

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

**Regular Meeting**

**Monday, June 6, 2016**

Council met in a **REGULAR MEETING**. The President of Council called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Reverend Christopher McCain of Second Congregational Church offered the opening prayer; the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A moment of silence was observed for Marvin (Butch) Keen, the senior member of the City's Public Works Department, who passed away last week, due to illness. Sympathies to his family were offered.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mr. Kris E. Hamrick (Ward 5 Councilor)  
Mr. August A. Pugliese (Ward 2 Councilor)  
Mrs. Josephine Misener (Ward 4 Councilor)  
Mr. J. P. Ducro IV (President)

**MEMBER(S) ABSENT:** Mrs. Alice T. Cook (Ward 3 Councilor)  
Mr. John S. Roskovics (Ward 1 Councilor)  
Mr. Christopher J. McClure (Vice 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

**EXCUSED ABSENCE(S):** Mr. Hamrick moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to excuse the Wards 1 and 3 Councilors from this meeting. The President reported he had not heard from the Vice President. The motion CARRIED.

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

**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, and disposing of or enacting them by one motion, a second, and one vote.

### **MEETING MINUTES READING & DISPOSAL**

The Clerk of Council presented the May 2, 2016 Regular Council Meeting minutes for Council's disposal. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Hamrick seconded; motion CARRIED. Hearing no corrections the minutes were approved as presented.

### **LEGISLATION AGENDA**

- **Formal Legislation Requests**

ORDINANCE

2016-89 AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE CURRENT REPLACEMENT PAGES TO THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, OHIO.  
(Clerk of Council)

- **Public Discussion** (Consent Agenda Legislation Only) - None

- **Legislation Reading**

ORDINANCE

2016-81 AN ORDINANCE REPEALING, IN ITS ENTIRETY, CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 1155.04 FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVISING AND UPDATING THE SIGN REGULATIONS FOR THE ASHTABULA HARBOR HISTORICAL DISTRICT.  
(City Manager)

ORDINANCE

2016-82 AN ORDINANCE ENACTING NEW CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 1155.04 CONTAINING UPDATED SIGN REGULATIONS FOR THE ASHTABULA HARBOR HISTORICAL DISTRICT. (City Manager)

ORDINANCE

2016-83 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR REPLACING AND/OR UPGRADING SIGNS ON STATE ROUTE 531 WITHIN THE CITY OF ASHTABULA. (City Manager)

ORDINANCE

2016-89 AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE CURRENT REPLACEMENT PAGES TO THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, OHIO.  
(Clerk of Council)

The President announced legislation may be enacted with at least four (4) votes but would not be enacted until thirty (30) days from today. Five (5) or more affirmative votes of Council will enact legislation immediately. Therefore, because this evening's legislation agenda needs to be enacted sooner than thirty days from today, the President entertained a motion to remove the Legislation Reading from this evening's agenda. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Hamrick seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

## **REGULAR BUSINESS AGENDA**

### **MEETING MINUTES READING & DISPOSAL – None**

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

The City Manager presented the following requests (which he originally made at the May 16 Regular Council Meeting), for the purpose of correcting math errors, enacting one piece of legislation for Contract B change orders and because the EPA and GPD Group desire more clarity:

- **Nerone & Sons, Inc. – Change Order (CO) No. 2 Contract B, Electrical – Water Pollution Control (WPC) Plant:** Rescinding the request for legislation for CO No. 2 with Nerone & Sons, Inc. of 19501 South Miles Road, Warrensville Heights, OH 44128 for the amount of \$34,164.01.
- **Nerone & Sons, Inc. – Change Order (CO) No. 3 Contract B, Electrical – Water Pollution Control (WPC) Plant:** Rescinding the request for legislation for CO No. 3 with Nerone & Sons, Inc. of 19501 South Miles Road, Warrensville Heights, OH 44128 in the amount of \$25,293.11.
- **Nerone & Sons, Inc. – Change Order (CO) No. 4 Contract B, Electrical – Water Pollution Control (WPC) Plant:** Rescinding the request for legislation for CO No. 4 with Nerone & Sons, Inc. of 19501 South Miles Road, Warrensville Heights, OH 44128 in the amount of \$5,774.73.

Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Hamrick seconded to grant the requests; motion CARRIED.

