

**Ashtabula City Municipal Building)
City of Ashtabula, Ohio)**

Monday, October 15, 2012

Council met in a **REGULAR MEETING**. The President of Council called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., the Ward 4 Councilor offered the opening prayer, and the Pledge of Allegiance was cited.

Moment of Silence: A moment of silence was observed due to the passing of former City employee, Ms. Florence Hahn.

Members Present: Mr. August A. Pugliese (Ward 2)
Mrs. Julie A. Lattimer (Ward 4)
Mr. Richard F. Balog (Ward 1)
Mr. James M. Trisket (Ward 5)
Mrs. Ann I. Stranman (Ward 3)
Mr. Christopher J. McClure (Vice President)
Mr. J.P. Ducro IV (President)

Member(s) Absent: None

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: None

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

READING AND DISPOSAL OF MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the **August 6 Regular Meeting** were presented. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded that the reading of the minutes be waived; motion CARRIED. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to approve the minutes. There being no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

The minutes of the **August 20 Regular Meeting** were presented. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded that the reading of the minutes be waived; motion CARRIED. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to approve the minutes. There being no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

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CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Legislation Requests: The City Manager requested the following ordinances:

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-162 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH CAPITAL RECOVERY SYSTEMS, INC., FOR THE COLLECTION OF UNPAID TRAFFIC CAMERA PROGRAM CIVIL PENALTIES. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to grant the Manager's request; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-163 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR AN EXCHANGE OF SERVICES. The Manager reported ODOT will plow, maintain (including mow), and salt the end of Route 11, which they historically have not done. In exchange, the City will process their truck wash fluid at our Waste Water Treatment Plant. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to grant the Manager's request; motion CARRIED.

Ohio Department of Development – 2012 Formula Grant Agreement

The City Manager requested an ordinance to enter into an agreement with the Ohio Department of Development, for the 2012 Formula Grant, A-F-12-2AD-1 in the amount not to exceed \$121,000.00. The City will use funds from this grant to purchase a sewer camera, parking deck lighting and demolition of blighted structures. The Manager provided the following cost breakdown at the request of the President: \$63,000 camera; \$31,000 deck lighting; \$6,000 Fair Housing Program; \$18,000 General Administration; \$2,600 Demolition (with a requirement for us to use \$46,219 of our Revolving Loan Funds), for a total of \$48,000 towards demolition. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to grant the Manager's request; motion CARRIED.

Surplus Equipment

The City Manager requested an ordinance to declare certain IT/Computer equipment and furniture partitions obsolete and/or material to be disposed of as scrap. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to grant the Manager's request; motion CARRIED.

Trick-or-Treat

The Manager announced City trick-or-treat will be observed on Wednesday, October 31, from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

2nd Tire Amnesty Day

The Manager reported the 2nd Tire Amnesty Day will be held on Saturday, November 3, from 8:00 a.m. Until 2:00 p.m. 10 tires will be allowed to be disposed of at no charge. Thereafter the cost will be \$3.00 per tire without a rim; \$5.00 with rims.

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Leaf Bag Pick Up

The Manager announced pick up is in the Harbor this week; next week Wards 2 through 5. He asked that leaves not be raked into the street, but rather placed in bags. November is free leaf bag month – no stickers required.

Town Hall Meeting

The Manager thanked the public, a member of the administration and the members of Council for attending the first town hall meeting in Ward 1 at Kent State @ Ashtabula last week. It was a small, intimate crowd with good discussion. Particulars on upcoming town hall meetings will be given to the media to announce.

West 32nd Street Railroad Crossing

The City Manager announced the crossing will be closed October 15 through 17 for repairs.

QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS FOR THE MANAGER

Leaf Bags: The Ward 4 Councilor asked if leaf bags should be placed at the curb on garbage day. The Manager replied yes, but that they might not get picked up the same day.

