

## ASHTABULA CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes  
Monday, July 19, 2021

### Opening

The regular meeting of the ASHTABULA CITY COUNCIL was held in Council Chambers and viewed on the City of Ashtabula website and Facebook page as well as Spectrum channel 1024. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Council President. The Ward 1 Councilor offered the opening prayer, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### Members Present

Ward 5 Councilor – Ms. Jane E. Haines, Ward 1 Councilor – Mrs. Kym A. Foglio, Ward 2 Councilor – Mr. Calvin Crawford, Ward 3 Councilor – Ms. Laydean Young, Council Vice President – Mr. Michael D. Speelman, Council President – Mr. John S. Roskovics

### Officers Present

City Manager – Mr. James M. Timonere, City Solicitor – Mr. Michael Franklin, Finance Director – Ms. Traci R. Welch, Clerk of Council – Mrs. Stacy H. Senskey

### Members Absent

Ward 4 Councilor – Ms. Octavia Harris

Ms. Haines moved; Mrs. Foglio seconded to excuse the Ward 4 Councilor's absence from the meeting; motion CARRIED.

### Sunshine Law

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

### Approval of Minutes

The Clerk of Council presented minutes from the 2021 Tax Budget Public Hearing held on July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020, and the Regular Meeting held July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Mrs. Foglio moved; Ms. Haines seconded to waive the reading of the minutes; motion CARRIED. Hearing no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

### City Manager Report and Communications

The City Manager formally requested an ordinance to enter into an agreement with Koski Construction, with a mailing address of P.O. Box 1036, Ashtabula, OH 44004 for the purpose of providing materials and services for the Lake Avenue Resurfacing Project in the amount not to exceed \$573,461.30. Funding for this project will be taken from funds 412 and 290. Mrs. Foglio moved; Ms. Haines seconded to approve the request.

**Discussion:** The Council President thanked City residents for voting in favor of the

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Paving Levy. The City Manager added he obtained additional funding through Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) and contributed \$100,000.00 from the City's two-year allocation grant, extending the funds from the Paving Levy for future projects.  
Motion CARRIED.

**Questions**

Ward 1 – The Councilor asked about the process for Bed & Breakfast establishments. A City Permit is not required though lodging businesses are expected to register with the City Finance Department and pay the three percent City bed tax. Ashtabula County charges five percent bed tax.

Ward 5 – The gas station at the corners of Jefferson and Bunker Hill Roads has an open building permit through the Ashtabula County Building Department (ACBD). Ashtabula Fire Department (AFD) contacted the ABCD about the building's current conditions. Planning and Community Development Department (PCD) inspected the cleanliness of the outside of the property and sent letters in that regard. The property is currently on the list for City lawn maintenance after failing a follow up inspection. Residents are concerned the property is open as well as an eyesore. The property owners have not communicated with PCD in quite some time. Early on, they spent time and money developing the property but have since stalled improvements.

Ward 1 – St. John High School property and associated parcels was forfeited to the State of Ohio through tax foreclosure. The Ashtabula County Land Bank could intervene if a prospective developer demonstrates interest. The Federal Transportation Budget and Ashtabula's potential Amtrak stop is another source of development.

The City Manager reported a developer is interested in the property where Columbus Junior High was located. The now vacant lot lies between the first entrance to Masucci Field and the Sons of Italy. The developer is seeking a conditional use permit to build a retail establishment, specifically Dollar General, on the property. Though there are some commercial properties in the area, properties zoned C1 are available in other parts of the City. A public hearing is being scheduled prior to August 19<sup>th</sup> Planning Commission in Council Chambers.

**Finance Director Report and Communications**

The Finance Director reported the City collected \$3400 in bed tax revenue in 2020. The City imposes a 3% bed tax on lodging businesses.

