

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, October 1, 2018

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.

A moment of silence was observed for the passing of Mrs. Adele (Bill) Herzog, whose family was a community advocate for many ways.

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. Harley	(Ward 1 Councilor)
	Mr. August A. Pugliese	(Ward 2 Councilor)
	Mr. Christopher J. McClure	(Vice President)
	Mr. John S. Roskovics	(President)

MEMBER(S) ABSENT: None

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

OFFICER(S) ABSENT: None

EXCUSED ABSENCE(S): None

WELCOME

On behalf of the members of the City Council and Officers, the President welcomed Ms. Traci Welch as the newly appointed Director of Finance. Ms. Welch thanked City Council for giving her the opportunity to again serve the citizens and the City of Ashtabula and said she is excited to be here starting this “new/old adventure”. She thanked Assistant Director of Finance Carolyn Sheldon for “all of her hard work in the interim and for keeping everything functioning and being so welcoming and briefing me on everything that’s been happening.”

The President thanked Saybrook Township Fiscal Officer Larry Johnson and Ashtabula County Auditor Roger Corlett for serving on the Director of Finance search committee. He offered the City’s “great appreciation to the Assistant Director of Finance for agreeing to serve as the Acting Director of Finance Director for helping us through a difficult time. It was a seamless transition – no bumps or hiccups in operations because of her abilities.”

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

AGENDA APPROVAL: None

PRESENTATION(S)

Mr. Peter Bean, Vice Chair of My Neighborhood Collaborative presented the following Resolution of Support for the Police Levy Renewal:

**A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
FOR THE RENEWAL OF THE
ASHTABULA CITY POLICE LEVY**

WHEREAS, the My Neighborhood Collaborative, hereafter referred to as "My Neighborhood", realizes a fully staffed police force is essential to community safety; and,

WHEREAS, My Neighborhood is supportive of police efforts to curb and eliminate drugs from our neighborhood, and the city in general; and,

WHEREAS, My Neighborhood recognizes the need for partnerships between law enforcement agencies and the need for funding to maintain these partnerships; and,

WHEREAS, My Neighborhood is grateful for the police presence in the area of South Park with the goal of ending prostitution in that area; and,

WHEREAS, My Neighborhood is cognizant of the need for equipment and continued training to maintain and upgrade skills; and,

WHEREAS, My Neighborhood understands the necessity for an adequately and properly staffed and equipped Dispatch Center and jail;

NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE KNOWN that the My Neighborhood Collaborative expresses its support for the renewal of the Ashtabula City Police levy on the November 6, 2018 General Election ballot.

Approved: September 17, 2108

Peter Bean, Vice Chair

Dr. Gjergj Haxhiu, ED. D, MDY, Director of Special Education and Student Services in the Ashtabula Area City Schools and National Honor Society Senior, Melinda Crawford, announced their "Make A Difference Day event scheduled for October 27 at the Ashtabula County District Library, and fielded questions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Manager requested an Executive Session to discuss the Sale of Property. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Quaranta seconded the request. On the roll call to convene the Executive Session: Mr. Quaranta, Mr. Speelman, Ms. Haines, Mrs. Harley, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. McClure, Mr. Roskovics voted yea; motion CARRIED. The Clerk, Manager, Solicitor and Director and Assistant Director of Finance attended the session.

Reconvene Public Portion of Meeting

The President reconvened the public portion of the meeting at 7:30 p.m., with nothing to report.

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 (on legislation only): None
- Legislation Reading: None

REGULAR BUSINESS

PRESENTATION OF MEETING MINUTES

The Clerk of Council presented the September 17 Regular Council Meeting minutes. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Quaranta seconded to waive the reading of the minutes; motion CARRIED. Mr. McClure moved, Mrs. Harley seconded to adopt 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:

Leaf Bag Pick-up Schedule

Leaf bag curb side pick-up resumed this week for residential properties in the Harbor area and will continue through October and November, alternating between the Downtown Wards and the Harbor. The schedule is on the City's website.

AECOM Technical Services, Inc. – Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO), Phase 3 Project

A request for an ordinance to enter into an agreement with AECOM Technical Services, Inc. as most responsible bid for the SSO, Phase 3 Project in the amount not to exceed \$36,420.00. Funding will be taken from the Water Pollution Control Capital Fund. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Quaranta seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

Garbage Pick-up Columbus Day

Sanitation crews will pick-up garbage Monday, October 8.

Halloween Trick or Treat

Trick or Treat in the City will be observed October 27, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Exercise caution when crossing the roads.

