

CITY OF ASHTABULA, OHIO
4717 Main Avenue, Ashtabula, OH 44004

CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, September 2, 2014

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 1 Councilor offered the opening prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members Present:

Mr. August A. Pugliese	(Ward 2 Councilor)
Mrs. Alice T. Cook	(Ward 3 Councilor)
Mrs. Josephine Misener	(Ward 4 Councilor)
Mr. Kris E. Hamrick	(Ward 5 Councilor)
Mr. Richard F. Balog	(Ward 1 Councilor)
Mr. Christopher J. McClure	(Vice President)
Mr. J. P. Ducro IV	(President)

Member(s) Absent: None

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: None

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

Presentations: The City Manager presented the following proclamation to Ms. Debbie Laveck, Editor/Community Relations, for the Ashtabula County District Library:

Office of the City Manager
City of Ashtabula

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, The Library Card is the most important school supply of all; and

WHEREAS, Libraries are an essential service for the Nation's Children; and

***WHEREAS**, Libraries bridge the digital divide by providing a full range of information and services to children and adult learners; and*

***WHEREAS**, Libraries offer free access to important educational resources for all ages and types of learners; and*

***WHEREAS**, Libraries continue to evolve and expand their services in ways that bring value to their communities; and*

***WHEREAS**, a free Library card is the “smartest card” a person can own; and*

***NOW THEREFORE**, I James Timonere, City Manager of the City of Ashtabula, and on behalf of City Government, proclaim September as Library Card Sign-Up Month in Ashtabula City, Ohio and encourage all residents living in the City of Ashtabula to sign up for the “smartest card” at the Ashtabula County District Library.*

Ms. Laveck announced that Stan Lee, Marvel comic book artist (e.g., Superman, Spider), is the national representative this year. He says, “The library card is the smartest card in his wallet”. The library is having a drawing. Everyone who signs up for a library card is automatically eligible for a gift basket drawing, or a \$50 gift card to a local establishment. She encouraged library card holders to use them.

Executive Session: None

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 more efficiently conduct business by grouping like items together and disposing of or enacting them by one motion, a second, and a vote.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

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

- August 18, 2014 Regular Meeting

Mr. Balog moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to waive the reading of the minutes; motion CARRIED.

Hearing no corrections, the minutes stood approved as presented.

FORMAL LEGISLATION REQUESTS - None

PUBLIC DISCUSSION (Consent Agenda Legislation Only) – None

LEGISLATION READING

ORDINANCE

2014-143 AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING HUNTINGTON NATIONAL BANK AS AN APPROVED DEPOSITORY FOR THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, OHIO, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS WITH HUNTINGTON NATIONAL BANK FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING DEPOSITORY SERVICES. (City Manager)

ORDINANCE

2014-144 AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL, PARKS & RECREATION, CODE ENFORCEMENT, PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT AND COURT SPECIAL PROJECTS FUNDS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, STATE OF OHIO, FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2014. (Finance Director)

ORDINANCE

2014-146 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH GPD GROUP IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$49,360 FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES FOR THE HULBERT AVENUE REHABILITATION PROJECT. (City Manager)

ORDINANCE

2014-147 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ASHTABULA COUNTY ROTO-ROOTER IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$11,985 FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPLACING A SEWER LATERAL ON PROSPECT ROAD. (City Manager)

Mr. Balog moved, Mr. Hamrick seconded to waive the reading of the above Consent Agenda Legislation; motion CARRIED. Mr. Balog moved, Mr. Hamrick seconded to waive the Charter Requirement of two readings of the above Consent Agenda Legislation.

Discussion: The President asked for clarification on the purpose of Ordinance No. 2014-143. The Finance Director reported our signature cards were updated, at which time the bank requested we also update the resolution contracting with them. We are still operating on the existing contract.

On the roll call to waive the Charter Requirement of two readings: Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Misener, Mr. Hamrick, Mr. Balog, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro IV voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the above Consent Agenda Legislation: Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Misener, Mr. Hamrick, Mr. Balog, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro IV voted yea; motion CARRIED.

(END OF CONSENT AGENDA)

REGULAR AGENDA

READING AND DISPOSAL OF MEETING MINUTES - None

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Huntington Insurance – 2014-2015 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 \$257,230.00. Funding for this expenditure will be taken from the following accounts: in 2014, Account Number 225-145-5630 - \$50,000.00; Account Number 503-150-5630 - \$75,000.00; Account Number 101-221-5630 - \$3,615.00. In 2015 Account Number 101-221-5630 - \$128,615.00. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Cook seconded to grant the City Manager's request. The President asked for a breakdown of the account numbers being used. The Finance Director reported account numbers beginning in 101 = General Fund, 225 = Sanitation, 503 = Waste Water. The motion CARRIED.

