

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, May 7, 2018

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: Mrs. Kym Harley (Ward 1 Councilor)
Mr. August A. Pugliese (Ward 2 Councilor)
Mr. Michael D. Speelman (Ward 4 Councilor)
Ms. Jane E. Haines (Ward 5 Councilor)
Mr. John S. Roskovics (President)

MEMBER(S) ABSENT: Vacant (Ward 3 Councilor)
Mr. Christopher J. McClure (Vice President)

OFFICER(S) PRESENT: Mr. James M. Timonere (City Manager)
Mrs. Dana D. Pinkert (Finance Director)
Mrs. LaVette E. Hennigan, MMC (Clerk of Council)

OFFICER(S) ABSENT: Mr. Michael Franklin (City Solicitor)

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

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

AGENDA APPROVAL: None

PRESENTATION(S): None

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

None

Legislation Agenda

- Formal Legislation Request(s): None
- Form and Correctness: None

- Legislation Overview: None
- Public Discussion (Legislation Portion Only): None
- Legislation Reading: None

REGULAR BUSINESS

PRESENTATION OF MEETING MINUTES

The Clerk of Council presented the April 16, 2018 Regular Council Meeting Minutes. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Speelman seconded to waive the reading of the minutes; motion CARRIED. Hearing no corrections the minutes were approved as presented.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS and COMMUNICATIONS

CITY MANAGER

The City Manager presented the following:

Ohio NatureWorks Grant Application – Clifford Kadon Presidential Park (CKPP)

A request for an ordinance to apply and execute documents for funding through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, NatureWorks Grant in the amount of \$49,738.00 for new restrooms at CKPP on West 58th Street. Mr. Speelman moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

Ohio Development Services Agency – Community Development Block Grant – Allocation Grant/Critical Infrastructure Grant

A request for an ordinance to apply and execute documents for two grants available through the Ohio Development Services Agency, Office of Community Development, Community Development Program. An Allocation Grant in the amount of \$150,000 for the demolition of the Old Municipal Building located at 4400 Main Avenue Ashtabula, OH 44004, and a Critical Infrastructure Grant in the amount of \$300,000 for the relocation of a pump station and road reconstruction on Tivision Place. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Harley seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

Residential Tax Abatement – 3301 Brianna Court

A request for an ordinance to approve a Residential Tax Abatement in the amount of \$300,000, for new home construction located at 3301 Brianna Court, Ashtabula, OH 44004. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Speelman seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

Commercial Tax Abatement – Lake City Plating

A request for an ordinance to approve a Commercial Tax Abatement for Lake City Plating, at 75% and for 10 years. The company is investing \$410,000 in construction/machinery and \$62,400 in new payroll. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Speelman seconded to approve the request. The Manager reported any percentage over fifty on a commercial tax abatement is required to be approved by the Ashtabula Area City Schools Board of Education; and that they have given their approval on this request. Construction will be on the east side of Lake Avenue, towards the north of their existing property. The motion CARRIED.

Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) – Consent Legislation – ATB Culverts

A request for an ordinance to approve consent legislation for project ATB-Culverts, PID 106705; storm sewer work along SR 531 near the western corporation limit within the City of Ashtabula, to be constructed in 2019. The State shall bear 100% of the cost of the improvements. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Speelman seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

Obsolete Vehicles

A request for an ordinance to deem obsolete a 2006 Crown Victoria VIN 2FAFP71W16X157067 and a 1991 Ford Box Truck VIN 1FDWK64P5MUA29748. The vehicles will be sold at a public bid. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Harley seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

GPD Group - 2018 Paving Program Engineering Design

A request for an ordinance to enter into an agreement with GPD Group with a mailing address of 100 Federal Plaza East, Suite 200, Youngstown, OH 44503 for the purpose of providing engineering design and construction administration for the 2018 Paving Program for the City of Ashtabula in the amount not to exceed \$40,000.00. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Speelman seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

Route 20 Paving Project

The first phase of the project began today and will last 90 days. It shut down the west bound lane of Route 20 from Lake Avenue to Seymour Drive. It also prohibits north bound Center Street traffic from entering Route 20. Upon completion of the first phase, the second phase will commence at the intersections of Lake Avenue, Station Avenue and Center Street. Upon completion of phase two reconstruction of the east bound lanes will commence for 90 days.

