

CITY OF WHITEHALL
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
March 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, City Clerk Bourdon

Mayor Whalen called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Garden Room.

1. Discussion Items

A. Recreation Grants

City Manager explained that items in the Master Plan can be submitted for grants; but items not listed in the master plan cannot be submitted. A suggestion was made to fix current basketball courts rather than build new. Public art was discussed using a thoughtful approach in placement and creating accessible kayak launches.

B. Rental Inspections

City manager discussed regulation approaches that the Council could adopt for rental inspections: National Property Maintenance Code covering a wide range of standards or just basic health and safety items such as working smoke detectors and clear exits. Inspections can be done in house, possibly partnering with Montague; contracting with the Fire Authority; or contracting with Muskegon Township who currently does so for two other cities. Once council member questioned rationale on just focusing on rentals and not homeowners as well.

C. Bike Share Program

Council member Holmstrom presented information on a bike share program from Dynamic Bicycles where riders download an app and are able to rent a bike.

D. Industrial Park Zoning

Didn't address due to time.

E. Goals

Didn't address due to time.

F. Other

City Manager informed council of the recent decision by County Clerk Waters on Election Equipment choosing the local clerks' third choice of the three, Hart InterCivic.

2. Public Comment

Gary Jasick questioned council on what is behind their motivation in implementing rental inspections and expressed that his rentals are typically the best houses on the street. He encouraged them to be equitable in treatment of enforcing standards with homeowners and renters alike.

3. Meeting Adjourned at 6 pm

CITY OF WHITEHALL
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 14, 2017

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

ABSENT: Student Representatives Evans and Brown

ALSO PRESENT: City Attorney Sweeting, City Manager Huebler, and City Clerk Bourdon

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

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Frank Bednarek, Friends of the Playhouse, provided an update on the Capital Campaign. They have raised \$2.275M to date and are hopeful that they will meet their goal by the July 10th conclusion of the campaign. In addition to the donations, the group also has 4-5 grants pending.

APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL MINUTES

Motion by Salter, seconded by Holmstrom, CARRIED, to approve the February 28th council meeting minutes. All yeses.

APPROVAL OF THE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motion by Salter, seconded by Hillebrand, CARRIED, to approve the account payables in the amount of \$182,922.60 and checks to be drawn in their several amounts.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Planning Commission

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

MESSAGES FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor Whalen introduced the newest employees: Brook Kelley, Administrative Assistant and Julie Schultz, DPW Office Coordinator.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution 17-14 Phase III Bids

Motion by Holmstrom, seconded by Dennis to award the 2017 Downtown Phase III Project to Kamminga and Roodvoets (K&R) for the low bid of \$1,012,524 and the crosswalk stamping to Gerken Paving for the quoted price of \$62,750.15 and further authorizes the City Manager and City Clerk to execute all necessary contractual documents.

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

B. Resolution 17-15 Phase III Engineering

Motion by Holmstrom, seconded by Salter, CARRIED, to approve the professional services agreement from Prein & Newhof for an amount not to exceed \$106,500 for construction management of Phase III.

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

C. Resolution 17-16 Lot Split

Motion by Salter, seconded by Hillebrand, CARRIED, to approve the lot split request for property located at 310 Main Street (Bloomberg parcel).

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

D. Resolution 17-17 Electronic Payments

Motion by Hillebrand, seconded by Connell, CARRIED, to authorize the Finance Officer to execute the E-Payment Services Agreement as presented.

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

E. Resolution 17-18 Public Street Improvements

Motion by Connell, seconded by Dennis, CARRIED, to approve the Prein & Newhof professional services agreement for an amount not to exceed \$31,300 for engineering services and construction management for the Sophia street improvements.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Five students from Montague introduced themselves for their government class assignment.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Salter, supported by Hillebrand, CARRIED, that the Council meeting be adjourned at 6:47 p.m. All yeses.

Edward Whalen, Mayor

Brenda Bourdon, City Clerk