

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

Monday, October 7, 2013

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.

A moment of silence was observed due to the much unexpected passing on Saturday afternoon of the Rev. Dr. Robert Marbury, husband of a lifetime resident and community friend, Willietta Bunch Marbury.

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

Member(s) Absent: Mr. Christopher J. McClure, (Vice President)

Officer(s) Present: City Manager James M. Timonere
City Auditor/Acting City Treasurer Dana D. Pinkert
Clerk of Council LaVette E. Hennigan

Officer(s) Absent: City Solicitor Michael Franklin

Excused Absence: Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to excuse the Vice President from this meeting; motion CARRIED.

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

Presentations: The President presented the following resolution to Mrs. Lori Mackey:

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-142

**A RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION AND CONGRATULATIONS TO
LORI GIANNELL MACKEY**

WHEREAS, it is with honor that this City Council and these Public Officials of the City of Ashtabula, Ohio give special recognition to Lori Giannell Mackey; and,

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WHEREAS, Lori was appointed on August 2, 1983, by the City Council as the full-time City Treasurer for the City of Ashtabula; and,

WHEREAS, Lori is appreciated for her faithfulness to the City of Ashtabula in that she continually looked for ways to advance the City's Treasury, she established the City's Investment and Depository policies, increased the City's investment portfolio, and enhance payroll and payables check issuance procedures; and,

WHEREAS, Lori brought innovation, creativity, professionalism, and trust to the Office of the City Treasurer, and she was known for her attention to detail and friendliness to coworkers; and,

WHEREAS, Lori worked closely with the City Auditor and Income Tax Departments; she was Instrumental in the start up of the City of Ashtabula's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR); which financial reporting document received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for over two decades, and displayed the City's sound financial worth and stability to credit rating organizations such as Standard and Poor's & Moody's; and,

WHEREAS, Lori, without hesitation, stepped in as supervisor of the Income Tax Department and assisted with the operations of the Auditor's Department when the heads of said departments retired; thus consistent customer service was maintained, and smooth transitions were realized, all while maintaining integrity in the Office of the City Treasurer.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this City Council and these Public Officials of the City of Ashtabula, Ohio, CONGRATULATE Lori Giannell Mackey on her August 2, 2013 retirement after providing 30 years of impeccable service, and so appreciate the talents she imparted as a public official and key team member of the City of Ashtabula.

Mrs. Mackey said it was her pleasure to serve; that she had mixed emotions when she retired, but that she knows her duties were placed in good hands at the leadership of the Auditor/Acting City Treasurer and staff. She thanked Council "from the bottom of my heart" for recognizing her.

Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to adopt the resolution; motion CARRIED.

Executive Session: None

Reconvene Open Meeting: N/A

Action resulting from Executive Session: N/A

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CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda is a means whereby Council is able to more efficiently conduct business.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

September 03, 2013 Regular Meeting
September 16, 2013 Public Hearing
September 16, 2013 Regular Meeting

Mrs. Lattimer moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to waive the reading of the Consent Agenda Minutes; motion CARRIED. Hearing no corrections the minutes stood approved as presented.

FORMAL LEGISLATION REQUESTS – None

PUBLIC DISCUSSION (Consent Agenda Legislation Only)

At the request of the Council President the Clerk of Council provided a brief legislation overview.

Mr. Kenneth Wolfgang, 4203 Ann Avenue: asked if audible traffic signals would be included at the intersections of: Route 20 and West Avenue, Route 20 and Lake Avenue (aka 5-Points), Route 20 and Woodman Avenue, and Route 20 and Station Avenue. As a non-seeing citizen, his concern is for all like citizens who use public streets. He said the audible traffic signal at the intersection of Route 20 and State Road (in Ashtabula Township) has been a tremendous help. The Manager responded he has spoken with the Ohio Department of Transportation several times regarding the Traffic Signalization Grant Project; they have informed him that audible signalization is not included in their 80% financial obligation, but that the City could include it as part of its 20% match. The Ward 4 Councilor recalled there were some intersections slated for audible signalization. The Manager will look into it further and report back.

