



WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2026

6:30 P.M. – ADMINISTRATION/COUNCIL OF THE WHOLE MATTERS:

THERE ARE TEN PIECES OF DRAFT LEGISLATION ON THE AGENDA.

PRESENTATION:

Jared Buerger, Executive Director of the Central Ohio Chapter of A Kid Again

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE LEGISLATION/ISSUES:

DRAFT # 1

ORDINANCE NO. 011-2026 (*Comm. Of the Whole – 3rd Reading – ADOPT 04-07-2026-* /)

AUTHORIZING ADOPTION OF THE MAY 2026 REPLACEMENT PAGES TO THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, it is desirable and necessary that the City of Whitehall maintain an organized and published code of ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the codified ordinances for the City of Whitehall should be amended regularly to conform with current state law as required by the Ohio Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the council has passed various ordinances of a general and permanent nature and should be included in the codified ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the Walter H. Drane Company of Cleveland, Ohio, has entered into a contract with the City of Whitehall to prepare and publish such revisions twice a year, and the May 2026 replacements are now before the council; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL, OHIO:

SECTION 1. That the ordinances of the City of Whitehall, Ohio, of a general and permanent nature, as revised, recodified, rearranged, and consolidated into component codes, titles, chapters, and sections within the May 2026 replacement pages to the codified ordinances are hereby approved and adopted.

SECTION 2. That the President of Council and Clerk of Council shall certify that the permanent and general ordinances of the City, as codified in the current replacement pages, are correctly set forth therein.

SECTION 3. That the City Auditor is hereby authorized to draw his warrant upon the Treasurer of the City to pay the Walter H. Drane Company for said services and products from previously appropriated monies in the City Council Office Supplies Account (101-100-52000).

SECTION 4. That this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure immediately necessary for the preservation of the public health, peace, safety and welfare; and for the further reasons that it is necessary that the City of Whitehall maintain an organized and published code of its ordinances and that it conforms with

current state law provisions; WHEREFORE, this Ordinance shall go into full force and effect immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

Requested and Prepared by: Julie A. Ogg, Clerk of Council

Approved as to form: Bradley S. Nicodemus, City Attorney BSN 2/23/26

DRAFT # 2

RESOLUTION NO. 007-2026 (*Comm. Of the Whole – 1st Reading – SUSP & ADOPT 03-03-2026-* /
)

RECOGNIZING DUSTIN IRVIN AS THE 2025 LABOR /SERVICE EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AND AWARDING HIM A ONE-TIME PAYMENT OF THREE HUNDRED FIFTY AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$350.00) AS ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, it is the desire of this Council to annually recognize and honor City employees who have performed their duties faithfully and in a consistent, persistent, and outstanding manner; and

WHEREAS, Dustin Irvin leads through his actions. He always asks for the most challenging jobs because he wants to stay busy. He cares about the finished product because his name is on it. He has never turned down overtime and is counted on to be at work and do the work that might not be desirable to others, especially on the weekends. He is frequently one of the first to solve complex tasks, with a great attitude. Dustin has brought a wealth of skills from his previous employment, becoming a tremendous teacher/trainer for the Service Garage. Because he often goes above and beyond in his duties, he is a frequently requested teammate by his coworkers.

WHEREAS, Dustin Irvin exceeds expectations and is responsive to the City and its customers' needs; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL, OHIO:

SECTION 1: That the Council of the City of Whitehall does hereby recognize and honor Dustin Irvin as 2025 SERVICE EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR and by these presents expresses its appreciation to him for dependable and dedicated service.

SECTION 2: That said, Dustin Irvin will be and hereby is authorized to receive, in addition to his usual compensation and credits, a payment of three hundred fifty and no/100 dollars (\$350.00) from the Contingency Expense Account (101-950-59900) in recognition of this honor.

SECTION 3: That the City Auditor is hereby authorized to draw his warrant upon the Treasurer for these funds for the purpose stated in this Resolution.

SECTION 4: That the Clerk of this Council be and is hereby directed to provide certified copies of this resolution to the Auditor, Treasurer, Human Resources, and Dustin Irvin.

