

ASHTABULA CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF ASHTABULA – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
4717 Main Avenue, Ashtabula, OH 44004

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, March 4, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

The President of Council called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., the Ward 2 Councilor offered the opening prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Richard A. Quaranta (Ward 3 Councilor)
 Mr. Michael D. Speelman (Ward 4 Councilor)
 Ms. Jane E. Haines (Ward 5 Councilor)
 Mrs. Kym A. Foglio (Ward 1 Councilor)
 Mr. August A. Pugliese (Ward 2 Councilor)
 Mr. John S. Roskovics (President)

MEMBER(S) ABSENT: Mr. Christopher J. McClure (Vice President)

OFFICER(S) PRESENT: Mr. James M. Timonere (City Manager)
 Mr. Michael Franklin (City Solicitor)
 Ms. Traci R. Welch (Director of Finance)
 Mrs. LaVette E. Hennigan, MMC (Clerk of Council)

OFFICER(S) ABSENT: None

EXCUSED ABSENCE(S): Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Quaranta seconded to excuse the Vice-President from this meeting; motion CARRIED.

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

PRESENTATION(S)

Members of the City Council's Safety Forces Committee (Speelman, Foglio and Haines) presented the following resolutions to each recipient, with Messrs. Harrah and Tennant absent:

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-27, A RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION TO RORY SHAW

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of this City Council and these Public Officials of the City of Ashtabula, Ohio, that a very special recognition is in order; and,

WHEREAS, on the morning of February 2nd, at approximately 6:30 a.m., it was an extremely frigid morning in the City of Ashtabula, with the wind chill in the single digits, when the Ashtabula Fire Department was dispatched to a structure fire at 202 West 58th Street; and,

WHEREAS, upon arriving at the scene the fire squad found a two-story home heavily engulfed in fire; from which fled seven children, including an infant, all of whom were wearing minimal clothing, and had been left home alone; and,

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WHEREAS, Rory Shaw, a Paramedic/EMS, a six year crew member, was part of the two man crew dispatched to the scene from Community Care Ambulance Network (CCAN), a long established service provider located in the City of Ashtabula; and,

WHEREAS, Paramedic/EMS Rory Shaw took the sweatshirt off his back to keep the body of a child warm; and along with his partner, took the children to their service vehicle for warmth; he remained with them, thus permitting the team of firefighters to focus their efforts on extinguishing the blaze; he helped purchase necessities for the children such as food and diapers, with his personal funds before transporting them to CCAN's headquarters where they continued to warm, received ample clothing, and were fed and safely cared for by crew members at headquarters until Ashtabula County Children Services released them to the care of their extended family;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this City Council and these Public Officials of the City of Ashtabula, Ohio, commend Paramedic/EMS Rory Shaw for being a member of the Community Care Ambulance Network team whose mission the morning of February 2nd, was the genuine compassion and steadfast care for seven precious little ones who needed them most. Rory; THANK YOU!

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-28, A RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION TO JARROD HARRAH

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of this City Council and these Public Officials of the City of Ashtabula, Ohio, that a very special recognition is in order; and,

WHEREAS, on the morning of February 2nd, at approximately 6:30 a.m., it was an extremely frigid morning in the City of Ashtabula, with the wind chill in the single digits, when the Ashtabula Fire Department was dispatched to a structure fire at 202 West 58th Street; and,

WHEREAS, upon arriving at the scene the fire squad found a two-story home heavily engulfed in fire; from which fled seven children, including an infant, all of whom were wearing minimal clothing, and had been left home alone; and,

WHEREAS, Jarrod Harrah, an EMT/EMS, was part of the two man crew dispatched to the scene from Community Care Ambulance Network (CCAN), a long established service provider located in the City of Ashtabula; and,

WHEREAS, EMT/EMS Jarrod Harrah, along with his partner, took the children to their service vehicle for warmth; he remained with them, thus permitting the team of firefighters to focus their efforts on extinguishing the blaze; he helped purchase necessities for the children such as food and diapers, with his personal funds before transporting them to CCAN's headquarters where they continued to warm, received ample clothing, and were fed and safely cared for by crew members at headquarters until Ashtabula County Children Services released them to the care of their extended family;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this City Council and these Public Officials of the City of Ashtabula, Ohio, commend 3 year crew member EMT/EMS Jarrod Harrah for being part of the Community Care Ambulance Network team whose mission the morning of February 2nd, was the genuine compassion and steadfast care for seven precious little ones who needed them most. Jarrod; THANK YOU!

