

**ASHTABULA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**CITY OF ASHTABULA, OHIO**  
4717 Main Avenue, Ashtabula, OH 44004

**Regular Meeting**

**Monday, August 3, 2015**

**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 recited.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Kris E. Hamrick	(Ward 5 Councilor)
Mr. August A. Pugliese	(Ward 2 Councilor)
Mrs. Alice T. Cook	(Ward 3 Councilor)
Mrs. Josephine Misener	(Ward 4 Councilor)
Mr. Christopher J. McClure	(Vice President)
Mr. J. P. Ducro IV	(President)

**MEMBER(S) ABSENT:** Mr. Richard F. Balog (Ward 1 Councilor)

**OFFICER(S) PRESENT:**

Mr. James M. Timonere	(City Manager)
Mr. Michael Franklin	(City Solicitor)
Mrs. Dana D. Pinkert	(Finance Director)
Mrs. LaVette E. Hennigan, MMC	(Clerk of Council)

**OFFICER(S) ABSENT:** None

**EXCUSED ABSENCE(S):** Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Hamrick seconded to excuse the Ward 1 Councilor from this meeting; motion CARRIED.

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

**PRESENTATION(S):** Ms. Rebecca Widowski, Northeast Regional Liaison for the Auditor of State (Mr. Dave Yost) presented the Finance Director with the *Auditor of State Award with Distinction [for 2014 reporting]*. She said, "...the award is given to those entities that file an annual CAFR and timely financial reports in accordance with GAAP (*General Accepted Accounting Principles*), as well as received a "clean" audit report. The "clean" audit report means that your financial audit did not contain findings for recovery, material citations, material weaknesses, significant deficiencies, Single Audit findings or any questioned costs".

The President thanked Ms. Widowski for taking the time to make the trip from Columbus to present the award. He said, "We surely appreciate the job that she has done but it's nice to see that that recognition is coming from the State of Ohio".

The Finance Director thanked the Auditor of State's office. She said the award is fitting at this time because 2014 was the first year the department functioned as a Finance Department having formerly been the offices of City Auditor and City Treasurer. She said it means a lot to her and her staff. She said they deserve more credit than she does because they are hard workers and have meet all the challenges of change she has presented to them over the last couple of years. She said it is also nice to have something tangible to give to the residents that supported combining two offices, through a Charter change. She said the award is more about the department's activity than their reporting, and you do not always get something that says government is doing what they said they would do.

The President said the Finance Department personnel deserve credit and recognition and asked the Finance Director to announce their names:

Tracey Welch, Assistant Finance Director  
Carolyn Sheldon, Human Resources/Payroll Administrator  
Nita Senita, Accounting Assistant (does most of the sewer/trash billing)  
Todd Shimko, Finance Clerk (Sewer/Trash window & telephone)  
Trisha Patton, Finance Clerk (Sewer/Trash window & telephone)  
Kathy Nizen, Finance Clerk (Sewer/Trash window & telephone)  
Tina Kray, Tax Specialist

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** N/A

**RECONVENE OPEN MEETING:** N/A

**ACTION RESULTING FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION:** N/A

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The Consent Agenda is a means whereby Council is able to efficiently conduct business by grouping routine items and disposing of or enacting them by one motion, a second, and a vote.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES** - None

**FORMAL LEGISLATION REQUESTS** - None

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION** (Consent Agenda Legislation Only) - None

**LEGISLATION READING** - None

(end of consent agenda)

## **REGULAR BUSINESS AGENDA**

### **READING AND DISPOSAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

The Clerk of Council presented the July 6, 2015 Public Hearing minutes for disposal. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Misener seconded to waive the reading of the minutes; motion CARRIED. Hearing no corrections the minutes stood approved as presented.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

#### **West Harbor Sewer Improvements – Phase 2**

The City Manager requested an ordinance to execute Change Order No. 1 with United Survey, Inc. of 25145 Broadway, Cleveland, OH 44146 for the West Harbor Sewer Improvements, Phase 2 project in the amount not to exceed \$9,839.61 for the purpose of providing siphon investigation and repair work added to the project, as well as a time extension for the project. Funds for the project will be taken from the City of Ashtabula's 503 Fund, titled Permanent Improvement. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Cook seconded to grant the City Manager's request.