Point Park Clean Up: The President reported receiving a call that Point Park needs to be cleaned up. The Manager said he heard from the caller and will have Public Works clean up the area, “if there is a need”.

CITY SOLICITOR’S REPORT - None

QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS FOR THE CITY SOLICITOR - None

CITY AUDITOR’S REPORT

The City Auditor reported September closed with a total in funds of \$4.1 million; with about 25% being Permanent Improvement Funds, and the General Fund cash balance at \$665,201. We are within our budget, but will have some revenue shortfalls which are being discussed with the City Manager and the Finance & Personnel Committee.

QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS FOR THE CITY AUDITOR - None

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CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORT

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

The Chair reported:

Announcements:

Mural Ribbon Cutting took place on Wednesday, October 10. Members of Council, Administration, Parks & Recreation Board, and Senator Capri Cafaro were present.

Ward 1 Town Hall Meeting was October 11. The Manager assured Council the remaining ward town hall meetings will take place “probably” before the end of the year.

On Wednesday, October 17, Home Safe will host its annual walk against abuse, at Kent State @ Ashtabula, at 6:00 p.m. The Manager is a guest speaker. October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. It’s worth mentioning due to the tragedy that took place last week on Kain Avenue where the Chair resides.

The next meeting date will be announced and will take place when the Manager and the Planning & Community Development Director are available.

Manager brought Temporary Stores and Vacant Property Registry proposed legislation to the Committee

The Manager has a call into the City of Painesville in order to ask one of their Crime Free Multi-Housing Program officers to speak at an upcoming work session. The Ward 4 Councilor asked the Manager to again call Painesville. It was noted that this matter is not in Committee, and that the President is going to schedule a work session when the Manager receives a call back.

Finance and Personnel - (Mr. Ducro, IV/Mrs. Lattimer)

The Chair thanked Police Chief Stell for operating the camera in citizen Earl Tucker’s absence so that tonight’s meeting may be televised; and wished Mr. Tucker a speedy recovery.

The Chair reported on the Committee’s October 12 meeting, as follows:

Indigent Burial Policy: Reviewed another community’s policy, are making changes to it, and the Chair will work with the Manager in order to bring a final draft to the Committee in November.

Street Cut Inspections: Manager will work with Planning and Community Development Department to create a policy. Extending the bond limit out to 18 months has been suggested.

Auditor gave the financial report and various aspects of revenue were discussed.

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Appropriation Requests:

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-164 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FROM UNAPPROPRIATED GENERAL FUND 101, THE SUM OF \$75,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF TRANSFERRING FUNDS TO PUBLIC WORKS FOR THE PURCHASE OF SALT. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mr. Trisket seconded to grant the Committee's request; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-165 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FROM UNAPPROPRIATED PUBLIC WORKS FUND 205, THE SUM OF \$75,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF SALT. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mr. Trisket seconded to grant the Committee's request; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-166 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FROM UNAPPROPRIATED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) FUND 290, THE SUM OF \$60,000 FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF GRANT REVENUE. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mr. Trisket seconded to grant the Committee's request; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-167 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FROM UNAPPROPRIATED WASTEWATER TREATMENT FUND 503, THE SUM OF \$90,000 FOR DISTRIBUTION OF COUNTY SEWER REVENUE. The Auditor reported the City collects County sewer payments from their customers, collected more than expected, and therefore has to return it to them. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mr. Trisket seconded to grant the Committee's request; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-168 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FROM UNAPPROPRIATED WORKER'S COMPENSATION FUND 622, THE SUM OF \$7,500 FOR ADDITIONAL EXPENSES. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mr. Trisket seconded to grant the Committee's request; motion CARRIED.