Live Streaming City Council Meetings

This evening is the first live streaming of the council meeting. Live streaming give the public the ability to watch the meeting from various electronic devices without the need for cable. Hopefully the number of viewers will increase, especially because the service comes at a cost. The live stream link has been placed on the City's website at www.cityofashtabula.com.

Questions / Comments for City Manager

The Clerk of Council asked the Manager to explain how the above residential tax abatement work, for the sake of the new members of Council. The Manager explained residential tax abatements are applied for after construction is completed. The \$300,000 listed above is the value placed on the construction and the value of the home after construction is completed. It was a new construction on which property tax for the land has been paid. Once construction is completed, the property is assessed a new value. The abatement will be on the difference in what tax amount was paid for the property alone and the amount the owner will now be assessed. Residential tax abatements are for 7 years at 100%.

CITY SOLICITOR

No Report

FINANCE DIRECTOR

Formal Legislation Request

The Finance Director officially requested Ordinance No. 2018-34, scheduled for a vote of City Council this evening. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Harley seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

Sewer Bills

In an effort to be more transparent, when the new finance software was rolled out more information now appears on sewer bills. It is information that was always there but was not broken out into separate line items. The additional information also permits the bill holder to do their own calculations, as a double check. The expanded information has people asking if there has been a cost increase. She announced that rates are the exact same and that there has been no increase.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS and COMMUNICATIONS

(Chair/Vice Chair)

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/PARKS & RECREATION (CD/ED/P&R)

(Roskovics/Speelman)

The Chair announced the committee will meet on Tuesday, May 8. Growth Partnership and HOLA will be present. The Vice Chair announced the committee will discuss the Honors Ad Hoc Committee's final report on the policy for City Council to consider when honoring someone.

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

The Vice Chair announced the committee's Friday, May 11, meeting is cancelled due to no items for report by the Finance Director and City Manager.

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

The Chair reported on the committee's Friday, May 4, meeting, as follows:

Paving & Road Work

- The City Manager presented the proposed 2018 list; the total amount of which is estimated at over \$600,000
- The estimated cost for the roads selected is \$370,000
- The Chair said because so many roads need to be paved he is not in favor of paving the Municipal Building and City Hall Annex/Justice Center parking lots, the cost of which is estimated at \$170,000
- Aqua Ohio will perform work on West Avenue this year
- The City Manager will apply for an Infrastructure Grant to address Tivision Place
- Public Service Superintendent (PSS) John Melnik
 - Is speaking with contractors to see how much our crews are able to supplement paving work labor

- Is looking into ODOT training opportunities for City laborers to attend
- Has crews repairing catch basins and would like the public to call Public Works to report them
- Asphalt plants opened last week; Engineering Technician Bill Jepson has been in touch with companies who made temporary road patches to ask them to make their permanent repairs.

Curbside Recycling Program

At the request of the Chair, the City Manager reported the following on this program, which has been in the start-up phase for over two years:

- He is still working with Ashtabula County Solid Waste District (ACSWD) on getting the program off the ground
- ACSWD is creating recycling educational material to be distributed to residents at the same time the carts (cans) are initially delivered
- Legislation will be presented to City Council that outlines how the program works
- ACSWD is waiting for a contractor to be signed up to deliver the carts to residents
- Right now we still intend on beginning the program with Monday and Friday trash pickup routes
- Some rerouting might have to happen in order to efficiently use our present truck fleet
- Each residence will be given:
 - (1) 55 gallon can for garbage
 - (1) 55 gallon can for recycling materials
- Cans will belong to the property and should not be moved when residents move
- Property owners will be responsible for replacing cans
- There will be a limited warranty on the cans
- While the cans are sturdy, parts will be available to repair them
- If more than one can is requested, it will be proposed to City Council that an additional monthly charge be enacted
- If garbage is found in the recycling cart, it will remain at curbside
- There will be no need to use bags – plastic grocery bags are not recyclable
- We will have single-stream recycling, meaning recycling materials will not have to be separated
- The Recycling Center will still be open for residents who are not in the first phase of the program; however because of the amount of truck traffic that will be in and out of the Center once the program begins, private vehicles will not be permitted to drive through the Center; therefore dumpsters will be accessible to residents outside the Center
- Another grant will have to be secured to provide city-wide curbside recycling; the City will also have to commit another \$200,000 to purchase carts for the remaining routes; and
- The hope is to have the first phase of the program up and running by July.

