

CITY OF WHITEHALL  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
March 28, 2017

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

ABSENT: Student Representative Evans

ALSO PRESENT: City Attorney Sweeting, City Manager Huebler, and Deputy City Clerk Seaver

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 Holmstrom, CARRIED, to approve the agenda. All yeses.

#### PUBLIC HEARING – GRANT APPLICATION

Mayor Whalen opened the public hearing for the grant application at 6:02 p.m. With no comments from the public, the hearing was closed at 6:12 p.m. City Manager Huebler provided information on the grant application. Three different city locations were considered. The state does require size minimums when awarding grants and the city may not qualify. Items being considered for the grant include: recycling stations, recycled materials, etc.

#### APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL MINUTES

Motion by Salter, seconded by Hillebrand, CARRIED, to approve the March 14<sup>th</sup> work session and council meeting minutes. All yeses.

#### APPROVAL OF THE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motion by Salter, seconded by Connell, CARRIED, to approve the account payables in the amount of \$188,642.47 and checks to be drawn in their several amounts.

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

## COMMUNICATIONS

Annual Police Report, Arconic Letter, MAF Minutes, MAF President's Report, MDOT Fast Facts, Wastewater, WDS Letter

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

City Manager Huebler advised on the MDOT pre-construction meeting held today and that all is ready for the exception of one utility company who is still reviewing the plans. Road closures should begin next Tuesday, Wednesday at the latest and continue until June 19<sup>th</sup>. Signage has been made to direct traffic for local businesses either to the north or south, which should eliminate any thru traffic issues during construction.

Mayor Whalen noted he was very pleased with the signage.

Council Member Connell and Mayor Pro Tem Salter advised on a positive experience at the recent Capital Conference they had attended.

Council Member Hillebrand expressed her appreciation for the signage for the downtown businesses.

Student Representative Evans provided an update on the schools from reading, suicide prevention, and upcoming performance.

Council Member Holmstrom advised on the importance of restoring the community garden.

Council Member Cabala will be applying for funds for improvement to environmental website.

Council Member Dennis advised on the creation of a green space on Mears Ave.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution 17-19 Grant Application

Motion by Salter, seconded by Hillebrand to authorize submission of a Recreation Passport Grant Program Application for \$37,000, and further resolves to make available its financial obligation amount of \$25,000 (40%) of a total \$62,000 project cost, during the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jennifer Hain residing at 919 S. Mears Ave. expressed concerns over a possible green space on Mears Ave., as it could create issues with freight deliveries to local businesses. The Hain's own and operate Fetch Brewery and mentioned that they do receive frequent deliveries for operations.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Hillebrand, supported by Salter, CARRIED, that the Council meeting be adjourned at 6:45 p.m. All yeses.

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Edward Whalen, Mayor

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Alyssa Seaver, Deputy City Clerk