

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

Monday, December 3, 2012

Call to Order

Council met in a **REGULAR MEETING**. The President of Council called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Opening Ceremony (Prayer/Pledge/Moment of Silence)

The Ward 4 Councilor offered the opening prayer, and the Pledge of Allegiance was cited.

At the request of the President a moment of silence was observed for the sudden and unexpected passing of Dr. Anil Patel, last week. Dr. Patel was a well known area physician, had 3,000 to 5,000 patients, will be sorely missed, and our symphony goes out to his family.

Members Present: Mr. James M. Trisket, (Ward 5)
Mrs. Ann I. Stranman, (Ward 3r)
Mr. August A. Pugliese, (Ward 2)
Mrs. Julie A. Lattimer, (Ward 4)
Mr. Richard F. Balog, (Ward 1)
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.

Presentations: None

Executive Session: None

Consent Agenda: The Consent Agenda is a means whereby City Council is able to more efficiently conduct business. The Consent Agenda consists of three sections:

1. Formally placing legislation before the council;
2. Disposing of Routine Public Hearing, Special Meeting and Regular Meeting Minutes; and
3. Formally Voting on Legislation.

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Each item in each section will individually be read into the record, and brief discussion or comment may take place. The Consent Agenda will be dispensed of by one motion and one roll call vote for each section. If a member of the Council, Administration or public requests in-depth discussion on any Consent Agenda item, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered under the Regular Order of Business

CONSENT AGENDA

MEETING MINUTES DISPOSAL: None

FORMAL LEGISLATION REQUESTS

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-194 AN ORDINANCE REPEALING, IN ITS ENTIRETY, PAYROLL ORDINANCE NO. 2012-181, PASSED ON NOVEMBER 5, 2012, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING THE POSITION PART-TIME FINANCE CLERK AND PROVIDING A NEW PAY SCALE FOR CERTAIN MUNICIPAL COURT POSITIONS FILLED AFTER JUNE 1, 2012. (City Council)

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-195 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING COMPENSATION, SALARIES AND WAGES TO ALL EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, OHIO. (City Council)

VOTE: Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to approve the Consent Agenda Formal Legislation Requests; motion CARRIED.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION (Consent Agenda Legislation Only)

Mr. Nik Tressler, 202 West 58th Street: reported that many years ago former City Manager Hugh Thomas had a study done to determine why our community had a high accident rate relative to our population. The conclusion was there were too many stop signs and traffic signs on far too many corners. A number of years ago many of them were removed; and now he is witnessing it gradually return to how it was “every time someone wines or cries because they don’t want to obey the rules”. He said he protests the request before Council this evening, which he believes was made by people who just don’t want to pay attention. He believes because **Ordinance No. 2012-186** (Installation of 4-way stop at intersection of West 58th Street and Adams Avenue), is scheduled for its second reading this evening it is pointless to protest or complain, but said he does, nonetheless.

The Ward 4 Councilor reported standard procedure on traffic control changes is to have the Police Department conduct a traffic study and make a recommendation. It was reported there have been several accidents at the intersection of West 58th Street and Adams Avenue; and if motorists are not paying attention, it is one of the reasons the 4-way stop should be erected.

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Mr. Tressler said decreasing the speed limit to 25 mph on West 58th Street has had no positive effects.

The Ward 5 Councilor reported years ago the public discussion portion of the regular council meeting was at the end of the meeting, which he believes was disrespectful to the public. It has since changed, allowing the public to comment on legislation prior to Council's official vote to enact. Now the public is able to speak to and share opinions with the elected officials, at which time legislation options to what is being suggested may be presented and discussion initiated. The Councilor told Mr. Tressler his only option is not to complain, and that the body politic welcomes the presentation of options and suggestions.

