

Village of Whitehall

June 17, 2025 Public Hearing/ Regular Meeting 6:00PM

PRESENT: Mayor Smith, Trustee Norton, Trustee LaChapelle, Trustee Putorti, Trustee Neddo, Randy Lambert, Daimon and Rachael McNamara, Cheryl Putorti, Dana Grant, Diane Petrick, and EJ Conzola,

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Smith opened the Public Hearing to hear and take comments from the public regarding the Village of Whitehall's community development needs, and to discuss the possible submission of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) applications for the 2025 program year for housing, economic development, public facilities, public infrastructure and planning activities, with the principal purpose of benefiting low/moderate income persons. The Village anticipates submitting applications for grant funds which may include planning, public facilities, public infrastructure, economic development and housing.

No Public Comments.

Mayor Smith closed the Public Hearing at 6:03pm.

Mayor Smith opened the meeting to:

- Cheryl Putorti, Village Planning Board advising the Village Board receipt of a Request for Zoning Variance, held Public Hearing, and passed the Green House structure at 9 Elizabeth St., Whitehall, NY. Cheryl advised the Village Board that the Planning Board is moving forward to the County.
- Cheryl also advised the Board of new ownership of 160 acres on Death Rock Way, with the possibility of clearing of the property will be done. Planning Board advised new owners to maintain open communication.
- Cheryl, Chamber of Commerce advised the Board of advertising for the Festival this weekend., and the Sheriff is onboard with the extra coverage. The Chamber of Commerce is trying to bring more people into the community.
- Cheryl also advised the Board on Saturday June 28, 2025, a Walking Group of approximately 30-50 people from Albany is returning to our community after 3 years.
- Cheryl advised the Board of a new Village business on Main Street: Misses Whipple's Mercantile.
- Cheryl also advised the Board that June 29, 2025 marks the 250th Anniversary of Whitehall, with LaFayette Ceremony coming to Whitehall.
- Dana Grant questioned the Board regarding the property diagonal of Stewarts. Mayor indicated Attorneys have been contacted.
- Cheryl advised the Board of the updates and repairs done to the Riverside Park fountain.
- Daimon and Rachel McNamara read correspondence dated 06/10/2025 sent to the Village Board regarding the replacement sidewalk completed by the Village and as a result the "raised" sidewalk creates challenges for the McNamara's for deliveries and driveway use. Mayor indicated he will discuss with DPW.

APPLICATIONS: Motion made by Trustee Putorti to accept and file Application, seconded by Trustee Neddo, all in favor, **CARRIED**

BILLS: Motion made by Trustee LaChapelle, seconded by Trustee Norton to approve payment of abstract covering claims 25-00689 to 25-00707 for \$239,339.75, all in favor, **CARRIED**

REPORTS:

- Justices Johnson submitted a report for the month of May 2025

Motion made by Trustee LaChapelle to accept and file the reports, seconded by Trustee Putorti, all in favor, **CARRIED**

Motion made by Trustee Norton, seconded by Trustee Watson to adopt the attached Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Sign the FY 2024 Community Development Block Grant Agreement, all in favor, **CARRIED**

Mayor introduced the following resolution: Resolution Authorizing the Submission of An application to The New York State Department of State Local Government Citizens Re-Organization Empowerment Grant for Grant Funds to Support Costs Associated with the Development and Dissemination of Information Regarding the Impact of Dissolution of the Village of Whitehall, NY.

Trustees Norton and Neddo shared concerns of affecting current grants, and requested more information before making a motion. Mayor tabled the discussion pending further information from specialist.

Motion was made by Trustee Norton, seconded by Trustee Putorti to adopt CDBG Resolution Authorizing Submission of a Grant Application to the NYS Office of Community Renewal through the 2025 Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) Process, all voting in favor, **CARRIED**

Mayor informed the Village Board of Peckham's use of DPW hydrant. Motion was made by Mayor and seconded by Trustee Putorti to permit Peckham's use of the DPW hydrant, all voting in favor, **CARRIED**

Mayor introduced NYMIR Flood Insurance coverage/Vehicle and equipment included in the policy. Determined upon finalization of the policy a Village Board motion will be made.

Motion was made by Trustee Putorti, seconded by Trustee Norton to omit the following language from the Employee Handbook:

- All DPW employees hired after June 1, 1998 must obtain the appropriate CDL license within (12) months of employment
- All drivers receive the Defensive Driving Training every (3) years

all voting in favor, **CARRIED**

Trustee Norton requested update on MJ Engineering regarding the Water/Sewer Improvements. Mayor indicated MJ has been working the Engineering scope and the contract.

Trustee Norton requested update on the SPDES permit, and will discuss with Charlie.

Motion made by Trustee Putorti and seconded by Trustee Neddo to enter Executive Session regarding Personnel at 6:52pm, all voting in favor, **CARRIED**

Motion made by Trustee Norton, seconded by Trustee LaChapelle to adjourn executive session and to reconvene into regular session at 7:06pm, all voting in favor, **CARRIED**

Motion made by Mayor to adjourn the meeting 7:08pm, seconded by Trustee Neddo, all in favor, **CARRIED**

Dawn M. Anthony
Clerk-Treasurer