LEGISLATION READING

ORDINANCE

2013-149 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN “LPA FEDERAL LOCAL-LET PROJECT AGREEMENT” WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE UPGRADE AND REPAIR OF TRAFFIC SIGNALS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN THE CITY OF ASHTABULA. (Traffic Signalization Project)
(City Manager)

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ORDINANCE

2013-150 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE TOTAL SUM OF \$308,850 FROM UNAPPROPRIATED WATER POLLUTION FUND 503 INTO FIVE SEPARATE ACCOUNTS. (City Auditor/Acting City Treasurer)

ORDINANCE

2013-151 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE TOTAL SUM OF \$70,000 FROM UNAPPROPRIATED SANITATION FUND 225 INTO ACCOUNT NO. 225-145-5421, ENTITLED LANDFILL FEES. (City Auditor/Acting City Treasurer)

ORDINANCE

2013-152 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE TOTAL SUM OF \$600 FROM UNAPPROPRIATED PARKS & RECREATION FUND 233 INTO ACCOUNT NO. 233-158-5420, ENTITLED OPERATING/UTILITIES. (City Auditor/Acting City Treasurer)

ORDINANCE

2013-153 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE TOTAL SUM OF \$100 FROM UNAPPROPRIATED VOTED BOND DEBT FUND 388 INTO ACCOUNT NO. 388-139-5461, TREASURER FEES. (City Auditor/Acting City Treasurer)

Mrs. Stranman moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to waive the reading of the Consent Agenda Legislation; 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, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the legislation: Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED.
(END OF CONSENT AGENDA)

REGULAR AGENDA

READING AND DISPOSAL OF MEETING MINUTES - None

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Transfer of Property

The Manager requested an ordinance for authorization to transfer real property (Traffic Building) not needed for City operations to the Ashtabula City Port Authority for economic development purposes. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to grant the Manager's request; motion CARRIED.

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Harbor Grant Agreements

The Manager requested an ordinance for authorization to enter into an agreement or agreements with the Ohio Development Services Agency for three grants in the total amount of \$678,200. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to grant the Manager's request. The Manager reported the City received a Downtown Revitalization grant, for a total of \$289,200, for a new parking lot on Bridge Street, between Iroquois Lounge and the City's former Traffic building. The City also received \$300,000 for our Critical Infrastructure project, which is the rebricking of the north side of Hulbert Hill. \$100,000 will be set aside for lower Bridge Street building improvements. Property owners will make building improvement funding requests to the City. The City will provide half of the funding request; the property owner the remaining half. The Manager thanked the Planning & Community Development Department, lead by Director Luciana Ratermann, Project Administrator Mary Church, the Lift Bridge Community Association, and the Bridge Street business owners, for their assistance. The motion CARRIED.

Disposition of Obsolete Equipment

The Manager requested an ordinance for authorization to dispose of obsolete Walnut Beach equipment (2 sinks and one grease trap). Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Stranman seconded to grant the Manager's request; motion CARRIED.

Halloween Trick or Treat

Trick or Treat in the City of Ashtabula will take place on Saturday, November 2, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Manager's Cup Series

The Manager announced he and Geneva City Manager Jim Pearson began a new contest called the Manager's Cup Series. When their city's high school varsity football teams play each other, the losing city's manager has to wear the winner's jersey to their next council meeting and make a monetary donation to the winning school. Our Manager sported Geneva's jersey due to the recent defeat of the Lakeside High School Dragons against the Geneva High School Eagles. The winning manager enjoys a trophy for his office. Our Manager hopes to sport the trophy in his office next year.

Moving Ohio Forward Demolition Funds

Bids were let for demolition contractors. Ten (10) more homes will be razed with these funds. The demolition time has been extended past December, but we are working to have our structures razed by the end of the first deadline date of December 2013.

Questions/Comments for the City Manager

Grant Spreadsheet on Website

The President asked the Manager if he could put a grant summary spreadsheet on our City website. He would like the grant type, project name, amount, and the city's match amount included.