Auditor's Department Reorganization: The Committee discussed reorganizing the Department pending the retirement of Deputy Auditor Karen Jury schedule to take place the first of 2013. The Chair reported, "The Committee would like to come to Council to ask for approval of a recommendation authorizing Mrs. Pinkert to post a position for Deputy Auditor so that she can begin the process of trying to organize the Department with the hopes that we can explore a Charter change in the near future that would allow for the reorganization of the Department from Auditor/Deputy Auditor to Finance Director and Assistant Finance Director. So, we can accomplish two things: sort of move out of an antiquated system; and allow us the ability to update some of the language should that be approved; and it would also allow the Department to experience some reduction in expenses, ultimately. So, that's really what the goal of this will become over time. So, I'd like to ask for a motion to authorize the Auditor to post the position for Deputy Auditor. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mr. Trisket to grant the Committee's request; motion CARRIED.

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Public Hearing Legislation Request

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-158 AN ORDINANCE VACATING OR ABANDONING THE CITY'S INTEREST IN THAT PORTION OF AN ALLEY LOCATED ENTIRELY ON LANDS OF HARBOR ANCHOR PROPERTIES, LTD. BETWEEN WALNUT BOULEVARD AND WEST THIRD STREET. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to grant the request; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-159 AN ORDINANCE VACATING OR ABANDONING THE CITY'S INTEREST IN THAT PORTION OF AN ALLEY LOCATED ENTIRELY ON LANDS OF NEO DEVELOPMENT, INC., BETWEEN WEST 9TH STREET AND WEST 10TH STREET. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to grant the request; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-160 AN ORDINANCE VACATING OR ABANDONING THE CITY'S INTEREST IN THAT PORTION OF AN ALLEY EXTENDING WESTWARD OFF OF MORTON DRIVE. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to grant the request; motion CARRIED.

Comments Regarding Ordinance No. 2012-158

The President reported several citizens are concerned about the impact they believe this vacate will have on the neighborhood. He said it is going to be the responsibility of the City to see that residents are not adversely affected, and is confident they will own up to it. Another concern that was discussed is that people have traversed the property (which is the former Harbor High School parking lot) for years, even though it was not a public alleyway to traverse. He reported speeding, the throwing of garbage, and the deterioration of the property has occurred. Therefore he understands why the property owners are making this request .

Legislation Request

The Chair requested RESOLUTION NO. 2012-161 A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE LIFT BRIDGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (LBCA) REVITALIZATION IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded the request. The President reported this request came from the LBCA after a presentation was given to Council, and said, "So, we certainly do support their plan". The President expressed the Solicitor's desire for Council to discuss obligations placed upon the City if Council voted to "approve and adopt" the strategy. The Solicitor said his concern centers upon the use of the phrase "approve and adopted" by the Council of the City of Ashtabula, in terms of the LBCA's Strategy. He said a strategy is a statement of goals and potential methods to achieve the goals. His concern is that if the City is "adopting" the strategy, it could be said that it gives it the force of law and might give the City the obligation to enforce or implement the strategy; and therefore wanted clarification. Mr. Stu Cordell, a member of the LBCA, reported the City's "support" is required to secure grant funds, but could not comment on the specific words required to be used. At the conclusion of the discussion regarding the Solicitor's concerns, Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mr. Trisket seconded to replace "Adopting" with "Supporting"; and the motion CARRIED. The President called for the vote on the main motion, and that motion CARRIED.

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

The Chair reported on the Committee’s Tuesday, October 9 meeting, as follows:

FirstEnergy (FE) Strom Preparation and Outage Restoration: A presentation on the topic was given by FirstEnergy Manager of External Affairs, Mr. David Dillon.

Large Hauler Transfer Station Rates (CO Sections 951.09 – 951.99): At the recommendation of Public Services Superintendent Dominic Iarocci and the City Manager, it was determined that the large hauler rate should remain the same.

Special Service Pickup Rates (CO Section 951.11): The Solicitor said the special pick up rate of \$75.00 has to be charged. Not assessing the fee because it is believed that people who place items at curbside without notifying Sanitation they are there will not pay it is not an option. Only Council has the ability to establish variables in cost. The Committee asked that Sanitation create a policy for sending a “warning notice” first, then an invoice, and then if not paid it will be sent to the County Auditor to collect with property taxes. The Manager said he believes the most important notice (message) to residents is that they may call Sanitation if they have items to be picked up; Sanitation will establish the fee only if contacted; the \$75.00 will be charged if the City is not notified of the item that has been placed at curbside; and said the frequency of certain residents placing items at curbside is a problem.

