

CITY OF WHITEHALL
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
Garden Room
September 13, 2022
5:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Scott Brown, Dick Connell, Keith Heidelberg, Sean Mullally, Stephen Sikkenga, and Steve Salter

ABSENT: Jeff Holmstrom

ALSO PRESENT: Scott Huebler, Will Meier, Brook Schiller, and Roger Squiers

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Food Vendors – City Manager Huebler asked Council for direction to move forward on the topic of more regulation on food vendors within the city. Council Member Brown would like to ban vendors from parking on Colby Street and felt that other cities are more stringent on regulation. City Manager Huebler commented that vendors are required to provide a valid food license and have an inspection by the WLFA prior to receiving permit approval. All other Council Members are satisfied with the current regulations and feel as vendors provide added attraction and choice within the city.

Sidewalks – Council Member Heidelberg inquired as to the current status of a sidewalk improvement plan. Mayor Salter reported that he has begun a sidewalk survey with the help of Brian Armstrong to report any issues starting on Mears Avenue and working from major to local streets. Discussion was had over the use of possible special assessments in the future to cover any costs above what the city has budgeted. City Manager Huebler will look into what other communities do to cover costs.

Bike Trail – Mayor Salter asked that the city look into repaving and root control along the bike path from the bridge to the Chamber of Commerce.

Fire Pit – Council Member Sikkenga requested an update on the control button for the fire pit located in the North Mears Promenade. City Manager Huebler reported that the part has been ordered, received, and is waiting installation by an electrician. The button will allow the public to turn the fire pit on at the push of a button for an allotted amount of time set by the city, saving on natural gas costs.

Public Access at Tannery Bay – Council Member Brown requested an update on the public access at the Tannery Bay development. City Manager Huebler reported that nothing has yet been finalized but Mr. McGraw and MCD are working on plans. Phase 3 is tentatively set for completion by December 2023 and should include the public access as part of completion.

Parmenter Grass Ordinance Memo – Council Member Connell noted that Whitehall is in line with other municipalities on the grass ordinances. Council Member Brown discussed the posting of the Ordinance publicly in the spring in order to cut out communication requirements on a case-by-case basis and allow the city or a hired contractor to remedy violations and bill owners through special assessment.

Energy Audit – Council Member Heidelberg commented on the recent presentation by Terry Stoklosa of ABM and felt it was not comprehensive in exactly how it will reduce costs to and improve environmentally friendly solutions for future energy use. City Manager Huebler explained the process of accepting or rejecting the Master Development Agreement and that more clarifications on costs have been requested.

PUBLIC COMMENT – County Commissioner Cyr provided documentation on the Muskegon County 2023 budget as well as a fact sheet for Septic System Awareness Week.

Lillian Morningstar requested more information on the timeline for construction completion on her street.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:50 P.M.

Steven Salter, Mayor

Brook Schiller, Deputy City Clerk

CITY OF WHITEHALL
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Council Chambers
September 13, 2022

PRESENT: Scott Brown, Dick Connell, Keith Heidelberg, Jeff Holmstrom, Sean Mullally, Steve Salter, and Steve Sikkenga

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Scott Huebler, Will Meier, Brook Schiller, and Roger Squiers

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

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the August 23 Council Meeting Minutes
- B. Accounts Payable - \$855,725.53
- C. Communications: Parmenter Grass Ordinance Memo

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

MESSAGES FROM THE MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND CITY MANAGER

Comments were received from the Mayor and Council.

Motion by Connell, seconded by Holmstrom, CARRIED, to designate Mayor Salter as Delegate and City Manager Huebler as Alternate for the MML Convention in Muskegon. All yeses

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tamara Horne presented information on the Electronics Recycling event taking place at Montague Farmer's Market September 24th sponsored by WLACAC & Goodwill.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Resolution 22-43 Broadband Survey

Motion by Sikkenga, seconded by Mullally, CARRIED, to open discussion on the GMED coordination of a broadband study for expansion and upgrades of internet services throughout the county.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – None; No – Sikkenga, Mullally, Holmstrom, Brown, Connell, Heidelberg, and Salter; Absent – None

B. Resolution 22-44 Capital Improvements

Motion by Sikkenga, seconded by Heidelberg, CARRIED, to acquire needed construction materials for replacement of Mears Avenue water main in advance of the construction start date to allow for lead time in shipment and lower costs.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Sikkenga, Heidelberg, Holmstrom, Brown, Mullally, Connell, and Salter;
No – None; Absent – None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Students Maddie Peterson & Ava Pellen from Mr. Brunson's Government class at Montague High School provided comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Salter adjourned the Council Meeting at 6:19 pm.

Steven Salter, Mayor

Brook Schiller, Deputy City Clerk