Discussion: The Manager explained that this is part of the OPWC Project to clean and televise City sewer drains. The siphon runs under the Ashtabula River from Sutherland Marina across to the Bum Boat (directly across the street from Norfolk/Southern Railroad yard). A crack is believed to be in the siphon which is causing water to come into the system rather than blowing it out. Divers from Lake Erie Ship Repair (an Ashtabula County company) have been hired to locate the two pipes (16 inches and 24 inches). The crack is believed to be in the 16 inch siphon. The ordinance to permit divers to be hired is scheduled for a vote this evening. If the crack is found it will be patched from the outside and a slip line will be placed on the inside to make a permanent seal.

The motion CARRIED.

#### **Huntington Insurance – 2015-2016 Comprehensive Liability Insurance Coverage**

The City Manager requested an ordinance to enter into an agreement with Huntington Insurance, Inc. and Travelers Insurance Company to provide liability insurance coverage for the City of Ashtabula for a period of one year in the amount not to exceed \$243,936.00, half of which will be paid in 2015 with the other half paid in 2016 for this contract. Funding for this expenditure will be taken from General Fund 101 in 2015 in the amount of \$121,968.00. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Cook seconded to grant the City Manager's request.

Discussion: The City Manager reported last year the contract total was \$257,230; therefore the new contract is a savings of \$13,294. The President asked why.

The Manager said our 'loss runs' were reviewed, because of the number of Ohio insurance companies, lower prices are offered to be competitive, and the desire to keep our business. He said Travelers is our current provider. He reported there were four (4) bidders all of whom were very close in price.

The Clerk asked if the contract is with Huntington and Travelers. The Manager responded yes. It is similar to how we handle our health insurance where we pay Giangola Insurance to be the administrator and another insurance company provides the actual coverage. She asked if Huntington is the administrator. The Manager responded yes. The President said he, too, thought it was two insurance coverages.

The motion CARRIED.

#### **Ronyak Paving, Inc. – 2015 Paving Program**

The City Manager requested an ordinance to execute Change Order No. 2 with Ronyak Paving of 1436 N. Cheshire Street, Burton, OH 44021 to deduct and add items making this change order a net zero. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Misener seconded to grant the City Manager's request.

Discussion: The President expressed his pleasure with the addition of streets to the paving program, and at no additional expense.

The motion CARRIED.

#### **Questions and Comments for the City Manager**

**Street Sweeper:** The Ward 4 Councilor asked if the sweeper will be out again. The Manager said the sweeper has been through the City once in the spring. It probably will not be out again until the fall, after the leaves have fallen. It is sent out to areas where work has been performed and clean up is needed, as well as the main roads which collect more debris. He said the pile is still being removed due to the amount of dirt collected, which confirms the streets were swept. The Councilor said she will forward some streets to the Manager to make sure they do not get missed. The President asked the Manager if he believes every street has had the sweeper 'hit the curb'. The Manager said that is what he was told by Public Services Superintendent Larry Meaney and the crew member who 'put a marker to a piece of paper'.

#### **Clifford Kadon Presidential Park**

**Fence and Mowing:** The Ward 5 Councilor said the park is coming alive, is being used a lot and maintained well. He said the fence is "all broken down and falling down" and probably should be removed because the area around the fence cannot be trimmed, therefore the park cannot be seen for the weeds attached to the fence. He said when crews mow at the park they should also mow the parking lot.

He suggested 'regrind' be placed in the parking lot to make it distinguishable. The Manager said grindings were put there once prior to the West Avenue Cleanup. The Councilor said he believes they were placed in one small area. He then said if the sun is out, children are at the park.

**Recently Scheduled Event:** The Clerk reported she was told a yard sale was to take place at the park last Saturday; however when she arrived there was no one and no sale and the sun was shining bright. The President said he told the Clerk of the event, saw the person who was in charge of the sale at another event, told them he would see them at the sale, and was told it was cancelled and would be held next year.

**Playground:** The President said the playground area is great, he has taken his children there to play, and that the park is a big area to maintain for the small amount of the park that is actually used.