SECTION 5: That this Resolution shall go into full force and effect at the earliest time provided by law.

Requested by: Michael T Bivens, Mayor

Prepared by: Tracy Wentz, Director of Human Resources

Approved as to form: Brad Nicodemus, City Attorney BSN

DRAFT # 3

RESOLUTION NO. 008-2026 (*Comm. Of the Whole – 1st Reading – SUSP & ADOPT 03-03-2026-*

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RECOGNIZING JUSTIN MOONEY AS THE 2025 FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AND AWARDING HIM A ONE-TIME PAYMENT OF THREE HUNDRED FIFTY AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$350.00) AS ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, it is the desire of this Council to annually recognize and honor City employees who have performed their duties faithfully and in a consistent, persistent, and outstanding manner; and

WHEREAS, Justin Mooney has inspired his department by seeing his dedication to the FTO program and his commitment to continuous improvement through external training. His leadership as an Out-of-Class Lieutenant and Pump Operator clearly makes a significant impact on his crew and the entire division. The department thanks him for bringing positive energy and hard work to every shift.

WHEREAS, Justin Mooney exceeds expectations and is responsive to the City and its customers' needs; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL, OHIO:

SECTION 1: That the Council of the City of Whitehall does hereby recognize and honor Justin Mooney as 2025 FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR and by these presents expresses its appreciation to him for dependable and dedicated service.

SECTION 2: That said, Justin Mooney will be and hereby is authorized to receive, in addition to his usual compensation and credits, a payment of three hundred fifty and no/100 dollars (\$350.00) from the Contingency Expense Account (101-950-59900) in recognition of this honor.

SECTION 3: That the City Auditor is hereby authorized to draw his warrant upon the Treasurer for these funds for the purpose stated in this Resolution.

SECTION 4: That the Clerk of this Council be and is hereby directed to provide certified copies of this resolution to the Auditor, Treasurer, Human Resources, and Justin Mooney.

SECTION 5: That this Resolution shall go into full force and effect at the earliest time provided by law.

Requested by: Michael T. Bivens, Mayor

Prepared by: Tracy Wentz, Director of Human Resources

Approved as to form: Brad Nicodemus, City Attorney BSN 2/23/2026

DRAFT # 4

RESOLUTION NO. 009-2026 (*Comm. Of the Whole – 1st Reading – SUSP & ADOPT 03-03-2026-*

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RECOGNIZING JASON KUBINSKI AS THE 2025 POLICE OFFICER EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AND AWARDING HIM A ONE-TIME PAYMENT OF THREE HUNDRED FIFTY AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$350.00) AS ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, it is the desire of this Council to annually recognize and honor City employees who have performed their duties faithfully and in a consistent, persistent, and outstanding manner; and

WHEREAS, Jason Kubinski, honored as Detective of the Year, is a cornerstone of investigative excellence within the Division. In 2025, he managed an extraordinary caseload of 190 cases, successfully resolving 119 of them, including some of the most serious crimes faced by the community. His tireless work ethic and commitment to justice ensure that victims receive the attention and resolution they deserve. Beyond his investigative duties, Detective Kubinski routinely assists with patrol operations, demonstrating versatility and teamwork. Trusted as a de facto leader, he consistently displays a positive, professional attitude that aligns with the mission and values of the department.

WHEREAS, Jason Kubinski exceeds expectations and is responsive to the City and its customers' needs; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL, OHIO:

SECTION 1: That the Council of the City of Whitehall does hereby recognize and honor Jason Kubinski as 2025 POLICE OFFICER EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR and by these presents expresses its appreciation to him for dependable and dedicated service.

SECTION 2: That said, Jason Kubinski will be and hereby is authorized to receive, in addition to his usual compensation and credits, a payment of three hundred fifty and no/100 dollars (\$350.00) from the Contingency Expense Account (101-950-59900) in recognition of this honor.

SECTION 3: That the City Auditor is hereby authorized to draw his warrant upon the Treasurer for these funds for the purpose stated in this Resolution.

SECTION 4: That the Clerk of this Council be and is hereby directed to provide certified copies of this resolution to the Auditor, Treasurer, Human Resources, and Jason Kubinski.