The Clerk presented the following Consent Agenda Legislation:

LEGISLATION READING

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-186 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TRAFFIC CONTROL MAP FOR THE PURPOSE OF INSTALLING FOUR-WAY STOP SIGNS AT THE INTERSECTION OF WEST 58TH STREET AND ADAMS AVENUE. (2nd READING)

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-190 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BOUNDARIES OF THE FIVE WARDS OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, OHIO, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2013, IN ORDER TO EQUALIZE THE POPULATIONS THEREOF IN CONFORMITY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 3 OF THE MUNICIPAL CHARTER. (1st READING)

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-188 AN ORDINANCE REPEALING EXISTING SECTION 189.18 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, OHIO, AND ENACTING NEW SECTION 189.18, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE ELECTORS THEREOF, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONTINUING THE EXISTING TAX UPON INCOME FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS COMMENCING ON JANUARY 1, 2014 AND CONTINUING THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2016, AT THE RATE OF ONE AND EIGHT-TENTHS PER CENT (1.8%) AND AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF THE QUESTION OF APPROVAL OF SAID ORDINANCE TO THE ELECTORATE OF THE CITY AT AN ELECTION TO BE HELD ON MAY 7, 2013.

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-189 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, OHIO, AT AN ELECTION TO BE HELD ON MAY 7, 2013, THE QUESTION OF CONTINUING THE ASHTABULA CITY INCOME TAX OF 1.8% FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2014 AND CONTINUING THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2016, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING POLICE AND FIRE PROTECTION, PAYING THE COST OF PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND OTHER CURRENT OPERATIONS OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA. Comment: The President asked why there is an ordinance and a resolution to place the income renewal before the electorate; and if repealing this evening will mean there will be no income tax in place. The Solicitor respond that "The only difference in the passage of the ordinance repealing existing Section 189.18 and passing new Section 189.18 are the effective dates; otherwise they are mirroring images. One replaces the expiring dates with a new set of dates.

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The repeal is also conditioned on the passage of the question that's called for, by the public, in the following resolution. So, there's no repeal unless the residents of the City of Ashtabula authorize the continuation of the income tax."

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-191 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE ASHTABULA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR ONE (1) YEAR FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING PUBLIC TRANSIT SERVICES.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-192 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A ONE (1) YEAR LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE ASHTABULA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO FACILITATE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SERVICES.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-193 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO DISPOSE OF OBSOLETE VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-194 AN ORDINANCE REPEALING, IN ITS ENTIRETY, PAYROLL ORDINANCE NO. 2012-181, PASSED ON NOVEMBER 5, 2012, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING THE POSITION PART-TIME FINANCE CLERK AND PROVIDING A NEW PAY SCALE FOR CERTAIN MUNICIPAL COURT POSITIONS FILLED AFTER JUNE 1, 2012.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-195 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING COMPENSATION, SALARIES AND WAGES TO ALL EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, OHIO.

Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to waive the reading of the Consent Agenda Legislation; motion CARRIED. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to place Ordinance No. 2012-190 on its first reading and to waive the Charter requirement of two readings for the other legislation. The Vice President said one concern he has always had when switching to 2 and 4 way stop signs, that being to have signage or a barricade with flashing lights erected to inform motorists of the new pattern. The Manager said signs were erected informing of the new traffic signal at West 32nd Street; there are no stationary flashers, but he will see what the Traffic Department is able to do, and will have a bulletin placed in the Star Beacon prior to the change. The President said in light of the inquiry regarding Ordinance No. 2012-186, if it was Council's pleasure to have that ordinance removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Business Agenda for more discussion. Council declined. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt 2012-186, 2012-188 thru 2012-195: Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED.

(END OF CONSENT AGENDA)

REGULAR AGENDA

READING AND DISPOSAL OF MEETING MINUTES - None

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Emergency Temporary Sewer Connections

The City Manger requested an ordinance to enter into an agreement with LNL, Ashtabula, LLC, Osborne Capital Corporation, and Norwood Commercial Contractors for emergency temporary connections to sanitary sewer lines served by the City of Ashtabula Waste Water Treatment Plant. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mr. Trisket seconded to grant the Manager's request; motion CARRIED.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources Grant Application

The City Manager requested an ordinance to prepare and file an application with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Watercraft, Recreational Harbor Evaluation Program for funds to dredge portions of the Ashtabula River. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to grant the Manager's request. The Manager reported this ordinance represents the funding for the southern end of the river in the area right before Mary Street Hill bridge (East 24th Street),, and the marinas around said location. That is the only area of the river that has not been dredged with Super Fund monies. The portion in question was not deemed contaminated to the extent it needed dredging as it was to the north of there. However, in certain parts of the southern end it is only about a foot and a half deep. Recreational boaters and others who use the ramps in that area cannot continue to do so with the river being so shallow. Planning & Community Development Department Project Administrator, Mary Church, found the grant; the Solicitor has been working with she and the owner of the marinas to see if matching funds are available to dredge the southern area and restore boating activities. It is possible the matching grant could be a 100% match so the City would not have to provide any funding; otherwise there are 80/20 possibilities. It has been made clear to the City Port Authority and the businesses that, if there is a match, they would have to cover it. The President said it would surely be of benefit to the marinas and tourist. The motion CARRIED.