Request for 4-Way Stop at West 58th Street and Adams Avenue: The President received 2 requests for a 4-way stop sign to be reinstalled. The Committee sent the request to the Police Department for study and recommendation.

Rename Lake, West, or Station Avenues to Dr. Reginald Shelby Boulevard

(Requestors: Mr. Adam Holman on behalf of the NAACP, and Dr. Shelby’s daughter, Kathy)
The Committee and City Manager believe changing the name of major streets is not in the best interest of the residential and business community; the Clerk of Council suggested to Mr. Holman that Rodgers Place, the road that runs along the north side of Ashtabula County Medical Center (ACMC), might be a road to consider; and the Clerk of Council was asked to research if Rodgers Place was vacated. If yes, the Clerk was asked to speak with ACMC administration regarding the request.

Procedure to Vacate Roads: The Clerk of Council was instructed to ask the Solicitor to review Ohio Revised Code Sections 723.04 through 723.12 (Street Vacations) and Ashtabula Codified Ordinance Sections 1109.05 and 06 (procedure for requesting changes to zoning code), in order to make recommendation on how to include “review and recommendation by the Planning Commission” to the process.

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Curbside Recycling

The City Manager reported the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) is moving toward requiring that at least 50% of Ashtabula County provides said service. The Manager said the cities of Ashtabula and Conneaut would be all that is needed for the County to meet the requirement. The Manager and Public Services Superintendent sent a message to the OEPA letting them know they are happy to comply and believe they can make it work, but need funding for equipment. A truck with a loading arm is scheduled to be on site for review. The Ward 4 Councilor asked about the cost to resident and OEPA's response to the equipment need. The Manager said residents would purchase the container and that the OEPA did not say no.

Report from Public Services Superintendent to Committee:

Tree Removal: The bid for the removal of 30 dead trees was let.

Mary Street Hill Storm Drains: The installation of storm drains by the offices of Community Care Ambulance Network was completed by Public Works. They are working well. The other side of the road may also have to be done. The Chair said Public Works did a good job and thanked them for it.

Shea's Theatre: The prohibition of motorists using the alley behind Shea's Theatre, for safety purposes, was discussed. The condition of the theatre was discussed. It was noted that the historical value has been diminished because the original seats were removed. The Chair said this is very disappointing to learn; the Manager concurred.

Emergency Levy: The Chair reported the Ashtabula Area City Schools Board plans to place their emergency levy on the November ballot, and really needs it for the school's operations and to forego more cuts.

Questions/Comments for the Committee

Large Container Haulers: The President reiterated it was determined that neither an increase nor decrease in the rate said haulers pay should take place.

Safety Forces – (Mr. Balog/Mr. Trisket)

The Chair reported the October meeting has been rescheduled from Friday, October 19, at 8:00 a.m. to Thursday, October 18, same time. The Committee will discuss a Fire Department request to dispose of obsolete equipment. The Fire and Police Departments, respectively, will provide updates on EMS Billing, dispatching, radio license, and K9 Units; and tethering legislation proposed by Irene Fiala of the APL will be considered.

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Work Session

The President reported he will continue to try and get a work session scheduled to discuss Painesville, Ohio's Crime Free Multi-Housing Program. He said our City's budget may preclude the program from being enacted.