Land Bank

The Manager reported Ashtabula County has recently established its own land bank, which works differently than the City's land bank. The property located at the corner of East 6th Street and Columbus Avenue, where the East 6th Street Café and a residence previously were located, is the City's sole land bank property. It was just out for bid. The Manager hopes to bring the results of the bid to the next Council meeting for disposition and purchase price acceptance. The Manager explained how the County and City land banks provide for the respective governments to accept property, including those whose taxes are delinquent. Once placed in the land bank the titles are clear of all taxes, liens, and other such charges. In some cases it is cheaper to acquire properties through the County bank, when court costs and title searches are factored in. For example, the City spends \$2,500 acquiring a property, not including the demolition and property improvements; sells it for \$3,000. The City's land bank would recoup its cost of \$2,500, but the extra \$500 goes to the County for disposition of any taxes and liens owed. The same scenario used for a County land bank would result in the \$500 balance remaining in the land bank, and does not have to be redistributed. The City's land bank is funded by City Council in order to acquire properties. County land banks are funded by "detax" funds. Detax funds are the charge owed when delinquent taxes are paid. The funds are distributed amongst school districts, municipalities, and townships. The funds may be used to hire a director to pursue, purchase, and maintain land bank properties. With the establishing of the County's land bank a certain portion of the funds will no longer go to school districts, municipalities, or townships; it will go directly to the land bank for property acquisition. The land banked properties are on the tax rolls but no funds are being collected. They either have extremely poor structures on them which need to be razed, or they are properties free of structures and are being maintained by the political subdivision. The Manager said because the City is the largest municipality in the county, we have a seat on the County Land Bank Board. It is completely separate from county government. It is its own entity; its own established organization. The City will only seek properties to place in the land bank where there is an "end user"; someone interested in purchasing the property. The City has a substantial list of persons interested in the vacant land next to them, which vacancy most likely is a result of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program which razed several houses. The City's hope is to continue razing substandard structures with "Moving Ohio Forward" grant funds. The end result is to get properties back on the tax rolls, paying taxes, and maintained by responsible owners.

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The decision is being made now as to which properties would be better served by running them through the County or City Land Bank programs. It will take time and a lot of management. The Manager said the Ohio Attorney General has just announced another round of demolition funding that will only be given to County Land Banks, will have a ton of strings attached to funding requirements, and which program the City will participate in.

Lake Avenue Railroad Underpass High Weeds

The Manager reported no recent contact has been made with the railroad regarding the need for their West 32nd Street and Lake Avenue property to be freed of high/overgrown vegetation. They did some cutting, but have much more to do. The Manager said, "We're just going to cite them. I've told them we're done. So, if we have to go out there and do it, it's about four-hundred bucks per corner. So, we'll see what happens."

CITY SOLICITOR'S REPORT – No Report

CITY AUDITOR/ACTING CITY TREASURER'S (A/ACT) REPORT

Finances: The preliminary month-end update is that we are operating within our adjusted budget, and the budget is still tight. The only increased appropriations will be for some overtime expenses to get us through the end of the year.

New Timekeeping Program: Tests are being conducted with the Municipal Building employees first. Payroll & Human Resources Specialist Carolyn Sheldon has been overseeing the project and training, and has done a great job. The remainder of the workforce will be brought on board in stages.

Aqua OH Monthly Billing: Beginning November, Aqua is converting to monthly billing. The City's sewer and trash will remain on a bi-monthly billing cycle.

Comments

The President announced that anyone who has a vacant parcel next to theirs that is not being maintained, should turn the address into the Planning & Community Development Department, by calling 992-7118. The caller's contact information will be asked for so the property owner may be reached once the properties are submitted to the land bank and are up for bid. The Manager reiterated that only properties someone has expressed an interest in and committed to will go into the City's Land Bank.

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CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS and COMMUNICATIONS

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

The Chair reported on the Committee's October 2 meeting, as follows:

Ashtabula County Medical Center: Mr. Michael Habowski, President & CEO, spoke for about one hour regarding the state of the hospital, statistical data concerning their facilities, employees, and patients, recent significant improvements, including the addition of physicians committed to the hospital and community, concerns regarding the number of patients going outside Ashtabula County for treatment and the desire of the hospital to build a new facility in or near the City, among other things. The Chair issued encouragement to anyone having not used ACMC's facilities recently to give them another chance. She said she believes they will be surprised at the quality of care offered. She also encouraged ones to visit ACMC's website, especially the recent Community Health Assessment. Mr. Habowski was very complimentary of the City Manager and Council President. The Chair thanked them for being good representatives on our City's behalf.

