

Chris Hallum
President of Council

Mike Kline
Vice President of Council

Clerk of Council

City of Willoughby Hills

Council
JANET R MAJKA
TANYA TAYLOR DRAPER
JOE JARMUSZKIEWICZ
NANCY FELLOWS
DAN KNECHT

Committee: Council of the Whole

Date: February 24, 2020

Time: 6:00PM

Committee Members

Chair	
	Councilman Chris Hallum
	Councilwoman Joe Jarmuszkiewicz
	Councilman Tanya Taylor Draper
	Council Vice President Mike Kline
	Councilwoman Janet Majka
	Councilman Dan Knecht

Also Present

Mayor Gardner
Finance Director Brichacek

Order of Business

Ordinance 2020-11 – Authorizes the expenditures for engineering fees for the 2020 Street Rehabilitation Program (resurfacing of Beech Hills, Evergreen, and Graylock) – This will be read 3 times to enable the public to comment if they wish.

Ordinance 2020-12 – Amends the trash & recycle program to include yard waste pickup.
Executive Asst. Gloria Majeski & Road Superintendent Mark Grubiss provided a presentation on the history of the brush pile, and the benefit of adding the yard waste pickup to our contract.

Mr. Grubiss made clear that the addition of yard waste pickup has no impact on our current leaf pickup program provided by our Service Department. The crews will still pick up leaves in the fall and early spring. The brush pile at the Community center is permanently closed. The cost to the city to man the dump (due to a lot of illegal and improper dumping), and the cost of continuously clearing the area and taking everything to the local dump was not cost effective for the city. The new feature added to our trash & recycling program will enable residents that participate in the program and have the plastic roll-away trash bins provided by Republic will be able to put out branches in 3 foot sections bundled, fill the paper lawn bags (which can be purchased at local home improvement stores or online for approximately .50/bag) with grass clippings, leaves, and other yard waste. Residents will then place the yard waste at the curb with their roll-away bins. Residents trash and recycle bill from Republic would increase by about \$7/quarter. Residents that purchase the trash bags will not be included in the yard waste service.

Council will be holding hearings at the next 2 Council of the Whole meetings (March 9 and 23) to enable residents to ask questions and share their thoughts on this new service.

The Grange was also discussed regarding updating the usage and access ordinance. Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz stated that it is currently open to scout troops (boys & girls). He suggested that we open it up to nature and sanctioned non-profit groups as well. Issues that need to be reviewed/address are; insurance coverage, over night stays, security needs, a Memorandum of Understanding for sanctioned groups, and indemnification. Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz will meet with the new Law Director to review concerns and put together a recommendation for updating the ordinance for the Grange.

New Key Policy – It came to the attention of the new administration and council that there did not seem to be a policy or log of what keys were out, and who had keys to different city buildings and assets. Mayor Gardner has created a new

policy and any city official, employee, or resident in possession of any of these keys needs to come to city hall with the keys, review, log, and sign the new key policy.

WHISPER Program discussion was lead by Councilwoman Taylor Draper. She reviewed the timeline of what occurred with regard to the “temporary” cancellation of the program. Councilwoman Taylor Draper could find no reason why the program had not already been reinstated with additional safeguards discussed and implemented. Discussion was had amongst Council and most felt that the program could be reinstated putting a panel in place to review projects, define the requirements for participation in the program, define the types of projects that the program would undertake, and discuss the need for vetting of volunteers. Councilwoman Taylor Draper will meet with the Law Director to discuss necessary steps and come back with a proposed Ordinance.

GRANT TEAM – Mayor Gardner is putting together a grant team to work collaboratively seeking and obtaining grant funding to supplement city resources. The team would be composed of 7 members, to include; Mayor or a representative, and representative from Police, Fire, Service, City Council, City Engineer, and Finance.

Alcohol permit renewals – The city is required to review alcohol sales permit applications and renewals. We will be putting a process in place to better review and handle these in the future. The process would include reports from the Police and Fire indicating if they have any objection to the renewal or permit. Council would then review and pass a resolution to either object, or approve of the permit.

2020-13 Fixes the salary and compensation for the Clerk of Council. The new ordinance puts a pay scale in place of between \$20-\$26 per hour. The new clerk was offered \$23.50/hr. The ordinance provides for 14 days of vacation at 4 hours per day, and 9 holidays also at 4 hours per day. These are the same amount of vacation and holidays given to the prior Council Clerk.

Ordinance 2020-14 – authorizes the expenditure of engineering fees associated with the 2020 sewer rehabilitation project. Administration is attempting to get the city on a sustainable schedule to ensure that we have a properly maintained system in order to prevent backups and other sewer related impacts to our residents. The plan is to be able to cycle through our system every 10 years. This project is within our sewer budget. In order to be proactive in protecting our sewers and potentially save our residents down the road, Council will be considering a Point of Sale inspection for sewers of homes built before standards changed preventing storm lines to be connected to the sewer system.

Ordinance 2020-15 – Is the purposed 2020 budget. Finance Director Brichacek provided all of Council with the 2020 budget book, and stated that the budget is currently a \$100,000 surplus, but is not representative of whatever changes occur as a result of the union contract negotiations currently underway. He also stated for the first time in recent years, the city is virtually fully staffed, police, fire, safety, and administration.

Public Portion

Public Portion

Opened at 7:40PM

A resident recommended that the Grange remain only accessible to the scouts. Another resident appreciates all of the discussion that occurred and would suggested that we provide recordings of the meetings. Also, stated concerns over bringing back WHISPER without proper controls in place as well as avoiding financial related help. Another resident stated that we need WHISPER back now and fine tune after. A recommendation was also made to have more public input on the addition of the yard waste to our trash and recycle program.

Public Portion closed at 8:00PM

Time Meeting Adjourned:

8:00PM

Committee Chairman:

Chris Hallum