The Finance Director formally requested an ordinance to repeal and an ordinance to replace payroll Ordinance No. 2020-144 for the purpose of providing compensation for employees of the City of Ashtabula and Ashtabula City Health Department. Mrs. Foglio moved; Mr. Crawford seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

The Finance Director formally requested a resolution adopting the tax budget of the city of Ashtabula for the fiscal year beginning on January 1, 2022, and submitting the same to

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the Ashtabula county, Ohio Budget Commission. Mrs. Foglio moved; Ms. Young seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

### **Clerk of Council Report and Communications**

The Clerk of Council reported she expects to earn at least seven more education points by the end of July. International Institute of Municipal Clerks allows one point for every two hours of class time and must accurately complete a detailed quiz or submit essays. She will have nine points left to earn after she submits these. The last class she took focused on servant leadership defined as a philosophy that involves focusing on others and their success and in turn, building better professional relationships that benefit everyone. She received an email from the instructor thanking her for her contributions to the class. The Clerk has been testing the CivicClerk agenda management platform and is looking forward offering this paperless solution to City Council.

### **Community Development/Economic Development/Parks & Recreation Committee Report and Communications**

The Committee Chair reported on the July meeting – minutes attached. She thanked Ryan Humphries for managing the painting project at the Walnut Beach concession stand. The Ashtabula City Parks Board is sponsoring a free event “Rockin on the Beach” at Walnut Beach Park. Performing August 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 p.m. is the Earnest T Band, August 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:00 p.m. is High Horse and September 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. is Country Redford. This information can be found on the City of Ashtabula’s Facebook page [www.facebook.com/COAOhio](http://www.facebook.com/COAOhio) under Events. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

### **Finance and Personnel Committee Report and Communications**

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 20, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. in Council Chambers.

### **Public Works/Public Utilities/Cable/School Committee Report and Communications**

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

### **Safety Forces Committee Report and Communications**

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at 8:45 a.m. in Council Chambers.

### **Legislation Agenda**

- Formal Legislation Request(s): no additional requests came before Council.
- Form and Correctness – met per City Solicitor.
- Public Discussion (on legislation only)

### **Legislation Reading**

Request Legislation Presentation by Consent Agenda: Mrs. Foglio moved; Mr. Crawford seconded to dispose of the remaining legislation by consent agenda; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-73 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO DISPOSE OF AN OBSOLETE AND UNNEEDED MOTOR VEHICLE (City Manager)

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-74 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH KOSKI CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$573,461.30 FOR THE PURPOSE OF RESURFACING A PORTION OF LAKE AVENUE (City Manager)

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-75 AN ORDINANCE REPEALING, IN ITS ENTIRETY, PAYROLL ORDINANCE NO. 2020-144 FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING COMPENSATION FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA AND ASHTABULA CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT (Finance Director)

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-76 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING COMPENSATION, SALARIES AND WAGES TO EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA AND THE ASHTABULA CITY HEALTH DISTRICT (Finance Director)

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-77 A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE TAX BUDGET OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING ON JANUARY 1, 2022, AND SUBMITTING THE SAME TO THE ASHTABULA COUNTY, OHIO BUDGET COMMISSION (Finance Director)

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

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

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

### **Unfinished Business**

Council asked for an update on the Lakefront Residential Zone. The City Manager has not finalized new language and will notify Council when it is complete.

### **New Business**

Council unanimously reappointed Tara Hawkins for a three year term on the Planning Commission.

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Council did not request hearings for liquor permits for Los Compadres Inc dba Los Compadres Mexican Restaurant located at 4700 West Avenue in Ward 3 and Big Daddys Pool & Spa Supplies LLC located at 914 East 6th Street in Ward 2. Los Compadres notice was for stock transfer and Big Daddys Pool & Spa Supplies LLC requested a C1 permit which allows the sale of beer only in the original sealed containers for carry out only until 1:00 a.m.

**Tell Us Something We Don't Know**

Council President – The Wine and Walleye Festival has been extended to include Friday evening. A food booth selling fish dinners has been added. The City Manager said between 25 and 35 vendor booths are scheduled to participate in the event. Normally, the event takes a year for the five person festival committee to plan. The restaurants are adding outdoor seating and reservations are recommended. Bridge Street will be shut down Friday starting at noon until 10:00 a.m. Sunday morning for set up and clean up. Sunset Taxi will be shuttling festival goers who park at the Save A Lot plaza. Touched By Color is a new business that opened on Bridge Street.

