

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

Monday, May 1, 2017

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 and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Mr. John S. Roskovics	(Ward 1 Councilor)
	Mr. August A. Pugliese	(Ward 2 Councilor)
	Mr. Michael D. Speelman	(Ward 4 Councilor)
	Mrs. Kristy L. Hosken	(Ward 3 Councilor)
	Mr. Kris E. Hamrick	(Ward 5 Councilor)
	Mr. Christopher J. McClure	(Vice President)
	Mrs. Josephine Misener	(President)

MEMBER(S) ABSENT: None

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): N/A

SUNSHINE LAW

The Clerk of Council certified conformity to the Sunshine Law.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Speelman seconded to approve the agenda. The Ward 1 Councilor asked the purpose of approving the agenda, and if it means nothing else other than the agenda may be discussed. The President responded that the regular order of business is being approved. The Clerk of Council reported the agenda approval is a standard practice of many associations; which the City Manager mentioned at the last Council meeting. She then said the purpose of the agenda approval is simply so that the members may approve what is before them. The motion CARRIED.

PRESENTATION(S)

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. McClure moved, Mr. Pugliese seconded to convene an Executive Session at the end of the public meeting agenda to discuss Personnel: Employment/Compensation. On the roll call to convene an

Executive Session. Mr. Roskovics asked why the executive session was not added to the agenda prior to the agenda approval. The Clerk reported the approval agenda is the approval of the standard agenda the Council is to dispose of; of which Executive Sessions are part a part. Mr. Roskovics, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. Speelman, Mrs. Hosken, Mr. Hamrick, Mr. McClure, Mrs. Misener voted yea; motion CARRIED. The President announced only Council members were invited to attend; no decision will be made resulting from the session, the remainder of the members of the dais and camera operator Earl Tucker, would be released to leave for the evening, and that Council would return to the dais to adjourn, but that it would not be televised.

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: None

REGULAR BUSINESS

PRESENTATION OF MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Speelman seconded to remove the April 17, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes, from the agenda, at the Clerk of Council's request; motion CARRIED.

The Clerk of Council presented the April 3, 2017 Public Hearing and Regular Meeting minutes for Council's consideration. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Speelman seconded to waive the reading of the minutes; motion CARRIED. Hearing no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS and COMMUNICATIONS

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Partnership Agreement with Ashtabula County – CHIP Program Application

The City Manager requested an ordinance to enter into a Partnership Agreement with The County of Ashtabula to file an application with the Ohio Development Services Agency to apply for CHIP Grant Funds. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Roskovics seconded to approved the City Manager's request; motion CARRIED.

Walnut Beach Concessionaire

The City Manager requested an ordinance to enter into an agreement with Falcon Pride Inc., with a mailing address of 132 East Jefferson St., Jefferson, OH 44047 for the operation of the Walnut Beach Concession stand for 2017, 2018, and 2019 summer seasons in accordance with the Request for Qualifications presented. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Speelman seconded to approved the City Manager's request; motion CARRIED.

ATB Lakeside SRTS – PID 98625 – Construction Inspection/Administration Consultant

The City Manager requested an ordinance to enter into an agreement with GPD Group of 100 Federal Plaza East, Suite 200, Youngstown, OH 44503 for the purpose of providing construction inspection/administration for the Safe Routes to School Project in the amount not to exceed \$47,147.00. Funding for this expenditure will be paid 100% by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) unless the total project cost exceeds the amount allocated by ODOT, in which case payment can be made from Fund 412. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Speelman seconded to approve the City Manager's request. The Manager reported project costs will be expensed to the initial \$500,000 grant received for this project. The motion CARRIED.

Yard Debris Services

The City Manager requested an ordinance to enter into an agreement with Brobst Tree & Stump Service with a mailing address of 7935 Center Road, Saybrook, OH 44004 for the purpose of providing disposal of yard debris for a period of three years for the City of Ashtabula in the amount not to exceed \$9,000.00 each year for dumping of yard debris and \$50.00 per truck load for large pieces of wood and \$85.00 per truck load for tree stumps larger than 24"; in accordance with the proposal provided. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Roskovics seconded to approved the City Manager's request; motion CARRIED.

GPD Group – CO No. 2 – Water Pollution Control Plant Construction Administration & Inspection

The City Manager requested an ordinance to execute Change Order No. 2 with GPD Group, 100 Federal Plaza East, Suite 200, Youngstown, OH 44503 for additional construction inspection/administration work in accordance with the increased work at the Water Pollution Control (WPC) Plant in the amount not to exceed \$300,000. Funding for this CO will be taken from the WPC Capital Improvement Fund. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Roskovics seconded to approve the City Manager's request. The City Manager said these contracts are almost completed. The initial loan was for \$8 million. An additional \$550,000 was found in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, so there will be another \$1.7 million to address the Digesters. He hopes the Digester project will begin this year and completed in 2018. He said this will conclude the projects to be performed with the \$8 million loan. The motion CARRIED.

Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) – Supplemental Loan Application

The City Manager requested a resolution to authorize the filing of an application and execute documents for a Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) Supplemental Loan as part of the original allocated funds. The supplemental loan will cover Change Order No. 4 with Nerone & Sons - Contract B; Change Order No. 2 with Nerone & Sons - Contract C and Change Order No. 2 with GPD Group for additional construction administration and inspection as it pertains to the projects at the Water Pollution Control Plant. The funding amount requested is not to exceed \$452,941.68. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Roskovics seconded to approved the City Manager's request; motion CARRIED.

Grass

The Manager issued a reminder that grass clippings should NOT be blown into the street.

Yard Waste Bags

The schedule for the yard bag pickup service is on the City's website. The Manager asked residents not to abuse the program by placing non-yard waste items in the bags. Limbs should be secured in three foot bundles and not more than 30 pounds, for pick-up. Residents are free to deliver them to the front of the Public Works Department, as well. The Manager reported the PW drop-off area is being abused, is not for tires, appliances, decking, construction debris, etc., but for yard waste only.

"American's Main Streets" Contest

The Manager thanked Ms. Melinda McNutt, former Civic Development Corporation (CDC) campaign director. She completed her assignment and is now working in Cleveland. He said she has been helping the City with the hotel feasibility study and took a shot at entering Bridge Street in the American's Main Streets Program through Stihl, a manufacturer of lawn equipment. Out of 242 downtowns, Bridge Street was ranked in the top 25, so we move to the quarter finals. The main prize is \$25,000 and some equipment. The contest announcement will be on social media and press releases were given to the media today. Votes may be cast through May 28, once a day, per electronic device.

Questions/Comments for City Manager

High Grass: The Ward 3 Councilor reported the former St. John School property's grass is very high. The Manager asked that people not assume the City knows the location of all high grass violations. He asked that violations be called into the Planning & Community Development Department at 992-7118. He reported, this week, a part-time person will be hired to mow high grass violations. He reported the process is that a violation is reported, a citation is issued to cut the grass within 7 days of the date on the citation, and if nothing is done in that timeframe, the City will address the violation after reinspection.

Signs: The Ward 2 Councilor asked the Manager to have two "Children-at-Play" signs erected in the 1300 block of Columbus Avenue, in both directions, due to speeding by Massucci Park.

Noise: The Ward 1 Councilor asked if there is legislation addressing noise coming from vehicles. The Manager said there is legislation addressing loud music in vehicles and in residences.

CITY SOLICITOR'S REPORT

The Solicitor announced he had no report.

Questions/Comments for the City Solicitor

The President asked the Solicitor to comment on the outcome of the case where the male was arrested for spraying the county with graffiti. She would also like to know if part of his penalty could be to remove the graffiti. The Solicitor said he would look into it and report back.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Reminder: Sewer Code Change

Rather than certifying delinquent sewer accounts once per year, the Finance Department will regularly certify sewer accounts that are more than 30 days delinquent. An announcement will be inserted in all six cycles of billing, and there is a notice of the change at the bottom of the bill. A special notice is being issued to property owners who have a "final" delinquent balance on their rental. A global conversation upload into our software from a county property owner list will be performed in order to send sewer and trash billings for tenants to the property owner and keep said accounts in the property owner's name.

Questions/Comments for Finance Director

The Clerk of Council suggested a more clear explanation be given for the change to the certification process for delinquent sewer accounts. The Finance Director reported that instead of certifying delinquents once a year in September, which is cumbersome and time consuming, they will now be certified more than once a year. The goal is to certify quarterly. This year she plans to get two lists certified, and is working on the first one.

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 would not meet in May, and the Ashtabula City Parks & Recreation Board would meet Tuesday, May 9, at 6:30 p.m., in Pre-Council Chambers.

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

The Chair announced the committee will meet on Friday, May 12, at 8:00 a.m., in the Municipal Building 2nd floor conference room.

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

The Chair announced the committee will meet next Friday, May 5, at 8:00 a.m., in the Municipal Building 2nd floor conference room. GreatWave Communications, Inc., out of Conneaut, Ohio, will discuss bringing cable service to Ashtabula City. He encouraged the public to attend.

SAFETY FORCES (SF) - (Mr. Hamrick/Mrs. Misener)

The Chair announced the committee's Monday, May 22, meeting cancelled.

WORK SESSION

The President announced City Council will meet in a work session on Monday, May 8, at 5:00 p.m., in the Municipal Building 2nd floor conference room, to review and finalize the suggested Charter changes for the November 2017 general election ballot.