PUBLIC (LEGISLATION) PORTION - None

LEGISLATION READING

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-158 AN ORDINANCE VACATING OR ABANDONING THE CITY'S INTEREST IN THAT PORTION OF AN ALLEY LOCATED ENTIRELY ON LANDS OF HARBOR ANCHOR PROPERTIES, LTD. BETWEEN WALNUT BOULEVARD AND WEST THIRD STREET, was presented. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; motion CARRIED. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinance: Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-159 AN ORDINANCE VACATING OR ABANDONING THE CITY'S INTEREST IN THAT PORTION OF AN ALLEY LOCATED ENTIRELY ON LANDS OF NEO DEVELOPMENT, INC., BETWEEN WEST 9TH STREET AND WEST 10TH STREET, was presented. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; motion CARRIED. The Solicitor agreed to provide a legible, colorized map to the Clerk of Council to attach to the final ordinance copy. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinance: Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-160 AN ORDINANCE VACATING OR ABANDONING THE CITY'S INTEREST IN THAT PORTION OF AN ALLEY EXTENDING WESTWARD OFF OF MORTON DRIVE, was presented. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; motion CARRIED. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinance: Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED.

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RESOLUTION NO. 2012-161 A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND SUPPORTING THE LIFT BRIDGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (LBCA) REVITALIZATION IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY, was presented. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to waive the reading of the resolution; motion CARRIED. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to adopt the resolution. On the roll call to adopt the resolution: Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-162 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH CAPITAL RECOVERY SYSTEMS, INC., FOR THE COLLECTION OF UNPAID TRAFFIC CAMERA PROGRAM CIVIL PENALTIES, was presented. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; motion CARRIED. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. It was noted that this is the same company the Ashtabula Municipal Court uses. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinance: Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-163 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR AN EXCHANGE OF SERVICES, was presented. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; motion CARRIED. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. The Manager reported the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) has agreed to plow, salt, and maintain Route 11, and the City will process their truck wash. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinance: Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-164 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FROM UNAPPROPRIATED GENERAL FUND 101, THE SUM OF \$75,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF TRANSFERRING FUNDS TO PUBLIC WORKS FOR THE PURCHASE OF SALT, was presented. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; motion CARRIED. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. The Ward 4 Councilor reported this is the last payment on the City's 2011 salt contract. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinance: Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-165 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FROM UNAPPROPRIATED PUBLIC WORKS FUND 205, THE SUM OF \$75,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF SALT, was presented. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; motion CARRIED. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinance: Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-166 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FROM UNAPPROPRIATED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) FUND 290, THE SUM OF \$60,000 FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF GRANT REVENUE, was presented. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; motion CARRIED. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinance: Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-167 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FROM UNAPPROPRIATED WASTEWATER TREATMENT FUND 503, THE SUM OF \$90,000 FOR DISTRIBUTION OF COUNTY SEWER REVENUE, was presented. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; motion CARRIED. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinance: Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-168 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FROM UNAPPROPRIATED WORKER'S COMPENSATION FUND 622, THE SUM OF \$7,500 FOR ADDITIONAL EXPENSES, was presented. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; motion CARRIED. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinance: Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

Consent Agenda: Mrs. Stranman moved, Mr. Trisket seconded to amend Council Rule 14 "Order of Business, to allow for consent agendas, and approve miscellaneous clerical updates. The President reported consent agendas will streamline the Regular meeting process. The motion CARRIED.

Palma Benedict: The President wished Ms. Benedict a Happy 90th Birthday (Wednesday, October 17). Ms. Benedict (affectionately known as Palmie) is a former City employee and served as the Manager of the Ashtabula Employee's Federal Credit Union for over 35 years. She continues to serve on the Board as Treasurer.

West Avenue Bridge (Route 20 & West 58th Street): The President reported the Manager has agreed to look into the condition of the West Avenue railroad overpass (south end), that was reported to the President.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

The Ward 4 Councilor announced the follow events:

Lift Bridge Community Association: Fall Fest, Saturday, October 27, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Bridge-2-Bridge 5K and Half Marathon Run: Saturday, October 27, 9:00 a.m. The 5K will begin at the Lift Bridge; go to Mt Carmel Church, and back. The half marathon will begin at the Lift Bridge; go to the Smolen-Gulf Bridge, and back. 75% of the runners are from out of town. Volunteers are needed; registration begins at 7:00 a.m.; Mr. John Smolen will fire the start gun; and this year's proceeds will go to the City of Ashtabula K9 Unit and the Wounded Warriors Project.

