

Council met in a **REGULAR MEETING**. The President of Council called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., the Clerk of Council offered the opening prayer, and the Pledge of Allegiance was cited.

Members Present: Mr. James M. Trisket (Ward 5)
Mrs. Ann I. Stranman (Ward 3)
Mr. August A. Pugliese (Ward 2)
Mr. Christopher J. McClure (Vice President)
Mr. J.P. Ducro IV (President)

Member(s) Absent: Mrs. Julie A. Lattimer (Ward 4)
Mr. Richard F. Balog (Ward 1)

Officer(s) Present: City Manager James M. Timonere, City Solicitor Michael Franklin
City Auditor Dana D. Pinkert, Clerk of Council LaVette E. Hennigan

Officer(s) Absent: None

Excused Absence: Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to excuse the Ward 4 and 1 Councilors from the meeting; motion CARRIED.

SUNSHINE LAW: The Clerk of Council certified conformity to the Sunshine Law.

PRESENTATION No. 1

The President said it was his honor to present **RESOLUTION NO. 2012-149 A RESOLUTION OF CONGRATULATIONS ON THE BICENTENNIAL OF METHODISM IN ASHTABULA, OHIO**, was presented to Mr. Milton Robinson, on behalf of the Ashtabula First United Methodist Church (AFUMC). The President said AFUMC has been a pillar of the community for many years, are grateful for all their good works, and thanked them for being good neighbors and community members.

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-149

**A RESOLUTION OF CONGRATULATIONS ON THE BICENTENNIAL OF
METHODISM IN ASHTABULA, OHIO**

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of this City Council and these Public Officials of the City of Ashtabula, Ohio, that Methodism in Ashtabula, Ohio has reached a milestone this year; and,

Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, September 17, 2012

WHEREAS, in 1812, Ashtabula's first Methodists joined to worship in a primitive log cabin with no heat and a simple dirt floor; and were visited every six weeks by a circuit-riding preacher; and

WHEREAS, over the next 200 years the church grew and thrived, and subsequent buildings were erected; and

WHEREAS, in 1905 the church forefathers built First United Methodist Church, the current stone structure located at 4506 Elm Avenue, Ashtabula, OH; and

WHEREAS, First United Methodist Church was the first church of any faith established in the City of Ashtabula; and

WHEREAS, First United Methodist Church has provided an abiding faith community for generations of Ashtabula residents and visitors to the area; and

WHEREAS, October 5-7, 2012, has been chosen as the weekend to celebrate 200 years of Methodism in Ashtabula.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by this Council and these Public Officers of the City of Ashtabula, Ohio, that we do hereby enact this Resolution of Congratulations to First United Methodist Church on, this, their 200th year in the City of Ashtabula, OH; and sincerely thank them for their "faithfulness"

Mr. Milton thanked Council for the resolution and announced the anniversary commemorating event scheduled to take place on Saturday.

Mrs. Stranman moved, Mr. Trisket seconded to adopt the resolution; motion CARRIED.

PRESENTATION No. 2

The President presented Russell Hanhिलammi (Lakeside High School Senior) and Logan Stowell (Lakeside High School Junior) with "We Believe in Ashtabula" t-shirts in honor of the work they are doing to clean up the City. They have titled their team the "Community League". Persons interested in helping their cause may email the Clerk of Council at lhennigan@ashtabulacity.com or the President at jpducro@yahoo.com.

Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, September 17, 2012

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:25 p.m. the Manager requested an Executive Session to discuss Personnel (Employment). Mr. Trisket moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to grant the Manager's request. On the roll call to convene an Executive Session: Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED. Attendees: Council members present at the meeting, the City Solicitor, City Manager, City Auditor, Clerk of Council, and Police Chief Robert Stell.

RECONVENE PUBLIC PORTION

At 7:45 p.m., the President announced the public meeting reconvened; and that no action stemming from the executive session was required.

READING AND DISPOSAL OF MEETING MINUTES - None

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Grant

The City Manager asked for a resolution/ordinance to apply for funding through the ODNR, Division of Watercraft for buoys for the Walnut Beach swim area. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Trisket seconded to grant the Manager's request; motion CARRIED.

