



**WHITEHALL
CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES**

Council Chambers
October 14, 2025

PRESENT Tanya Cabala, Debi Hillebrand, Jeff Holmstrom, Stephen Sikkenga, Steve Salter, and Tom Ziemer

ABSENT Scott Brown (excused)

ALSO PRESENT Brenda Bourdon, Dan Tavernier, Will Meier

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Funds for Lift Station Project

City Manager Tavernier explained the background of the resolution under consideration, noting that in order to submit the lift station grant application, the City's cost share must be available and unencumbered. Approval of the resolution will satisfy this requirement and be included as part of the application.

Bond Consideration

City Manager Tavernier presented the concept of issuing a bond to fund capital projects, including high-priority needs and street improvements, with a potential total cost of up to \$8 million. The estimated repayment would be approximately \$961,000 per year over 10 years. While the City has historically avoided borrowing, the City Manager noted that construction costs are increasing at a faster rate than interest rates, decreasing the City's purchasing power.

West Colby Promenade

City Manager Tavernier provided background on the resolution regarding the West Colby Promenade project, noting that Clifford Buck Construction submitted the lowest bid at \$1.4 million. With \$705,000 budgeted in the 2025–2026 fiscal year, the project would either need to span multiple fiscal years or have certain components removed to stay within budget. Holmstrom noted that he did not want to remove components from the project and Hillebrand asked where the funds would come from.

Public Access Tannery Bay

City Manager Tavernier reported that the BLT Committee visited the public access property near Tannery Bay and determined that no improvements were necessary at this time. However, a few council members expressed dissatisfaction with the property's designation as public access. The City Manager stated that he would reach out to Eastbrook Homes.

Informational Items

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was received.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Salter adjourned the work session at 5:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Bourdon, City Clerk

DRAFT



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ABSENT Scott Brown (excused)

ALSO PRESENT Brenda Bourdon, Dan Tavernier, Will Meier

Mayor Salter called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AMENDED AGENDA

Motion by Holmstrom, seconded by Sikkenga to approve the amended agenda.

Voice Vote: All yeses, Brown absent

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the September 23, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes
- B. Accounts Payable \$425,308.57
- C. Communications: American Legion Thank You, UIS SCADA Thank You, White Lake Library Thank You

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

Voice Vote: All yeses; Brown absent

MOTION CARRIED

MESSAGES FROM THE MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND CITY MANAGER

Messages were received from Council members.

Confirmation of Treasurer

Motion by Holmstrom, seconded by Cabala to confirm the appointment of Crystal Budde as the City Treasurer/Finance Officer.

Voice Vote: All yeses; Brown absent

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution 25-29 Charitable Gaming Licenses

Motion by Sikkenga, seconded by Hillebrand to approve the charitable gaming license for the Friends of the Playhouse.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Sikkenga, Hillebrand, Cabala, Holmstrom, Ziemer, and Salter;
No – None; Absent – Brown

MOTION CARRIED

B. Resolution 25-30 W. Colby Promenade

Motion by Sikkenga, seconded by Holmstrom to approve the lowest qualified bid of \$1,485,518 from Clifford Buck Construction for the W. Colby Promenade project.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Sikkenga, Holmstrom, Ziemer, Hillebrand, Cabala, and Salter;
No – None; Absent – Brown

MOTION CARRIED

C. Resolution 25-31 Election Cycle Change

Motion by Holmstrom, seconded by Hillebrand to approve the election cycle change from even years to odd years for the November election commencing 2028.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Holmstrom, Hillebrand, Cabala, Sikkenga, Ziemer, and Salter;
No – None; Absent – Brown

MOTION CARRIED

D. Resolution 25-32 Lift Station Funding

Motion by Cabala, seconded by Hillebrand to commit funds from the water and sewer funds up to \$1,700,000 for the Lift Station Project. These funds are committed, unencumbered, and available for the project and grant application.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Cabala, Hillebrand, Ziemer, Holmstrom, Sikkenga, and Salter;
No – None; Absent – Brown

MOTION CARRIED

E. Resolution 25-33 Lake Street Project Engineering

Motion by Holmstrom, seconded by Ziemer, to award the Lake Street Project engineering services to Abonmarche for the low bid amount of \$89,700 pending review by the DPW Director.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Holmstrom, Ziemer, Hillebrand, Cabala, Sikkenga, and Salter;
No – None; Absent – Brown

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Salter adjourned the Council Meeting at 6:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Bourdon, City Clerk