

Council met in a **PUBLIC HEARING**. The President of Council called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Member(s) Present: Mr. August A. Pugliese, (Ward 2)
Mrs. Ann I. Stranman, (Ward 3)
Mr. James M. Trisket, (Ward 5)
Mr. Christopher J. McClure, (Vice President)
Mr. J. P. Ducro IV, (Council President – arrived at 6:12 p.m.)

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

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

SUNSHINE LAW: The Clerk of Council certified conformity to the Sunshine Law (part way into the discussion portion of the meeting).

PURPOSE: The Council President announced the purpose of this Public Hearing was for the presentation of the 2014 City of Ashtabula Tax Budget.

WELCOME: The President welcomed Messrs. Earl Tucker and Richard Quaranta.

DISCUSSION

The City Auditor reported:

- * The Tax Budget is a municipality's way of notifying the county it wants the property tax revenue indicated and certified to it;
- * Our 2014 request is based on certification notification received from the county, and our property valuation;
- * \$1,990,000 (one million, nine hundred, ninety thousand) was certified; we are requesting the full amount;
- * Our 2014 tax budget mirrored much of 2013's;
- * Our tax budget request is based on information we have at the moment (e.g., staffing and items we know will come up next year), but there were some adjustments;

- * The county certified about \$87,000 more than they did this year;
- * Our property valuation increased by almost \$10,000,000 (ten million dollars). The President commented, "That's staggering". The Auditor said she does not know why, but that is what was received from the county;
- * Some of the 2013 revenue will not be available in 2014; therefore it kind of balances out and causes us to have to sweat less.

COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATION QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS – None

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS - None

CLOSING REMARKS: The President announced that, by law, no formal actions may be taken at a public hearing. Legislation approving the 2014 Tax Budget will appear on this evening's Regular Council Meeting Agenda for a vote of Council.

ADJOURN: Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Trisket seconded to adjourn the Public Hearing at 5:36 p.m.; motion CARRIED.

DATE APPROVED: _____

ATTESTED BY: _____

J. P. Ducro IV
President of Council

ATTESTED BY: _____

LaVette E. Hennigan, MMC
Clerk of Council