**TOWN OF WHITEHALL**

**P.O. BOX 529**

**WHITEHALL, MT 59759**

**February 13th, 2025**

*There was a public hearing of the Town Council on* ***Tuesday, February 18 at 6:30 pm****. The meeting was held in the Town Hall Council Chambers at 207 East Legion Ave.*

**Ordinance 2024-5**: An ordinance of the town of Whitehall regulating the use of campers and RVs within the town limits, establishing permit requirements and time limitations for temporary living, and providing penalties for violations.

**Ordinance 2024-6**: An Ordinance regulating temporary shelters within the city limits of Whitehall, Montana.

*Both Ordinances were read. Bill Lanes began with discussing concerns about longer stays including extending stays, proper committee powers (possibly planning board), private property rights including written permission from property owner, possibly making standards the same as building codes, and wants less vague definitions. Linda Jung read Bill Lanes’ written notes and stated that permission would have to be required to access private property. Katy James wants an extension clause to be added and some leniency to remove the possibility of jail time. Pat Peterson wanted it to be clear that parking should be on private property and not on the street in front of the property. Public comment started with Podrick Moriarty stating he was concerned about homelessness and the current situation in Bozeman happening in Whitehall’s future. Sandy Kraha spoke next about the ordinance being a broad net trying to solve separate issues. She wanted to know why private property was included and believes that it should not be included. Bridget Morse also believes that it infringes on private property rights and privacy. Podrick Moriarty spoke again that this shouldn’t include private property, it should only pertain to public property and restated his previous thoughts.*

*There was a regular council meeting of the Whitehall Town Council on* ***Tuesday, February 18 at 7:00 pm****. The meeting was held in the Town Hall Council Chambers at 207 East Legion Ave.*

The agenda is as follows:

**AGENDA**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

*Called to Order at 7:07pm*

**II. INTRODUCTIONS**

*Pat Peterson, Katy James, Linda Jung, Sara Unruh, Kennedy Kleinsasser, Mary Janacaro-Hensleigh, Bill Lanes, Shawn Hoagland, Roy McBride. Guests: Bridget Morse, Jim Buterbaugh, Tim Schober, Kory Klapan, Dan Hagerty, Leonard Wartman, Podrick Moriarty, Sandy Kraha, Tom Harrington, Gina Ossello*

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

*No Comment*

**V. AGENDA APPROVAL**

*Roy McBride motioned to approve agenda. Linda Jung seconded and the motion carried unanimously.*

**VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Bill Lanes motioned to approve the minutes and Linda Jung seconded. The motion carried unanimously.*

**VII. PRESENTATIONS**

1. Leonard Wartman – Energy project at Golden Sunlight Business Park

*Leonard Wartman and Tom Harrington spoke about the wind turbine and battery storage near Golden Sunlight Business Park. Phase one will take 12-18 months and FAQs are currently being complied. Both Northwestern Energy and Vigilante Electric will be operating there.*

**VIII. REPORTS - PLEASE KEEP REPORTS WITHIN A 3 TO 5-MINUTE SYNOPSIS**

1. Mayor's Report and Public Service Announcements

*Mary Janacaro-Hensleigh acknowledged Pat Peterson’s resignation from Town Council. thanked the Public Works department for extra work with the snow, announced that the office hours for Town Hall will change on March 31st to open Monday-Thursday from 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m., announced special meetings for Planning Board and Town Council on February 27th, and the board member opening for TIFF along with the Town Council member opening.*

1. Officer's Reports
   1. Attorney

*Not present*

* 1. Clerk

*Sara Unruh gave an update on trainings completed and future training.*

* 1. Public Works

*Kory Klapan asked people to heat tape their water meters due to a large number of water leaks due to the cold weather. He reported that there were 16 days of chlorination as per DEQ standards, they are conducting the lead and copper inventory, half of the equipment has been serviced, cemetery services and roads conditions, and the water treatment plant builders are back working.*

* 1. Fire Chief

*Kory Klapan reported on behalf of Colton Howser. He listed the amount of calls received and the items have been ordered from the purchase order.*

* 1. Sheriff

*Not present*

* 1. County Commissioner

*Dan Hagerty reported on current road hazards and sign improvements, solid waste has issued new permits, and their meetings are now accessible on YouTube.*

1. Committee/Board Reports
   1. Planning Board

*Linda Jung reported the building permit for the Whitehall Food Pantry, codification of ordinances, and updating the zoning maps.*

* 1. Sewer, Water, and Garbage

*Kory Klapan gave an update on the water treatment plant including additions and deductions.*