The City Manager presented the following requests (which he originally made at the May 16 Regular Council Meeting), for the purpose of correcting math errors, enacting one piece of legislation for Contract C Ultra Violet (UV) change orders and because the EPA and GPD Group desire more clarity:

- **Nerone & Sons, Inc. – Change Order (CO) No. 1 Contract C, UV – Water Pollution Control (WPC) Plant:** Rescinding the request for legislation for CO No. 1 with Nerone & Sons, Inc. of 19501 South Miles Road, Warrensville Heights, OH 44128 in the amount of \$9,783.57.
- **Nerone & Sons, Inc. – Change Order (CO) No. 2 Contract C, UV – Water Pollution Control (WPC) Plant:** Rescinding the request for legislation for CO No. 2 with Nerone & Sons, Inc. of 19501 South Miles Road, Warrensville Heights, OH 44128 in the amount of \$2,245.57.
- **Nerone & Sons, Inc. – Change Order (CO) No. 3 Contract C, UV – Water Pollution Control (WPC) Plant:** Rescinding the request for legislation for CO No. 3 with Nerone & Sons, Inc. of 19501 South Miles Road, Warrensville Heights, OH 44128 in the amount of \$4,803.93.
- **Nerone & Sons, Inc. – Change Order (CO) No. 4 Contract C, UV – Water Pollution Control (WPC) Plant:** Rescinding the request for legislation for CO No. 4 with Nerone & Sons, Inc. of 19501 South Miles Road, Warrensville Heights, OH 44128 in the amount of \$21,951.88.

- **Nerone & Sons, Inc. – Change Order (CO) No. 5 Contract C, UV – Water Pollution Control (WPC) Plant:** Rescinding the request for legislation for CO No. 5 with Nerone & Sons, Inc. of 19501 South Miles Road, Warrensville Heights, OH 44128 in the amount of \$979.80.

Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Hamrick seconded to grant the requests; motion CARRIED.

- **Nerone & Sons, Inc. – Change Order (CO) No. 2 Contract B, Electrical – Water Pollution Control (WPC) Plant:** The City Manager requested an ordinance to execute CO No. 2 with Nerone & Sons, Inc. of 19501 South Miles Road, Warrensville Hts., OH 44128 for the purpose of unforeseen additional work (additional check valves, plug valves for pumps, replace slide gate, MCC Centers, Transformer, Additional tank cleaning) at the WPC Plant under Contract B in the amount not to exceed \$145,351.85, for a total contract price of \$584,603.00. Funding for this expenditure will come from an amendment to the OWDA loan through the WPC Capital Fund. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Hamrick seconded to grant this request; motion CARRIED.

- **Nerone & Sons, Inc. – Change Order (CO) No. 1 Contract C, UV – Water Pollution Control (WPC) Plant:** The City Manager requested an ordinance to execute CO No. 1 with Nerone & Sons, Inc. of 19501 South Miles Road, Warrensville Hts., OH 44128 for the purpose of unforeseen additional work (exploratory excavation of discharge line, adjust gate, gas line relocation, storm sewer work, force main work, pressure testing) at the WPC Plant under Contract C in the amount not to exceed \$41,725.35, for a total contract price of \$1,557,625.35. Funding for this expenditure will come from an amendment to the OWDA loan through the WPC Capital Fund. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Hamrick seconded to grant this request; motion CARRIED.

- **Yard Waste Bags**

The City Manager issued a reminder that the pickup of yard waste bags has ended until October. Bags may be taken to Public Works. He issued a second reminder not to abuse the privilege by placing garbage and large materials in yard waste bags. The bags are strictly for lawn compost, leaves, shrubbery – not dirt, rocks and garbage.

- **Walnut Beach Playground Construction**

The City Manager reported the construction will be held on Thursday and Friday, June 16 and 17, and on Saturday, June 18, if necessary. Volunteers are needed to help with erecting the equipment, with the guidance of the equipment company. By doing so the City saved \$8,000. Those funds were put towards purchasing more equipment.

### Questions / Comments for City Manager

- **Nathan Avenue & West 58<sup>th</sup> Street Property:** The Ward 5 Councilor announced the issue with this property was discussed in this evening's Pre-Council meeting. The Manager will check into it.
- **Washington Avenue Property:** The Ward 5 Councilor announced the issue with this property was discussed in this evening's Pre-Council meeting. The Manager will check into it again.

- **Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) Tour**

The President thanked the City Manager for the coordinating the WWTP tour for City officials and the media, WWTP Superintendent Craig Pierce, Maintenance Mechanic Foreman Lee Mendrala and Chris Tolnar of GPD Group, and the media for their coverage.

**CITY SOLICITOR'S REPORT - No Report**

**FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT - The Finance Director reported:**

- **Annual Audit** began a little late because we requested and received an extension on this year's reporting. Updates will be provided.
- **Delinquent Accounts** are being compiled for sewer assessments. Delinquents follow the property. New property owners or property managers are usually the ones who are unfamiliar with the assessment process; therefore the Finance Director asked for help getting the word to them.

**CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS and COMMUNICATIONS**  
(Chair/Vice Chair)

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/PARKS & RECREATION (CD/ED/P&R)**  
(Mrs. Misener/Mr. Roskovics) - The Chair announced:

- The committee will meet on Tuesday, June 21 at 3:00 p.m.
- The Ashtabula City Parks & Recreation Board will meet at Smith Field on Tuesday, June 14, at 6:00 p.m.
- Main Avenue flowers have been hung
- Events:
  - Beach Glass Festival, June 25 & 26; 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
  - Bands-on-the-Beach, June 19, at Walnut Beach; 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.
  - Walnut Beach concession stand is open.

**FINANCE & PERSONNEL (F&P) - (Mr. Ducro IV/Mr. Pugliese) - The Chair reported on the committee's Friday, May 20 meeting, as follows:**

The Finance Director (FD) reported to the committee the following:

- There are no great revenue surprises; most items are on budget
- Biggest revenue concern is Finance Department wages & benefits due to a long term sick leave and having to cover the position - should even out by the end of the year
- City Income Tax is up from 2015; discussed collections and the new plan to work with the City Solicitor's office rather than using an outside source -unpaid city income taxes have never been

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written off – as of 2015 and dating back to the inception of the City's income tax collection in 1960, \$4.5 million in uncollected income taxes is outstanding

- The FD will provide the committee with the total of uncollected city income taxes dollars for the last three years, which she believes is collectible
- Expenditures are within budget projections
- The proposed \$5 Auto License Tax Increase legislation is scheduled for a vote at the next regular council meeting
- Finance Department staffing has been shifted due to some staff leaving
- Today, Kathy Davies, formerly with the Department of Jobs and Family Services, began in the as a part-time staff member
- The Finance Department is looking at purchasing new software; and
- A select few Purchase/Credit Cards were distributed; some have been used; the first rebate from use of the cards was \$270.

The City Manager reported the following to the committee:

- Fire & Police promotional and/or entrance testing is needed
- 2016 paving is up in the air
- Public Works "line painting" began
- Planning & Community Development Department is in the middle of vigorously working on grant applications; many have to be completed within the next several weeks
- Curbside recycling program still in limbo; we are waiting for the Ashtabula County Solid Waste District to let the bid and award the contract for the single-stream recycling hauler; hopefully by fall the program will be up and running; our Recycling Center has been retrofitted to accept product.

**PUBLIC WORKS/PUBLIC UTILITIES/CABLE/SCHOOLS (PW/PU/C/S)** - (Mr. Pugliese/Mr. McClure)

The Chair reported the committee did not meet in June. They are scheduled to meet on Friday, July 1 at 8:00 a.m.

**SAFETY FORCES (SF)** - (Mr. Hamrick/Mrs. Misener) - The Chair announced the committee is scheduled to meet on Monday, June 27, at 8:00 a.m.

**LEGISLATION AGENDA** - None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** - None

**NEW BUSINESS** - None

**MISCELLANEOUS**

- **Recycling Program:** At the Ward 4 Councilor's request the City Manager provided the following program information:
  - OEPA funded half; we funded the other half
  - Recycling revenues are significantly decreasing because of the influx of recyclables from other countries and the increase on local recycling

- Recycling may become a major operating, but depends on how the commodities market fairs
- If recycling costs continue to increase and recycling revenue decrease, recycling will be a problem
  
- The President said another way to look at it is that there could become more use for recyclable products thereby creating a continued need for recyclables; and it does cause less waste to be deposited in landfills, thus reducing landfill costs; he encouraged citizens to continue to try and be "green"

**GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION** - None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** - None

**CLOSING REMARKS**

- **Next Regular Meeting:** The President announced the next Regular Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 20, at 7:00 p.m.; Pre-Council is at 6:00 p.m.
- **Public Hearing:** The President announced Council will meet in a PUBLIC HEARING on Monday, July 5, at 5:45 p.m., to present the City of Ashtabula 2017 Tax Budget. The public is encouraged to attend and participate. The Tax Budget will be on display in the Finance Department and on the City's website from June 21 through July 5.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Hearing no further business to come before City Council, the President extended a reminder to "Remember to Keep Believing in Ashtabula", and adjourned the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

DATE APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

*July 18, 2016*

ATTESTED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

*J. P. Ducro IV*  
**J. P. Ducro IV**  
**President of Council**

ATTESTED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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