Lake Avenue Rezoning to C-1 (from West 17th Street to Walnut Boulevard): The Architectural & Restoration Review Board (ARRB) and the Planning Commission (PC) reviewed Council's recommendation to rezone the area, and support it. Therefore, the Committee voted in favor of bringing the matter to the full Council so that legislation to enact the zoning change may be drafted. **Mrs. Stranman moved, Mr. Balog seconded to present the previously drafted legislation rezoning Lake Avenue to C-1, from West 17th Street to Walnut Boulevard, in accordance with the approval and recommendation of the ARRB and PC.** The Clerk reported that the City Solicitor commented on the residential portion of the affected area. ARRB Chair Rapose responded to his comment by stating that their intention is to leave residential, as is, but that they would again discuss it on the 9th of this month. Therefore the Solicitor probably will not draft the legislation until the ARRB submits their final comment. This Chair said the Committee knew the matter had not been settled because the wording was being addressed, and because it has not been discuss with Council for some time. The Clerk said she researched the matter to determine at what stage the request was at, and concludes that the ordinance was never drafted, as previously thought, because the Solicitor's desire was to wait for the Manager and the ARRB's comments. **The motion CARRIED.**

Job Training and Partnering with Area Businesses: At the last Council meeting the President suggested the City partner with area businesses to provide job training to area high school students in order to ready them for available Ashtabula City/County jobs. It was discovered that members of the Ashtabula Area City School's group named "Ashtabula Works", made up of business community members and members of the Ashtabula Area City School's Business Advisory Committee (of which the City Manager is a member), are working hard on this issue.

Therefore, this Committee determined enough community members were already involved and enough effort was already being devoted to the cause, that it is not necessary for this Committee to do so as a separate entity.

Harbor Historical District Concerns: The ARRB voiced concern with sidewalk regulations in the District. The PC asked the ARRB to meet with merchants to get ideas for cleaning up sidewalk clutter without being too restrictive or discouraging business development. The Committee will review the issue thereafter.

Rental Unit Inspections/Square Footage: The Ward 5 Councilor previously presented ideas to the Committee. Planning & Community Development Department Director, Luciana Ratermann, continues to review the ideas. This item will remain on this Committee's agenda for consideration.

Greenway Trail Zoning: The Ward 5 Councilor previously presented a suggested rezoning of the Trail area. The PC tabled the review of this issue until definitive answers regarding the North Shore Trail are available, and then consider zoning of the two trails at the same time. Therefore the Committee will revisit once the PC has weighed in.

Items Removed from Committee's Agenda

Vision Statement Ad-hoc Committee: The next Committee chair or Council will be given the opportunity to decide if they want to pursue a City vision statement.

Deep Green Homes: Melinda Pillsbury-Foster had presented this concept to the Committee, and to the full Council. The Committee will wait for her to submit an official request to Council or the City Manager before taking this matter up further, because it could not be determined what City involvement was needed.

Standing Committee Agenda Items

Maintaining Open Communication with Economic Related Groups: It appears we are already doing this very well, and are heading in a good direction. Therefore, this item is no longer needed and will be removed from the agenda.

Ashtabula County Economic Development Committee's Goals: We are working within theirs and our goals, therefore this item will be removed.

Parks & Recreation (P&R)

Highland Beach: The City Solicitor reported he has not located a deed in the City's name. Therefore it appears the property belongs to the Highland Beach Association or nearby property owners. It was the Committee's general consensus that neither the City nor the P&R Board should invest a lot of time, effort, or money in the property.

East 48th Street Park: This Park was recently discovered to technically be a City park through a lease with agreement with the railroad. Conflicting lease amount information has been determined, and there is no record that the City has been paying the lease payment. The opinion of some at the meeting was that the City should sever its ties to the park, remove the equipment, and exit the lease due to our limited manpower resources, which are trying to keep up the maintenance of the parks we own. Others at the meeting felt the sitting Ward 4 Councilor should have input on the issue, and that it might even be more advantageous for the new Ward 4 Councilor, scheduled to take office on December 1, to be involved. This is the only family park with a playground in Ward 4. It would only be fair to speak with residents in the area before removing the equipment because it is being used by neighborhood children.

Clifford Kadon Presidential Park: The Parks & Recreation Board reported they approved the "My Neighborhood" group's plan for this park. They await the City Manager's action before getting the park's name sign ordered. They are hoping to get questions and concerns answered regarding the insurance liability of the skate park portion of the facility.

