

**TOWN OF WHITEHALL**  
**P.O. BOX 529**  
**WHITEHALL, MT 59759**  
**Posted September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

*There will be a public hearing of the Whitehall Town Council on **Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 6:45 pm** regarding the Ordinance No. 2025-01 an ordinance of the Town of Whitehall adopting amendments to the Zoning Map. The public hearing will be held in the Town Hall Council Chambers at 207 East Legion Ave. **The hearing started at 6:45 pm. The ordinance was read. There were no comments from the public. The hearing closed at 6:48 pm.***

*There will be a regular council meeting of the Whitehall Town Council on **Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 7:00 pm**. The meeting will be held in the Town Hall Council Chambers at 207 East Legion Ave.*

The agenda is as follows:

**AGENDA**

- I. CALL TO ORDER** – *The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.*
- II. INTRODUCTIONS** – *Mary Janacaro Hensleigh, Linda Jung, Katy James, Bill Lanes, Roy McBride, Jessica Ward, and Sara Unruh. Guests – Tim Schober, Cody Hagerty, Jim Buterbaugh, Doug Dodge, Maxine Samuelson, Kris Hayden, Duane Hayden, Joel Andrews, Tayla Andrews, Kory Klapan, Dan Hagerty, Chiara Schober, Liz Pullman, Kelly Seccomb, Kelsey McDuff, and Brad McDuff.*
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS** - *None*
- V. AGENDA APPROVAL** – *Roy McBride motioned to approve. Linda Jung seconded and the motion passed unanimously.*
- VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – *Linda Jung motioned to approve. Bill Lanes seconded and the motion passed unanimously.*
- VII. PRESENTATIONS**
  - a. Study Commission Report – Jim Buterbaugh

*Jim Buterbaugh read the report. It is attached to the packet. Linda Jung stated she was on the study commission and described the educational*

*classes that were required. The report gets recorded at the County. Bill Lanes asked what happens to the remaining budget. Linda Jung stated that it goes back into the general budget. Liz Pullman asked what were the other types of government. Jim Buterbaugh and Linda Jung described the different types and that it would be costly to change the type of government.*

b. Montana Main Street Report – Chiara Schober

*Chiara Schober stated she is the Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce. The last meeting was September 10<sup>th</sup> which was mandatory. Coordinators are planning on visiting Whitehall in 2026. Chiara Schober is attending the grant webinar and asked for questions from the public that she can ask. She explained that the goal of the group is to find ways to benefit small towns including wayfinding and rebranding.*

c. FEMA Flood Hazard Map and Appeal/Comment Period – Sara Unruh

*Sara Unruh stated that she is the Whitehall Floodplain Coordinator. The Flood Insurance Rate Maps are being updated and the comment and appeal period opened on September 10<sup>th</sup> and will close on December 9<sup>th</sup>. The maps are available online as well as in person at Town Hall. Any comments and appeals will need to be submitted to her during this period.*

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

a. Mayor's Report and Public Service Announcements – Mary Janacaro

*Hensleigh reported that she attended the Big Sky Passenger Rail meeting in Livingston last week. There were speakers from the two companies that manufacture trains. Depot planning was a highly discussed topic. The current phase is planned to take 8 years. Both Senator Sheehy and Senator Daines are supports of the Big Sky Passenger Rail.*

b. Officer's Reports

a. Attorney - None

b. Clerk – *Sara Unruh gave an update on Jessica Ward's training as the new treasurer. The annual budget was approved and will be sent to the state this month. Delinquent accounts for utility customers were sent late notices and any that were not paid by today were given a door hanger at their residence. Any accounts that are unpaid by the following Monday are subject to having their water shut off.*

c. Public Works – *Kory Klapan reported that samples were taken last week. There were two leaks in town. The sewer lagoon is good and there will be*

*one more turn with the pivot. The sewer headworks project has just started. The chip seal project is done. The new cemetery shed is now being used for storage. He reported that in the coming weeks the pool will be winterized and the sprinklers around town will be blown out.*

- d. Fire Chief – *Brad McDuff reported on the fallen firefighter procession that began in Whitehall. The DNRC staffing started in July and will be ending soon. Pump testing took place in which one failed and will be repaired. Wildland tools were purchased with a DNRC grant and fundraising money. Some gear is currently out of compliance or will be out of compliance in 2026. They plan on using fundraising money, grants, and budget funds to replace this gear by the end of next year. There were a total of 28 calls last month.*
  - e. Sheriff - *None*
  - f. County Commissioner – *Dan Hagerty reported that the budget was approved. He stated there was misunderstanding about Leonard Wortman. Leonard Wortman became a commissioner for Powell County where he now resides and not in Jefferson County where he was previously a commissioner.*
- c. Committee/Board Reports
- a. Planning Board – *Linda Jung reported that all the permits and the application form update were approved and are on the consent agenda. The ordinances have now been codified.*
  - b. Sewer, Water, Garbage, Streets, Alleys, and Sidewalks – *Kory Klapan reported on the milling project. The water treatment plant timeline for distribution has been pushed back. Four valves were added to the original plans and must be reprogrammed for the entire plant. Currently looking for funding for the well. TA and TIF grants were used during the sidewalk project. The utility account adjustments are on the consent agenda.*
  - c. Parks, Trees, and Cemetery - *None*
  - d. Pool Board – *Kelley Seccomb reported that they are still working on the final revenue report. They discussed increasing the daily admission fee. Kelley Seccomb will be looking into grants and fundraisers for the pool resurfacing project. A pool liner may also be a option and she is researching it. She stated that they are looking for a new board member since one has resigned.*
  - e. Rec Complex Board - *None*
  - f. Whitehall Tax Incremental Finance District – *Mary Janacaro Hensleigh stated there was no quorum last week and the meeting will be held on Wednesday at 7 pm.*

