

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, November 5, 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 four community/family members who lost their lives at the hands of a drunk driver at the intersection of West 58th Street and Adams Avenue.

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Ms. Jane E. Haines	(Ward 5 Councilor)
	Mrs. Kym A. Harley	(Ward 1 Councilor)
	Mr. August A. Pugliese	(Ward 2 Councilor)
	Mr. Richard A. Quaranta	(Ward 3 Councilor)
	Mr. Michael D. Speelman	(Ward 4 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)
	Ms. Traci R. Welch	(Director of Finance)
	Mrs. LaVette E. Hennigan, MMC	(Clerk of Council)

OFFICER(S) ABSENT: Mr. Michael Franklin (City Solicitor)

EXCUSED ABSENCE(S): None

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

AGENDA APPROVAL: None

PRESENTATION(S)

The President and Vice President of Council formerly presented City Finance Department staff members Todd Shimko, Trisha Patton, Mariangeli Montalvo and Kelli Cartner, with the Auditor of State Award with Distinction Award. The award was received for filing a “clean” 2017 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) on a timely basis and in accordance with GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles). Assistant Director of Finance, Carolyn Sheldon, who could not be present, was acknowledged and thanked for her contributions to the Department’s receipt of the award. Also, thanked was former Director of Finance Dana Pinkert; it was under her leadership the work was performed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

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

The Clerk of Council presented the October 1 and 15, 2018 Regular Council Meeting minutes. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Quaranta seconded to waive the reading of the minutes; motion CARRIED. Hearing no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

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 AGENDA

PRESENTATION OF MEETING MINUTES

None

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS and COMMUNICATIONS

CITY MANAGER

The City Manager presented the following:

Obsolete Equipment

The City Manager requested an ordinance to deem obsolete, numerous firearms confiscated through the Ashtabula City Police Department. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Harley seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED. The firearms will be sold or destroyed. They are no longer needed as evidence; the court has released them; and they are typically used as a trade-in when the Police Department needs new weapons.

Curbside Recycling Program *(Ward 1 is the first ward to have curbside recycling)*

The Manager announced curbside recycling began this week in Ward 1; Ward 2 pick-up will begin shortly. Recycling containers should be placed at curbside, with the lid closed, on Fridays. Pick-up will be every other week. Program details are on the City's website home page (www.cityofashtabula.com), including the pick-up schedule. He said hopefully the program's success will serve to introduce curbside recycling in Wards 3, 4 and 5. While the garbage and recycling containers are easy to handle, some senior citizens might want/need assistance. They must call Public Works, at 993.8101, to discuss their needs. Assistance will be provided on a "case-by-case basis". Recyclables may be delivered to the Transfer Station or any County drop-off sites all year-round.

Sanitation Pick-up – Veteran’s Day Holiday will remain the same.

CITY SOLICITOR

No Report

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

The Director of Finance formerly requested Supplemental Appropriation Ordinance No. 2018-96. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Quaranta seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

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 following:

- Ashtabula City Parks and Recreation Board will meet tomorrow at 6:00 p.m.
- This committee’s next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 13, at 4:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building 2nd floor conference room; and
- At the next committee meeting he will ask that a letter is drafted opposing the closing of the Harbor Huntington Bank branch.

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

The Chair announced the committee will meet Friday, November 13, at 8:00 a.m., in the Municipal Building 2nd floor conference room. Outstanding items from the October 22, City Council Work Session will be discussed.

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

The Chair reported on the committee’s, Friday, November 2, meeting, as follows:

- Dr. Mark Potts, Superintendent, Ashtabula Area City School District, was pleased he was invited to speak with the committee. He shared...
 - His concerns about what is being said about the District and how what is reported is blown out of proportion
 - The positive things the District is doing for the community, which he believes is not reported in the newspaper
 - The positive District activities, and
 - That District finances are good.

Periodically the State of Ohio issues a report card grade for school districts. The grads are printed in the newspaper. Dr. Potts reported he learned there was a breakdown in staff communications causing information that should have been provided to the State, and that was readily available, was not

provided, which negatively affected their grade. He made some staff adjustments, which should eliminate the non-communication issue from reoccurring.

Also discussed was concern for student safety at bus stops during dark mornings. It was suggested that instead of buses stopping at every corner, decrease the number of stops so more students wait for the bus together. Dr. Potts said an adult is required to be at the bus stop with students 3rd grade and below.

The City Manager, Public Services Superintendent John Melnik, Sanitation Department Administrative Assistant Kathy Hook and Working Forman Marvel Kendrix, spoke about curbside recycling. The concern of our elderly citizenry with handling the new trash and recycling containers was touched on. The Department has been and will continue to address the concerns on a case-by-case basis, when they are contacted. The President commended the department for doing excellent work to help citizens acclimate to the new recycling program. He also said container uniformity looks very nice in the neighborhoods.

