WHITEHALL

WORK SESSION MINUTES

Council Chambers

November 10, 2026

PRESENT Scott Brown, Tanya Cabala, Debra Hillebrand, Jeff Holmstrom, Bryan Mahan, Roger Squiers, and Tom Ziemer

ABSENT None

ALSO PRESENT Brenda Bourdon, Dan Tavernier, Will Meier

Mayor Ziemer called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Fire Code Ordinance

City Manager Tavernier provided background on the proposed updates to the Fire Code Ordinance, indicating that the change was prompted to include the adoption of National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards in addition to the International Fire Code (IFC). He sought Council's input on how the city should approach fire code enforcement, noting that concerns have been raised by local business owners regarding current inspection practices. Tavernier would like to see a more practical approach to enforcement that addresses these concerns while still maintaining necessary fire safety standards.

Discussion centered on balancing life safety requirements with the frequency and scope of inspections. Councilmember Holmstrom emphasized the importance of life safety, while Tavernier explained that the construction code also references certain fire code requirements.

Some Council members expressed concern that annual inspections may be excessive when the code calls for periodic inspections. There was interest in focusing inspections on new construction and modifications to existing buildings requiring permits. Holmstrom suggested a classification-based approach, recognizing that certain types of occupancies may warrant more frequent inspections due to their potential safety risks.

The discussion focused on a more risk-based inspection approach while maintaining appropriate life safety standards.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kim Cyr provided information on the Muskegon Airport.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Ziemer adjourned the work session at 5:49 pm.

_____

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Bourdon, City Clerk

DRAFT

WHITEHALL

CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Council Chambers
November 10, 2026

PRESENT Scott Brown, Tanya Cabala, Debra Hillebrand, Jeff Holmstrom, Bryan Mahan, Roger Squiers, and Tom Ziemer

ABSENT None

ALSO PRESENT Brenda Bourdon, Dan Tavernier, Will Meier

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

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
Motion by Squiers, seconded by Mahan to approve the agenda as submitted.

Voice Vote: All yeses **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA
A. Approval of the October 27, 2026 Council Meeting Minutes
B. Accounts Payable: $1,034,226.38
C. Communications: Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion by Holmstrom, seconded by Squiers to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted.

Voice Vote: All yeses **MOTION CARRIED**

MESSAGES FROM THE MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND CITY MANAGER
Messages were received from the City Manager, Council Members, and Mayor.

PUBLIC COMMENT
None

OLD BUSINESS
None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution 26-52 Castle Lot Split

Motion by Squiers, seconded by Mahan, to approve the lot split requested for parcel 61-22-425-000-0003-00 owned by the Castles at 207 County Club.

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

DRAFT

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Ziemer adjourned the Council Meeting at 6:16 pm.

_____

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Bourdon, City Clerk

DRAFT