

CITY OF WHITEHALL
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
October 25, 2016

PRESENT: Tanya Cabala, Dick Connell, Ellie Dennis, Debi Hillebrand, Jeff Holmstrom, Steve Salter, and Edward Whalen

ABSENT: None

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

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

City Clerk Bourdon administered oaths of office for the new Student Representatives, Hanna Evans and Julie Brown.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Cabala, seconded by Salter, CARRIED, to approve the amended agenda. All yeses.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION – 2016 FYE Audit

Paul Matz, Senior Manager of Rehmann reviewed the 2016 Fiscal Year audit noting that a clean or unmodified opinion was issued. Paul also provided highlights of several financial statements.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION – Howmet Playhouse Capital Campaign Update

Frank Bednarek provided a capital campaign update noting that the process has been underway for five years. He shared the good news that \$1.3M in pledges have already been received of the \$3.6M goal. One hundred percent of support has been received from the Friends of the Playhouse and the Friends are looking for a financial commitment from the City.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion by Salter, seconded by Dennis, CARRIED, to approve the October 11th council meeting minutes and closed session minutes. All yeses.

APPROVAL OF THE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motion by Salter, seconded by Cabala, CARRIED, to approve the account payables in the amount of \$553,553.15 and checks to be drawn in their several amounts.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Salter, Cabala, Dennis, Holmstrom, Connell, Hillebrand, and Whalen; No – None; Absent – None.

COMMUNICATIONS

Brownfield, Boards & Committees Summary, Central Dispatch, LDFA, Ragnar Thank You, TIFA, Wastewater

Motion by Hillebrand, seconded by Salter, CARRIED, that the communications be received and placed on file. All yeses.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Traffic Control Order 213

Motion by Holmstrom, seconded by Hillebrand, CARRIED, to approve Traffic Control Order 213 to change the speed limit to 30 mph on Warner Street between Alice Street and Benston Road.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Holmstrom, Hillebrand, Cabala, Dennis, Salter, Connell, and Whalen; No – None; Absent – None.

B. Traffic Control Order 214

Motion by Salter, seconded by Holmstrom, CARRIED, to approve Traffic Control Order 214 to change speed limit to 30 mph on Peach Street between Lewis Street and Benston Road.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Holmstrom, Dennis, Cabala, Salter, Hillebrand, Connell, and Whalen; No – None; Absent – None.

C. Trail Closure

Motion by Cabala, seconded by Salter, CARRIED, to approve the closure of the White Lake Pathway from Library to Warner on November 1st from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. All yeses.

D. Resolution 16-35 Tree Planting Bid

Motion by Cabala, seconded by Holmstrom, CARRIED, to award the 2016 Tree Planting bid to Montague Tree Farms for the low qualified bid of \$1,520.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Cabala, Holmstrom, Hillebrand, Dennis, Connell, Salter, and Whalen; No – None; Absent – None.

E. Playhouse Capital Campaign

Motion by Salter, seconded by Dennis, CARRIED, to commit to funding up to \$550,000 for the Howmet Playhouse Renovation project over the next ten fiscal years subject to an annual legislative appropriation.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Salter, Dennis, Cabala, Hillebrand, Connell, and Whalen; No – None; Absent – None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Several students from Montague High school introduced themselves to fulfill class assignment.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Dennis, seconded by Holmstrom, CARRIED, to move into closed session to discuss pending litigation.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Dennis, Holmstrom, Cabala, Hillebrand, Connell, Salter and Whalen; No – None; Absent – None.

Motion by Dennis, seconded by Salter, CARRIED, to move from closed session. All yeses.

Motion by Salter, seconded by Holmstrom, CARRIED, to authorize the City Attorney to entertain settlement discussions within parameters. All yeses.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Hillebrand, supported by Salter, CARRIED, that the Council meeting be adjourned at 8:05 p.m. All yeses.

Edward L. Whalen, Mayor

Brenda Bourdon, City Clerk