



WHITEHALL

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

July 23, 2024

PRESENT Scott Brown, Tanya Cabala, Debra Hillebrand, Steve Salter, Steve Sikkenga and Tom Ziemer

ABSENT Jeff Holmstrom

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

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

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Cabala, seconded by Sikkenga to approve the agenda.

Voice Vote: All yeses

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the July 9, 2024 Council Meeting Minutes
- B. Accounts Payable - \$698,707.44
- C. Communications: BLT Minutes, Byam Letter, Miller Letter, Gonzalez-Landis Letter, Central Dispatch Minutes

Motion by Sikkenga, seconded by Hillebrand to approve the Consent Agenda.

Voice Vote: Yes – 6; No – 0; Absent – Holmstrom

MOTION CARRIED

MESSAGES FROM THE MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND CITY MANAGER

Council Member Cabala reported on the Senior Advisory Meeting held Monday, July 22, 2024.

Council Member Hillebrand formally called for the resignation of Mayor Salter.

Hillebrand brought a motion to the floor to censure Mayor Salter, seconded by Ziemer.

Ziemer asked that public comments be heard prior to voting on the motion.

Hillebrand motioned to table the previous motion to censure Mayor Salter until after public comments were heard, Ziemer seconded.

Voice Vote: Yes – 5; No – 0; Non-vote – 1 (Salter); Absent – Holmstrom

MOTION CARRIED

Council Member Ziemer reported on the Walk the Beat event, his conversation about the wind storm with the Muskegon County Emergency Operations director, Renee Gavin, and called for the resignation of Mayor Salter.

Council Member Brown read a statement calling for the resignation of Mayor Salter.

Council Member Sikkenga complimented City departments on the storm clean up.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark Nienhouse voiced his displeasure at the construction methods being used on Warner Street.

Tom Lohman spoke about the White Lake Fireworks Committee and asked for the public to consider joining the committee and helping to fund the 2025 and 2026 fireworks displays.

Kendrah Robinson introduced herself as a candidate running in November for Probate Judge in Muskegon County and thanked Mayor Salter for attending her meet and greet event at Goodrich Park earlier this month.

Kevin Goff commented on the success of the Walk the Beat White Lake event over the weekend and asked for residents to join the committee to help plan for 2025.

Kim Hardy and David Hosticka called for the resignation of Mayor Salter.

Comments and letters were heard in favor of Mayor Salter from Heather Dean, Sandra Dial, Kyle Burnett, Kathleen Quinn, Charles Yeoman, Rick Dial, Kathryn Burnett, Heather O'Connell, Maggie & Gregory Maxey, Reagan Osborn, Karel Schram, Creed McPherson, Laura Abramson, Eric Harsch, Mike Byam, Dana Parker, Richard Sheilds, Dave & Pam Osborn, William S Miller, Rusty McBride, Debbie Williams, Mark VanDevelde, Kathy & Tom Nielsen, John Hansen, Joe Brightwell, and Cheryl Lohman.

Council Member Hillebrand asked for permission to take the floor and thanked everyone for their comments and sincerity. She then withdrew the tabled motion to vote to censure Mayor Salter; the motion was seconded by Ziemer.

Voice Vote: Yes – 5; No – 0; Non-vote – 1 (Salter); Absent – Holmstrom

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Designation of MML Voting Delegates

Motion by Sikkenga, seconded by Brown to approve Council Member Hillebrand as Delegate and Council Member Cabala as Alternate to attend the MML Annual Meeting in September as representatives of the City.

B. White Lake Library – Street Closure Request

Motion by Hillebrand, seconded by Sikkenga to approve closing Slocum Street between Mears Ave and First Street for the Longest Table event in September.

Voice Vote: Yes – 6; No – 0; Absent – Holmstrom

MOTION CARRIED

C. Resolution 24-25 – Appointments Policy

Motion by Brown, seconded by Hillebrand to approve the City of Whitehall Appointments Policy as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Brown, Hillebrand, Sikkenga, and Ziemer; No – Salter; Absent – Holmstrom

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT

Comments were heard from Eric Harsch in favor of Mayor Salter.

John Hansen commented about his tax payment.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Salter adjourned the Council Meeting at 7:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Brook L. Schiller, Deputy City Clerk