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-29, A RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION TO JEFF TENNANT

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of this City Council and these Public Officials of the City of Ashtabula, Ohio, that a very special recognition is in order; and,

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WHEREAS, on the morning of February 2nd, at approximately 6:30 a.m., it was an extremely frigid morning in the City of Ashtabula, with the wind chill in the single digits, when the Ashtabula Fire Department was dispatched to a structure fire at 202 West 58th Street; and,

WHEREAS, upon arriving at the scene the fire squad found a two-story home heavily engulfed in fire; from which fled seven children, including an infant, all of whom were wearing minimal clothing, and had been left home alone; and,

WHEREAS, Jeff Tennant, a Critical Intensive Care (CIC) Paramedic and 14 year veteran crew member of Community Care Ambulance Network (CCAN), a long established service provider located in the City of Ashtabula, played a critical role in the children's care; and,

WHEREAS, CIC Paramedic Jeff Tennant, was deployed to Gustav in 2008, Harvey in 2017 and Florence in 2018, and went directly to the Ashtabula County Medical Center Emergency Room on February 2nd, where he received blankets and socks for the children; he quickly delivered them to the scene of the fire; and,

WHEREAS, Critical Intensive Care (CIC) Paramedic Jeff Tennant was part of the crew at CCAN's headquarters who comforted the children and provided for their basic needs (food, clothing and shelter) until Ashtabula County Children Services released them to the care of their extended family;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this City Council and these Public Officials of the City of Ashtabula, Ohio, commend Critical Intensive Care (CIC) Paramedic Jeff Tennant for being a member of the Community Care Ambulance Network crew who went above and beyond the call of duty and whose mission the morning of February 2nd, was the genuine compassion and steadfast care for seven precious little ones who needed them most. Jeff; THANK YOU!

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-30, A RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION TO RITA STROYNY

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of this City Council and these Public Officials of the City of Ashtabula, Ohio, that a very special recognition is in order; and,

WHEREAS, on the morning of February 2nd, at approximately 6:30 a.m., it was an extremely frigid morning in the City of Ashtabula, with the wind chill in the single digits, when the Ashtabula Fire Department was dispatched to a structure fire at 202 West 58th Street; and,

WHEREAS, upon arriving at the scene the fire squad found a two-story home heavily engulfed in fire; from which fled seven children, including an infant, all of whom were wearing minimal clothing, and had been left home alone; and,

WHEREAS, Rita Stroyny, an EMT is a 18 year veteran and crew member of Community Care Ambulance Network (CCAN), a long established service provider located in the City of Ashtabula, played a critical role in the children's care; and,

WHEREAS, EMT Rita Stroyny, was deployed to Hurricane Harvey in 2017, to Hurricane Florence in 2018, and through her immediate outreach on February 2nd, had a bunch of clothes delivered to CCAN headquarters because, with the exception of the clothes on their person, the children lost everything they owned in the fire; and,

WHEREAS, EMT Rita Stroyny helped comfort the children and provide for their basic food and shelter needs, until Ashtabula County Children Services released them to the care of their extended family;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this City Council and these Public Officials of the City of Ashtabula, Ohio, commend EMT Rita Stroyny for being a member of the Community Care Ambulance Network crew who went above and beyond the call of duty and whose mission the morning of February 2nd, was the genuine compassion and steadfast care for seven precious little ones who needed them most. Rita; THANK YOU!

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-31, A RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION TO ERIC DUGAN

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of this City Council and these Public Officials of the City of Ashtabula, Ohio, that a very special recognition is in order; and,

WHEREAS, on the morning of February 2nd, at approximately 6:30 a.m., it was an extremely frigid morning in the City of Ashtabula, with the wind chill in the single digits, when the Ashtabula Fire Department was dispatched to a structure fire at 202 West 58th Street; and,

WHEREAS, upon arriving at the scene the fire squad found a two-story home heavily engulfed in fire; from which fled seven children, including an infant, all of whom were wearing minimal clothing, and had been left home alone; and,

WHEREAS, Eric Dugan, a Critical Intensive Care (CIC) Paramedic, is a 2015 recipient of the American Ambulance Association Star of Life who was deployed for the Gulf oil spill, has served six years as a crew member of Community Care Ambulance Network (CCAN), a long established service provider located in the City of Ashtabula, played a critical role in the children's care; and,