Paving Update

We anxiously await the West Avenue Aqua Ohio project to finish. Once completed, paving on the north and south side abutments to the West Avenue bridge will be resurfaced to eliminate most of the major issues. In the spring of 2019, the road will be paved from the south abutment to Route 20, in partnership with Aqua Ohio water company.

Curbside Recycling Begins

Today began the delivery of 7000 garbage and recycling carts to Wards 1 and 2 residents. It will take the month of October to complete. Curbside recycling pick-up will begin in November; however the black garbage cart may be used now. He is working on a dedicated recycling page on the City's website, which should be up and running in the next few weeks. It will provide educational dos and don'ts and the pick-up schedule. If this phase goes well, the goal is to expand the program throughout the entire City. Curbside recycling should reduce landfill cost by 25%.

Questions/Comments for City Manager

The Ward 2 Councilor reported the illegal spray painting of the names Chris and Kevin and the number 2.9 is getting worse. The Manager said there is a good lead on who it might be.

The Ward 4 Councilor announced recycling drop-off is available year-round at the City's Transfer Station on West 24th Street. The Manager said Ashtabula County Solid Waste District (ACSWD) recycling drop-off sites are listed on their website. He said recyclables do not have to be separated the single-stream process where they will be separated through automation. The materials should not be placed in bags of any type; they should be placed in loose in the containers.

CITY SOLICITOR

No Report

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

The Assistant Director of Finance reported the City of Ashtabula is one of four cities and one county to be awarded the Auditor of State, Award of Distinction, for 2017. The President commended the Finance Department for this achievement.

CLERK OF COUNCIL

The Clerk read the Kids for Positive Change letter that will be sent to all City restaurants. The letter will be cosigned by KFPC student, Miss Clara Harchalk and President Roskovics, and reads:



September 30, 2018

Hello Ashtabula City Restaurant Owners,

My name is Clara Harchalk and I am a kid for positive change! I am writing this letter on behalf of the Kids for Positive Change Team from Ashtabula Area City Schools. We are excited to announce Ashtabula City Council passed the attached resolution, asking all city restaurants to adopt a "Straws on Request" policy that would require customers to ask for a straw instead of automatically receiving one.

The Straws on Request policy is important because if animals die from plastic straws, whatever eats that animal will also die. This will keep affecting the food chain until eventually, as part of the food chain, humans can die out and become extinct, as well.

We have learned that restaurants following the Straws on Request policy use less plastic straws and have cut their costs. We encourage you to do your part by switching from plastic straws to paper or compostable straws.

If you would like a "Straws on Request" policy poster to hang in your restaurant(s) and information cards to place on your tables, please let us know; we will immediately deliver them to you.

Kids for Positive Change do what we do to protect animals, people, and the planet. Thank you for joining us; TOGETHER we can create positive change!

Sincerely,

Miss Clara Harchalk
Kids for Positive Change Team

Mr. John S. Roskovics
Council President – Ashtabula City

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 Tuesday, October 9, at 4:00 p.m., with Laura Jones, Director of LEADERShip, as their guest.

The Chair announced the Parks & Recreation Board will meet Tuesday, October 2, at 6:00 p.m.; their new day and time.

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

The Chair reported the committee will meet Friday, October 12, at 8:00 a.m.

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

The Chair announced the committee is tentatively scheduled to meet Friday, October 5, with Ashtabula Area City Schools Superintendent, Dr. Mark Potts, in attendance.

SAFETY FORCES - (SF) (Speelman/Harley)

The Chair announced the committee will meet Monday, October 22, at 8:00 a.m. He reminded citizens the Police Levy will be on the November General Election ballot as a renewal. If passed, it will continue to pay for 5 Officers and 2 Dispatchers, which makes up 25% of the department. Levy renewal signs may be secured by emailing the Clerk of Council.

WORK SESSION

The President announced City Council will convene a Work Session Monday, October 22, at 5:30 p.m., in the Municipal Building 2nd floor conference room. The topics will be Council Rules of Order, a City Council ethics policy and review of vacant Council appointments to Boards and Commissions.

LEGISLATION AGENDA

- Formal Legislation Request(s)

The Clerk of Council formally requested Ordinance Nos. 2018-90, 2018-91 and 2018-92 for consideration this evening. Mr. Speelman moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

- Form and Correctness: None
- Legislation Overview: The Clerk of Council provided a brief overview of the legislation agenda.
- Public Discussion (Legislation Only): None

Ashtabula City Regular Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 1, 2018

- Consent Agenda Format

Mr. Quaranta moved, Mr. Roskovics seconded to dispose of the Regular Business Legislation Agenda by Consent Agenda with the exception of Ordinance No. 2018-89, which will receive a first reading; motion CARRIED.

