

CITY OF WHITEHALL  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
May 27, 2014

PRESENT: Bartholomew, Cabala, Hatch, Holmstrom, Sikkenga, Smith, and Whalen

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: City Attorney Sweeting, City Manager Huebler, City Clerk Bourdon, Police Chief Squiers. City Treasurer Audo.

Mayor Hatch called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

#### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Cabala, seconded by Sikkenga, CARRIED, to approve the agenda. All ayes.

#### PUBLIC HEARING – FISCAL YEAR 2014/2015 BUDGET

Mayor Hatch opened up public hearing for discussion on the fiscal year 2014/2015 budget. City Manager Huebler provided a brief explanation of the budget and highlighted the increase of the millage and changes in the water and sewer rates. After little discussion, there was a Motion by Whalen, seconded by Smith to close the public hearing. All ayes.

#### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion by Whalen, seconded by Holmstrom, CARRIED, to approve the May 13, 2014 minutes and May 20, 2014 budget work session minutes. All ayes.

#### APPROVAL OF THE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motion by Smith, seconded by Bartholomew, CARRIED, to approve the account payables in the amount of \$ 239,557.84 and checks be drawn in their several amounts. Roll Call Vote: Yes - Bartholomew, Smith, Whalen, Cabala, Holmstrom, Sikkenga, and Hatch; No: None; Absent: None.

#### COMMUNICATIONS

MAF Minutes, MML Loss Control Achievement Award, Wastewater Minutes, White Lake Fire Authority Board Updates, White Lake Viewpoint, WMSRDC Newsletter

Council member Whalen congratulated the city on the safety achievement award. Council member Smith suggested we get a photo in the Beacon.

Motion by Whalen, seconded by Bartholomew, CARRIED, that the communications be received and placed on file. All ayes.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE MAYOR, COUNCIL AND CITY MANAGER

Mayor Hatch thanked the attendees of Mayor Exchange in Saline. The mayor shared that it was a delightful day and we were presented with a proclamation and key to the city. He also shared that Saline has a top notch recreational facility and that he looks forward to showing them paradise when they visit in July.

City Manager Huebler explained that the student representatives were unable to attend because they were playing in the soccer districts where they defeated Shelby.

Council member Whalen requested the status of the DEQ letter sent regarding the Ellenwood sediment barrier. It was confirmed by the City Manager that there will be a Public Hearing on the matter on June 4<sup>th</sup>, at 6 pm at Montague City Hall. Whalen also shared he heard both praise and a suggestion on our flag decorations. Montague has an impressive flag display and he wanted to bring it to our attention that our display is unequal.

Mayor Hatch thanked the Whitehall High School band for participating in the Memorial Day parade.

Council member Cabala offered to help with materials for the city-wide garage sale on June 21 and suggested publicizing on the website and Facebook page. She also added as a reminder of the public meeting on June 25 for the delisting of White Lake held at 6:30 pm at the White Lake Community Library.

Council member Holmstrom commented he can add the flag suggestion to the Phase III committee. He also suggested to council to consider drafting an ordinance to address semi-tractor trailers parking in driveways.

Council member Sikkenga suggested that more time be given between the budget work session and the public hearing so there is more time for citizens to become informed. City Manager Huebler added that we could look into that for the next fiscal year.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

#### NEW BUSINESS

A. Cruz'in Parade Request

Motion by Bartholomew, seconded by Smith, CARRIED, to approve the Cruz'in parade as requested for July 25, 2014. All ayes.

B. Resolution 14-09: Budget Adoption

Motion by Whalen, seconded by Holmstrom, CARRIED, to approve Resolution 14-09, adopting the 2014/2015 fiscal year budget. Roll call vote: Yes – Bartholomew, Smith, Whalen, Cabala, Holmstrom, and Hatch; No – Sikkenga; Absent – None.

C. Resolution 14-10: Millage

Motion by Bartholomew, seconded by Whalen, CARRIED, to approve Resolution 14-10, requiring the levy of 15.77 mills to provide for the required revenue from taxes for municipal purposes in the City of Whitehall for fiscal year 2014/2015: Yes – Bartholomew, Smith, Whalen, Cabala, Holmstrom, and Hatch; No – Sikkenga; Absent – None.

D. Resolution 14-11: OPEB

Motion by Bartholomew, seconded by Holmstrom, CARRIED, to approve Resolution 14-11, authorizing execution of the Rehman Robson contract in the amount of \$2,500 for software and training services enabling the city to conduct in-house audits of the Other Post-Employment Benefits program for significantly less money:

Yes – Bartholomew, Smith, Whalen, Cabala, Holmstrom, Sikkenga and Hatch; No – None; Absent – None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Alan Jager, owner of Press's Demolition, announced that he is running for the Michigan House of Representatives, 91<sup>st</sup> District as an independent. He provided his position on less government.

Fifteen students from Montague High School's government classes introduced themselves.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Bartholomew, supported by Smith that the Council meeting be adjourned at 8:00 p.m. All ayes.

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Emery M. Hatch, Mayor

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Brenda Bourdon, City Clerk