SECTION 5: That this Resolution shall go into full force and effect at the earliest time provided by law.

Requested by: Michael T. Bivens, Mayor

Prepared by: Tracy Wentz, Director of Human Resources

Approved as to form: Brad Nicodemus, City Attorney bsn/jo 2/23/2026

DRAFT # 5

RESOLUTION NO. 010-2026 (*Comm. Of the Whole – 1st Reading – SUSP & ADOPT 03-03-2026-* /)

RECOGNIZING JULIE OGG AS THE 2025 ADMINISTRATIVE/SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AND AWARDING HER A ONE-TIME PAYMENT OF THREE HUNDRED FIFTY AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$350.00) AS ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, it is the desire of this Council to annually recognize and honor City employees who have performed their duties faithfully and in a consistent, persistent, and outstanding manner; and

WHEREAS, Julie Ogg is the quintessential example of servant leadership. She is dependable, proactive, and always willing to step in to ensure issues are addressed promptly and thoughtfully. She conducts herself with integrity, respect, and a calm confidence even in challenging situations. Her communication is clear, courteous, and solution-oriented, fostering trust internally and externally. Julie is not only respected by folks in the three different categories of customers but equally by her peers in other jurisdictions and is often

called upon for advice and direction. She has excelled in her profession through her certifications with OMCA, as well as taking an active role on the OMCA Board, along with running membership drives. She works effectively across departments, builds strong external partnerships, and actively engages with the community. Julie consistently goes above and beyond to support colleagues, residents, and Council members.

WHEREAS, Julie Ogg exceeds expectations and is responsive to the City and its customers' needs;
NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL, OHIO:

SECTION 1: That the Council of the City of Whitehall does hereby recognize and honor Julie Ogg as 2025 ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR and by these presents expresses its appreciation to her for dependable and dedicated service.

SECTION 2: That said, Julie Ogg will be and hereby is authorized to receive, in addition to her usual compensation and credits, a payment of three hundred fifty and no/100 dollars (\$350.00) from the Contingency Expense Account (101-950-59900) in recognition of this honor.

SECTION 3: That the City Auditor is hereby authorized to draw his warrant upon the Treasurer for these funds for the purpose stated in this Resolution.

SECTION 4: That the Clerk of this Council be and is hereby directed to provide certified copies of this resolution to the Auditor, Treasurer, Human Resources, and Julie Ogg.

SECTION 5: That this Resolution shall go into full force and effect at the earliest time provided by law.

Requested by: Michael T Bivens, Mayor
Prepared by: Tracy Wentz, Director of Human Resources
Approved as to form: Brad Nicodemus, City Attorney BSN 2/23/2026

THIRD READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 008-2026 (*Comm. Of the Whole – 3rd Reading – ADOPT 03-03-2026-Morrison/Dixon*)
AMENDING ORDINANCE 118-2025, MAKING APPROPRIATION FOR CURRENT GENERAL FUND (101) EXPENSES, FOR THE DEPARTMENT ON NEIGHBORHOODS AND THE DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY.

STANDING COMMITTEES

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT - CHAIRPERSON ELMORE

Members: Morrison, McCann & Brown

DRAFT # 6

ORDINANCE NO. 012-2026 (*Adm. & Fin Mgmt –1st Reading- SUSP & ADOPT 03-03-2026 –Elmore/*
)

AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF TWO HUNDRED AND THREE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED AND FORTY TWO AND THIRTY SEVEN CENTS (\$203,342.37) FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE WIMPITE FUND 279 TO THE HAMILTON/BROAD TIF 90-339 EXPENSE ACCOUNT 279.000.50009 AND DECLARING AN

EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, Ordinance 036-2018 authorized the Mayor to enter into a Tax Increment Financing and Infrastructure Agreement dated 06/12/2019 and;

WHEREAS, beginning in Year 2020 until Section 2.2 of Article II of the development agreement is fulfilled, the City shall reimburse a portion of the TIF proceeds to the developer for the reimbursement of infrastructure construction; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL, OHIO:

SECTION 1: The Whitehall City Council authorizes an appropriation to the Hamilton/Broad TIF 90-339 TIF Expense Account 279.000.50009 in the sum of \$203,342.37 from unappropriated monies in the WIMPITE Fund 279.