LEGISLATION AGENDA

- **Form and Correctness:** At the request of the President, the Clerk of Council announced the City Solicitor signed this evening's legislation, thus approving it as to form and correctness.
- **Formal Legislation Request(s)** - None
- **Legislation Overview:** At the request of the President, the Clerk of Council provided the Legislation Agenda overview.
- **Public Discussion** (Legislation Portion Only) - None

Legislation Reading

Ordinance No. 2017-60, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH FALCON PRIDE, INC., FOR THE POSITION OF CONCESSIONAIRE AT WALNUT BEACH FOR THE 2017, 2018 AND 2019 SUMMER SEASONS. (City Manager) Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Speelman seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; motion CARRIED. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Speelman second to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Roskovics, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. Speelman, Mrs. Hosken Mr. Hamrick, Mr. McClure, Mrs. Misener voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinances: Mr. Roskovics, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. Speelman, Mrs. Hosken Mr. Hamrick, Mr. McClure, Mrs. Misener voted yea; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2017-61, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COUNTY OF ASHTABULA TO FILE AN APPLICATION WITH THE OHIO DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AGENCY TO APPLY FOR COMMUNITY HOUSING IMPACT AND PRESERVATION PROGRAM (CHIP) GRANT FUNDS. (Planning & Community Development Department Assistant Director) Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Roskovics seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; motion CARRIED. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Speelman second to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Roskovics, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. Speelman, Mrs. Hosken Mr. Hamrick, Mr. McClure, Mrs. Misener voted yea; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinances: Mr. Roskovics, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. Speelman, Mrs. Hosken Mr. Hamrick, Mr. McClure, Mrs. Misener voted yea; motion CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Voting:** The President issued a reminder that tomorrow is Primary Election Day, encouraged voting, and said polls would be open from 6:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m.
- **ADDA:** The President reported the ADDA sponsored Meet and Greet hosted by Jeff and Lisa Richmond, owners of at Richmond Transportation, Main Avenue, was a success. The location is the former Nassief automobile dealership. She said the business is alive and well, is going to fill up the entire space. She said she is looking forward to good things happening there, and that the owners are eager to be a part of the Main Avenue community.

- **Clean-up:** The President announced that for weeks she has been trying to find out who cleaned up the Collins Avenue grassy area heading towards Main Avenue. She learned it as Ashtabula County Commissioner J.P. Ducro IV; and she thanked him. She said it is an entrance to our City and when it is trashy it does not say much for us.
- **Ohio Avenue Extension Clean-up:** The Ward 2 Councilor said whoever cleaned this area did a great job. The Manager said we closed the road so the Public Works Department could bring in heavy machines to remove the trash. It took an 8 hour work day to complete. Crews were instructed to look for addresses in the rubble and they found one. They also found items you would not believe someone would throw away, with the possibility of being found. The information was turned over to the Police Department and they are following up. The Ward 2 Councilor said his Ward 3 colleague also had a lot to do with the clean-up because she was vigilant in her reporting of the condition of the area. The Ward 3 Councilor said it looks amazing and thanked Public Works.

GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Ms. Christine Seuffert, Chair, Lift Bridge Community Association (LBCA), 6018 Hillcrest Avenue
Updated - Wine & Walleye Festival, July 29 and 30, Historic Ashtabula Harbor

- Website: wineandwalleyefestival.com is up and running
- Many great activities before and during the festival
- The Nina and Pinta ships will return
- Excursions will be provided at a cost
- Wine area
- Beer tent
- Vendors signing up daily
- Great food will be offered by local restaurants
- A "great" surprise food offering by someone local
- Wonderful fireworks
- Boat parade
- A lot of things for a variety of people – you don't just have to be a wine drinker

Ms. Seuffert announced the Beach Glass Festival, scheduled for June 24 & 25 (Saturday/Sunday), is solely organized by Troy and Lorie Dalrymple, owners of Marianne's Chocolates, located on Bridge Street.

Ms Seuffert said she loves the people who leave our area but their hearts remain with us, and they continue to do great things for us. She then thanked Ms. Melinda McNutt, a young woman who saw an opportunity for Bridge Street to enter a competition, for which many would say we would have no chance at winning, given the competition. We had two days to enter and did; and now we have through May 28 to vote, which the City Manager reported on earlier this evening.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

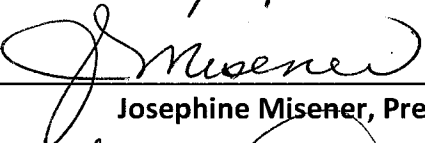
Convened: at 7:40 p.m., the President announced City Council would convene the Executive Session.

Reconvene Public Portion of Meeting: The President announced the return of the body politic to the open session; and there to be no action to take.

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business to come before this Council, the President declared the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

DATE APPROVED: May 15, 2017

ATTESTED BY: 
Josephine Misener, President of Council

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