Public Works Roof Repair

The City Manager requested an ordinance to enter into an agreement with Building Technicians of 4500 Clay Street, Geneva, OH 44041 in the amount not to exceed \$37,800.00, for the purpose of providing equipment and labor to repair/replace the Public Works Building roof. Funding for this expenditure will be taken from Account Number 412-200-5552, entitled Building Maintenance. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Trisket seconded to grant the Manager's request; motion CARRIED.

Water Pollution Control (WPC) Electric Gate Installation

The City Manager requested an ordinance to enter into an agreement with Notter Electric Company, Inc., of 3042 West 13th Street, Ashtabula, OH 44004 as sole bidder for the purpose of providing equipment and labor for the installation of an electric gate for the WPC Facility in the amount not to exceed \$35,000.00. Funding for this expenditure will be taken from Account Number 503-150-5500, entitled Capital Improvements. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Trisket seconded to grant the Manager's request. The President asked the Manager to outline the process for bidding projects. The Manager reported any project over \$15,000 has to be publically bid through the newspaper for two weeks. The motion CARRIED.

Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, September 17, 2012

Police Dispatch Ductless AC Units

The City Manager requested an ordinance to enter into an agreement with Have, Inc. of P.O. Box 912 Ashtabula, OH 44005 in the amount not to exceed \$13,480.00 as the lowest and best proposal to provide a ductless AC Unit for the Police Dispatch office. Funding for this expenditure will be taken from account number 412-200-5552, entitled Building Maintenance. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Trisket seconded to grant the Manager's request. The President asked if this project will repair equipment or install new. The Manager reported it will be a new install to help cool the electronics and computer equipment. The Vice President asked if the system will be adequate if more equipment is added. The Manager replied yes. The motion CARRIED.

Parks & Recreation Board

The City Manager reported the Board has asked to expend \$480.00 of their funds, (which funds are derived from the Aqua OH franchise fee), to Roto Rooter, Post Office Box 542, Ashtabula, OH 44004, to provide labor and equipment to install owner provided pipe fitting and yard hydrant for water service at the Smith Field Dog Park. He reported Aqua OH donated over \$1,700 in materials for this project. Mrs. Stranman moved, Mr. Trisket seconded to grant the Manager's request. The President thanked Aqua for their assistance, noting it would be difficult to move forward with improvements to the Dog Park was it not for them. The motion CARRIED.

Permanent Improvement Funds: The President reported Permanent Improvement funds are being expended on the above projects, and may only be used for improvements with five or more years of life.

Tire Amnesty Day (TAD): The TAD took place Saturday. Over 400 tires were disposed of. A lot of the grant dollars still remain therefore more days will be scheduled. Increasing the number of tires allowed to be disposed of at no charge is being discussed.

QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS FOR THE MANAGER – None

CITY SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Political Signs: The Solicitor said he believes there may be a misunderstanding as to where the City's Temporary sign legislation, including political signs, now stands. He reported earlier this year Council amended the sign legislation to remove limitations on the length of time a political sign could be up, and permanently waived the requirement that there be any permit or fees paid for political signs. The ordinance does still indicate that no temporary sign, including political signs, could be placed within a public treelawn or within a corner lot in such a way as to cause a view obstruction (to make it dangerous for traffic trying to turn a corner because they cannot see oncoming traffic because of numerous signs on the corner lot).

Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, September 17, 2012

There are also political sign size limitations in residential districts. They are to be no more than 16 square feet (4 feet by 4 feet), and should not be higher than four feet off the ground. He said as he travels throughout the City he noticed an awful lot of the signs are making their way into the treelawn. He said it is ultimately the City Manager and Public Services Superintendent's call, but wanted it to be known that signs illegally placed may be treated as rubbish, because the treelawn belongs to the City. He suggested signs on the treelawns be moved to the front lawn of the residence.

QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS FOR THE CITY SOLICITOR - None

CITY AUDITOR'S REPORT

Legislation Request: The City Auditor formally requested the following ordinances:

