



WHITEHALL CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA FOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, August 26, 2025

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE LEGISLATION/ISSUES:

DRAFT # 1

ORDINANCE NO. 086-2025 (Comm. Of the Whole -1st Reading –SUSP & ADOPT 09-02-2025 - /)

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE PUBLIC ENTITIES POOL OF OHIO (PEP) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the City of Whitehall wishes to enter into a contract with the Public Entities Pool of Ohio (PEP) for annual liability coverage; NOW, THEREFORE,

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

SECTION 1: The Council of the City of Whitehall, Ohio, hereby determines it to be necessary to enter into a contract with Public Entities Pool of Ohio (PEP) for the vehicles, property, general and public official liability and law enforcement coverage for the City of Whitehall, Ohio.

SECTION 2: The Mayor of the City of Whitehall is hereby authorized to enter into a contract with Public Entities Pool of Ohio (PEP) for vehicle, property, general and public official liability and law enforcement coverage for the City of Whitehall, Ohio. The insurance premium for October 3, 2025 to October 3, 2026 term coverage for the City of Whitehall not to exceed three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00).

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 the term of the city's current vehicle, property, general and public official liability and law enforcement coverage for the City of Whitehall ends on October 2, 2025; WHEREFORE, This Ordinance shall go into full force and effect immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

Requested by Michael T. Bivens, Mayor

Prepared by: Dionna Hannah, Executive Assistant to Mayor

Approved as to form: Bradley S. Nicodemus, City Attorney BSN 8/13/2025

DRAFT # 2

ORDINANCE NO. 087-2025 (Comm. Of the Whole -1st Reading –SUSP & ADOPT 09-02-2025 - /)

AUTHORIZING EXEMPTIONS OF 161.09(A) VACATION AND SICK LEAVE CREDIT CARRYOVER

161.09(8) FOR THE PURPOSE OF EMPLOYING TWO HIGHLY QUALIFIED EMPLOYEES TO THE CITY OF WHITEHALL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the City of Whitehall has hired two highly qualified individuals as Deputy Chief of Police in the Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the employees have valuable public service experience with twenty-six (26) and thirty (30) years of experience and the City would like to offer a match for service for computing vacation leave; NOW, THEREFORE,

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

SECTION 1: The Council of the City of Whitehall, Ohio authorizes a one-time exemption for 161.09(A} to match years of service with current employer, and to match these years of service as indicated in 161.15(b)(l) of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Whitehall.

SECTION 2: 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 to permit this employee to carry over his years of service; WHEREFORE, This Ordinance shall go into full force and effect immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

Requested and Prepared by: Tracy Wentz, Director of HR
Approved as to form: Bradley S. Nicodemus, Assistant City Attorney bsn 8/22/2025

DRAFT # 3

ORDINANCE NO. 088-2025 (*Comm. Of the Whole -1st Reading –SUSP & ADOPT 09-02-2025 - /*
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AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL 161 TABLE OF AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2025 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

DRAFT # 4

ORDINANCE NO. 089-2025 (*Comm. Of the Whole -1st Reading –SUSP & ADOPT 09-02-2025 - /*
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ALLOWING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH OHM ADVISORS FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEVELOPING A COMMUNITY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the City staff recommends OHM Advisors as the preferred group to contract for this plan; and

WHEREAS, the Community Comprehensive Plan and Parks and Recreation Plan through the consultant’s expertise will create realistic recommendations to improve economic development strategies, residential

housing strategies, establish focus areas for growth, and evaluating the parks system and programming offered in the City of Whitehall; and

WHEREAS, it is reasonable and prudent that the City contract with a team of consultants with a multi-disciplinary experience in commercial development as well as landscape architecture, economic development, market research and analysis, and zoning codes to perform these studies and create appropriate recommendations in the Community Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, OHM Advisors, as one of the Columbus area’s most successful economic development/planning firms, having sufficient experience in the market and managing public/private partnerships in development, has collaborated with accomplished team members Ice Miller, DDA, and Calfee Zoning to provide technical skill in planning, landscape architecture, economic development, market research and analysis, and zoning codes, has offered to facilitate this project on the City’s behalf; and

WHEREAS, such services require specialized skill, knowledge or training and, by the terms of the Whitehall Charter Section 64(b), need not be advertised or competitively bid, so long as such service contract is authorized by two-thirds vote of Council; NOW THEREFORE,

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

SECTION 1: This Council finds that it is reasonable and prudent that the City contract with OHM Advisors for the purpose of facilitating the development of these plans for the City of Whitehall.

SECTION 2: That the Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into a contract with OHM Advisors for the Economic Development Comprehensive Plan, thereby waiving competitive bidding pursuant to Section 64(b) of the Whitehall City Charter, as said contract is a professional services contract.

