

CITY OF WHITEHALL
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
City Council Chambers
August 24, 2021

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

ABSENT: Steve Salter

ALSO PRESENT: Brenda Bourdon, Roger Squiers, and Will Meier.

Mayor Hillebrand called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

- A. August 10, 2021 Work Session Minutes and Council Meeting Minutes
- B. Accounts Payable - \$553,101.88
- C. Communications: Central Dispatch Proposed Budget, Central Dispatch Minutes, Dalton Township Public Hearing Notice, Wastewater Minutes

Motion by Connell, seconded by Mullally, CARRIED, to approve the Consent Agenda. Yes – 5; No – 1, Brown; Absent – 1, Salter

MESSAGES FROM THE MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND CITY MANAGER

Motion by DeMumbrum, seconded Brown, CARRIED, to excuse Steve Salter from tonight's meeting and Virginia DeMumbrum from the September 14th Work Session and Council Meeting. All yeses

Council Member Brown thanked DPW for great job on Baldwin St. bridge.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tamara Horne and Violet Renna spoke on the Climate Emergency resolution.

Frank Hollister spoke on the lack of accessibility at local businesses.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution 21-21 Climate Emergency

Motion by DeMumbrum, seconded by Mullally, CARRIED, to declare that a climate and ecological emergency threatens all of humanity and our natural world and as such the City commits to a citywide effort to eliminate the City's greenhouse gas emissions by 2040; to implement additional projects to decrease carbon levels in the atmosphere; directs the City Manager to submit a report, within 180 days after adoption of the resolution, on greenhouse gas emissions that can be feasibly reduced by the end of 2022, by the end of 2030, and by the end of 2040; develop a Climate Mobilization Action Plan that engages public input; integrate the objectives of the Action Plan with each fiscal year budget; and directs the City Manager to develop a report on opportunities within ordinances and the

Comprehensive Master Plan to implement policies and ordinances to address climate change and ecological impacts, including activities that prioritize decreasing the use of fossil fuel and increasing the use of land in ways that are adapted to climate change. The Whitehall City Council calls upon all residents and businesses within the City, State of Michigan, the United States of America, President Joe Biden, and all governments and people worldwide to join us and declare a climate emergency, initiate a climate mobilization to reverse global warming and the ecological crisis, and to provide maximum protection for all people and species of the world.

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

B. Resolution 21-22 Utility Rates

Motion by Connell, seconded by Brown, CARRIED, to set the sewer rate at \$5.72 per 1,000 gallons; the water rate at \$2.45 per 1,000 gallons; and the non-metered sewer only quarterly charge at \$120.12 effective January 1, 2022.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Council Member Dennis addressed Mr. Hollister pointing out the actions the City has taken to address accessibility concerns.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Hillebrand adjourned the Council Meeting at 6:14 pm.

Debra Hillebrand, Mayor

Brenda Bourdon, City Clerk