

CITY OF WHITEHALL
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 24, 2015

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

ABSENT: Bartholomew

ALSO PRESENT: Student Representative Mikkelson, Student Representative Bishop, City Attorney Sweeting, City Clerk Bourdon, City Manager Huebler, and Police Chief Squiers

Mayor Hatch called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Garden Room.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion by Smith, seconded by Sikkenga, CARRIED, to approve the March 9 meeting minutes. All ayes.

APPROVAL OF THE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motion by Smith, seconded by Whalen, CARRIED, to approve the account payables in the amount of \$120,952.56 and checks be drawn in their several amounts. Roll Call Vote: Yes – Smith, Whalen, Cabala, Holmstrom, Sikkenga and Hatch; No: None; Absent: Bartholomew.

COMMUNICATIONS

Central Dispatch Minutes, Community Center Minutes, Downtown Advisory Minutes, The Muser, Muskegon Area First Minutes, Solid Waste Minutes, Theatre District, Wastewater Minutes, Whitehall Police Annual Report, Who Knew Article

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cathy Russell of the White Swan Inn, Lisa Tallarico and Larry Robertson of the Cocoa Cottage expressed their gratitude for the Slocum Street improvements and requested that consideration be made to include concrete curbs and gutters at the end of Slocum Street at Mears Avenue and Division Street. They also expressed that the city has already invested in the Howmet Playhouse and their hope would be continued investment by including these enhancements during the existing construction project.

City Manager Huebler commented that he had received an estimate of \$33,400 from the engineering firm to include these improvements which would create 20 parking spaces.

MESSAGES FROM THE MAYOR, COUNCIL AND CITY MANAGER

Mayor Hatch announced that Mac is back and he hoped that everyone enjoyed the "Who Knew" article about the "13 Things that Mayor's Won't Tell You."

Student representative Mikkelson announced that several National History Day students are taking their exhibits to state on April 25th.

Motion by Whalen, seconded by Smith, CARRIED to approve Bartholomew's absence for tonight's meeting. All ayes.

Council member Whalen requested to be excused from the April 14th council meeting. Motion by Cabala, seconded by Holmstrom, CARRIED to approve Whalen's April 14th absence.

Council member Cabala welcomed Mayor Hatch back and expressed her enjoyment of the Who Knew article. She also commented that at the next meeting she would like the Solid Waste's additional costs to be brought to council. Whitehall's portion will be \$21,347 for two years. Additionally, she announced that the small business recycling seminar is coming up on March 25th.

Council member Sikkenga commented that the Business Expo at the high school was very well run. He also attended the Muskegon one and said that it was 1/3 of the size of ours and you had to pay \$3. Ours was way better.

Council member Smith asked about any feedback on the MATs bus and hoped that people were taking advantage of the service. City Manager Huebler commented that Amy VanLoon will be working with MATs to help spread awareness of the service.

Police Chief Squiers presented two Citations for Professional Excellence to Officer James Duram for persevering in locating a lost child and for his innovation in finding well-hidden marihuana plants.

Officers Derek Sova and Brandon Parsons received a Citation for Meritorious service for demonstrating calmness and caring in preventing a suicide.

Officer Brandon Parsons received the 2014 Chief's Commendation for leading the department in nearly all performance statistics demonstrating his commitment to our community.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution 15-09 – Roofing Bids

Motion by Whalen, seconded by Holmstrom, CARRIED, to award the roofing bid to Fredricks Company for the low bid amount of \$33,375 and authorizes the necessary budget amendment to provide for funding from the General Fund fund balance.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jake Mosier, 8250 S. 116th Street and Alyssa Adkins, 7851 Mead Street, introduced themselves as students of a Montague government class.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Whalen, supported by Smith that the Council meeting be adjourned at 7:55 p.m. All ayes.

Emery M. Hatch, Mayor

Brenda Bourdon, City Clerk