**VIII. CONSENT AGENDA** – *The consent agenda was read by Katy James. Roy McBride motioned to approve. Bill Lanes seconded and the motion passed unanimously.*

**Planning Board**

**Development Permit – 105 Yellowstone Trail – Patio Cover**  
**Development Permit – 11 Rocky Mountain Drive – Fence**  
**Development Permit – 304 Brooke Street North – Carport**  
**Development Permit – 406 1<sup>st</sup> Street West – Shop and Lean-to**  
**with amendment of original application**  
**Development Permit – 206 Yellowstone Trail – Shop**  
**Development Permit Application Update**

**WSGSAS Board**

**170 Corbett Loop – \$2.17 Credit**  
**113 Second Street West - \$22.80 Credit**  
**105 Brooke Street South - \$1037.13 Credit**

**Miscellaneous**

**Street Closure – Main Street adjacent to Main Street Green –**  
**Harvest Festival**  
**Legion Park Usage – Sept 20th at 3 pm – Birthday Party**  
**Law Enforcement Levy Referendum**

**XI. OLD BUSINESS**

**a. Pool Fundraiser – Trip of the Month**

*Mary Janacaro Hensleigh stated that the fundraiser will be sponsored by Whitehall Events. Ed Guza had been contacted and he said the Town cannot participate in any gambling (including raffles). The proceeds will go to the pool for the resurfacing/relining project. Kelley Seccomb explained the raffle, including the amount of tickets and the prizes.*

**XII. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Adoption of Jefferson County Hazard Mitigation Plan – Roy McBride motioned to approve and Katy James seconded. Doug Dodge explained the plan and it is necessary to qualify for certain FEMA grants. It**

*was a two year process and a large report. The resolution for adoption will be on the agenda for next month.*

- b. Resolution No. 2025-12** A resolution relating to \$2,000,000 water system revenue bond, Series 2025C, confirming the issuance thereof and the security therefor and making certain designations and covenants in respect of the bond.  
*Roy McBride motioned to approve and Katy James seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.*
- c. Resolution No. 2025-13** A resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Whitehall, Montana adopting and approving a cost-of-living increase for certain employees of the Town of Whitehall.  
*Katy James motioned to approve and Linda Jung seconded. Liz Pullman asked which employees received the increase. Mary Janacaro Hensleigh stated it's the permanent employees that received it. The motion passed unanimously.*
- d. Resolution No. 2025-14** A resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Whitehall, Montana relating to the approval of the fiscal year 2025-2026 mill levies.  
*Linda Jung motioned to approve and Bill Lanes seconded. Liz Pullman asked which levies are being approved. Roy McBride and Mary Janacaro Hensleigh stated it is the same levies as previous years since no new levies have been passed. The motion passed unanimously.*
- e. Ordinance No. 2025-01** An ordinance of the Town Council of the Town of Whitehall, Montana adopting amendments to the Zoning Map.  
*Linda Jung motioned to approve and Bill Lanes seconded. Linda Jung commented that there were many corrections through the process. The motion 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.

*Maxine Samuelson stated that there was nothing said about being Mayor and that Mary Janacaro Hensleigh's report was only about the railroad meeting.*

*Kris Hayden stated that she felt the Town has failed answering her formal complaints. She quoted the nuisance law and easement law. She said Joel Andrews has built on the easement, his tires are a nuisance, cause blight, and are a public safety*

*hazard. She demanded that the Town enforce the easement and ordinances and have a written response within 30 days.*

*Joel Andrews responded to Kris Hayden's comment. He said he supplied the easement, survey, and additional documents to the Town. He stated there is another neighbor that has junk and cars on his property along with other properties throughout Whitehall with the same issues. He would prefer not to get the Town involved and doesn't believe going to court is necessary.*

#### **XIV. UNSCHEDULED MATTERS**

*Katy James stated she met with Liz Pullman and Sara Unruh to get the meeting days and times and updating the board member lists in the newspaper. She also stated there are updates needed on the website. The public can also request a digital copy of the packet and agenda. She suggested working on updating the ordinances with a board made up of council members and community members.*

**XV BILL/CLAIM APPROVAL LIST TO BE SIGNED BY ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS** - *Roy McBride motioned to approve. Bill Lanes seconded and the motion passed unanimously.*

**XVI. ADJOURNMENT** – *Roy McBride motioned to adjourn and Katy James seconded. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.*

Next Regular Council Meeting, **Monday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.**