SECTION 2: That the City Auditor is hereby authorized to draw his warrant upon the Treasurer of the City for these funds for the purpose stated.

SECTION 3: That this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure immediately necessary for the preservation of the public health, peace, safety, and welfare, and for the further reason that legal agreements have been reached and now payment is required; WHEREFORE, this Ordinance shall go into full force and effect immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

Requested by: Shaquille Alexander, City Auditor
Prepared by: Jackie Russell, Economic Development Director
Approved as to form: Bradley S. Nicodemus, City Attorney 2/23/2026

SECOND READING:

RESOLUTION NO. 005-2026 (*Adm. & Fin Mgmt –2nd Reading- SUSP & ADOPT 03-03-2026 – Elmore/McCann*)

APPROVING REVISIONS TO THE INVESTMENT POLICY OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

DRAFT # 7

ORDINANCE NO. 013-2026 (*Adm. & Fin Mgmt –1st Reading- SUSP & ADOPT 03-03-2026 –Elmore/*
)

AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A FUND TRANSFER IN THE AMOUNT OF SIXTY-EIGHT THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED FIFTY AND 42/100 DOLLARS (\$68,650.42) FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE GENERAL FUND (101) TO THE DEBT SERVICE FUND (401).

WHEREAS, the City had made renovations to City Hall, the Police and Fire Department buildings, and the Service Department garage, which included the Capital Lease for energy upgrades; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 119-2025 appropriated monies for the purpose of repayment of this loan; and

WHEREAS, the Auditor of State requires bond retirement payments and other long-term debt to be paid from the Debt Service Fund; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL,
OHIO:

SECTION 1: That there be and is hereby transferred the sum of sixty-eight thousand six hundred ninety and 42/100 dollars (\$68,650.42) from unappropriated monies in the General Fund (101) to the Debt Service Fund (401)

SECTION 2: That the City Auditor is hereby authorized to draw his warrant upon the Treasurer of the City for these funds for the stated purpose.

SECTION 3: That this Ordinance shall go into full force and effect immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

Requested and prepared by: Chris Peterson, Deputy Auditor
Approved as to form: Bradley S. Nicodemus, City Attorney bsn 02/24/2026

Requested and prepared by: Chris Peterson, Deputy Auditor
Approved as to form: Bradley S. Nicodemus, City Attorney bsn 02/24/2026

DRAFT # 8

ORDINANCE NO. 014-2026 (*Adm. & Fin Mgmt –1st Reading- SUSP & ADOPT 03-03-2026 –Elmore/*
)

APPROVING AND MAKING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF FOUR THOUSAND NINETY 00/100 DOLLARS (\$4,090.00) FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT GRANT FUND (212) TO THE 212.000.50010 OHIO TRAFFIC SAFETY OFFICE GRANT (OTSO) EXPENSE ACCOUNT.

WHEREAS, the City of Whitehall Division of Police was awarded a grant from the Ohio Traffic Safety Office Grant (OTSO) to pay the costs associated with driver's education classes for high school students; and

WHEREAS, the Whitehall City School District has agreed to collaborate with the Division of Police to provide the much-needed service to Whitehall Yearling High School students; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL,
OHIO:

SECTION 1: The Council of the City of Whitehall, Ohio, approves and makes a supplemental appropriation in the amount of four thousand ninety 00/100 dollars (\$4,090.00) from unappropriated monies in the Police Department Grant Fund (212) to the Ohio Traffic Safety Office Grant (OTSO) expense account (212.000.50010).

SECTION 2: That the City Auditor is hereby authorized to draw his warrant upon the Treasurer of the City for these funds for the purpose stated.