SAFETY FORCES - (SF) (Speelman/Harley)

The Chair reported on the committee's Monday, October 22, meeting, as follows:

Walnut Beach Emergency Call System

It was brought to the committee's attention that emergency communications at the Beach need attention. The Manager will speak with YMCA Director Trevor Sprague, who is also a member of the Ashtabula City Parks & Recreation Board, to get his feedback.

Police Department

Chief Robert Stell told the committee his department continues to investigate Joey Brobst's request to prohibit parking on the east side of Washington Avenue, between West 57th and West 58th Streets.

The Chair expressed his pleasure with the media coverage on the department's drug raid activity, which has been a coordinated effort of various law enforcement agencies. He praised the department for what they are accomplishing.

The Chair reminded everyone the Policy Levy Renewal will appear on tomorrow's ballot.

Fire Department

Fire Chief Shawn Gruber told the committee the new fire engine construction is coming along well. Photos of the engine may be seen on the department's facebook page.

The committee voted to present a request to create a new Codified Ordinance Section 1501.20 titled Commercial Cooking Systems Fire Extinguishing System – Acceptance Testing. Mr. Speelman moved, Mr. McClure seconded to approve the request and have legislation drafted; motion CARRIED.

WORK SESSION

The President reported on the Monday, October 22, session, as follows:

Ashtabula City Regular Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 5, 2018

- The Director of Finance is addressing the City's sewer and trash billing in an attempt to get it on track. In January, she will report a plan of action to the Finance & Personnel Committee.
- City Council Rules of Order
 - Rule 10 – Pre Council Meetings will continue to begin at 6:00 p.m.
 - Rule 18 – The approval of the agenda at the beginning of the Regular Council Meeting will be removed.
 - Rule 18 – The Clerk of Council will be added to Administration Reports and Communications.
 - Rule 20 – Obtaining permission of the Presiding/Presiding Officer to speak before doing so, shall remain in place. While members believe not doing so is working to create free-flowing conversation right now, the Rule might serve to keep order in the future.
- The Clerk of Council reported that in accordance with language used in Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised (RONR) she will change all [yeas] to [ayes] in the Council Rules of Order and will use the same verbiage in meeting minutes.
- A possible Charter Change to enact a City Council Code of Ethics was discussed, in detail. The Clerk was asked to send the City Solicitor the City of Orrville's City Council 'removal policy', and ask him to tailor it as an inclusion to our Charter, for their review.
- City Council staggered terms create an inequality, in that:
 - The positions of City Manager, City Solicitor, Council President, Council Vice-President, and Council Wards 1 and 2 are on the ballot in the same year. Council members who run for reelection or for the positions of City Manager or City Solicitor, and lose, are unable to retain their seats once their term expires.
 - The positions of Council Wards 3, 4, and 5 are on the ballot in the same year. They may run for reelection or for the positions of Council President, Council Vice-President, City Manager and City Solicitor, lose, and retain their Ward seat because their election is in a different year than that of City Manager, City Solicitor, Council President, Council Vice President and Council Wards 1 and 2.
- Boards & Commissions (B & C)
 - Non-resident business owners, vested in our community, would like to serve on a B & C, but are prohibited from doing so, except for on our Architectural & Restoration Review Board. This will be discussed more at another time.

LEGISLATION AGENDA

- Formal Legislation Request(s): The Clerk of Council formally requested Legislation Nos. 2018-97, 2018-98 and 2018-99. Mr. McClure moved, Mr. Roskovics seconded to approve the requests: motion CARRIED.

Ashtabula City Regular Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 5, 2018

- Form and Correctness: None
- Legislation Overview: The Clerk of Council provided a brief overview.
- Public Discussion (Legislation Only): None
- Consent Agenda Format: Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Harley seconded to dispose of the regular business legislation by consent agenda; motion CARRIED.
- Legislation Reading: The Clerk of Council presented the following legislation for Council's consideration:

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-96, AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL, POLICE LEVY, SANITATION, PARKS & RECREATION, HOUSING CODE ENFORCEMENT, WATER POLLUTION AND SELF INSURANCE FUNDS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, STATE OF OHIO, FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2018 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2018. (Director of Finance)

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-97, A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY.
(Lift Bridge Community Association / City Council)

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-98, AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE CURRENT REPLACEMENT PAGES TO THE ASHTABULA CODIFIED ORDINANCES. (Clerk of Council)

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-99, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH AECOM TECHNICAL SERVICES, INC. FOR THE SANITARY SEWER OVERFLOW PROJECT, PHASE 3, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$36,420.00. (City Manager)

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

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution Request

Mr. Quaranta moved, Ms. Haines seconded to present a resolution of appreciation to Mr. Earl Tucker for 10 years of volunteering as the videographer for Regular City Council meetings; motion CARRIED.