Smith Field Dog Park Association: The Association is hosting a cleanup day on Sunday, October 13, at 10:00 a.m.

Questions/Comments for the CD/ED/P&R Committee

East 48th Street Park: The Ward 4 Councilor reported this Committee's Chair spoke with her about this park. The reason the park came before Council is because some of the families on the street approached Council about purchasing equipment and donating funds towards its improvement. The park is always used. She will, again, take this up in Committee, because originally it was reported it was the City's property, and now we are told the City has a lease on it. The residents are very active and take good care of the area. She believes the City mows, but the residents maintain the property (e.g., mowing, trimming, cleanup, and whatever needs to be done). It is the only playground on the east side of the Spring Street Bridge (East 46th Street/Route 84). The Councilor said she will make sure she is present at the next Committee meeting in order to put her thoughts regarding this park on the records. She is certain the incoming Ward 4 Councilor will also look at this issue. The President said there is an "extensive" playground at the former State Road School that is now an educational facility titled, "Building Bridges". It is a facility for at-risk students from all over Ashtabula County. The Ward 4 Councilor responded yes, but East 48th Street is the only "park", and is the only safest place to play without crossing roads that have major traffic on them.

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Next Meeting: The Committee will not meet in November if nothing urgent arises. The new Council will organize on December 1, and a meeting will take place thereafter.

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

The Chair reported the Committee's October meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 16, at 8:00 a.m.

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

The Chair reported the Committee will meet on Friday, October 25, at 8:00 a.m., in the Municipal Building 2nd floor conference room. Because Waste Management representatives will be present to discuss curbside recycling, he encouraged the public to attend.

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

The Chair reported on the Committee's September 20 meeting, as follows:

Request from Mr. John Ginnard: Mr. Ginnard, a Main Avenue merchant, had made a request to speak with the Committee regarding his concern with speeding on Main Avenue, however was unable to attend the meeting. Speeding was discussed, and Police Chief Stell provided the Committee with the following stats through September 15: 720 traffic tickets were issued citywide, 92 in the Main Avenue area; of the 100 motor vehicle crashes, 4 were in the Main Avenue area. The Committee agreed the police are giving Main Avenue as much attention as any other area of the City.

Portable Radios: The Police Chief told the Committee his department received 10 new, free radios, valued at \$4,000 each. The Manager reported only one radio was requested, and that they are part of the boat given to the department by Homeland Security, upon agreeing to provide water border patrols. They gave the department permission to use our radio frequencies and use the radios for any type of swat or multi-jurisdictional activity not associated with the boat. The Manager said this is an example of why we should continue to forge relationships with state and federal entities.

Former West Avenue School: There are no updates on the status of the fire damaged structure.

Fire Department Equipment: All equipment, pumps, and ladders were tested and passed; there were no major repairs.

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Finances: Fire Chief Ronald Pristera transferred funds from his wage account to his overtime account to cover staffing needs due to an injured employee.

Meth Labs: There are an abundance of meth labs in the City that we continue to address. The Fire Department is able to neutralize the byproducts and the products, thus saving the City some money by not having to bring outside agencies in to take care of the substances.

Questions/Comments for the Safety Forces Committee

Police Levy – Issue 6: The Chair asked the President to speak on the upcoming November 5 Police Levy. The President received a call from Patrolman Jim Hildebrand over the weekend. They received some of the informational Issue 6, Police Levy literature. The President reminded voters the ballot will say “an additional tax levy”. It will not specifically say “Police Levy”, so make sure you realize Issue 6 is our Police Levy. The levy’s passage will bring a half a million dollars into the City annually, for five (5) years. This would allow seven (7) additional officers back on the street (a 25% increase in Police manpower). Volunteers will go door-to-door to distribute the literature. Residents are encouraged to ask questions. He said he hopes citizens will support the levy to increase our community police protection. Please call the Police Department non-emergency number, 992-7172, to have a levy sign placed in your yard.

