

CITY OF WHITEHALL
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
Garden Room
August 10, 2021
5:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Scott Brown, Dick Connell, Virginia DeMumbrum, Ellie Dennis, Debi Hillebrand, Sean Mullally, and Steve Salter

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Scott Huebler, Laurie Audo, Brenda Bourdon, Roger Squiers, and Will Meier.

Mayor Hillebrand called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Tannery Bay Update – Postponed: Mick McGraw was unavailable.

Real Estate Transactions – City Manager Huebler explained that we don't sell property very often so it would be best to wait until we have a parcel to sell, and then get proposals from realtors.

Nepotism Policy – Council Member Brown explained that he wasn't comfortable with any Playhouse Manager being able to hire family and set what they pay. Council Members Dennis and DeMumbrum pointed out that there are checks and balances in place that prevent inflated pay. The City Manager and Treasurer also explained that positions are set with pay ranges. Council Member Mullally felt that a nepotism policy is not necessary. Council Member Salter stated that we have a great staff and sees no reason to add a nepotism policy.

Enterprise Budgeting – City Treasurer Audo provided an explanation on the enterprise funds which are run like a business. Each individual fund (Playhouse, Marina, Water/Sewer) generates revenues to cover expenses. Dennis sought to clarify the significance of voting "no" on bill approval. Audo explained that the council has oversight of the entire budget which includes the enterprise funds. For any proposed spending not covered by the approved budget, staff would bring a budget amendment to council for approval.

Climate Action Council – Council Members Mullally and DeMumbrum reviewed the process the committee took in creating the climate action resolution. Council Member Dennis stated that it was good to see all the things we've already done listed in the resolution. Mayor Hillebrand thanked the committee for the work they put into it. Council Member Salter raised concern that staff was not equipped with the expertise and time to succeed. Council Member DeMumbrum stated that there are free resources available to provide help.

Social Districts – City Attorney Meier explained the process to move forward if at least two of three establishments were interested in establishing a social district. Consensus was to have City Manager Huebler reach out to Pub 111, Mylan's, and Fetch to determine interest.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Tom Clock commented on the condition of sidewalks.

Tracy Dobson, Tamara Horne, Dave Fredericks, Mary Valentine, and Lori Coleman commented on the importance of the climate action resolution and committing to action.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:07 P.M.

Debra Hillebrand, Mayor

Brenda Bourdon, City Clerk

DRAFT

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ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Scott Huebler, Laurie Audo, Brenda Bourdon, Roger Squiers, and Will Meier

Mayor Hillebrand called the meeting to order at 6:11 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

- A. July 27, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes
- B. Accounts Payable - \$282,641.72
- C. Communications: Planning Commission Minutes, Playhouse Statements

Motion by Connell, seconded by DeMumbrum, CARRIED, to approve the Consent Agenda.
Yes – 6; No – 1, Brown; Absent – 0

MESSAGES FROM THE MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND CITY MANAGER

Comments were received from Council.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution 21-19 Zone Change Request

Motion by Dennis, seconded by DeMumbrum, CARRIED, to grant the request by the Planning Commission to rezone Parcels 22-220-017-0001-00 and 22-220-017-0016-00 from Lakefront Recreation to Central Business.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Dennis, DeMumbrum, Mullally, Salter, Brown, Connell, and Hillebrand;
No – None, Absent – None

B. Resolution 21-20 Budget Amendment #1

Motion by Salter, seconded by Brown, CARRIED, to approve an amendment to the TIFA budget allocating \$35,000 for the splash pad, \$45,000 for the Chamber parking lot, and \$62,000 for the pier repairs and approve a change order to the North Mears Parking Lot project to add the Chamber Parking as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Salter, Brown, Connell, Dennis, DeMumbrum, Mullally, and Hillebrand;
No – None, Absent – None

An amendment was moved by DeMumbrum, supported by Mullally, to include the \$10,000 grant from the White Lake Wanderland designated for the Splash Pad which would reduce the \$35,000 from TIFA to \$25,000. Council felt more comfortable leaving the amount as stated, so the motion failed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS ATTORNEY'S WRITTEN LEGAL MEMORANDUM

Motion by Dennis, seconded by Salter, CARRIED, to move into closed session to discuss the attorney's written legal memorandum.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Dennis, Salter, Brown, Connell, DeMumbrum, Mullally, and Hillebrand;
No – None, Absent – None

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Hillebrand adjourned the Council Meeting at 7:13 pm.

Debra Hillebrand, Mayor

Brenda Bourdon, City Clerk