Ward 5 Councilor – The Lift Bridge Community Association organized a clean-up day for Bridge Street and Point Park. Among the volunteers were J.P. Ducro, Eli Kalil, Tom Simon, Toni Carlisle, Natasha Senger, and others.

The Ward 3 Councilor announced the Charity, Faith, Love Project is sponsoring a Back to School Giveaway and Fun on Saturday, August 14<sup>th</sup> from noon to 4:00 p.m. in the Peoples Missionary Baptist Church parking lot, 3837 West Avenue. Food, fun, book bags, school supplies, haircuts and personal hygiene supplies are available for students. ACHD will be on hand and administering vaccinations for students twelve years and older. For more information, to volunteer or donate, please contact Ms. Young by calling 440-637-4846. School supplies needed include highlighters, subject notebooks, #2 pencils, pens, glue sticks and colored pencils. Boxes for donations can be found in the following places: S&B Flooring, Chalk box, Ultimate Appearance, Harbor Halcyon, Before and After, Peoples Missionary Baptist Church and the laundromat on State Rd. Ms. Young expects 200 to 250 students will be at the event.

**Public Discussion/Comments on General Matters**

Jodi Mills announced G.O. Community Development Corporation (CDC) is holding a backpack and shoe giveaway on Saturday, August 14 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. More information is available on the G. O. CDC Facebook page.

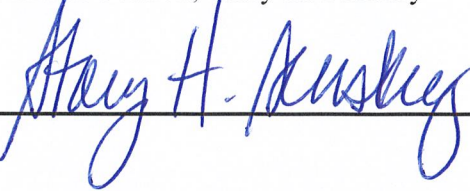
**Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. by the President of Council.

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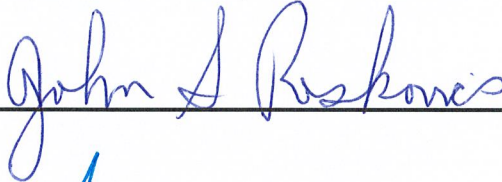
City Council will meet on Monday, August 2, 2021, in Council Chambers. The Pre-Council Meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Regular Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Clerk of Council, Stacy H. Senskey

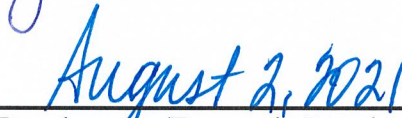
  
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Attested by:

President of Council, John S. Roskovics

  
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Date Approved:

  
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**Attachments:** Community Development/Economic Development/Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting minutes for July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

**ASHTABULA CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORT**

NAME OF COMMITTEE:

**Community Development/ Economic Development/ Parks & Recreation (CD/ED/P&R)**

DATE: Tuesday, July 13, 2021

MEETING TIME & PLACE: 4:00 p.m. – Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair/ Ward 5 Councilor Jane Haines,  
Vice Chair/ Ward 4 Councilor Octavia Harris  
Member/ President John Roskovics

COUNCIL/ADMINISTRATION/STAFF:  
City Manager James Timonere, Captain Stephen Chase,  
Clerk of Council Stacy Senskey,

VISITORS: Myke Anderson, Mary Kiehl, Margaret Distler

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**REPORT OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED**

**Special Guest:**

**Myke Anderson, President, Ashtabula Downtown Development Association (ADDA)**

ADDA has not been able to plan events and fundraisers due to COVID but are beginning to do so. Upcoming events include:

- A movie with the Ashtabula County District Library on August 12, 2021 including food trucks and games
- First Friday in October with a farmer’s market, chili cook-off and games
- Christmas Parade on November 19<sup>th</sup> including a snowman decorating contest
- An ice festival in January to kick-off 2022

Larry Fargo is working on the fountain, fence, and plaques for North Park, and the whirly-gigs. Flowers on Main Avenue were sponsored by many people. Thanks to Ryan Lencl’s donation of a cart, watering the flowers is much easier than in years past. Rotary Club of Ashtabula donated the cost of repairing the cart. ADDA is working on a camera project for surveillance of the area. A key project is repairing the bump out and sidewalks in front of Framed on Main on Main Avenue. Funds are available through the ADDA streetscape project to assist with funding the repairs. There are questions about what lies below the area and who owns the property. The City Manager plans to research the situation further.

