



WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2026

CALL TO ORDER:

5:30 p.m., Council Chamber at City Hall, by President Potter.

ROLL CALL:

Mike Adkins
Brian McCann
Gerald Dixon
Devin Brown
Lori Elmore
Larry Morrison
Amy Harcar

VERIFICATION OF COPIES:

Roll call on whether each member of the Council was given a copy of each item of legislation listed on the agenda prior to the meeting and including any add-on legislation.

SECOND READING:

RESOLUTION NO. 012-2026

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE QUESTION OF THE RECALL OF MAYOR MICHAEL BIVENS TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY AND THE DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY.

RESOLUTION NO. 013-2026

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE QUESTION OF THE RECALL OF COUNCILMEMBER LORI ELMORE TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY AND THE DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY.

RESOLUTION NO. 014-2026

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE QUESTION OF THE RECALL OF COUNCILMEMBER AMY HARCAR TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY AND THE DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY.

ADJOURN

RESOLUTION NO. 012-2026

Amended 04-07-2026

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE QUESTION OF THE RECALL OF MAYOR MICHAEL BIVENS TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY AND THE DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2026, petitions demanding the recall of Mayor Michael Bivens were filed with the Clerk of Council;

WHEREAS, on March 31, 2026, the Clerk of Council certified that pursuant to Charter §68 the petitions were sufficient to demand the recall of Mayor Michael Bivens;

WHEREAS, on March 31, 2026, Mayor Michael Bivens was provided notice of the sufficiency of the petitions demanding his recall;

WHEREAS, Mayor Michael Bivens did not resign within five (5) days of receiving notice of sufficient recall petitions;

WHEREAS, Charter §68 requires Council to set a date for a recall election if the person subject to recall does not resign and such election shall be set no earlier than thirty (30) days nor later than sixty (60) days after notice was provided thus providing for an election date between April 30, 2026, and May 30, 2026;

WHEREAS, Council recognizes the burden this places on the Board of Elections so close to the May 5, 2026, primary election and respects the request of the Board of Elections with regards to the election date so as to minimize interference with its duties and staffing with regards to the primary election; and

WHEREAS, Council is now required to set a date for the recall election; NOW, THEREFORE,

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

SECTION 1: Pursuant to Charter §68, Council hereby determines and sets the date for the recall election as May ~~26~~ 28, 2026.

SECTION 2: The form of the ballot to be given at the election on the question of recall of Mayor Michael Bivens shall be substantially as follows, as directed by Charter §68 and Ohio law:

"Shall Michael Bivens be allowed to continue as Mayor?"

Yes _____

No _____

SECTION 3: The Clerk of Council is hereby directed and authorized to cause notice of this recall election to be published according to law.

SECTION 4: The Clerk of Council is hereby authorized and directed to certify a copy of this Resolution immediately after its passage and to deliver it to the to the Board of Elections of Franklin County, Ohio for the purpose of having the question set forth in Section 2, above, placed on the ballot in order to submit the question of the recall of Mayor Michael Bivens to the electors of the City of Whitehall, Ohio, at the election to be held as set herein.

SECTION 5: This Resolution setting a date for a recall election is required pursuant to Charter §68 and therefore not subject to mayoral veto nor requires mayoral approval.

SECTION 6: The Council finds and determines that all formal actions of this Council relating to the adoption of this Resolution have been taken at open meetings of this Council; and that deliberations of this Council and of its committees, resulting in such formal action, took place in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all statutory requirements including the requirements of R.C. §121.22.

RESOLUTION NO. 012-2026

Amended 04-07-2026

SECTION 7: That this Resolution 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 time of the essence in this election matter; WHEREFORE, This Resolution shall go into full force and effect immediately upon its passage by Council.

PASSED this ___ day of _____, 2026.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

President of Council

RESOLUTION NO. 013-2026

Amended 04-07-2026

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE QUESTION OF THE RECALL OF COUNCILMEMBER LORI ELMORE TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY AND THE DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2026, petitions demanding the recall of Councilmember Lori Elmore were filed with the Clerk of Council;

WHEREAS, on March 31, 2026, the Clerk of Council certified that pursuant to Charter §68 the petitions were sufficient to demand the recall of Councilmember Lori Elmore;

WHEREAS, on March 31, 2026, Councilmember Lori Elmore was provided notice of the sufficiency of the petitions demanding her recall;

WHEREAS, Councilmember Lori Elmore did not resign within five (5) days of receiving notice of sufficient recall petitions;