WHEREAS, CIC Paramedic Eric Dugan, assisted his crew member in gathering up the clothing that was donated and delivered to CCAN headquarters because, with the exception of the clothes on their person, the children lost everything they owned in the fire; and,

WHEREAS, CIC Paramedic Eric Dugan helped comfort the children and provide for their basic food and shelter needs, until Ashtabula County Children Services released them to the care of their extended family;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this City Council and these Public Officials of the City of Ashtabula, Ohio, commend Critical Intensive Care Paramedic Eric Dugan for being a member of the Community Care Ambulance Network crew who went above and beyond the call of duty and whose mission the morning of February 2nd, was the genuine compassion and steadfast care for seven precious little ones who needed them most. Eric; THANK YOU!

Ms. Julie Rose, CCAN Director said, "This is what they do every day; they take care of people. We are honored to be in the City, thank you for your dedication to us, and they're dedicated to you."

Mrs. Foglio moved, Mr. Quaranta seconded to adopt Resolution Nos. 2019-27 through 2019-31; motion CARRIED.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda is a means whereby Council is able to efficiently conduct business by grouping routine items for consideration and disposal.

PRESENTATION OF MEETING MINUTES

The Clerk of Council presented the following meeting minutes for Council approval:

- February 4, 2019 Public Hearing
- February 4, 2019 Regular City Council Meeting
- February 7, 2019 Special City Council Meeting

Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Quaranta seconded to waive the reading of the minutes; motion CARRIED. Hearing no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

LEGISLATION AGENDA

- Formal Legislation Request(s): None
- Form and Correctness: None
- Legislation Overview: None
- Public Discussion (on legislation only): None
- Legislation Reading: None

REGULAR BUSINESS AGENDA

PRESENTATION OF MEETING MINUTES

None

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS and COMMUNICATIONS

CITY MANAGER

The City Manager presented the following requests and announcements:

Legislation Request

An ordinance to repeal and replace Codified Ordinance Chapter 193 titled Grants to Foster Job Development. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Roskovics seconded to approve the request. The Manager reported that in reviewing the ordinance, which he still has to discuss with the Solicitor, the application terms of agreement for our Job Creation Tax Credit (JCTC), basically has two tables. Those tables limit us as to what JCTCS we are able to offer a company. This has to do with the income tax paid by employees of a company, a certain percentage, of which, is given back in grant form to that company to use for further development as an incentive for bringing jobs here and to do what they need to do as far as their business practices. In some cases this means we are locked in. If they have an annual payroll of a certain amount, it's a certain amount of years. If they have a certain number of employees we are locked into a certain percentage. In looking over the tables in considering things forthcoming, there are way too many years and way too high of a percentage rate – especially given the economic conditions of today. He would like to be able to negotiate within the ordinance's boundaries rather than be tied to set years and percentages. Currently JCTC is set at 3 to 15 years and depending on the number of employees the tax credit percentage could be 10% up to 75%. The amendment would establish a range rather than be locked into established guidelines. The City would negotiate with the companies seeking the JCTC. Each agreement would have to be presented to City Council for approval. The motion to draft legislation CARRIED. The Manager reported work is still needed on what the amendment will look like, and legislation will be ready for the next Regular Council Meeting agenda.

Executive Session

The Manager requested an Executive Session to discuss the Sale of Property and Pending/Threatened Litigation. On the roll call to convene an Executive Session before the public portion of the meeting is adjourned: Mr. Quaranta, Mr. Speelman, Ms. Haines, Mrs. Foglio, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. Roskovics voted aye; motion CARRIED.

CITY SOLICITOR

No Report

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

The Director reported she continues to work on solving the sewer/trash billing delays. She thanked the public for their patience. To bring sewer and trash billing current, one comprehensive bill that will include the amount for all sewer and trash services received but not yet billed will be sent to each resident by March 31. Once this takes place the normal billing cycles will commence. In order to initiate this plan the Finance Director asked Council to authorize an ordinance to suspend all sewer and trash penalties and fees through December 31, 2019, and to suspend 2019 property tax assessments for unpaid sewer and trash billings. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Foglio seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED. Residents will have until December 31, to pay the comprehensive bill. If payment arrangements are required, residents may call the Finance Department at 992-7107. Notices regarding this plan will be issued with invoices.

