

**ASHTABULA CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING MEETING MINUTES**

**Ashtabula City Municipal Building)
City of Ashtabula, Ohio)**

Monday, July 7, 2014

Council met in a **PUBLIC HEARING**. The Vice President of Council called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

Member(s) Present: Mr. Richard F. Balog (Ward 1)
Mr. August A. Pugliese (Ward 2)
Mrs. Alice T. Cook (Ward 3)
Mrs. Josephine Misener (Ward 4)
Mr. Kris E. Hamrick (Ward 5 – arrived @ 5:50p)
Mr. Christopher J. McClure (Vice President)

Member(s) Absent: Mr. J. P. Ducro IV (Council President)

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

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

PURPOSE: The Vice President announced the purpose of this Public Hearing was to present the City of Ashtabula’s 2015 Tax Budget.

WELCOME: The Vice President welcomed visitors.

DISCUSSION

Finance Director: This is our annual tax budget public hearing. The Tax Budget is our notice to the Ashtabula County Budget Commission, that we want all of our property tax revenue, based on our valuation. The Tax Budget gives a breakdown of our funds, what expenses we believe our tax revenue will be spent on, and what our other resources are. Once Council passes it, a copy will be forwarded to the Budget Commission.

The Tax Budget is a projection. Based on what we know our resources and expenditures to be, the projected General Fund balance for the end of 2015 is \$12,000. This projection proves we need the property tax revenue. It also tells us that our 2015 expenditures will have to be more conservative.

The Tax Budget also has a list of our known capital improvements and our.

(NOTE: The Vice President recognized the presence of the Ward 5 Councilor.)

COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATION QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS

Ward 4 Councilor: Does the Tax Budget show the police levy?

Finance Director: Yes, page 6. It is a separate fund titled "Police Levy Fund". The projected levy revenue is recorded and will be expended through 'Security of Persons' (which is the police budget), and will also go into our Police Pension Fund.

Ward 4 Councilor: When will we receive the first levy revenue installment?

Finance Director: If we get an advance it will come in February, otherwise the total first half will be received in April. It is not a 'cash in/cash out'. The budget is an annual one, 'so if you have payroll in January the cash balance is being used, but we're budgeting by fund'.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS - None

CLOSING REMARKS

The Vice President announced that, by law, no formal action may be taken at a public hearing. The ordinance enacting the Tax Budget is scheduled for a vote at this evening's Regular Council meeting.

ADJOURN: Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Cook seconded to adjourn the Public Hearing at 5:53 p.m.; motion CARRIED.

DATE APPROVED: July 21, 2014

ATTESTED BY: _____

J. P. Ducro IV
President of Council

ATTESTED BY: _____

LaVette E. Hennigan, MMC
Clerk of Council