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-144 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1 OF ORDINANCE NO. 2012-118 RELATED TO PENSION PICKUP PAYMENTS FOR THE POLICE DIVISION IN ORDER TO INCORPORATE ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE REQUESTED BY THE OHIO POLICE & FIRE PENSION FUND. Mrs. Stranman moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to grant the Auditor's request; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-145 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1 OF ORDINANCE NO. 2012-119 RELATED TO PENSION PICKUP PAYMENTS FOR THE FIRE DIVISION IN ORDER TO INCORPORATE ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE REQUESTED BY THE OHIO POLICE & FIRE PENSION FUND. Mrs. Stranman moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to grant the Auditor's request. The President asked if additional language was requested. The Auditor replied yes, and that the Pension Board asked the City to add language specifying that the second half of City's pension pick up for an employee be in the form of a payroll deduction. The practice was being carried out, however the ordinance did not specify it to be the practice. The motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-150 AN ORDINANCE REPEALING, IN ITS ENTIRETY, PAYROLL ORDINANCE NO. 2012-106, PASSED ON JUNE 18, 2012, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENACTING A NEW JOB DESCRIPTION AND PAY SCALE FOR THE POSITION OF CLERK/TYPIST (PART-TIME), AS AGREED UPON BY AFSCME LOCAL #1197. The President announced "AS AGREED UPON BY AFSCME LOCAL #1197 will be removed. Mrs. Stranman moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to grant the Auditor's request, with the removal of the language as stated by the President; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-151 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING COMPENSATION, SALARIES, AND WAGES TO ALL EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, OHIO. Mrs. Stranman moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to grant the Auditor's request. The President reported this ordinance outlines the changes made as noted in Ordinance No. 2012-150.

Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, September 17, 2012

He also reported that the position of Clerk/Typist (Part-Time) mentioned in Ordinance No. 2012-150 is not a new job title, but that the responsibility of the position has been upgraded, including the pay. The Auditor confirmed this to be true. The motion CARRIED.

Financials

Through August 31: The Auditor reported the combined fund balances are about 4.3 million; with the bulk being Permanent Improvement, General Fund, Waste Water Treatment, and Worker's Compensation. The overall revenue collections are at 69% for the year; expenditures are at 57% for the year. The General Fund cash balance is \$171,150. It is higher than it normally would be because the 2nd half property tax was received from the county. Property Tax revenues represent a large portion of the General Fund revenue.

QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS FOR THE CITY AUDITOR – None

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORT

Community / Economic Development / Parks & Recreation (Mrs. Stranman/Mr. McClure):

The Chair gave a recap of the Committee's Wednesday, September 5 meeting, as follows:

Bike Lanes/Rakes: The city is not in a financial or logistical position to proceed immediately with Mr. Nik Tressler's idea to create bike lanes on main City streets. The Clerk of Council suggested we could begin to become "bike friendly" by placing bike rakes at the municipal building and other City facilities, which the Manager is going to look into.

Downtown Activities: Discontinuing the MultiCultural Festival was discussed at recent Ashtabula Downtown Development Association (ADDA) meeting. At the September 14 ADDA meeting she attended, it was reported that the festival committee meets on September 27 to continue the discussion. The Festival is not attracting people to the businesses.

Bridge Street: The Lift Bridge Community Association (LBCA) is going to install bike rakes, signage and continue to work on their Big 3 Projects (Walnut Beach, streetscape, and extending Rails-to-Trails to Harbor area).

Parks & Recreation: Projects are taking place at Smith Field and Walnut Beach. Aqua OH donated \$1,700 in materials for the Smith Field Dog Park waterline installation. Roto Rooter is going to assist with the installation. The Dog Park Association would like volunteers to help with the installation on September 22, 9:00 a.m., and will continue until completed on the 23rd if necessary.

Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, September 17, 2012

Walnut Beach Concession Project: The Manager told the Committee the project will consist of: Installing doors to provide outside access to restrooms when the concession stand is closed, and complete restroom remodel, which should be completed before 2013 swimming season.

Parks & Recreation Board Meeting: The Chair attended the September 11 Board meeting, which could not take place the second month in a row due to the lack of a quorum. There is one vacancy and another member will be resigning, causing the Manager to have to make two appointments. At the Board's next meeting they hope to summary the 2012 activities and begin 2013 planning.

Mural: Mr. Raab reported to the P&R Board he would finish the murals as quickly as possible, and are now completed. The Manager said he hopes to have a ribbon cutting soon, with the assistance of the Ashtabula Area Chamber of Commerce. The Chair also hopes a press release can be done soon.

Vision Statement: The discussion progressed to talking about the possibility of creating a community improvement group/district, made up of a citizen project advisory panel, much like those in Conneaut, Geneva, and Madison.