State Infrastructure Bank Bond and Loan Agreements

The City Manager requested AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS RELATING TO A STATE INFRASTRUCTURE BANK BOND AND LOAN BY THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CITY, IN AN AGGREGATE MAXIMUM PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$4,952,000, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING THE COSTS OF STREET IMPROVEMENTS AS FURTHER DESCRIBED HEREIN, TOGETHER WITH ANY NECESSARY APPURTENANCES THERETO, AND TO PAY THE COST OF ISSUANCE FOR SAID FINANCINGS. The Manager said he hopes this to be the last ordinance needed to finalize the agreement for the 2014-2016 Paving Project, scheduled to begin on Monday. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Cook seconded, to grant the City Manager's request; motion CARRIED.

Ashtabula West Harbor Sewer Improvements – United Survey, Inc.

The City Manager requested an ordinance to enter into an agreement with United Survey, Inc. of 25145 Broadway Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44146 in the amount not to exceed \$175,003.55 as the lowest and most responsible bidder. Funds for this expenditure will be taken from Account Number 503-150-5500, titled Capital Improvements. Mr. Balog moved, Mrs. Cook seconded to grant the City Manager's request. The Manager reported the bid came in lower than expected; therefore the project scope will be expanded. This is Phase 2 of the West 9th Street Tributary cleaning and televising project. The President asked if this is grant funding. The Manager responded one half is grant money. The second half is broken down into 2 halves; one half is a loan; the other half is Water Pollution Control Capital Improvement dollars. The motion CARRIED.

Power Ambulance Cot – Rolland Specialty Vehicles and Products, Inc.

The City Manager requested an ordinance to enter into an agreement with Rolland Specialty Vehicle and Products, Inc. of P.O. Box 6888 Toledo, OH 43612-0888 for a Power ambulance cot for the Fire Department from State Purchasing contract number 800288-1 in the amount not to exceed \$41,723.73. Funding for this expenditure will be taken from the Permanent Improvement account. Mr. Balog moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to grant the City Manager's request.

The Ward 5 Councilor asked if the cot will come with the auto-load equipment. The Manager responded, yes, it comes with the attachment for the vehicle and the cot, itself. The Manager reported this purchase is made possible through a 32,192.80 Bureau of Worker's Compensation (BWC) grant. The City will cover the balance. The President reported the city has never had this piece of equipment, which should reduce injuries. The Manager concurred, and said in recent months there have been two injuries from lifting patients. The Vice President asked if the purchase will minimize the City's liability if someone falls off the cot. The Manager replied no. The motion CARRIED.

Catch Basin – Storm Drain Work

The City Manager requested an ordinance to enter into an agreement with Roto-Rooter of 708 West 30th Street, Ashtabula, OH 44004 as the lowest, most responsible proposal for the purpose of repairing/replacing catch basin/storm drains at various locations within the city in an amount not to exceed \$13,300.00. Funding for this expenditure will be taken from the Permanent Improvement account. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Cook seconded to grant the City Manager's request. The Manager reported this agreement will cover 7 or 8 roads not scheduled for paving. They are also roads City crews have not had time to address, and which are larger than City crews are equipped to address. The motion CARRIED.

2014-2016 Paving Project

The City Manager announced the Project is scheduled to begin on Monday.

Trash Pickup

The City Manager announced trash pickup will be delayed one day due to yesterday's observance of Labor Day.

Questions/Comments for City Manager

Paving: The President asked if 'ditch trenching' could be performed on Ohio Avenue Extension where ditches are "pretty much non-existent", prior to paving, so the winter will not destroy the road. The Vice President said he has a list of items to speak with Mr. Meaney about at his September 5 committee meeting, one of which is ditching. He would like to see if Mr. Meaney is able to help the City address the ditching problem, given his county connections. The Vice President said for years he has said the City needs a ditching program as much as we need paving and curbs, but do not have the equipment. He said, "There's a lot of areas of this City that don't have curbs now, and unless you're doing the ditches, you're going to have bigger problems, (e.g., city portions of Lakeshore Park area, and Deerfield Drive & Pleasantview Avenue). The Ward 2 Councilor remembers Ashtabula County loaning us ditching equipment at one time. The President said he does not want to see us make this investment to improve an area and then lessen its lifespan because of something we can do to prevent it, if at all possible. The Ward 2 Councilor said it would be well to hold off the paving in the Ohio Avenue Extension area until it can be determined what is able to be done about the ditching.

Dip in the Road (West 9th Street @ Arlington Drive): The Ward 2 Councilor reported he and the Ward 1 Councilor have received several complaints about the massive dip in the road. The Manager said he would take a look at it.