WHEREAS, Charter §68 requires Council to set a date for a recall election if the person subject to recall does not resign and such election shall be set no earlier than thirty (30) days nor later than sixty (60) days after notice was provided thus providing for an election date between April 30, 2026, and May 30, 2026;

WHEREAS, Council recognizes the burden this places on the Board of Elections so close to the May 5, 2026, primary election and respects the request of the Board of Elections with regards to the election date so as to minimize interference with its duties and staffing with regards to the primary election; and

WHEREAS, Council is now required to set a date for the recall election; NOW, THEREFORE,

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

SECTION 1: Pursuant to Charter §68, Council hereby determines and sets the date for the recall election as May ~~26~~ 28, 2026.

SECTION 2: The form of the ballot to be given at the election on the question of recall of Councilmember Lori Elmore shall be substantially as follows, as directed by Charter §68 and Ohio law:

"Shall Lori Elmore be allowed to continue as Councilmember?"

Yes _____

No _____

SECTION 3: The Clerk of Council is hereby directed and authorized to cause notice of this recall election to be published according to law.

SECTION 4: The Clerk of Council is hereby authorized and directed to certify a copy of this Resolution immediately after its passage and to deliver it to the to the Board of Elections of Franklin County, Ohio for the purpose of having the question set forth in Section 2, above, placed on the ballot in order to submit the question of the recall of Councilmember Lori Elmore to the electors of the City of Whitehall, Ohio, at the election to be held as set herein.

SECTION 5: This Resolution setting a date for a recall election is required pursuant to Charter §68 and therefore not subject to mayoral veto nor requires mayoral approval.

SECTION 6: The Council finds and determines that all formal actions of this Council relating to the adoption of this Resolution have been taken at open meetings of this Council; and that deliberations of this Council and of its committees, resulting in such formal action, took place in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all statutory requirements including the requirements of R.C. §121.22.

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PASSED this ____ day of _____, 2026.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

President of Council

RESOLUTION NO. 014-2026

Amended on 04-07-2026

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE QUESTION OF THE RECALL OF COUNCILMEMBER AMY HARCAR TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY AND THE DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2026, petitions demanding the recall of Councilmember Amy Harcar were filed with the Clerk of Council;

WHEREAS, on March 31, 2026, the Clerk of Council certified that pursuant to Charter §68, the petitions were sufficient to demand the recall of Councilmember Amy Harcar;

WHEREAS, on March 31, 2026, Councilmember Amy Harcar was provided notice of the sufficiency of the petitions demanding her recall;

WHEREAS, Councilmember Amy Harcar did not resign within five (5) days of receiving notice of sufficient recall petitions;

WHEREAS, Charter §68 requires Council to set a date for a recall election if the person subject to recall does not resign, and such election shall be set no earlier than thirty (30) days nor later than sixty (60) days after notice was provided thus providing for an election date between April 30, 2026, and May 30, 2026;

WHEREAS, Council recognizes the burden this places on the Board of Elections so close to the May 5, 2026, primary election and respects the request of the Board of Elections with regards to the election date so as to minimize interference with its duties and staffing with regards to the primary election; and

WHEREAS, Council is now required to set a date for the recall election; NOW, THEREFORE,

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

SECTION 1: Pursuant to Charter §68, Council hereby determines and sets the date for the recall election as May ~~26~~ 28, 2026.

SECTION 2: The form of the ballot to be given at the election on the question of recall of Councilmember Amy Harcar shall be substantially as follows, as directed by Charter §68 and Ohio law:

"Shall Amy Harcar be allowed to continue as Councilmember?"

Yes _____

No _____

SECTION 3: The Clerk of Council is hereby directed and authorized to cause notice of this recall election to be published according to law.

SECTION 4: The Clerk of Council is hereby authorized and directed to certify a copy of this Resolution immediately after its passage and to deliver it to the to the Board of Elections of Franklin County, Ohio for the purpose of having the question set forth in Section 2, above, placed on the ballot in order to submit the question of the recall of Councilmember Amy Harcar to the electors of the City of Whitehall, Ohio, at the election to be held as set herein.

SECTION 5: This Resolution setting a date for a recall election is required pursuant to Charter §68 and therefore not subject to mayoral veto nor requires mayoral approval.

SECTION 6: The Council finds and determines that all formal actions of this Council relating to the adoption of this Resolution have been taken at open meetings of this Council; and that deliberations of this Council and of its committees, resulting in such formal action, took place in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all statutory requirements including the requirements of R.C. §121.22.

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