CLERK OF COUNCIL

No Report

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS and COMMUNICATIONS

All Council committees meet in the Municipal Building 2nd Floor Conference Room
(Chair/Vice Chair)

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/PARKS & RECREATION

(CD/ED/P&R) (Haines/Speelman)

The Chair announced the committee will meet Tuesday, March 12, at 3:30 p.m. The primary topic of discussion will be 5g small cell towers.

The Parks and Recreation Board will meet tomorrow at 6:00 p.m., in the Pre-Council Chambers.

FINANCE & PERSONNEL - (F&P) (McClure/Pugliese)

The President announced the committee will not meet in March. The Finance Director reported she and Assistant Finance Director Carolyn Sheldon will be at finance officer's conference this Thursday and Friday, which is why this month's committee meeting is cancelled. The next committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 12, at 8:00 a.m.

PUBLIC WORKS/PUBLIC UTILITIES/CABLE/SCHOOLS - (PW/PU/C/S) (Pugliese/Roskovics)

The President announced the committee did not meet on March 1. He asked the Chair if the April 5, meeting is on. The Chair responded, yes.

SAFETY FORCES - (SF) (Speelman/Harley)

The Chair reported on the committee's February 25, meeting, as follows:

East 46th Street & State Road: A sign establishing "no parking from here to the corner" will be installed on the northwest corner after a crosswalk is painted.

Drug House Pamphlets: Pamphlets were given to each member of Council for distribution. The pamphlet is also on the City's website, at the Municipal Building and at the City Hall Annex/Justice Center. Police Chief Robert Stell told the committee it takes time to do the legwork and collect evidence on a drug house before actively going into the structure.

Community Relations: The Committee spoke with the Police Chief about the department's involvement.

Fire Engine Truck: The new truck is in use. It is red and black, which is a bit different than the standard color.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 25, @ 8:00 a.m.

WORK SESSION

None

LEGISLATION AGENDA

- Formal Legislation Request(s): None
- Form and Correctness: None
- Overview: The Clerk of Council provided.
- Public Discussion (Legislation Only): None
- Consent Agenda Format: Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Roskovics seconded to dispose of the legislation presented for a second reading by consent agenda; motion CARRIED.
- Reading: The Clerk of Council presented the following legislation for Council's consideration:

Second Readings

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-16, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TRAFFIC CONTROL MAP AND FILE TO PROHIBIT PARKING ON THE EAST SIDE OF WASHINGTON AVENUE BETWEEN WEST 57TH STREET AND 5732 WASHINGTON AVENUE. (Citizen / Safety Forces Committee)

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-17, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TRAFFIC CONTROL MAP AND FILE TO PROHIBIT PARKING ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF WALNUT BOULEVARD BETWEEN 2528 AND 2544 WALNUT BOULEVARD.(Citizen / Safety Forces Committee)

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-18, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PLACEMENT OF A PAINTED CROSSWALK AND PEDESTRIAN CROSSING SIGNAGE ON MAIN AVENUE BETWEEN BURROUGHS COURT AND WEST 55TH STREET. (Richmond Transportation / Safety Forces Committee)

Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Foglio seconded to waive the reading of the ordinances; motion CARRIED. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Foglio to adopt the ordinances. On the roll call to adopt the ordinances: Mr. Quaranta, Mr. Speelman, Ms. Haines, Mrs. Foglio, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. Roskovics voted aye; motion CARRIED.

Two Readings (Unless Charter Requirement of 2 Readings Suspended)

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-25, A RESOLUTION DECLARING IT NECESSARY TO LEVY AN ADDITIONAL FOUR (4.0) MILL TAX FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE (5) YEARS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION, RESURFACING, MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF STREETS, ROADS, AND BRIDGES IN THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, AND REQUESTING THE ASHTABULA COUNTY AUDITOR CERTIFY THE TOTAL CURRENT TAX VALUATION OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, ASHTABULA COUNTY, OHIO, AND THE DOLLAR AMOUNT OF REVENUE THAT WOULD BE GENERATED BY SUCH ADDITIONAL TAX. (Ward 2 Councilor / City Council)

Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Quaranta seconded to waive the reading of the resolution; motion CARRIED.

