



WHITEHALL

CITY COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Council Chambers

December 23, 2025

PRESENT Scott Brown, Tanya Cabala, Debra Hillebrand, Jeff Holmstrom, and Tom Ziemer

ABSENT Bryan Mahan (excused); Roger Squiers (excused)

ALSO PRESENT Dan Tavernier, Will Meier

Mayor Ziemer called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

Voice Vote: All yeses

MOTION CARRIED

SPECIAL PRESENTATION – FRANK BEDNAREK, FRIENDS OF THE PLAYHOUSE & BETH BEAMAN, PLAYHOUSE MANAGING DIRECTOR

Frank and Beth provided updates on the recommendations and goals identified by the Playhouse Committee five months ago. Some of these recommendations included increasing ticket and beverage prices, adding premixed cocktails, securing a single \$25,000 sponsor for WLYT, conducting a fundraiser, reviewing rental pricing, and increasing the number of days the Playhouse is in use.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the December 9, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes
- B. Accounts Payable \$447,605.89
- C. Communications: None

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

Voice Vote: All yeses

MOTION CARRIED

MESSAGES FROM THE MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND CITY MANAGER

Messages were received from Council members.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment was received by Tommy Foster, Kathy West and Kim Cole.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution 25-42 Community Fund Request

Motion by Hillebrand, seconded by Brown to authorize a request for \$12,400 from the Blomdahl Fund at the Community Foundation for Muskegon County for the benefit of the City and provides grant distributions to support Playhouse operations and programming.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Hillebrand, Brown, Holmstrom, Cabala, and Ziemer;
No – None; Absent – Mahan & Squiers **MOTION CARRIED**

B. Resolution 25-43 Water Resources Division – Michigan Coastal Management Program

Motion by Cabala, seconded by Hillebrand to approve the grant application to the Water Resources Division in the amount, not to exceed \$50,000 with a local match of up to \$50,000 to update the City of Whitehall's Master Plan with a special emphasis on coastal management and projects that protect community character and revitalize ports and harbors; plan for growth and change in our coastal community to strengthen the economy and minimize risk from coastal hazards; protect and restore healthy coastal ecosystems for public use and enjoyment.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Cabala, Hillebrand, Holmstrom, Brown, and Ziemer;
No – None; Absent – Mahan & Squiers **MOTION CARRIED**

C. Resolution 25-44 Budget Amendment #4

Motion by Holmstrom, seconded by Cabala approve budget amendment as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Holmstrom, Cabala, Hillebrand, Brown, and Ziemer;
No – None; Absent – Mahan & Squiers **MOTION CARRIED**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was received by Cathy Russell and Kathy West.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Ziemer adjourned the Council Meeting at 6:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Bourdon, City Clerk