, CODIFIED ORDINANCES BY IMPLEMENTING A LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilperson Dixon had some thoughts on Ordinance 020-2024 before it moved on that he felt he needed to speak on. He read from a statement he had prepared.

City Attorney Nicodemus provided a quick update on the notice of violation that was sent one hundred nineteen times by Code Enforcement. Out of those one hundred nineteen times, only eight received citations. That means the notices worked.

ORDINANCE NO. 022-2024 (*Comm. Stand & Enf. – 3rd reading – ADOPT 05-21-2024-Smith/Dixon*)

Referred to Planning Commission for May 2, 2024 Meeting

AMENDING CHAPTER 1115 TITLED “OUTDOOR LIGHTING” CODE OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL, CODIFIED ORDINANCES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 023-2024 (*Comm. Stand & Enf. – 3rd reading – ADOPT 05-21-2024-Smith/Dixon*)

Referred to Planning Commission for May 2, 2024 Meeting

AMENDING CHAPTER 1111-TITLED “PARKING, LOADING AND DRIVE THRU” “OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING CODE OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 031-2024 (*Comm. Stand & Enf. – 3rd reading – ADOPT 05-21-2024-Smith/Heck*)

Referred to Planning Commission for May 2, 2024 Meeting

MAKING UPDATES TO PART 11 – PLANNING AND ZONING CODE, TITLE 1 THROUGH TITLE 15, OF THE WHITEHALL CODIFIED CODE, TO REPLACE ALL INSTANCES OF “CITY ADMINISTRATOR” TO “DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE” AS OUTLINED IN EXHIBIT A.

Having nothing further, Chairperson Smith closed at 7:39 p.m.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Chairperson Dixon opened Economic Development at 7:39 p.m. and said no drafts or pending legislation are on the agenda.

Chairperson Dixon is awaiting a call back from Director of Development Joe Long.

Having nothing further, Chairperson Dixon closed at 7:40 p.m.

INFRASTRUCTURE, MAINTENANCE AND SERVICE

Chairperson Brown opened Infrastructure, Maintenance, and Service at 7:40 p.m. and said no drafts or pending legislation are on the agenda.

There was no discussion on Infrastructure, Maintenance, and Service.

Having nothing further, Chairperson Brown closed at 7:40 p.m.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Chairperson Morrison opened Public Safety at 7:40 p.m. and said no drafts or pending legislation are on the agenda.

There was no discussion on Public Safety.

Having nothing further, Chairperson Morrison closed at 7:40 p.m.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Chairperson Heck opened Parks and Recreation at 7:41 p.m. and said no drafts or pending legislation are on the agenda.

Chairperson Heck shared the many activities that are happening at the Parks and Recreation Department throughout April and May.

Having nothing further, Chairperson Heck closed at 7:43 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Submitted by:

Julie A. Ogg, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: May 7, 2024

Thomas M. Potter, Council President