Town Hall Meetings: The President echoed the Manager's earlier sentiments regarding the meeting; said the questions posed were excellent; hopes to grow attendance; encouraged attendance; and said "we want your feedback". The Vice President suggested the following locations for upcoming town hall meetings: Nassiefs Car Dealership, The Chalk Box, Greenway Senior Housing complex, Mt. Carmel Church, Ashtabula County Medical Center, MFG, G.O. Ministries, People's Baptist Church, or anywhere there is a cluster of citizens.

Take Responsibility: The President asked the residential and business community to take responsibility to clean up their areas, not to throw cigarette butts out vehicles, and to make a difference.

Kent State @ Ashtabula: The President said Kent is an asset to the community and thanked them for hosting the first town hall meeting.

PUBLIC'S GENERAL PORTION

Elkie Wellmann, 132 Grove Drive: reported three blighted structures are located on her street (153, 149, 143); said she has been sending emails to the Manager and Housing Inspector Vince Iarocci, September 6 the properties were in court and that the Housing Inspector told her she would have an answer within a month as to what will be done; and asked if she could have the status of the problem since a month has passed. The Manager said he will check the outcome of the court proceeding; that because of her diligence they are "on our list as properties to watch and properties to be inspected". Ms. Wellmann said two of the houses are totally stripped; asked if there is a chance they can be demolished; said Howard Hanna has (149) but does not know what is to be sold because there is nothing left to sale and there are \$3,500 in back taxes are owed. (153) has over \$5,000 in back taxes owed, and the roof is falling in. She will keep on the City to do something about them. The Ward 4 Councilor said she knows the demolition list is in place; knows the demo process is long; and asked how long. The City Manager said it is not a matter of how long it takes; that the process can be performed "relatively quickly" from the time a house is considered condemned and posted as such – and believes it has to be vacated 60 days before the City is able to raze it. The issue is funding. He said the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) list will run out in December, is quite long, and the City is now using the \$200,000 in "Moving Ohio Forward" monies, from the Attorney General's office. The City is way ahead of the game when it comes to using these monies in that we had so many houses on the NSP list; therefore have already performed the preliminary work. The President said funding and prioritizing the needs is a challenge. Also commented on was the need for the state legislature to provide funding so municipalities can relieve their communities of some of these eyesores, and the owner's responsibility to remove their condemned and blighted structure. Ms. Wellman said she has the names of the owners of the properties of concern to her.

Ms. Karen Flack, 1827 West 6th Street: asked if curbside recycling will eliminate the need for residents to have to go to the recycling center. The Manager said the bailer will be at the center and the recyclables will be sorted at another facility.

Ms. Flack commented on demolitions; said she has seen books that have beautifully photograph pictures of the structures to be demolished, and asked if new pictures and notices are sent to owners before they are demolished since the photographs do become outdated.

Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, October 15, 2012

Ms. Flack asked for the area on Lake Avenue that sidewalks will be installed. The Manager reported in order to get the sidewalk funding the City has to agree to conduct code enforcement in the sidewalk program area. He believes they are going from Lake Avenue back to Station Avenue, maybe a little bit further west on Lake Avenue. He said the Planning and Community Development Department's (P&CD) software (which is now being used) makes it easier for the Department to track the properties, and when code enforcement is performed the photographs are entered into the computer. He said when the City initially went after NSP funds the target area was going to be the Harbor area, but the area was adjusted to other locations.

Adjournment: Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Trisket seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

DATE APPROVED: **December 17, 2012**

ATTESTED BY: _____

J.P. Ducro IV
President of Council

ATTESTED BY: _____

LaVette E. Hennigan, MMC
Clerk of Council