

CITY OF WHITEHALL
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
October 27, 2015

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

ABSENT: Holmstrom

ALSO PRESENT: Student Representative Alexis Snyder, Student Representative Lachlan Moore, City Attorney Sweeting, City Manager Huebler, Police Chief Squiers, DPW Director Armstrong, Treasurer Audo, and City Clerk Bourdon

Mayor Hatch called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Motion by Whalen, seconded by Sikkenga, CARRIED, to excuse absence of Council Member Holmstrom. All ayes.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

SPECIAL PRESENTATION OF FYE 2015 AUDIT

Paul Matz, Senior Manager of Rehmann reviewed the 2015 Fiscal Year audit noting that a clean or unmodified opinion was issued. He also reviewed several financial statements and answered questions regarding the new standard for pension liability.

Moved by Bartholomew, seconded by Salter, CARRIED, to accept the 2015 Fiscal Year audit as presented. Roll Call Vote: Yes – Bartholomew, Salter, Whalen, Cabala, Sikkenga, and Hatch; No – None; Absent – Holmstrom.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion by Sikkenga, seconded by Whalen, CARRIED, to approve the October 13 meeting minutes and closed session minutes. All ayes.

APPROVAL OF THE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motion by Bartholomew, seconded by Sikkenga, CARRIED, to approve the account payables in the amount of \$317,605.82 and checks be drawn in their several amounts.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Central Dispatch, Friends of the Playhouse, Wastewater

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bruce Froelich, 5150 Brookwood Circle, Montague, asked council to provide clarifying guidance to voters on where they stand with the Ambulance Authority for the upcoming election.

MESSAGES FROM THE MAYOR, COUNCIL AND CITY MANAGER

City Manager Huebler recognized the valued service of the outgoing council members by presenting plaques to James Bartholomew and Steve Sikkenga. He also presented a staff picture to Mayor Hatch in recognition of his service to the city.

Council Member Cabala expressed that she thoroughly enjoyed working with the departing council and thanked them for their respected service. She also announced that there will be a presentation on November 5 at 6 pm at Whitehall on the green street and the shoreline habitat project. There will also be a public meeting on Dupont at White River Township.

Student Representative Lachlan Moore announced that the boys' soccer team was playing in the regional semifinals.

Council Member Sikkenga thanked everyone and highlighted some of the improvements he has seen over the years.

Mayor Pro Tem Whalen addressed each departing council member with kind words and thankful praise for their service.

Student Representative Snyder announced that she has been accepted at GVSU.

Council Member Salter thanked all the departing council members for their service.

Council Member Bartholomew expressed that it has been a pleasure serving and that it is a great group to work with. He encouraged the incoming council to listen to the City Manager.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Hanner Sewer Backup

Motion by Bartholomew, seconded by Cabala, CARRIED, to approve reimbursement to Mr. John Hanner in the amount of \$5,411.01 for damages from sewer backup. Roll Call Vote: Yes – Whalen, Cabala, Sikkenga, Bartholomew, and Hatch; No – Salter; Absent – Holmstrom.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution 15-24 White Lake Ambulance Authority

Motion by Cabala, seconded by Whalen, CARRIED, to approve the Second Amended Restated Articles of Incorporation of the White Lake Ambulance Authority pursuant to MCL 124.602 and MCL 124.603. Roll Call Vote: Yes – Whalen, Cabala, Sikkenga, Bartholomew, Salter and Hatch; No – None; Absent – Holmstrom.

B. Resolution 15-25 Non-Discrimination Plan

Motion by Whalen, seconded by Bartholomew, CARRIED, to adopt the City of Whitehall Title VI Non-discrimination Plan and authorize its execution. Roll Call Vote: Yes – Cabala, Sikkenga, Bartholomew, Salter, Whalen and Hatch; No – None; Absent – Holmstrom.

C. Chickens

Motion by Sikkenga, seconded by Cabala, REJECTED, to approve ordinance 91-04 allowing up to 4 chickens in the city with conditions. Roll Call Vote: Yes – Sikkenga, Cabala; No – Bartholomew, Salter, Whalen and Hatch; Absent – Holmstrom.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Six students from Montague High School's government class attended for assignment credit.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Bartholomew, supported by Whalen that the Council meeting be adjourned at 6:53 p.m. All ayes.

Emery M. Hatch, Mayor

Brenda Bourdon, City Clerk