**Lights:** The Manager said the Ward 1 Councilor has been asking about the installation of lights in the park. Investigative work revealed that the electric portion will be the City's responsibility. The Cleveland Electric Illuminating (C.E.I.) does not recommend placing lights on the existing poles because they are so rotted, so new poles would be needed. He also reported, "the electrical box and the actual system... 99% sure that from the moment the electric hits it from the street side to that box and beyond, needs to be replaced." He said it will be quite a project to get electricity to the park. However he will secure numbers to see what the cost will be.

**Neighborhood Watch Signs:** The President said the woman who spoke during this evening's pre-council meeting asked about how to get Neighborhood Watch signs and the cost. The Manager said he can look into that, and believes they originate from the Police Department.

**Paving/Cracked Sealing Program:** The President said enacting a cracked sealing program for long term road maintenance has been discussed. He asked if there has been further discussion on how the program would be implemented, when it will begin, will we have the manpower/resources to adopt the program, and should we target more recently paved roads or worst conditioned ones, etc. The Manager said we are looking to focus on roads paved in 2007 to the present. Or go after the roads that are still in good shape but are showing minor cracking. Whether a machine will be rented and the work performed by City personnel, or whether it is outsourced is still up for debate, as well as how the outsourcing would be handled. The plan is to look at this in 2016.

#### **CITY SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

**City Income Tax Resolution:** The Solicitor reported that when the Clerk of Council delivered the resolution placing the income tax "renewal" on the November 3 ballot the Board of Elections raised questions.

The questions resulted in several conversations with the Deputy Director (DD) of the Board of Elections, and at the DD's request some conversations with their general counsel in Columbus and the Ashtabula County Prosecutor's office. "At the end of the day no changes to our resolution were recommended. Everyone acknowledged that our situation, for the past 40 years, has been a bit unusual. But, everyone seemed to feel that the safest course of action for continuing our income tax in place is to utilize the language that the Legislature has said we must use in Chapter 718 of the Revised Code. I indicated to the Board of Elections that I would be requesting that Mrs. Hennigan, once again, submit the resolution before the deadline on August 5. And, we have every indication that we will move forward from there".

### **FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Formal Legislation Request:** The Finance Director formally requested the following legislation:

#### **ORDINANCE**

**2015-96 AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL AND WATER POLLUTION CONTROL CAPITAL FUNDS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, STATE OF OHIO, FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2015. (Finance Director)**

**Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Cook seconded to grant the Finance Director's request.**

Discussion: The President asked if the request results in a 'net zero'. The Finance Director responded yes, and that even so she is required to obtain Council approval to transfer within some departments.

**The motion CARRIED.**

### **CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS and COMMUNICATIONS**

#### **Community/Economic Development/Parks & Recreation (Mrs. Misener/Mr. McClure)**

The Chair announced/reported the following:

**August Meeting:** The e committee will meet on Tuesday, August 11, at 4:00 p.m., at City Hall. Donation clothing bins and zoning fees legislation will be reviewed for submission to the full Council.

**Parks & Recreation:** The Parks & Recreation Board will meet on Tuesday, August 11, at 6:30 p.m., at Clifford Kadon Presidential Park.

## **Events**

**Peace Stone Dedication and Steam Locomotive Visit:** July 25 and 26 was a busy weekend. The Peace Stone was dedicated, followed by the Steam Locomotive's visit which carried some 700 people who were feed in South Park. It drew train enthusiasts with cameras, and even a drone flew overhead. Engine facts: It was No. 765, built in 1944, weighed 4004 tons, has two tenders of water which carried 250,000 gallons of water, uses 150 gallons per minutes at 40 miles per hour, purrs at 70 miles per hour, and whose wheels are 69 inches high. The weather was good, the planning was great, the City Manager, Rich Recker the Director of Ashtabula School Discovery, Club 212 students, St. Peter's Episcopal Church (train disaster display), other volunteers, and Ms. Marty Cephas (dedication coordinator), were thanked. The Chair asked residents to visit the park to see the Stone.

Miss Emily Braat, a homeschooled sophomore, sang at the dedication, and was invited to this meeting to sing one of the songs she sang at the dedication, "The Greatest Love of All". Emily sang, the President thanked her, the Manager thanked her and Rich Recker and the Ashtabula Downtown Development Association (ADDA) for taking the reigns in planning the locomotive's visit. He said those who say there is nothing to do in this town need to search a little harder and take a drive around. The President also thanked singer Nia Covington, musician Jim Fuller, Mrs. Octavia Yates (Mistress of Ceremony), and others.