CITY SOLICITOR'S REPORT - No Report

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT - No Report

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS and COMMUNICATIONS

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

The Chair announced there are no pressing issues for the Committee to address; therefore they will not meet on Monday, September 8. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 13.

Parks & Recreation Board: The Chair announced the Board will meet on Tuesday, September 9, at 6:30 p.m.

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

The Chair announced the committee did not meet in August; but will meet again on Friday, September 12, at 8:00 a.m., in the Municipal Building 2nd floor conference room. The 2015 Budget and the City's internal Control Policy will be discussed. The Clerk of Council asked if the HB5 Municipal Income Tax issue should be placed on the agenda. The Finance Director asked that it wait until the Solicitor returns so he is able to provide the committee with his thought on the bill.

Public Works/Utilities/Schools – (Mr. McClure/Mr. Pugliese)

The Chair announced the committee will meet on Friday, September 5, at 8:00 a.m., in the Municipal Building 2nd floor conference room. He looks forward to meeting with Mr. Larry Meaney, who will begin his employment on Monday, September 8, as the City's new Public Services Superintendent.

Safety Forces – (Mr. Balog/Mrs. Misener)

The Chair announced the committee will meet on Monday, September 22, at 4:00 p.m. Representatives from the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation will be present.

Work Session – No Session/No Report

FORMAL LEGISLATION REQUESTS - None

PUBLIC DISCUSSION (Regular Agenda Legislation Only) – None

LEGISLATION READING

Consent Agenda Format Request: Mr. Balog moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to dispose of the Regular Legislation Agenda by Consent Agenda format; motion CARRIED.

The Clerk of Council presented the following legislation for consideration:

ORDINANCE

2014-142 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH UNITED SURVEY, INC., TO PROVIDE SERVICES AND MATERIALS FOR THE WEST HARBOR SEWER IMPROVEMENTS - PHASE 2, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$175,003.55. (City Manager)

ORDINANCE

2014-145 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS RELATING TO A STATE INFRASTRUCTURE BANK BOND AND LOAN BY THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CITY, IN AN AGGREGATE MAXIMUM PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$4,952,000, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING THE COSTS OF STREET IMPROVEMENTS AS FURTHER DESCRIBED HEREIN, TOGETHER WITH ANY NECESSARY APPURTENANCES THERETO, AND TO PAY THE COST OF ISSUANCE FOR SAID FINANCINGS. (City Manager)

ORDINANCE

2014-148 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH HUNTINGTON INSURANCE, INC., AND TRAVELERS INSURANCE COMPANY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$257,230 TO PROVIDE LIABILITY INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR THE CITY OF ASHTABULA FOR ONE (1) YEAR. (City Manager)

Mr. Balog moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to waive the reading of the above Regular Agenda Legislation; motion CARRIED. Mr. Balog moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to waive the Charter Requirement of two readings of the above Regular Agenda Legislation.

Discussion: The President asked if the \$7,000 increase for services referenced in Ordinance No.

2014-148 is due to inflation or our usage. The Manager responded we had a good 2013; it was mostly due to 'market set'.

On the roll call to waive the Charter Requirement of two readings: Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Misener, Mr. Hamrick, Mr. Balog, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro IV voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the above Consent Agenda Legislation: Mr. Pugliese, Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Misener, Mr. Hamrick, Mr. Balog, Mr. McClure, Mr. Ducro IV voted yea; motion CARRIED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

Bridge-2-Bridge Race: The President announced the 5K and half marathon race is scheduled for Saturday, October 25. It will begin at the Bascule Lift Bridge (Bridge Street), travel to the Smolen Covered Bridge (State Road), and back around through the City.

MISCELLANEOUS

Donation Boxes: The Ward 2 Councilor asked the Manager if the companies responsible for the numerous donations boxes around town could be asked to place a sign at all their locations instructing users that no furniture is permitted. The Manager said he is working on legislation that will make it impossible to have the boxes in our City.

Recycling/Advertising Bins: The Vice President asked if these bins can be removed, because trash builds up around them also. The Manager said this one would be harder because the City will have to pay to terminate the contract, which has about 5 or 8 years remaining. He said he will see what he is able to do.

GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Ms. Debbie Laveck, 149 Riverside Drive: thanked the City for taking care of the potholes in front of the library on West 44th Street. She said they have, on average, 8,000 patrons per month. The Manager announced West 44th Street and Park Avenue are on the paving list.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

RECONVENE OPEN MEETING: N/A

ACTION RESULTING FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION: N/A

CLOSING REMARKS

Next Meeting: The President announced the next Regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 15, at 7:00 p.m.; Pre-Council at 6:00 p.m.

Tag Line: The President reminded citizens to “Remember to Keep Believing in Ashtabula!”

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Hamrick seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

DATE APPROVED: **September 15, 2014**

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

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