Questions

- The Ward 4 Councilor said if recycling notices are given to students they will insist their parents recycle.
- The Ward 2 Councilor asked if garbage will have to be placed in issued cans. The Manager said yes, but there are some elderly residents who our Sanitation crews help with their

garbage. He said the goal is to eventually transition to automated trucks; which will then permit crews to help keep the City clean in other ways. The Manager said going to standardize cans will also make the City look better on trash pickup days.

Property

- The Manager hopes to put the former West Avenue Elementary School property up for sale.
- The Manager hopes to put the City's property on Wade Avenue, at the entrance to Mareddy Estates, up for sale. The Manager said we are mowing it and that it has no value to us.
- Our Fire Department is going to board up the former Park Haven facility with escrow funds. The amount to perform the board up has been estimated at \$10,000; however the Manager, in speaking with the Fire Department, hopes to drastically reduce the cost to \$1,000 to \$2,000, Overtime will be accrued
- The Manager is going to apply for fund to remove the former City Hall located at 4400 Main Avenue.
- Neighborhood Improvement Program (NIP) demolition activity has ceased. The Manager told how that the Ohio Housing Authority (OHA) - the organization that administers the NIP, suddenly required a historic review be performed on any home 50 years or older, even if it has no historic significance. After speaking with an OHA director, ACLB no longer has to go through a "total review" anymore. There were 30 to 40 properties waiting to be demolished; some of which have been released; one of which is the former Medicine Shoppe building and the building attached to it (Main Avenue); a developer desires to build on the site. While he has been encouraged to take possession of one of our vacant Main Avenue structures, he likes the former Medicine Shoppe lot.

Signs

In an effort to slow motorist down who are cutting through the alley across the street from the Lake Avenue Circle K convenience store, for the purpose of avoiding the light at West 8th Street, the committee recommended placing "Slow" signs in the alley.

Road Work

The President announced the City Manager told the committee that work on West 9th Street, between Myrtle and Ohio Avenues, should commence this year.

SAFETY FORCES - (SF) (Speelman/Harley)

The Chair reported on the committee's Monday, April 23, meeting, as follows:

New Pumper Engine

Fire Chief Shawn Gruber told the committee:

- The department attended a preconstruction meeting at the factory in Columbus; and
- The engine is expected to be delivered sometime around November.

Park Haven Facility

- The Fire Department will commence with boarding up the facility due to a fire and absent owner; and
- This is not the department's responsibility, which is why fire escrow funds will be used

Ashtabula County Probate Division (Division)

Representatives from the Division reported:

- The Youth Detention Center has closed; no staff members loss their jobs; the Division is actually hiring
- Over the past six months only two juveniles were detained
- The theory of how to handle juvenile offenders has changed
- Early intervention through School Resource Officers Intervention Specialist (IS) is being used
- There is an IS at Lakeside High School
- Youth who require detention will be placed in facilities in surrounding counties
- Youth who require attention but not detention are referred to the Division's Resource Center
- The Resource Center has had a better than 80% success rate in diverting youth from going down the wrong path and have helped them to be productive citizens
- Youth who go through an intervention program are tracked for one year – this success rate is also above 80%
- Case Western Reserve serves as the third party who performs the Resource Center's quality assurance and program evaluations; their findings are reported to the State of Ohio; this keeps the program honest

Q: What was the previous percentage?

A: That number is unknown; and tracking does not occur past one year.

Police Body Cameras

- Police Chief Robert Stell told the committee that a company-wide problem with the software for the updated body cameras has cause a delivery delay
- This evening the City Manager announced the cameras arrived last Friday.

Police Levy Renewal

- This evening Council will vote on a resolution to place the levy renewal before the electorate in November.

Next Meeting

- Tentatively, Tuesday, May 29' at 8:00 a.m.

WORK SESSION: No Report

LEGISLATION AGENDA

- Formal Legislation Request(s): None
- Form and Correctness

Because the City Solicitor was unable to affix his signature to this evening's legislation prior to his absence, as required by City Council Rules of Order No. 31, the Clerk asked that the Rule be waived. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Harley seconded to waive the Rule; motion CARRIED.

Ashtabula City Regular Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 7, 2018

- Legislation Overview

The Clerk of Council provided a brief overview.

- Request Presentation by Consent Agenda

Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Speelman seconded to for presentation of the regular legislation agenda by Consent Agenda; motion CARRIED.