SECTION 3: The Mayor is authorized to enter into a contract with OHM Advisors to perform the services as stipulated in Attachment A for a total sum not to exceed of one hundred fifty two thousand and five hundred dollars (\$152,000.00) to be paid for by funds previously appropriated to the Economic Development Incentives/Planning #361.000.00000 and the Capital Improvement #311.000.54000.

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; WHEREFORE, this Ordinance shall go into full force and effect immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor for the future reason of having the Plan completed as soon as possible so it can be used as a tool in the 2025 budget.

Requested by: Mayor Michael Bivens
Prepared by: Jackie Russell, Economic Development Director 8/26/2025
Approved as to form: Brad Nicodemus, City Attorney 8/26/2025

STANDING COMMITTEES
ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT - CHAIRPERSON ELMORE

DRAFT # 5
RESOLUTION NO. 036-2025 (Adm. & Fin. Mgmt. -1st reading- Adopt 09-02-2025-Elmore/)

RESOLVING TO APPROVE “THEN AND NOW” CERTIFICATES.

WHEREAS, O.R.C. 5705.41(D)(1) states that “then and now” certificates of three thousand dollars and no/100 (\$3,000.00) and more must be approved by resolution or ordinance within thirty days of receipt of the “then and now” certificates; and

WHEREAS, the City has processed the attached “then and now” certificates over the sum of three thousand dollars and now these certificates require approval by City Council; and

WHEREAS, the Auditor of the City of Whitehall, Ohio has determined that, at the time of the making and execution of the certificates, a sufficient sum was appropriated by Council for the purpose of the requisition, and is currently deposited in the treasury and allocated to the appropriate account and free from any previous encumbrances; NOW, THEREFORE,

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

SECTION 1: That the City Council does hereby approve the attached “then and now” certificates:

SECTION 2: That the City Council of the City of Whitehall, Ohio, lawfully appropriated the expenditure, which the expense originated.

SECTION 3: That this Resolution shall go into full force and effect immediately upon its passage by the Council of the City of Whitehall and approval by the Mayor.

Requested and Prepared by: Steven Quincel, City Auditor

Approved as to form: Bradley S. Nicodemus, City Attorney bsn 8/26/2025

COMMUNITY AND ELDER ADVOCACY– CHAIRPERSON HARCAR

Members: Heck, Dixon, Brown

No drafts or pending legislation.

COMMUNITY STANDARDS AND ENFORCEMENT – CHAIRPERSON SMITH

Members: Dixon, Elmore & Harcar

THIRD READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 073-2025 (*Comm. Stand, & Enf. – 3rd reading – ADOPT- 09-02-2025-Smith/Dixon*)
AMENDING SECTION 1136, TITLED FLOOD DAMAGE REDUCTION, OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING CODE OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL.

PUBLIC HEARING AT PLANNING COMMISSION SCHEDULED FOR August 28, 2025
PUBLIC HEARING SEPTEMBER 2, 2025

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – CHAIRPERSON DIXON

Members: Smith, Morrison, Brown

PRESENTATION:

Economic Development Director Jackie Russell
Understanding Local Taxes & The Economic Development Process in the State of Ohio.

INFRASTRUCTURE, MAINTENANCE AND SERVICES - CHAIRPERSON DEVIN BROWN

No drafts or pending legislation.

PUBLIC SAFETY – CHAIRPERSON MORRISON

Members: Elmore, Heck, Harcar

No drafts or pending legislation.

PARKS AND RECREATION – CHAIRPERSON HECK

Members: Elmore, Harcar, Smith

DRAFT # 6

RESOLUTION NO. 037-2025 (Park & Rec -1st reading- Adopt 09-02-2025-Heck/)

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT ASSISTANCE FROM THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES VIA OHIO’S URBAN FORESTRY GRANT PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources has reimbursable grants available from USDA Forest Service, from Inflation Reduction Act funding, intended to substantially invest in the long-term growth and development of local urban and community forestry programs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Whitehall desires to develop and execute a plan to protect its existing urban tree canopy and sustainably grow its public tree inventory; and

WHEREAS, the City of Whitehall desires to apply for and accept a reimbursable grant offered through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources in an amount not to exceed one hundred thousand and no/100 dollars (\$100,000); and

WHEREAS, the City of Whitehall is not required to provide any matching funds or in-kind services in order to accept said grant funding; NOW, THEREFORE,

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

SECTION 1: That the Mayor is hereby authorized to apply for and accept an Ohio Urban Forestry Grant(s) in an amount not to exceed one hundred thousand and no/100 dollars (\$100,000).

SECTION 2: That the Mayor as Chief Executive Officer and Shannon Brady as Official Representative and Program Contact be directed and authorized to act in connection with the application.

SECTION 3: That this resolution shall take effect and be in force from the earliest period allowed by law.

Requested and Prepared by: Shannon Brady, Parks and Recreation Director
Approved to Financial Form: Steve Quincel, City Auditor SQ/jo 08/25/2025
Approved as to form: Bradley S. Nicodemus, City Attorney bsn 08/26/2025

ADJOURN