Former Lakeside Intermediate Playground Equipment

The Manager reported Ashtabula Area City Schools offered the equipment to the City's Parks & Recreation Board; the Board indicated they wanted it; the Public Works Department did a great job and worked a few days getting the equipment out of the ground, which was not an easy task; and next spring a new home for the equipment will be determined. Purchasing the equipment new would cost tens of thousands of dollars, and if the City did not take it, it was going to be placed in the landfill if we did not take it.

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QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS FOR THE CITY MANAGER

Playground Equipment: The Ward 4 Councilor asked that the East 48th Street Park be considered for the playground equipment.

Leaf Pickup: The Ward 4 Councilor asked if the same leaf pickup schedule is in place and said stickers are required. The Manager responded yes to both.

Harbor Flag: The President asked for an update on the Port Authority flag replacement by the U.S. Coast Guard Station. The Manager reported the flag was tattered in a storm; the Port Authority manages the flag; they ordered it but when they went to install it they found out the rigging inside the pole was also damaged; more parts had to be ordered; our Fire Department has been asked to assist in getting to the top of the pole; and is uncertain if it has been replaced.

CITY SOLICITOR'S REPORT - None

QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS FOR THE CITY SOLICITOR - None

CITY AUDITOR'S REPORT

Financials: The Auditor reported the month of November has not been closed; preliminary reports reveal cash balances are lower due to income tax receipts coming in the first part of December versus the end of November. Year-end intra-fund transfers for personnel and benefits were signed in order to meet our budget. We are getting closer to spending most of our budget; and there have been concerns about realizing the revenue side of the budget. So, after speaking with the City Manager it was determined to recommend that expenditures be limited to personnel benefits and emergencies, and to have departments begin closing all purchases orders they can. There should be "good numbers" to present at the December 14 Finance & Personnel Committee meeting.

QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS FOR THE ACTING CITY AUDITOR

2013 Budget: The Manager thanked the City Auditor, all department heads, and everyone involved in the budget process, for their assistance. The budget, as presented to Council at this evening's budget public hearing, will be on display for 10 days in the Auditor's Department beginning tomorrow. The President thanked the Manager and Auditor for their work on the budget. He encouraged citizens to review the budget, and to submit questions to him, the Manager or Auditor, regarding it. The Ward 4 Councilor asked if the budget is on line and how does one request a copy of it. The Auditor responded that the budget is not on the City's website, but that she will email copies out when requested.

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Street Lighting Assessment Adjustments: The Ward 5 Councilor asked if there is a form property owners are annually required to submit to obtain an adjustment. The President explained that the refunds which have been given were because property owners were not given ample notification of the assessment. The Auditor responded that assessment adjustments were approved for a specific period, and that no more adjustments will be given. She also reported Council passed legislation requiring a onetime application submission, so only those persons whose property ownership has changed or whose properties have been physically altered (new construction on vacant land, or existing structure razed), will have to submit an application.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORT

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

My Neighborhood Group: The Chair reported she, the Ward 1 Councilor, and the City Manager attended the meeting at St. Peter's Episcopal Church; and that it was a good meeting.

Meeting: There is no Committee meeting scheduled; she will play it by ear to determine when the next meeting will be scheduled.

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

Meeting: The Committee's next meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 14, at 8:00 a.m. The Committee will wrap up the end of the year finances; discuss the budget; and begin 2013 planning.

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

Meeting: The Chair announced the Committee did not meet in October; and will plan a meeting for January.

Questions/Comments for the Committee

Traffic Signalization Project: The Ward 4 Councilor asked the chair if he has received a Project start date. The Chair responded no. The Manager reported Project funding has been set aside in the 2013 budget; and believes 2013 activity will consist of easements and engineering, and believes the Project is scheduled to begin in 2014. The Ward 4 Councilor thought the Project was to begin in the Ohio Department of Transportation's (ODOT) fiscal year which begins in June 2013.