- **Legislation Reading**

The Clerk of Council presented the following legislation for Council's consideration:

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-88, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 TO CONTRACT WITH RONYAK PAVING, INC., FOR THE 2018 STREET RESURFACING PROJECT. (City Manager)

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-90, AN ORDINANCE EXTENDING THE APPOINTMENT OF AN ACTING CITY FINANCE DIRECTOR ON A TEMPORARY BASIS AND AUTHORIZING COMPENSATION FOR SAME. (Council President)

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-91, AN ORDINANCE REPEALING, IN ITS ENTIRETY, PAYROLL ORDINANCE NO. 2017-145, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING THE COMPENSATION FOR THE NEWLY APPOINTED FINANCE DIRECTOR, EFFECTIVE WITH THE FIRST FULL PAYROLL WEEK OF OCTOBER 1, 2018 AND TO REMOVE THE REFERENCE TO THE DIVISION OF POLICE IN SECTION 1 AND REPLACE IT WITH ASHTABULA MUNICIPAL COURT AND PROBATION DIVISIONS. (Acting Finance Director)

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-92, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING COMPENSATION, SALARIES AND WAGES TO EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA AND THE ASHTABULA CITY HEALTH DISTRICT. (Acting Finance Director)

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-89 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TRAFFIC CONTROL MAP AND FILE TO PROHIBIT PARKING ON THE WEST SIDE OF ADAMS AVENUE BETWEEN WEST 52ND AND WEST 57TH STREETS. (Safety Forces Committee/City Council), was presented for its first reading. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Harley seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; motion CARRIED. The ordinance was placed on its first reading.

NEW BUSINESS

Tell Us Something We Don't Know

1. The President announced:
 - a. Channel 8's, "Good Day Cleveland", program was taping at Adrift, a shop located on Bridge Street and owned by Dean Lilvis.
 - b. The Clove and Hoof, a new restaurant on Bridge Street, had a soft opening. The grand opening is planned for this week.
 - c. City Council has been invited to a walk-through/open house, scheduled for next week, of the townhouse duplexes constructed on Bridge Street.
 - d. There is a lot of construction happening at the Ashtabula Plaza.
2. The Ward 4 Councilor reported:
 - a. Last year's Make a Difference Day at Ashtabula Area City Schools was well attended. His hope is this year's event will be, also. He encouraged anyone with an extra four hours on Saturday, October 27, to help a good cause. He said it is also good for youth to see adults participating in these type events.
 - b. Fat Sally's Warehouse, is a new business on Laird Avenue he and his family visited there this weekend. "It's a really cool place" and the owners Cory and Amy Nagle have a cool story to tell. He encouraged visits to the shop to see their unique items and speak with the owners who are really friendly. He said they, like he and his family, left Ashtabula 20 years ago, came back and opened a business. He said, "People are coming back to Ashtabula; so, it's encouraging."
3. The Ward 5 Councilor announced Downtown Ashtabula will have ghost tours as part of the October 5, First Friday event. The Ward 4 Councilor announced a horse-drawn carriage will give rides throughout the Downtown area. A trolley tour will go throughout the City and into Chestnut Grove Cemetery where stories of the great train disaster will be told. Persons in costumes will be roaming throughout the area and in the cemetery; along with vendors, including his daughter, Jenna, who will do special effects makeup.
4. The Ward 2 Councilor asked for an update on the Shea's Theatre. The Manager said the new owner is picking away at the renovation; the building has been secured and no longer has water or weather issues; the owner has slowly and surely been putting things in the building; and when he gets close to making an announcement it would be good to have him as a committee meeting guest. The Manager said Michael Horowitz, who previously conducted studies on the facility, returned to visit with the new owner and was amazed at the progress. He gave reassurance the building activity is on the right track.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION/COMMENTS (General Matters)

- **Mrs. Patricia Blum, 1540 West 17th Street**
 - The railroad tracks on Dwight Avenue, off East 51st Street, fill up with water and will become icy and hazardous in the winter
 - She still has people regularly trespassing on her property to get to 1508 West 17th Street; she is going to file charges if she finds out who it is. The City Manager encouraged Mrs. Blum to call the Police Department when trespassing is in progress.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business to come before this Council, the President declared the meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

DATE APPROVED:

October 5, 2018

ATTESTED BY:

John S. Roskovics
John S. Roskovics
President of Council

ATTESTED BY:

LaVette E. Hennigan
LaVette E. Hennigan, MMC
Clerk of Council