Tell Us Something We Don't Know

Council President

- St. John School's varsity football team was in the high school football playoffs this past weekend. It was good to see the community support they received.
- At Catholic Charities' "Awards of Hope" ceremony Wednesday night, their clothing distribution center will be renamed in honor of Lucille Licata, a long time Center volunteer.

Ward 5 Councilor

- Thanked "My Neighborhood Collaborative" (MNC) for repairing and repainting picnic tables at Clifford Kadon Presidential Park (CKPP).
- Thanked Council colleagues for participating in MNC's Chili Cook-off. The President came in 2nd place. It was a great community event.
- MNC unveiled the CKPP "Boon Box". It is similar to a frame, wooden library box, in which items may be placed or taken by persons in need.
- Friday, November 16, the Downtown Christmas Parade will begin at 7:00 p.m. Suzy Kist, Parade Coordinator the last few years, was thanked for all her hard work; "Thank you, Suzy".
- Saturday, November 10, 7:00 p.m., Ashtabula Arts Center Game Night.
- Sunday, November 11, 3:00 p.m., Framed on Main will present the art of Micheline Guerriero, a local artist whose shop is on Bridge Street.
- The month of November is "Giving Tuesdays" at Briquette's Smokehouse in the Harbor, where 10% of all sales will go to the After School Discovery program.

Ward 4 Councilor

- Small Business Saturday is in support of small businesses everywhere.
- Kudos to Mr. Chris Stasny of Stasny Road Racing, who did a fantastic job on yesterday's Bridge-2-Bridge half marathon race/5K walk.
- Thanked Mr. Chris Raab and Mr. Mike Adley taking new City Council, City Administration and Municipal Court Judge photos, which are now hanging in Council Chamber.
- Reminder citizens to vote tomorrow. The Police Levy will appear as Issue 14.
- Veteran's Day is Saturday – Thank a Veteran.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION/COMMENTS (General Matters)

Christine Seuffert, representing Lift Bridge Community Association (LBCA)

Small Business Saturday

- Is present to represent small businesses in our community, and beyond.
- One of the greatest things being heard is people are shopping locally. They do not feel the pressure to travel to Erie, PA or Mentor, OH for everything. There is a great deal of local, City pride. She remembers noticing this type of pride when she first moved here, and is witnessing its return.

Ashtabula City Regular Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 5, 2018

- People love to come here. We have to get them to love to come December through April when small business sales hurt the most.
- Nationwide, Small Business Saturday began by the sponsorship of American Express credit card
- LBCA's, 2017 Small Business Saturday was very successful.
- They decided to do it again on Saturday, November 24, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Bridge Street Bites, a walking food tour, has been added to the Small Business Saturday event on Bridge Street. It begins at the Marine Bank building. This is where shoppers will pick up their shopping passport and enter to win over \$600 in Bridge Street merchandise and gift certificates. A free "SHOP SMALL" tote bag will be given to everyone who spends \$50. Refreshments will be served at Purolo Brothers (aka Bridge Street Pizza) where there is a new Dessert Bar, where adult beverages will also be served.
- The Historic Ashtabula Harbor's Holiday Open House is December 8 & 9.
- Thank you to Mr. Kevin Grippi and Mr. Tim Dorman for the hours of work put into the lighting and relighting Bascule Lift Bridge ceremony events. The City of Ashtabula and a city in England are the only places with a lighted lift bridge. We are going to reach out to them to see their lights are have coordinating music☺

Mr. Earl Tucker, Walnut Boulevard, Ashtabula, OH

- His son is deployed overseas. He is a staff sergeant in the United State Air Force. He serves as a Chaplain's assistance. He has established a program called "A Taste of Home". He asked that homemade cookies be shipped to his unit for "A Taste of Home" party the day after Thanksgiving. The cookies are required to be mailed by this weekend. For details Earl may be reached at (440) 536-5536 or butterfield8@roadrunner.com.

Ms. Kathy Pallaise, Washington Avenue, Ashtabula, OH

Ward Neighborhood Watch Update

- All Ward Captains are in place
- They drive around all hours of the day
- It is going good
- More members are needed to help with future events for children

The President thanked Ms. Pallise for this work.

The President introduced Ms. Elyse Pitkin, the new Gazette newspaper reporter.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business to come before this Council, the President declared the meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Ashtabula City Regular Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 5, 2018

DATE APPROVED: November 19, 2018

ATTESTED BY: John S. Roskovics
John S. Roskovics
President of Council

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