

CITY OF WHITEHALL
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
July 14, 2015

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

ABSENT: City Manager Huebler

ALSO PRESENT: City Attorney Sweeting, City Clerk Bourdon, Police Chief Squiers, DPW Director Armstrong

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

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Whalen, seconded by Holmstrom, CARRIED, to approve the agenda after striking 10.B Solicitation. All ayes.

COUNCIL APPOINTMENT

Mayor Hatch nominated Steve Salter to fill the council vacancy. Motion by Whalen, seconded by Bartholomew, CARRIED, to appoint Steve Salter who will serve until the next regular election. Roll Call Vote: Yes – Bartholomew, Whalen, Cabala, Holmstrom, Sikkenga, and Hatch; No – None; Absent – None.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion by Sikkenga, seconded by Salter, CARRIED, to approve the June 23 meeting minutes. All ayes.

APPROVAL OF THE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motion by Bartholomew, seconded by Whalen, CARRIED, to approve the account payables in the amount of \$494,735.64 and checks be drawn in their several amounts. Roll Call Vote: Yes – Salter, Whalen, Cabala, Holmstrom, Sikkenga, Bartholomew and Hatch; No – None; Absent – None.

COMMUNICATIONS

Downtown Advisory, Marina Groundwater, Historical Society, Pound Buddies, Senior Center, Thank You, White Lake Environmental Network

Council Member Holmstrom commented on Historical Society's tree planting and requested that we clear out the rest of the junk so that the river can be seen. Mayor Hatch commented that it is being addressed.

Council Member Cabala commented about the good work that Pound Buddies does and would like to consider finding something in the budget this year, if not, consider for next year. Council Member Bartholomew suggested adding this item to the next budget work session. Council Member Cabala also asked how long we will continue to monitor at the Marina. Mayor Hatch informed her that Scott will follow up on that question.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Debi Hillebrand, 324 S. Mears, announced her candidacy for City Council.

MESSAGES FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Council Member Salter announced that while he was saddened by the circumstances that brought him here, he was honored and happy to serve his community.

Mayor Pro Tem Whalen commented that Steve has for many years been on Planning Commission and he is happy to see him on council.

Council Member Cabala announced that Solid Waste has approved a two year plan, but they still have quite a bit of work to do. They will be taking a field trip to help improve recycling practices. Also a member of the Sustainability Network has agreed to do some fundraising to help with those efforts. They have also had discussions with the County about where to put a household hazardous waste collection site on the property; so a lot of good things are happening out there.

Council Member Holmstrom commented that the Transfer Station was full by 3pm which was disappointing. He also asked Chief Squiers regarding any issues with compliance with lawns. Chief reported that DPW mowed on Livingston this week and will get Alice next. They have been out addressing the issues.

Council Member Bartholomew commented that while we are enforcing compliance with residents, we need to do the same for our area – the ones that are tax sales. He appreciates the efforts that are put forth.

Council Member Cabala addressed Council Member Holmstrom's concern regarding the Transfer Station being full. They are looking to address the issues by calling on other facilities.

Council Member Sikkenga commented that it's good to see some of the smaller houses in town getting remodeled.

Mayor Hatch commented that he attended the show at the Howmet Thursday night. It was a very interesting show about a Mayor who embezzled. He was not offended – the embezzler was accused of embezzling 16 million and he knew that could not happen here.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Tax Sales

No action was taken.

B. Solicitation

Removed from agenda – request was rescinded.

C. Resolution 15-15: Police Cruiser Bids

Motion by Holmstrom, seconded by Salter, CARRIED, to approve the purchase of a 2016 Ford Utility Interceptor and the lease of a second 2016 Ford Utility Interceptor from Signature Ford for a total first year cost of \$37,632.15 as a qualifying state purchase. Roll Call Vote: Yes – Cabala, Holmstrom, Sikkenga, Bartholomew, Salter, Whalen, and Hatch; No – None; Absent – None.

D. Resolution 15-16: Playhouse Liquor Sales

Motion by Whalen, seconded by Sikkenga, CARRIED, to grant permission for alcohol to be sold and/or distributed by the Friends of the Playhouse for a fundraising event on August 29, 2015. Roll Call Vote: Yes – Holmstrom, Sikkenga, Bartholomew, Salter, Whalen, Cabala, and Hatch; No – None; Absent – None.

E. Arts Council – Craft Beer Tasting Event

Motion by Cabala, seconded by Salter, CARRIED, to approve the use permit request for the Craft Beer Tasting fundraiser on August 22, 2015 from 4 pm – 8 pm. Roll Call Vote: Yes – Bartholomew, Salter, Whalen, Cabala, Holmstrom, Sikkenga, and Hatch; No – None; Absent – None.

F. Ordinance 15-03: Fireworks

Motion by Whalen, seconded by Bartholomew, CARRIED, to approve ordinance 15-03: an ordinance to amend Chapter 130 entitled “Disorderly Conduct,” by amending section 130.01 (5)(f) and rescinding section 130.01(5)(g)1. Roll Call Vote: Yes – Sikkenga, Bartholomew, Salter, Whalen, Cabala, Holmstrom, and Hatch; No – None; Absent – None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Bartholomew, supported by Holmstrom that the Council meeting be adjourned at 7:57 p.m. All ayes.

Emery M. Hatch, Mayor

Brenda Bourdon, City Clerk