SECTION 3: That this Ordinance shall go into full force and effect immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

Requested and prepared by: Chris Peterson, Deputy Auditor
Approved as to form: Bradley S. Nicodemus, City Attorney bsn 02/24/2026

DRAFT # 9

ORDINANCE NO. 015-2026 (*Adm. & Fin Mgmt –1st Reading- SUSP & ADOPT 03-03-2026 –Elmore/*
)

AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A FUND TRANSFER IN THE AMOUNT OF THIRTY THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED SIX AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$30,306.00) FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE EVIDENCE SETASIDE FUND (245) TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TRUST FUND (241) AND MAKING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION ON THE AMOUNT OF THIRTY THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED SIX AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$30,306.00) FROM UNAPPROPRIATED FUNDS IN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TRUST FUND (241) TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TRUST FUND EXPENSE ACCOUNT (241.000.50000).

WHEREAS, the Whitehall Division of Police seized monies as a result of a narcotics investigation and recorded the said monies in the Evidence Setaside Fund (245) and;

WHEREAS, the Franklin County Common Pleas Court has released the monies, by court order, to the Whitehall Division of Police and disperse the monies as outlined in Whitehall City Ordinance 52-87;
NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL,
OHIO:

SECTION 1: That this Council approves a fund transfer in the amount thirty thousand three hundred six and 00/100 dollars (\$30,306.00) from unappropriated monies in the Evidence Setaside Fund (245) to the Law Enforcement Trust Fund (241) and a supplemental appropriation in the amount of thirty thousand three hundred six and 00/100 dollars (\$30,306.00) from unappropriated funds in the Law Enforcement Trust Fund (241) to the Law Enforcement Trust Fund Expense Account (241.000.50000).

SECTION 2: That the City Auditor is hereby authorized to draw his warrant upon the Treasurer of the City for these funds for the stated purpose.

SECTION 3: That this Ordinance shall go into full force and effect immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

Requested and prepared by: Chris Peterson, Deputy Auditor
Approved as to form: Bradley S. Nicodemus, City Attorney bsn 02/24/2026

DRAFT # 10

ORDINANCE NO. 016-2026 (*Adm. & Fin Mgmt –1st Reading- SUSP & ADOPT 03-03-2026 –Elmore/*
)

APPROVING AND MAKING A FUND TRANSFER IN THE AMOUNT OF FIFTY SEVEN THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED TWENTY AND 89/100 DOLLARS (\$57,920.89) FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONIES IN THE GENERAL FUND (101) TO THE DEBT SERVICE FUND (401).

WHEREAS, the City received a loan from the Franklin County Infrastructure Bank for the Woodcliff Redevelopment Project; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 119-2025 appropriated monies for the purpose of repayment of this loan; and

WHEREAS, the Auditor of State requires bond retirement payments and other long-term debt to be paid from the Debt Service Fund; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL,
OHIO:

SECTION 1: That the Council of the City of Whitehall approves and makes fund transfer in the amount of fifty seven thousand nine hundred twenty and 89/100 dollars (\$57,920.89) from unappropriated monies in the General Fund (101) to the Debt Service Fund (401).

SECTION 2: That the City Auditor is hereby authorized to draw his warrant upon the Treasurer of the City for these funds for the stated purpose.

SECTION 3: That this Ordinance shall go into full force and effect immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

Requested and prepared by: Chris Peterson, Deputy Auditor

Approved as to form: Bradley S. Nicodemus, City Attorney bsn 02/24/2026

COMMUNITY AND ELDER ADVOCACY– CHAIRPERSON HARCAR

Members: Adkins, Dixon, Brown

No drafts or pending legislation.

COMMUNITY STANDARDS AND ENFORCEMENT – CHAIRPERSON MCCANN

Members: Dixon, Elmore, Harcar

No drafts or pending legislation.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – CHAIRPERSON DIXON

Members: McCann, Morrison, Brown

No drafts or pending legislation.

INFRASTRUCTURE, MAINTENANCE AND SERVICES - CHAIRPERSON BROWN

Members: Morrison, Dixon & Adkins

No drafts or pending legislation.

PUBLIC SAFETY – CHAIRPERSON MORRISON

Members: Elmore, Adkins, Harcar

No drafts or pending legislation.

PARKS AND RECREATION – CHAIRPERSON ADKINS

Members: Elmore, Harcar, McCann

No drafts or pending legislation.

DISCUSSION:

Council Rules of Procedure for the 2026 – 2027 term.

ADJOURN