

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, September 21, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

The President of Council called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Ward 1 Councilor offered the opening prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A moment of silence was observed for City of Ashtabula resident and retired Ashtabula firefighter, Thomas J. Laveck who recently passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Jane E. Haines (Ward 5 Councilor)
Mrs. Kym A. Foglio (Ward 1 Councilor)
Mr. Calvin C. Crawford (Ward 2 Councilor)
Mr. Michael D. Speelman (Vice President)
Mr. John S. Roskovics (President)

MEMBER(S) ABSENT: Ms. Laydean Young (Ward 3 Councilor)
Ms. Octavia V. Harris (Ward 4 Councilor)

OFFICER(S) PRESENT: Mr. James M. Timonere (City Manager)
Mr. Michael Franklin (City Solicitor)
Ms. Traci R. Welch (Director of Finance)
Mrs. Stacy H. Senskey (Clerk of Council)

OFFICER(S) ABSENT: none

EXCUSED ABSENCE(S): Mr. Roskovics moved; Ms. Haines seconded to excuse the Ward 4 Councilor from this meeting; motion CARRIED. Mr. Roskovics moved; Mrs. Foglio seconded to excuse the Ward 3 Councilor from this meeting; motion CARRIED.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION: none

REGULAR BUSINESS AGENDA

PRESENTATION OF MEETING MINUTES: none

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS and COMMUNICATIONS

CITY MANAGER:

The City Manager requested an ordinance to enter into an agreement with GPD Group, with a mailing address of 520 South Main Street, Suite 2531, Akron, OH 44311 for the purpose of providing Construction Administration for the Municipal Building HVAC Replacement Project in the amount not to exceed \$19,300. The expense for this contract will be taken from fund 412. Mrs. Foglio moved; Mr. Crawford seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

The City Manager requested an ordinance to repeal Payroll Ordinance #2020-87 and replace it with new Payroll Ordinance #2020-88. Mrs. Foglio moved; Mr. Crawford seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

Questions/Comments: The City Manager provided COVID-19 statistics from the City Health Commissioner. The City is currently monitoring six active positive patients for a cumulative total of 124 positives. There are no current hospitalizations, the cumulative total hospitalized is 20 patients. 113 patients' symptoms resolved though there have been five deaths. 414 isolation orders have been issued. The City and County numbers remain fairly low, however caution continues to be advised. Ohio Department of Health (ODH) sent guidance for Trick or Treat hours, leaving the decision up to local leaders. The Ashtabula County Health Department, Ashtabula City Health Department and the City of Conneaut Health Department will meet later in the week to coordinate plans for trick or treat throughout the communities. The City Manager believes 124 positive counts as 124 people not 124 positive tests, but he will follow up with the Health Commissioner.

CITY SOLICITOR: Recent attention has been brought to City Ordinances regarding political yard signs. Political signs cannot be placed on utility poles or tree lawns. The signs cannot cause a safety issue, such as obstructing views of the roadways. In residential areas, are limited to sixteen square feet per sign face and overall, must not be higher than four feet. There is no limit to the number of signs posted or the duration the signs are posted. There is no longer a permit fee. Fines for violating the ordinance is an unclassified misdemeanor, with a potential fine of \$100 per day. Removing signs from another person's property is theft and criminal trespass, and subject to prosecution. Issues of curse words on signs cannot be easily regulated. In 2012 the City Ordinance pertaining to political signs changed. Prior to then, the City charged a permit fee and there was a defined duration political signs could be posted.

FINANCE DIRECTOR:

The Finance Director formally requested an ordinance to make supplemental appropriations In the General, Public Health Nursing, Coronavirus Relief, JEDD 1 and JEDD 2 Funds for current expenses and other expenditures of the City OF Ashtabula, State OF Ohio, for the period January 1 through December 31, 2020. Mrs. Foglio moved; Mr. Crawford seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

CLERK OF COUNCIL:

The Clerk of Council submitted education points to the International Instituted of Municipal Clerks and now has 57.5 points to accumulate before she can earn her Municipal Clerk Certification. She asked the Finance Director for additional appropriations in order to take some more classes before the end of the year. She thanked the Councilors for giving her the opportunity to work with them throughout this uncharacteristic year.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS and COMMUNICATIONS

Community Development/ Economic Development/ Parks & Recreation

The next meeting is October 13, 2020 at 4p. The City Manager will be presenting possible zoning changes. The request to rename Station Avenue will be discussed at this committee's November meeting.