- Public Discussion (Legislation Portion Only): None

- Legislation Reading

The Clerk of Council presented the following legislation:

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-32, A RESOLUTION DECLARING IT NECESSARY TO RENEW AN EXISTING LEVY OF A TWO AND ONE-HALF (2.5)-MILL TAX FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE (5) YEARS FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE PAYMENT OF SALARIES OF PERMANENT OR PART-TIME POLICE, COMMUNICATIONS, OR ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL IN THE ASHTABULA CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT, INCLUDING THE PAYMENT OF ANY EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS REQUIRED FOR SUCH PERSONNEL UNDER SECTION 145.48 OR 742.33 OF THE REVISED CODE, OR PROVIDING AND MAINTAINING MOTOR VEHICLES, COMMUNICATIONS, OTHER EQUIPMENT, BUILDINGS AND SITES FOR SUCH DEPARTMENT, AND REQUESTING THE ASHTABULA COUNTY AUDITOR TO 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. (City Council)

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-33, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH TIM BELL FOR THE OPERATION OF THE CONCESSION STAND AT WALNUT BEACH FOR THE SUMMER SEASONS IN 2018, 2019 AND 2020. (City Manager)

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-34, AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$8,863 FROM UNAPPROPRIATED FIRE ESCROW FUND 871 INTO THE GENERAL FUND TO BE USED FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT EXPENSES. (Finance Director)

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-35, AN ORDINANCE ENACTING NEW CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 1137.12 CONTAINING UPDATED CONDITIONAL USE REGULATIONS FOR THE ASHTABULA HARBOR HISTORICAL DISTRICT. (Planning & Community Development Department)

Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Harley seconded to waive the reading of the legislation; motion CARRIED. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Harley seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mrs. Harley, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. Speelman, Ms. Haines, Mr. Roskovics voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinance: Mrs. Harley, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. Speelman, Ms. Haines, Mr. Roskovics voted yea; motion CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

Tell Us Something We Don't Know

Members of City Council and the Administration/Officers are provided the opportunity to tell something about Ashtabula we may not know.

1. The Ward 5 Councilor announced:

- "Take it to the Curb", the downtown cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, May 19. Volunteers will meet in front of the City Hall Annex/Justice Center at 9:00 a.m. Bring your own gloves, brooms and rakes.
- My Neighborhood Collaboration will also host a cleanup from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. the same day. Stacy is the contact for this event. She may be reached at 997-5957 x514.

2. The Ward 4 Councilor announced:

- On Friday, he and the President participated in the annual "Rocking" fundraiser at Lakeside Junior High School, in remembrance of Austin Thome, a student who passed away from Juvenile Cancer in 2010. Eighteen teams, with five to six students per team, participated.
- The event raised over \$4,500 Friday and \$50,000 so far, overall.
- Artist Chris Raab worked with the Chalk Box, owned by the Councilor and his wife Chrissy, to have Chalk Box youth paint a mural inside the facility. Thirty youth participated and the outcome was fantastic.

3. The President of Council announced:

- Last Thursday, he attended a National Day of Prayer service
- The Clerk of Council wrote and presented the prayer for government; and
- Saturday, Catholic Charities clothing bank was moved from Bethany Church to the second floor of their Park Avenue office in the Commonwealth Bank building (formerly First Merit and People's Bank)

4. The Clerk of Council announced:

- May 6 – 12 is Municipal Clerk Week
 - She provided a brief history of the Municipal Clerk profession
 - There is a Municipal Clerk in every municipality in every city, village and township government in every countries; something she did not realize until becoming a municipal clerk; she had never even heard of the profession
 - It is the oldest public servant alongside the Tax Collector
 - The profession dates back to biblical times and is called a Town Clerk in the bible
 - Municipal Clerks are known by various titles (Clerk/Treasurer, City Clerk, Clerk of Council, Fiscal Officer, Clerk of the Board)

- Municipal Clerks are also known as “Rememberers”; they were the one who was commonly at the king's side to tell the king the important things the king should know; they were the ones who remembered what went on in the town prior to recording devices and called it to remembrance
 - While she has been in the position 26 years, she is still learning; and
 - She said, “Thank a Municipal Clerk” this week.
- She said the Finance Director and her staff are to be commended for the huge software conversation they just undertook.
 - She thanked the City Manager for setting up live streaming of City Council meetings to the City of Ashtabula. She said he is very helpful with her technological needs, for which she is very appreciative.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION/COMMENTS (General Matters)

Mrs. Patricia Blum, 1540 West 17th Street

- Said she is aggravated with the person who constantly rides a bike through her yard from West 19th Street.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business to come before this Council, the President declared the meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

DATE APPROVED: MAY 21, 2018

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

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