Safe Routes to Schools: The President asked for an update on this project that will put sidewalks in the area of the new elementary school campus on Wade Avenue. The Chair reported that he, the Manager, and school board members met a week ago, and thought the project was going to begin in 2014,

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but believes paperwork delays have moved the project to 2015. The grant is for \$600,000, which is not much for sidewalks, and could be used up by constructing sidewalks on both sides of Wade Avenue alone. The Chair said there was mention about constructing sidewalks within a two mile radius of the school, but because the amount of funding proposed, they are not sure it is able to happen. The engineers have been hired, and will begin the assessment this month. It is getting off the ground but will take longer than anticipated to complete. The President said the delay is of concern to citizens and the school system because of cuts in bussing that have to be made. He said hopefully when the project is completed it will make the campus more assessable to walkers. "We will remain optimistic and see what the City is able to do to help with the project."

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

The Chair announced he had no report; that the Committee will not meet in December due to the lack of agenda items; and he plans to have a meeting the 3rd Friday in January, at 8:00 a.m.

Work Session – No Report – No Report

FORMAL LEGISLATION REQUESTS - None

PUBLIC (LEGISLATION) PORTION - None

LEGISLATION READING

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-196 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO PREPARE AND FILE AN APPLICATION FOR AN OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, DIVISION OF WATERCRAFT, RECREATIONAL HARBOR EVALUATION PROGRAM GRANT, was presented.

Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to waive the reading of the resolution; motion CARRIED. Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. The Ward 5 Councilor asked what process will be used to dispose of the dredging material. The Manager said the discussion has not yet begun. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the resolution: Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-197 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH LNL ASHTABULA, LLC, OSBORNE CAPITAL CORP., AND NORWOOD COMMERCIAL CONTRACTORS FOR EMERGENCY TEMPORARY CONNECTIONS TO SANITARY SEWER LINES SERVED BY THE CITY OF ASHTABULA WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT, 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.

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The Manager reported, "The City has been working on securing JEDD (Joint Economic Development District) agreements with new commercial construction in the townships or anywhere the City's waste water treatment plant services sewages. Two projects are taking place on Route 20 in Ashtabula Township; we have been working with the County Prosecutor, the Solicitor, and Township Trustees to get the JEDDs in place. JEDDs take time; require public hearings; thirty day notices for many items; contractors and their clients want to begin working; and the City does not want to impede their progress. This temporary tie-in is being requested while the JEDD process is being completed." The Solicitor reported, "The proposed agreement, attached to the legislation, calls for a flat fee in lieu of taxes; a smaller amount before occupancy of the structure occurs; a larger amount thereafter assuming the structure is occupied the date the JEDD commences. The fee goes from \$250 per month to \$750 per month, in lieu of taxes. Treatment rates will not change." On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinance: Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Traffic Signalization Project: The City Manager reported the Project will not let for bid until May 2014.

Street Light Assessment Reduction: The Ward 5 Councilor asked if a deadline is approaching for property owners who have not applied or new property owners, etc. The Solicitor responded, "Real estate taxes and assessments are collected the year after assessment. The 2012 tax year is now closed. Council set November 15 or a fall deadline to ensure the applications would be processed and any available reductions would be "caught". For tax year 2012 to be collected in 2013, no more reductions will be given. Applications now would have to be for tax year 2013 to be collected in 2014." The President reported no one is able to claim they were not aware of the assessment because they received their tax duplicate for this year on which the assessment first appeared. The Auditor reported less than \$2,000 was refunded to property owners this year.

Charter Change – Section 9 "Appointments": The Ward 4 Councilor asked if voters were going to be presented with the suggested removal of the City Treasurer and City Auditor's Department for the purpose of combining the two departments into a Finance Department. The President reported it has been discussed in the Finance & Personnel Committee, and that a recommendation will be brought to the full Council after some of the particulars are worked out. The Clerk of Council reported the deadline to submit the suggested change to the Board of Elections is February 21. The President said the suggested change is something to be seriously looked at, but with all factors in view.