**Discussion – Mobile Food Truck Legislation**

The City Manager requested the Committee to review Codified Ordinance Chapter 759, Temporary Stores. The current language dictates charging \$250.00 per month. New language should encourage the mobile food truck operator to obtain a permit from the City and follow through with the required inspections by the Ashtabula City Health Department and the Ashtabula Fire Department. The City Manager suggests lowering the permit fee among other changes and is open to suggestions.

**City Manager's Report**

The City of Conneaut adopted legislation concerning energy special improvement districts (ESIDs). That in conjunction with the Pace (Property Assessed Clean Energy) Financing Program will benefit the Carlisle's project once the City of Ashtabula adopts similar legislation. The Castle Block commercial spaces have several tenants in the ready and the parking lot is coming together nicely.

**Parks & Recreation (P&R) Board Communications – Mary Kiehl, Secretary**

The minutes from the July P&R Board were presented and are attached. In addition, Ms. Kiehl thanked the volunteers who helped paint the doors and railings of the concession stand at Walnut Beach. The GPD Group engineering firm is designing a new lifeguard stand; the preliminary figures are costly. Entrance signs for Kadon Park were ordered. Bands on the Beach was rained out July 11 and has been rescheduled for July 18.

**Next Meeting** – The next meeting is Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. in Council Chambers

**Adjourn** – The Chair adjourned meeting at 4:29 p.m.

Scribe: Stacy H. Senskey, Clerk of Council



**PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING**  
**Wednesday, July 7, 2021 6:00PM Smith Field**

Board members present: Earl Tucker, Mary Kiehl, Mary Graves, Margaret Distler, and Ken Vanyo  
Absent: Trevor Sprague

Minutes: minutes of the June meeting were read, motion to accept by Maggie D.; second by Ken, motion carried.

Earl:

Steve Wychok contacted Earl regarding a bonfire at the beach with the driftwood. He did not attend our meeting therefore there was not a discussion.

Bands on the Beach:

Mr. Kalil has organized the 3 dates for the Big Bands on the Beach. July 11, 25<sup>th</sup> and Aug 15<sup>th</sup>.

The Parks board would like to recommend: August 1, 2021 Ernest T band

August 29<sup>th</sup> High Horse

These two bands would play from 5pm to 8pm

Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> Country Redford 6pm – 9pm

Motion to approve the bands by Maggie, second by Mary Graves, motion carried.

Discussion on concessions and parking, especially for Country Redford. Extra porta pottys might be necessary. Some security may also be needed. Will look for volunteers to help with clean up after.

Walnut beach:

Thank you to all that helped with painting at the concession stand. Looks great!

Concession stand bathrooms – after much discussion, the Concession stand is a city owned property and must be maintained by the city. As for cleaning, it should not fully be the responsibility of the concessionaire.

Restrooms should be checked and cleaned daily by a city employee (park employee).

Is it possible to have a camera on the building? Is it possible to have a security system installed to scare off intruders?

Hours for the timer possibly 8 am until 7 pm? Many people on the beach early in the morning wanting to use the restrooms.

Bicycle racks are forthcoming per City Council meeting on 7/6/21. One for beach, one for Kadon Park.

Lifeguard Stand: What is status?

Signs for Kadon Park and Walnut Beach (top of Bridge St and/or W. 9<sup>th</sup> & Lake) -- any updates?

Maggie was approached about the pickle ball courts: possibility of benches inside the courts. Was also asked why there isn't a fence opening on the pickle ball side?

Mary Graves was approached about the waking path at Smith Field...bumps on the path, maybe a tripping hazard. Also would like benches placed around the track.

Next meeting will be August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6pm Walnut Beach. The September meeting will be Wednesday, Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> at Kadon Park.

Meeting adjourned 7 pm.

Mary Kiehl, Secretary