* 1. Streets, Alleys, and Sidewalks

*Kory Klapan reported on the millings project, the transportation grant for the sidewalks, and future tree removal.*

* 1. Parks, Trees, and Cemetery

*Committee does not meet during the winter.*

* 1. Pool Board

*Katy James reported there was no meeting.*

* 1. Rec Complex

*Roy McBride reported there was no meeting.*

* 1. Whitehall Tax Incremental Finance District

*Katy James is new chairman and she reported the original grant application will be used again. Jenna Gill is resigning from the board.*

**VIII. CONSENT AGENDA**

*Pat Peterson read the consent agenda. Roy McBride motioned to approve and Linda Jung seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Business License**

**Cleary Building Corp.**

**Operation Organization**

**WSG/SAS**

**4 W Viella –** credit $814.68

**28 Rocky Mountain Drive –** credit $239.92

**Planning Board**

**Whitehall Food Pantry** – addition to structure – recommending approval

**Codification of Ordinances** – recommending approval

**Miscellaneous**

Pat Peterson council resignation effective March 1, 2025

**XI. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Council Discussion and Determination of Remote Agreement with Kennedy Kleinsasser.

*Town Council went into executive session at 8:03 p.m. to discuss after New Business. Bill Lanes motioned to approve and Shawn Hoagland seconded. Motion failed. Katy James voted no. Linda Jung voted no. Bill Lanes voted yes. Shawn Hoagland voted yes. Roy McBride voted no. Pat Peterson left early and voted no by proxy.*

**XII. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Ordinance 2024-5: An ordinance of the town of Whitehall regulating the use of campers and RVs within the town limits, establishing permit requirements and time limitations for temporary living, and providing penalties for violations.

*Bill Lanes motioned to table due to public and Town Council concerns. Linda Jung seconded and it passed unanimously.*

1. Ordinance 2024-6: An Ordinance regulating temporary shelters within the city limits of Whitehall, Montana.

*Bill Lanes motioned to amend with the additional statement that it apply to public property. Roy McBride seconded and it passed unanimously.*

1. Resolution: 2025-2 A Resolution of the town council of Whitehall Montana changing the format of the meeting minutes from a verbatim transcript to a synopsis.

*Pat Peterson motioned to approve and Bill Lanes seconded. Discussion began about how long video was required to be kept (one year) and if kept longer than the required time, how much is the cost for a cloud account. Motion passed unanimously.*

1. Resolution: 2025-3 A Resolution for the town of Whitehall establishing a compensatory time policy for overtime hours.

*Katy James motioned to approve and Roy McBride seconded. It was stated that compensatory time has been paid but the Town does not have a current policy in place. The motion passed unanimously.*

1. Resolution: 2025-4 A Resolution for the town of Whitehall establishing a flexible worktime policy for employees.

*Linda Jung motioned to approve and Pat Peterson seconded. It was discussed when flex time could be used. It was then amended by Linda Jung that flex time could only be used within the same pay period. It was seconded by Roy McBride and passed unanimously.*

1. Council discussion and determination: Gina Ossello/Wisner Family pickleball/tennis court

*Gina Ossello presented information about funding for the project plan and engineer and possible future funding from the Wisner Family. Roy McBride motioned to use existing funds and Shawn Hoagland seconded. It passed unanimously.*

1. Council discussion and determination: Lease agreement with Jefferson County Health Department

*Katy James motioned and Roy McBride seconded. It was discussed that Health Department would use the City Court on Tuesday afternoons. Dan Hagerty explained that registered nurses would be there and use it as a satellite office. It passed unanimously.*

**XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Nothing is debated or voted on during public comment. This is where the public gets the opportunity to talk about anything that is NOT on the agenda.

*Bridget Morse requested that the agenda and minutes be available on the website. She also mentioned that there is a hole in her alley and it was not marked properly. Gina Ossello wanted to know how to enroll in paperless utility billing. Sandy Kraha was concerned about the stop signs at the intersection of 1st Street and A Street not being well illuminated.*

**XIV. UNSCHEDULED MATTERS**

*None*

**XV BILL/CLAIM APPROVAL LIST TO BE SIGNED BY ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS**

*Roy McBride motioned to approve and Pat Peterson seconded. Passed unanimously.*

**XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

*Roy McBride motioned to adjourn and Bill Lanes seconded. Passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.*

Next Special Meeting, **Thursday, February 27, 2025 at 7:00 p.m**.

Next Regular Council Meeting, **Monday, March 17, 2025 at 7:00 p.m**.

Notice: All meetings are subject to executive session as permitted by MCA 2-3-203.