Town Hall Meetings: The Manager suggested having town hall meetings. They will be held in each ward. The Tentative scheduled is:

Ward 1 - October 11

Ward 2 – October 08

Ward 3 – October 25

Ward 4 – November 1

Ward 5 – November 8

The location and times will be announced in a press release.

The Chair reported that immediately after discussing the community improvement group/district concept, the President received an email from Messrs. Hanhila and Stowell about their project. The Chair said things are happening in the community, and that folks are initiating them with local government having to do so. Her hope is that one day there will be a functioning community group in place with many members helping on various community projects.

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church Outreach Group Community Meeting (held at Zion Church): The Chair attended their Saturday, September 15 meeting – a good meeting. The group will work closely with the schools, get involved with some of the programs for at-risk youth, and possibly build on their “Fresh Start” program for teen mothers.

Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, September 17, 2012

She told them about the proposed town hall meetings and suggested they attend to hear issues the public presents, and find other opportunities to assist the community. Her hope is that the individual groups can work on projects together and give City leaders suggestions on what areas to focus on.

Meeting: The Committee will not meet in October unless something pressing comes up. They will “play it by ear” to determine if they need to meet any more this year, due to upcoming budget meetings, and to eliminate the possibility of folks getting meeting burn out.

Finance and Personnel - (Mr. Ducro, IV/Mrs. Lattimer): The Chair reported on the Committee’s Friday, September 14 meeting as follows:

Finances

Street Lighting Assessment Revenues: were down a bit from what was budgeted because of unpaid taxes.

EMS Billing: was referred to the Safety Forces Committee to obtain an update from the Fire Department on the services and revenue.

Leachate: How deposits of this material at the Sanitation are affecting the Sanitation and Waste Water Treatment finances were discussed.

Bond Rating: The City’s rating was discussed.

Auditor’s Department: The Committee reviewed a request to modify Clerk/Typist job description in order to fill the department vacancy.

Retirement: Deputy Auditor Karen Jury’s formal retirement letter was discussed, and how it will affect the department operations. Restructuring job duties in the department and how the department might look moving forward was discussed.

Education Reimbursement: The Committee reviewed a request for college tuition reimbursement and consideration going forward. The Local AFSCME union contract, and a memorandum issued by previous Manager Cantagallo and Council President Brockway announcing no educational reimbursement would be awarded unless prior approval of the request was reviewed. This procedure will continue to be implemented. Reimbursement may be authorized, but depends on various factors - the City’s finances being a critical element.

Indigent Burial: Not much time was spent on formulating a policy, therefore will be revisited at the next Committee meeting.

Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, September 17, 2012

Street Cut Inspections: Eighty-eight (88) street cuts have been made by Aqua OH since April. They have not been billed. The Chair asked the Manager where the revenues are booked. The Manager responded Code Enforcement or Engineering, reminding that both departments were consolidated into one Planning & Community Development Department (P & CDD). The Chair asked what the revenue is expected to be collected for the 88 cuts. The Manager said it can be quite significant. Depending on the age of the road the cost could be \$500 for one cut. Unfortunately it has been determined that going back 1.5 years, we know some of the cuts were not billed. The P & CDD has caught up the Dominion East Ohio Gas (DEOG) street cut billings and is getting caught up with Aqua. The 88 cuts are those performed since Aqua purchased Ohio American Water Company in April 2012. Requests for street cuts are being compared to the OOPS report, and billed accordingly. The Manager said he believes the DEOG billing was over \$20,000.

Education Reimbursement: The Chair clarified that the policy language reads, “The **City** must authorize educational reimbursement”. The conclusion was that for departments under the Manager, the Manager would be “the City”; and Council would be “the City” for those departments under them. The Committee’s recommendation was that if the requests could be handled through appropriations during the budget process that the department heads under Council (Clerk, Auditor, Treasurer), would have the ability to approve education reimbursement requests for the year, based on their departmental budgets. (The Ward 2 Councilor who is a member of the Committee, and the Auditor concurred with the Chair’s report). The Ward 2 Councilor reminded the Chair that he and the Manager were going to author a document that would go to all departments regarding the education reimbursement policy/procedure. The President said it was agreed upon to use the exact same language the previous Manager and Council President enacted. He said the Manager believes the document’s language is redundant because it states what union contracts do. The Chair believes it will be a good backup. The President entertained a motion for, “Those in favor of the educational reimbursement being handled by the department heads under Council for the members of staff in their department through the budgetary process”...motion CARRIED.