### **Finance and Personnel - (Mr. Ducro IV/Mr. Balog)**

The Chair announced the committee is scheduled to meet on Friday, August 14, at 8:00 a.m., in the Municipal Building 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room.

### **Public Works/Utilities/Schools -- (Mr. McClure/Mr. Pugliese)**

The Chair announced the committee's Friday, August 7, has been cancelled due to a light agenda.

### **Safety Forces -- (Mr. Balog/Mrs. Misener)**

The President announced the committee is scheduled to meet on Monday, August 24, at 4:00 p.m., in the Municipal Building 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room.

### **Work Session** - None

### **FORMAL LEGISLATION REQUESTS** - None

### **PUBLIC DISCUSSION** (Regular Agenda Legislation Only)

The President presented the Legislation Agenda. There were no public comments.

The Vice President commented on Ordinance No. 2015-94 "Facsimiles of Firearms" and said these toys are not being outlawed or banned, but the serious nature of what 'kids can get into needs to be underlined for everybody". The Solicitor stated, "The initial request for this came from the Detective Bureau in the Police Division. There is an occasional problem with people taking these already very realistic looking replicas of real weapons and removing or concealing the bright orange tip that at least one company puts on them to distinguish them from a real gun so you know you're looking at a gun that fires a rubber pellet or a sponge or something like that, and not something that fires a bullet. But, with that concealed it looks, for all intents and purposes like – you name it – they have these things that looks like Glocks, that look like AK-47s, that look like any number of very deadly weapons. And, because with that little bit of work they look so real they are sometimes used for criminal purposes, to frighten people, to intimidate people, to coerce people, and one occasion to abduct a person. And, the possession of a toy that has been deliberately altered to look like a real weapon brings into question why. Why do you need that; why do you what that. So, the legislation seeks to walk a line between people who possess these things for perfectly valid, perfectly harmless recreational reasons and people who are using them and changing them for a criminal artifact. So, possession of an Airsoft product that has not been altered is not a problem until and unless you start waving it around trying to intimidate or threaten someone, especially a police officer; then it becomes a level of seriousness higher. However, changing it – removing that plastic tip or concealing it with paint or tape, now you're into a situation that you're going to get a ticket and it's going to be seized and you're not going to get it back. And, that's really all the legislation does.

### **CONSENT AGENDA DISPOSAL**

The President entertained a motion to dispose of Legislation Nos. 2015-94, 2015-95 and 2015-96 by consent agenda. Mr. McClure moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

### **LEGISLATION READING** (Consent Agenda)

The Clerk of Council presented the following legislation for its first reading:

#### ORDINANCE

2015-97            AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TRAFFIC CONTROL MAP AND FILE TO PROHIBIT  
                         PARKING ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF MATTSON DRIVE.  
                         (Community/Economic Development/Parks & Recreation)

Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Cook seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; motion CARRIED. The ordinance was placed on its first reading.



The Clerk of Council presented the following legislation for consent agenda disposal:

ORDINANCE

2015-94 AN ORDINANCE ENACTING NEW CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 549.13 FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPOSING CRIMINAL LIABILITY FOR CERTAIN CONDUCT INVOLVING FACSIMILES OF FIREARMS. (Police Department / Safety Forces Committee)

ORDINANCE

2015-95 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH LAKE ERIE SHIP REPAIR & FABRICATION, LLC, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$12,383, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING PIPE EXCAVATION IN THE ASHTABULA RIVER. (City Manager)

ORDINANCE

2015-96 AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL AND WATER POLLUTION CONTROL CAPITAL FUNDS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, STATE OF OHIO, FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2015. (Finance Director)

Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Cook seconded to waive the reading of the legislation; motion CARRIED. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Cook seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Hamrick, Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Misener, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro IV voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the legislation: Mr. Hamrick, Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Misener, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro IV voted yea; motion CARRIED.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** - None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**New JEDD:** The City Manager announced he will present a new Saybrook Township JEDD packet to the Clerk of Council this week for a new store on Route 45 & Carpenter Road. He reported that a 30 day notice of a public hearing is required to be placed in the newspaper. He will also provide Saybrook Township Trustees with information so they, too, may schedule their public hearing.