Finance & Personnel

The next meeting is October 16, 2020 at 8a.

Public Works/Public Utilities/Cable/Schools

The next meeting is September 28, 2020 at 5p. The guest speaker Ashtabula Area City Schools Superintendent, Dr. Mark Potts.

Safety Forces

The meeting scheduled for September 28, 2020 is cancelled. The next meeting will be Monday, October 26, 2020 at 8a.

LEGISLATION AGENDA

- Formal Legislation Request(s):
- Form and Correctness – met per City Solicitor
- Legislation Overview –
The Council President provided a brief overview of the Legislation Agenda.
- Public Discussion (on legislation only) – None
Request Legislation Presentation by Consent Agenda: Mrs. Foglio moved; Ms. Haines seconded to dispose of the Regular Business Legislation by consent agenda; motion CARRIED.

LEGISLATION READING

The Clerk of Council presented the following legislation:

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-83 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH FIRST ENERGY, DBA THE ILLUMINATING COMPANY, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING STREET LIGHTING REPLACEMENT BULBS/LIGHTS WITH LED ON AN "AS NEEDED" BASIS (City Manager)

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-84 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO CHANGE ORDER #1 WITH KOSKI CONSTRUCTION CO. FOR THE PURPOSE OF NON-PERFORMANCE OF SERVICES AND MATERIALS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$47,192.29, BRINGING THE CONTRACT TOTAL FOR THE PROJECT TO \$286,039.71 (City Manager)

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-85 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH LB WATER SERVICES, INC. FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING MATERIALS TO COMPLETE THE LAKE AVENUE STORM OUTFALL PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$18,352.65 (City Manager)

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-86 AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL, PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING, CORONAVIRUS RELIEF, JEDD 1 AND JEDD 2 FUNDS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, STATE OF OHIO, FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020. (Finance Director)

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-87 AN ORDINANCE REPEALING, IN ITS ENTIRETY, PAYROLL ORDINANCE NO. 2020-14, ENACTED ON FEBRUARY 3, 2020 FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADJUSTING THE HEALTH COMMISSIONER AND ONE OF THE TWO PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING DIRECTOR POSITIONS PER BOARD OF HEALTH RESOLUTION NO. 131 (Board of Health)

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-88 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING COMPENSATION, SALARIES AND WAGES TO EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA AND THE ASHTABULA CITY HEALTH DISTRICT (Board of Health)

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-89 A RESOLUTION OF WELCOME TO BECKER'S RESTAURANT (City Council)

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-90 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH GPD GROUP OF YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING DESIGN SERVICES AND CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION FOR THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING HVAC PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$19,300.00 (City Manager)

Mrs. Foglio moved; Ms. Haines seconded to waive the reading of the legislation; motion CARRIED.

Mrs. Foglio moved; Mr. Crawford seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Ms. Haines, Mrs. Foglio, Mr. Crawford, Mr. Speelman, and Mr. Roskovics voted aye; motion CARRIED.

On the roll call to adopt the legislation: Ms. Haines, Mrs. Foglio, Mr. Crawford, Mr. Speelman, and Mr. Roskovics voted aye; motion CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The Council President wishes to meet at 6p for the October 5, 2020 Pre-Council meeting. He requested discussion on awarding resolutions, the bike trail, and Trick or Treat.
- A request was made to amend Resolution 2020-80 due to name additions and corrections. The motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted was made by Mrs. Foglio, seconded by Ms. Haines. On the roll call to amend Resolution 2020-80: Ms. Haines, Mrs. Foglio, Mr. Crawford, Mr. Speelman, and Mr. Roskovics voted aye; motion CARRIED.
- Notice to Legislative Authorities – Objections to Renewal of a Liquor Permit was introduced.
- The Ward 5 reported a vacant home with an overgrown yard and ATV activities including speeding in various areas.

Tell Us Something We Don't Know:

- The Ward 1 Councilor complimented the City Manager on the tennis court/pickle ball project. "They look absolutely fabulous". The City Manager said the project should be finished soon. The project left room for a sitting area and has been receiving many compliments.
- The Clerk of Council announced Ms. Davis was very honored to receive a resolution from City Council.
- The Council President commented he appreciates area businesses and restaurants sticking to the new routine and keeping the community safe.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION/COMMENTS (General Matters): none

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business to come before this Council, the President declared the meeting adjourned at 7:38p.

DATE APPROVED: October 5, 2020

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

ATTESTED BY: Stacy H. Senskey
Stacy H. Senskey, Clerk of Council