Meeting: The Committee is scheduled to meet on Friday, October 12, at 8:00 a.m.

Public Works / Utilities / Schools – (Mr. August Pugliese/Mrs. Lattimer)

The Chair announced the September meeting had to be cancelled. He announced the following:

West 19th/West Avenue/Lake Avenue Intersection: Residents were reminded that if they are in the middle lane heading east on Carpenter Road, at the newly reconstructed intersection of West 19th/West Avenue/Lake Avenue, they must turn left. He said today he witnessed three vehicles that proceeded straight from said lane which caused a bottleneck.

Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, September 17, 2012

2012 Paving Program: The Chair said paving looks good.

West Avenue: The Chair reminded residents if they are travelling on Lake Avenue south, the right hand lane at Griswold Road is a “right turn only” lane.

Meeting: The Committee is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, October 9, at 8:00 a.m.

Safety Forces – (Mr. Balog/Mr. Trisket): The Vice Chair reported the upcoming meeting will be rescheduled due to the need to have the Chair present.

Work Session: The President asked the Manager if he has received word from the Painesville Crime Free Multi-Housing Officer. The Manager reported he has not yet made contact.

PUBLIC (LEGISLATION) PORTION - None

LEGISLATION READING

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-144 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1 OF ORDINANCE NO. 2012-118 RELATED TO PENSION PICKUP PAYMENTS FOR THE POLICE DIVISION IN ORDER TO INCORPORATE ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE REQUESTED BY THE OHIO POLICE & FIRE PENSION FUND, was presented. Mrs. Stranman moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; motion CARRIED. Mrs. Stranman moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinance: Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro vote yea; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-145 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1 OF ORDINANCE NO. 2012-119 RELATED TO PENSION PICKUP PAYMENTS FOR THE FIRE DIVISION IN ORDER TO INCORPORATE ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE REQUESTED BY THE OHIO POLICE & FIRE PENSION FUND, was presented. Mrs. Stranman moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; motion CARRIED. Mrs. Stranman moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinance: Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-146 AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2011-118 AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH MASTERMIND SYSTEMS, INC., FOR TECHNICAL SERVICES, was presented.

Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, September 17, 2012

Mrs. Stranman moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; motion CARRIED. Mrs. Stranman moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. It was reported that this contract and the contract noted in Ordinance No. 2012-147 below, were never acted upon; therefore the ordinances are no longer required. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinance: Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-147 AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2011-82 AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH MARN ENTERPRISE, LLC, D/B/A/ URC FOR UTILITY REVIEW SERVICES, was presented. Mrs. Stranman moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; motion CARRIED. Mrs. Stranman moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinance: Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-148 AN ORDINANCE CONFIRMING THE TITLE OF CHAPTER 1135 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA TO BE "C-4 SPECIAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT", was presented. Mrs. Stranman moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; motion CARRIED. Mrs. Stranman moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinance: Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-150 AN ORDINANCE REPEALING, IN ITS ENTIRETY, PAYROLL ORDINANCE NO. 2012-106, PASSED ON JUNE 18, 2012, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENACTING A NEW JOB DESCRIPTION AND PAY SCALE FOR THE POSITION OF CLERK/TYPIST (PART-TIME), AS AGREED UPON BY AFSCME LOCAL #1197, was presented. Mrs. Stranman moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; motion CARRIED. Mrs. Stranman moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinance: Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-151 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING COMPENSATION, SALARIES, AND WAGES TO ALL EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, OHIO, was presented. Mrs. Stranman moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; motion CARRIED. Mrs. Stranman moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings.

Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, September 17, 2012

On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinance: Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Speeding: The Ward 5 Councilor voiced concern with speeding throughout the community due to the removal of the traffic cameras. He said a few times he was at the intersection of West 58th Street and West Avenue where it seemed he was the only motorist that stopped at intersection. He called it “disheartening”.

Safety Forces

Grants: The Ward 2 Councilor reported other communities are receiving grants (e.g., police and fire), noting Akron just received a grant for police. He asked if the City of Ashtabula is able to do the same. The Manager reported the City is receiving one or two staffing grants at the present time. He said the Police Department keeps a look out for grants. He said there are grants for the purpose of employing veterans and minorities, which, at some point he hopes to institute. He said the difficulty with staffing grants is they expire.