**Suggested Change to City's Policy for Removing Items Placed on Treelawns for Unscheduled Pick up:** The City Manager reported there is a problem with renters and homeowners putting large items and/or excessive amounts of trash on treelawns. He said, "We continue to get reminder calls to let us know when it was reported and that the items are still there". He reviewed the current policy for issuing notice to remove items for unscheduled pick up from a treelawn.

He suggested the matter be referred to the Community/Economic Development/Parks & Recreation Committee for review and recommendation, in order to permit the City to, within 48 hours of a violation being reported or seen, remove items and assess the appropriate fee. He said if the property is known to be occupied, notices go to that address; otherwise property owners are notified. It was noted that depending on where the property owner resides the current notice policy could extend the process. Our current notice process is strictly adhered to, unless a large community event is schedule. If the City has to remove the items the charge for doing so is placed on the property owner's tax duplicate as a 'nuisance abatement', which is why the procedure leading up to assessment on the tax duplicate has to be strictly followed. The Vice President suggested it could be a case of the landlord not knowing about the violation until the fee is assessed. He would like to see it get to the landlord immediately, and believes it will help resolve some of the violations before they get to the assessment stage. He would like to avoid it becoming like our sewer and trash bills in the case where a tenant is responsible for paying the bill, does not pay the bill, and the landlord is not notified until several months after the bill is past due.

The City Solicitor said approximately six years ago Council passed legislation and made it part of our rubbish billing ordinance, which indicated that if a resident arranged for pick up of items (something that required a dump truck) a certain charge was to be collected. But, if the resident did not make arrangements and City crews had to remove the items after the notice period expired, the bill would be doubled. The Clerk of Council asked if the 'notification' process applies here, as well. The Solicitor said notification is not required prior to the fee being doubled, but applaud the steps we take to let people know in case they are innocent.

The Ward 4 Councilor asked what the success rate of items being removed once clean up notice is issued. The Manager said it depends, gave examples, and said if it is 'a move out' we will not get paid. The Councilor asked the Finance Director for the success rate in receiving the fees assessed to property taxes. The Manager responded that the assessment covers unpaid trash and sewer bills also. So to determine the collection success rate of a particular portion of the assessment is hard to know. He said almost nothing is returned to us when we mow private properties. He reported that on average we mow 10 private properties, per day, and use a part-time employee all week for 120 days a year, to do so. He believes assessment payments due to the pick up of items left on a treelawn, is about the same.

The President said the Solicitor's input will be critical to developing modifications to the Manager's suggestion.

**Notifying City Manager of Concerns:** The President encouraged the members of City Council to copy the City Manager on emails they receive from citizens, which are then forwarded to the appropriate department, so he, too, will know of the concern, and is able to follow up accordingly.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

### **Acknowledgements**

The President thanked the following persons their efforts in cleaning up the West Avenue bridge, by the Greenaway Trail, after the issuance of a random Facebook message: Sarah Warner, Tyler Karsikas, Kat Loveland, Trevor Loveland, Brent Loveland, Aaron Pack, Donald Pouewells, and Isaiah Dennison. He thanked Kat Loveland for coming out a second day, and Public Works crews for picking up the debris, that volunteers gathered and placed on the sides of the bridge.

The President thanked Jennifer Farley for her initiation of the Ward 5 Neighborhood Watch Program, and for being proactive in picking up garbage in her neighborhood.

The President thanked Amber Kendzerski for organizing the "Jericho Prayer Walk" through the area last weekend, beginning at Lance Kevin M. Cornelius Memorial Park.

**Maple Trees:** The Ward 2 Councilor said he has noticed several maple trees are losing their leaves very early this year, and wondered if a moth or something is infecting them, and if anyone else noticed. No one had.

**Walnut Boulevard Waterline Break:** The City Manager reported Aqua Ohio experienced a break in one of their water lines at the intersection of Walnut Boulevard and Lake Avenue. They got it blocked off and are scheduled to make repairs tomorrow. They also had a break on Route 11 near Sheetz and McDonald's, which caused low water pressure throughout the City this afternoon. He believes it is now repaired, but wanted residents to know the reason they may be experiencing low water pressure. The President asked if the Walnut Boulevard and Lake Avenue break was on a section of Walnut Boulevard that was recently paved. The Manager replied no. The President said unlike previous years, this year we have not experienced street/road cuts right after paving. The Clerk reported their to be a large, fresh cut on East 46<sup>th</sup> Street near State Road, that has been filled with white gravel. The Ward 4 Councilor expressed thankfulness that the cut is off to the side of the road and not in the middle of it.

