

**CITY OF WHITEHALL
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
February 14, 2017
5:00 p.m.**

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 5:00 p.m. in the Garden Room.

Discussion Items

A. Curb Side Junk Removal

Downtown advisory requested that Council reinstate the curb side junk removal program. City Manager Huebler provided background information including cost of the past curb-side pickup program in addition to information on our Transfer Station Pride week participation. Questions were raised on current pricing of such a program and ideal timing.

B. Recreation Authority

City Manager Huebler provided information on the formation of a county-wide recreation authority. The City's committee representative, Greg Hillebrand, commented on the authority's stated purpose, admitted that there is still confusion and will gather more information to gain focus on their purpose.

C. DNR Grant

Applications for an MDNR grant are due April 1 which requires a 25% match Parks & Recreation. Ideas for grant submission were discussed such as Kayak launch at Svensson Park, playground equipment at Gee Park and public art.

D. Community Pool

City Manager Huebler provided background on the Community Pool proposal that will appear on the May 2nd ballot. Attorney Sweeting provided information on what you can and cannot do in support of any proposal.

E. Other

Public Comment

Ryan Briegel spoke in support of a curb-side junk removal program.

Meeting Adjourned at 6 pm.

Edward Whalen, Mayor

Brenda Bourdon, City Clerk

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COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
February 14, 2017

PRESENT: Tanya Cabala, Dick Connell, Eleanor 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, and Student Representatives Evans and Brown

Mayor Whalen called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion by Salter, seconded by Hillebrand, CARRIED, to approve the January 24th council meeting minutes. All yeses.

APPROVAL OF THE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motion by Salter, seconded by Dennis, CARRIED, to approve the account payables in the amount of \$440,103.40 and checks to be drawn in their several amounts.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Planning Commission, Thank You Note, WLFA Annual Report

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution 17-05 Poverty Exemption

Motion by Holmstrom, seconded by Dennis, CARRIED, to adopt the poverty exemption policies and guidelines for the City of Whitehall as presented.

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

B. Resolution 17-06 Residents Right to Protest

Motion by Dennis, seconded by Hillebrand, CARRIED, to resolve that the Board of Review shall permit both resident and non-resident taxpayers to protest to the Board of Review in writing, without the necessity of personal appearance by the taxpayer or the taxpayer's representative, provided such written protest is received on or before the second Tuesday in March of the tax year at issue.

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

C. Resolution 17-07 Board of Review

Motion by Salter, seconded by Hillebrand, CARRIED, to establish the 2017 Board of Review dates as Wednesday, March 15th from 1 pm – 4 pm and 6 pm – 9 pm, and Thursday, March 16th from 9 am – 12 pm and 1 pm – 4 pm.

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

D. Resolution 17-08 Alcohol Sales Request

Motion by Hillebrand, seconded by Salter, CARRIED, to approve alcohol sales at the Playhouse for fundraising events scheduled on March 15th, Teada in Concert; April 18th, Bookends; May 5th, Scotland's Tannahill Weavers; June 30th, The Gordon Lightfoot Tribute.

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

E. Misco Drive Reconstruction

Motion by Holmstrom, seconded by Dennis, CARRIED, to approve payment of an additional \$6,500 to cover additional work required for the Misco Drive Reconstruction.

City Manager Huebler provided background on why additional charges were incurred – unexpected complications, which is common in construction projects. Request was made to capture half of that expense from Arconic.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Cabala, supported by Hillebrand, CARRIED, that the Council meeting be adjourned at 6:50 p.m. All yeses.

Edward Whalen, Mayor

Brenda Bourdon, City Clerk