National Day of Recognition: The President said he was made aware of the “Thank a Police Officer Day” which took place on Saturday, September 15. He thanked the Police Chief, his department, and law enforcement nationwide, for their service. He said his evening ride-along with K-9 Officer, Chris DeFina was an eye-opening experience. He said 10 years or more ago he did a ride along as part of his participation in LEADERship Ashtabula County. He said Officer DeFina was exceptional, very interesting to talk with, very engaging, also very conscientious as he moved throughout the community responding to calls. He said it was discouraging to hear the officer comment that some of the properties they visited are visited regularly. He commented on the disregard of the folks living at these places for their neighbors and the community. He said his ride along gave him an appreciation for a police officer’s responsibilities.

K-9 Officer Kero: The President extended his “thoughts and prayers” to Officer Hildebrand due to Kero’s cancer diagnose.

Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, September 17, 2012

Hall of Fame: Six persons were inducted into the Ashtabula Harbor and Lakeside High School Hall of Fame at a ceremony last Friday. He will mention their names at an upcoming Council meeting; noting he is proud they come from our City school district.

Problem Areas/Structures/People: The Solicitor reported Patrol DeFina has been working closely with Detective William Felt on the Criminal Nuisance enforcement program. He believes something around 14 or so letters to owners of those problem structures have been sent, advising them that our police division has had to pay more than three visits to their property within the last year dealing with either drugs, crimes of violence, or theft related offenses – primarily disorderly conduct. He reported several of the landlords said they honestly did not know they had problem tenants and are trying to take action to correct it; which is encouraging. The President said he was unaware of the program until he saw a book in the dispatch office. His hope is the City continues to grow the documentation history and make more of the landlords accountable for the actions at their properties.

Blue Mass: The Vice President reported the annual Blue Mass is coming up in October.

Neighborhood Meeting: The President thanked Chief Robert Stell, Detective Joseph Celletti, Officer William Felt, and the Manager for attending the St. Peter's Episcopal Church neighborhood meeting. Residents attended to voice concern about criminal activities in their neighborhood. They tremendously appreciated law enforcement presence at the meeting to educate them on what is going on, let them know the Police Department is aware of it, and inform them on how they may assist law enforcement in getting some neighborhood control back.

PUBLIC'S GENERAL PORTION

Karen Flack, 1827 West 6th Street: said she found in her paperwork a record that lists the Transfer Station pick up rate as \$75.00, but that she knows the fee has been reduce. She reported that at the last Council meeting she asked to be provided with the 2011 billing for Transfer Station dumping, denoting "who paid and who didn't". The Manager said he will get in touch with the Sanitation Department where the records are kept and see what they are able to provide.

Colin Fagan, 3115 Lincoln Drive (City Sanitation employee): reported he and his wife run and own a small trash removal business in the township. He said he presented a business proposal to the City over two weeks ago, and is present this evening to obtain a response. He asked if a day and time could be scheduled to set up some type of Transfer Rates. He said he exclusively used the Transfer Station for one and a half years, paying the same rates as anybody else. About three months ago he started having ongoing problems that the City Manager and Solicitor have become aware of, which they have tried to correct very diligently.

Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, September 17, 2012

He reported he approached the City Manager and Public Services Superintendent Dominic Iarocci a month ago to see about coming to Council for the purpose of setting up a rate that would be fair to both sides; but has not received a response. Mr. Fagan alleged that not all commercial haulers who dump at the Transfer Station are charged the same rate, and said he has documentation to prove it. He said at one time he, too, received a special rate. He believes if everyone was charged and paid the same amount the City would realize more, much needed, General Fund revenue. After much discussion the Ward 5 Councilor asked the Clerk of Council to provide a copy of the Transfer Station rate and the outline denoting how the fees are assessed, to Council. The Manager reported each commercial hauler operating in the City is required to pay a \$500 per truck fee, which Mr. Fagan has satisfied. The President said he would like to review Mr. Fagan's documentation; and that Sanitation revenue has no impact on the General Fund.

Adjournment: Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. McClure seconded to adjourn the meeting.

DATE APPROVED: **November 5, 2012**

ATTESTED BY: _____

J.P. Ducro IV
President of Council

ATTESTED BY: _____

LaVette E. Hennigan, MMC
Clerk of Council