**Welcome Back:** The President welcomed back citizen Pat Blum and Beverly Deneen after being away for a while. He wished them continued recovery.

## **GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

**Mrs. Pat Blum, 1540 West 17<sup>th</sup> Street:** said the new traffic lights are working well, the streets look good, nothing is perfect, it all takes time, and 'everything is going as you planned'.

Mrs. Blum thanked the City for keeping the grass mowed at her end of West 17<sup>th</sup> Street.

Mrs. Blum asked when the yard waste bag pick up will begin again. The Manager said Monday, October 5, that it will begin in the Harbor, and go through November.

Mrs. Blum said the bark and some of the branches and leaves are coming off on one side of a maple tree she purchased in 1982. The Vice President said the ornamental maples took a pounding last winter due to the extreme cold. The Manager said he would call Ohio State University's Extension Office to see if they know of anything city-wide. He also suggested Mrs. Blum have a tree-trimmer assess the tree.

Mrs. Blum asked if people are permitted to leave large items at Goodwill's donation box drop offs located throughout the City. The Manager said no, and that Goodwill had to remove a box because of illegal dumping. The Ward 2 Councilor reported whoever is illegally dumping at the drop off boxes are doing so at night. He said anything of value may be taken to Goodwill any day of the week. He said the illegal dumping is causing Goodwill to spend money to dispose of items illegally left at their drop off boxes, rather than on worthwhile items. Mrs. Blum reported illegal dumping has again started on East 18<sup>th</sup> Street. The Manager said he is aware of it, has been there, and does not believe it is City owned property, or said it may be a paper street.

Mrs. Blum asked if there is a better way to place delinquent sewer and trash bill notices in the newspaper during the certification period. The President said as part of the requirement to be able to certify the unpaid trash collection amounts to the County Auditor, it has to be published in the newspaper with the exact language specified in the Ohio Revised Code. He said people do not understand that 'nuisance abatement' does not necessarily mean the property looks bad, but that at some point a trash bill was not paid.

Mrs. Blum said she is going to attend the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) fish fry on August 27.

Mrs. Blum said, this year, she wants the City to enforce the parking snow ban at Lake City Plating. She said she previously promised she would start mentioning it early so when enforcement time comes the City will have been notified by her that she wants it done this year.

### **Road Salt**

**Reimbursement:** The Ward 2 Councilor asked the Manager if we are going to be reimbursed for previous road salt purchases. The Manager said we have submitted a claim to the Attorney General's office, and that he does not know where it goes from there. He said we requested invoices from Morton Salt for the period in which a municipality can get reimbursed. They had invoices beginning in the year after the reimbursement reporting timeframe. He said "We were able to go through ordinances, the Finance Director provided some totals; we were able to match how much we spent versus the contract price and give them the tonnage that we purchased in the years in which we may receive reimbursement for". It ended up being an \$89,000 claim. The price per ton we paid varied from \$38/\$39 per ton up to \$70 per ton.

**2015 Purchase:** The Ward 2 Councilor asked if our next road salt bid has been let. The Manager said it will be in the next week or two so we are able to secure our upcoming winter supply.

**Events**

- Wine & Walleye (Bridge Street) - August 21 through 23
- Blue Line Support Rally (Lakeshore Park) - Saturday, August 22 - Proceeds will benefit Ashtabula County K-9 Units
- Bands-on-the-Beach - Sunday, August 23

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None

**RECONVENE OPEN MEETING:** N/A

**ACTION RESULTING FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION:** N/A

**CLOSING REMARKS**

**Meetings**

The President announced the next Regular Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 17, at 7:00 p.m.; Pre-Council at 6:00 p.m., and said to "Remember to Keep Believing in Ashtabula".

**ADJOURNMENT**

Hearing no further business to come before this Council, the President adjourned the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

DATE APPROVED: August 17, 2015

ATTESTED BY: J.P. Ducro IV  
J.P. Ducro IV  
President of Council

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