Discussion

The Ward 2 Councilor announced it was his decision to put the question of a Paving Levy to a vote of the residents. He said our roads are bad; we are not able to address the condition of our roads with the limit amount we are able to allocate to paving each year, and will get worst; He said we need resident's help with repairing our roads; noting that years ago paving was assessed to each homeowner. The Manager said the last few years we have been able to spend \$350,000 to \$400,000 on paving. The levy would provide about \$750,000 to address roads. "While we have done about \$350,000 to \$400,000 each year in paving, that has been at the sacrifice of buying new trucks for Public Works, new snowplows – other types of equipment that we needed to purchase. So, this not only helps the streets, but also the vehicles and other things that we need. But, these levy funds would strictly go towards paving; those levy funds would not be spent on any type of equipment – it would go right towards the paving program every year." The Ward 5 Councilor sought clarification that what is currently being spent on paving will be used for equipment purchases. The Manager said, "It could supplement if we needed a little bit more money in a paving program, per year. Or, yes, that could be spent on

equipment that we need. What of the current funds will be spent on paving will be determined from year to year and would depend on what equipment and vehicle purchases we need to make.” The Ward 1 Councilor said traffic is going to substantially increase due to known economic development that is coming and we want our roads to “be a little bit better, if not much better than they are right now.” The Ward 1 Councilor named a few streets in need of dire repair, such as, Benefit Avenue, West Avenue, West 58th Street, Lake Avenue and West 13th Street. The Manager said to address Lake Avenue from Route 20 to Bridge Street was estimated at over \$500,000. If passed, the levy would cost a homeowner whose home is valued at \$100,000, \$140.00 per year.

Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Foglio seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Quaranta, Mr. Speelman, Ms. Haines, Mrs. Foglio, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. Roskovics voted aye; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the resolution: Mr. Quaranta, Mr. Speelman, Ms. Haines, Mrs. Foglio, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. Roskovics voted aye; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-26, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH GPD GROUP, INC., FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION FOR THE TIVISION PLACE PUMP STATION PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$49,872.00. (City Manager) Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Quaranta seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; motion CARRIED. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Foglio seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Quaranta, Mr. Speelman, Ms. Haines, Mrs. Foglio, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. Roskovics voted aye; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinance: Mr. Quaranta, Mr. Speelman, Ms. Haines, Mrs. Foglio, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. Roskovics voted aye; motion CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Tell Us Something We Don't Know**

Ward 1 Councilor

- Lakeside Performing Arts Center Events: Friday, an Organ Concert; Saturday: Handel's Messiah presented by the Ashtabula Choral Society, the Messiah Chorus and the Reunion Singers, accompanied by guest soloists and readers; she is one of the readers. This is a wonderful partnership between the faith and music communities.
- Congratulations to her Alma Mater, Edgewood Warriors Basketball team, on their 2019 Sectional Championship.

City Manager

- The Remote Area Medical (R.A.M.) Center is returning April 5-7, at Ashtabula Towne Square. In 2018 they provided over \$481,700 in free medical care. It is a tremendous service to so many in our community; volunteers are needed; he commended everyone who was instrumental in getting the Center to return. They are doing so because they

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were impressed with our hospitality and the need for their services is so great. GET THE WORD OUT.

- He will try to get a date of when the new medical facility construction on Lake Avenue will be complete. They are working on “closing up the envelope” and are doing some façade work. The façade of the entire complex will look like the Ashtabula Family Health Center.

Ward 4 Councilor

- Last weekend Lakeside High School put on the show Footloose. They did an awesome, it was a great performance, and Police Chief Stell’s wife (Megan) helped with the choreography. Erica Hassel, from the Chalk Box was in the play and did awesome, as well.
- Edgewood High School is performing Cinderella this weekend.

Ward 5 Councilor

- Dream into Design, a relatively new Main Avenue business, is having a grand opening Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. She encouraged the community to support them.

President

- He was finally was able to visit “Pretty Good Books”, located on Main Avenue. There are more books in the store than one would know what to do with. It was a fun visit, they had tons of books of all sorts, and he wished them well.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION/COMMENTS (General Matters): None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Convene: The President announced the Executive Session would convene; that no decision would result from the session; and that the public portion of the meeting would adjourn off camera.

Reconvene Public Meeting: The President announced the public portion of the meeting reconvened at 8:20 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business to come before this Council, the President declared the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

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DATE APPROVED: MARCH 18, 2019

ATTESTED BY: John S. Roskovics
John S. Roskovics
President of Council

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