The Ward 4 Councilor reiterated that the Police department’s budget would be maintained at its current level, and the Levy funds would be added to their current funding level. The Auditor/Acting Treasurer said this is the commitment of the Council, City Manager, and the Auditor. “That being said, if there is some type of disaster or bad economy, it does not mean the department will always have the extra funds from the Levy. But, as a whole there is a commitment by the same parties not to eat away at the funds. We are going to make sure the funds are accounted for in order to be accountable to residents.” The President said, “More importantly, I would like to make the commitment that I would not be in favor of any cuts to the Police Department just because we would have a \$500,000 annual levy, should it pass. And, to make sure if cuts did have to be made they would be evenly dispersed throughout departments within the City, regardless of this levy or not. So, I think that simplifies my position a little bit.” The Ward 1 Councilor reported, “I see the levy money as additional monies for the Police Department. It’s not money to take and put into the General Fund and distribute to other departments.” The Ward 4 Councilor asked if more patrolling would be placed on Main Avenue, if the levy passes, in order to address Mr. Ginnard’s concern. The Committee Chair said, “Patrolmen have to cover the entire City. When they receive complaints about certain areas, they do sometimes target those areas”. He believes this would be more of an administrative decision than one Council could make. The Ward 4 Councilor asked if “Additional officers will mean that things will be watched a little bit closer; correct; safer”. The Committee chair responded, “Certainly”.

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Work Session - No Report

FORMAL LEGISLATION REQUESTS – None

PUBLIC COMMENT (Regular Agenda Legislation Only) - None

LEGISLATION READING

ORDINANCE NO. 2013-148 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO TRANSFER REAL PROPERTY NOT NEEDED FOR CITY OPERATIONS TO THE ASHTABULA CITY PORT AUTHORITY FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PURPOSES, was presented. Mrs. Stranman moved, Mr. Pugliese 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. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the legislation: Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2013-154 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT OR AGREEMENTS WITH THE OHIO DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AGENCY FOR THREE GRANTS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$678,200, 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, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the legislation: Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2013-155 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO DISPOSE OF OBSOLETE EQUIPMENT (from Walnut Beach), 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, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the legislation: Mr. Trisket, Mrs. Stranman, Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Lattimer, Mr. Balog, Mr. Ducro voted yea; motion CARRIED.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Topper Avenue Bridge: The Ward 4 Councilor reported the ramp going up towards the Bridge has another hole in it. The hole previously was covered with a plate. Smolen Engineering previously checked the Bridge, approved it as part of the Bridge-2-Bridge running course, and said it is structurally good for pedestrian traffic. The Manager reported a different company performs the City's bridge inspections, previously said this Bridge should have come down a long time ago, which he agrees with them, and that the City needs to start working to make it happen. In the meantime, the Manager will have the hole taken care of. The Clerk asked the Councilor if there is a deadline for the hole to be addressed in order for it to be taken care of by the event date. The Councilor reported the run is scheduled for Saturday, October 26, but that youth cross the Bridge daily, therefore the sooner the better is preferred.

Bishop Elizabeth Eaton: The President congratulated Bishop Eaton on her August 14 appointment as Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. He said she has been a long time supporter and advocate of the City. She served as pastor at Messiah Lutheran Church, located on Route 20 & Station Avenue, from 1991 to 2006. She is currently the Bishop of NE Ohio Synod of the Lutheran Church and has been since 2007. He wished her well and said we have lost a community leader since she will be headquartered in Chicago, IL.

GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Ms. Pat Blum, 1540 West 17th Street: asked how her street is involved in the rezoning of Lake Avenue discussed earlier in this meeting. She was told her residence would not be affected.

She praised City workers for doing a wonderful job picking up leaf bags.

She reported the entrance to her driveway still needs to be repaired after being damaged by large trucks when the Iron Bridge was being replaced.

Aqua OH's Street Opening Repairs: The Ward 2 Councilor said he has seen some of the permanent street opening repairs Koski has done for Aqua. They have not been on Lake Avenue yet, but will. The Manager said Koski is doing a good base prep job and will be on Lake Avenue soon.

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Executive Session: None

Reconvene Open Meeting: N/A

Action resulting from Executive Session: N/A

CLOSING REMARKS

The President asked that we, "Remember to Keep Believing in Ashtabula"

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Lattimer seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 p.m.; motion CARRIED.

DATE APPROVED: **November 4, 2013**

ATTESTED BY: _____
JP Ducro IV
President of Council

ATTESTED BY: _____
LaVette E. Hennigan, MMC
Clerk of Council