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NEW BUSINESS - None

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Urban Meyer

Welcome: The President extended a warm welcome to Mr. Urban Meyer, St. John High School graduate and Head Coach for the Ohio State University Football team. He is in town this evening as the guest speaker at the Touch Down Club dinner. He was also congratulated on his 12-0 Ohio State football season.

Signs: The Ward 2 Councilor asked the Manager for an update on the Urban Meyer signs Council agreed to have placed at entrances to the City. The Manager said proofs were shared with Council, and now it is a matter of getting them put up.

GENERAL PUBLIC PORTION

Mr. Nik Tressler, 202 West 58th Street: read his account of story about a female resident who had 1.5 jobs; lost one last winter; shortly after that lost the other job; three months later found a job, but by that time she was two months behind in her rent and utilities were being shut off; borrowed money to keep her water on; landlord began eviction notices; next two months were spent trying to catch up on rent to avoid eviction, which he did anyway; she found a new place and moved. He said this is a very common problem in Ashtabula. Mr. Tressler said, "There is this thing called a war on being poor." It's waged by people with jobs making rules, which for them are minor inconvenience (e.g. paying traffic tickets – "don't want to but will deal with it"). However when you are poor it can be a "disaster; a matter of life and death. In order to make ends meet she cancelled her vehicle insurance, got a traffic ticket, went through the court system, had her license suspended; 10 minutes into her suspension she was on her way home from work, was stopped and her vehicle was towed and is in storage. Realizing it takes five agencies and three levels of government to do this particular thing, I'm only asking that Council consider it, and the police Department consult on whether the public good is served by the community taking away poor people's cars. Essentially by the time she gets the money together to reinstate her license, the six months is pretty much up, so she can get her reinstated license – she can get all that straightened out, but the storage fees for her car are now more than her car is worth. So basically her car was given away. There's got to be a different something in that part. I don't know, necessarily, what the answer is – other people know the rules and regulations. This is the third case I've been aware of in the past year, where essentially the car has been given away. And it's going to take years to recover." Meanwhile he said he is helping her to get her daughter to and fro and giving her occasional rides to Geneva where she works. Mr. Tressler said, "When you make decisions just examine the effect they will have upon the populous."

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The City Solicitor said he did not know the specifics of the individual involved, "But as a general rule the City Police Division does not order cars towed upon a first offense driving under suspension unless there's no licensed driver available to pick up the car, unless there was an order to cease the plates from the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. A suspension for having a moving violation without showing proof of insurance are driven by the State of Ohio, and the local municipality is not necessarily given notice of them. The Police Division is directed by State law. If it is a second or third driving under suspension offense, the Police Division is mandated by law to immobilize the vehicle, which a local Council has no jurisdiction under. The Ashtabula Municipal Court Judge, Albert Camplese, is very sensitive to the illogic of penalizing people for driving without a license when driving for a really good reason, like trying to keep their families supported; therefore has initiated a TIP program (Traffic Intervention Program), which may be utilized sometime between arrangement and when the case has to be disposed of and trying to get their licenses back. If they do so the driving under suspension charge is dismissed." The Solicitor said his office has an open offer to anyone charged with driving under suspension or no operator's license that, "If you can show us a plan whereby you can become a valid licensed driver within a reasonable period of time (90 to 120 days), we will agree to a postponement of the case. If you have the license the only charge is the court cost and the driving under suspension or no operator's license at that time is dismissed. It has been recognized in this City that people who need to drive are going to do so. If some type of bureaucratic suspension or an issue totally beyond someone's control or there is justification for, causes someone not to lawfully drive, the City's justice system approaches these type situations with "a great deal of leniency. We try and reserve really hitting people with driving under suspension charges where you've got a repeat drunk driver; you've got someone with a bad history of accidents with no insurance. So we are sensitive to this. I just want to assure you that to the extent state law allows us to do it we try and work with people to help them get their license back rather than penalize them for the one or the sometimes two times they drove without a license."

CLOSING REMARKS:

The President reminded the viewing audience that "We Believe in Ashtabula".

Adjournment: Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Lattimer seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

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DATE APPROVED: **January 7, 2013**

ATTESTED BY: _____

J.P. Ducro, IV
President of Council

ATTESTED BY: _____

LaVette E. Hennigan, MMC
Clerk of Council