

ASHTABULA CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 6, 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 1 Councilor – Mrs. Kym A. Foglio, Ward 2 Councilor – Mr. Calvin Crawford, Ward 3 Councilor – Ms. Laydean Young, Ward 5 Councilor – Ms. Jane E. Haines, 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.

COVID-19 Update Presentation by:

Christine Hill, Health Commissioner, Ashtabula City Health Department (ACHD)

Ms. Hill reported a cumulative total of 7,213 positive COVID cases in Ashtabula County. In the City of Ashtabula, a cumulative total of 1,478 positive COVID cases were recorded. Currently there are four active positive cases and those affected are trending younger. Cumulatively, 1439 individuals have been released from quarantine, 100 individuals have been hospitalized, and 32 people have passed due to COVID-19. Ashtabula County is reporting a vaccination rate of 42.2%. The figure includes all people eligible to be vaccinated and people who received at least one shot. ACHD administered nearly 6,000 vaccinations. ACHD continues giving vaccinations through clinics and participating during local events, but first dose vaccinations have dropped. ACHD travels to Carrington Park on a monthly basis to vaccinate staff and new residents. An

Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting Minutes Tuesday, July 6, 2021

event to record public service announcements about vaccination is scheduled at A-Tech and organized by J.P. Ducro. ACHD will be resuming normal operations such as childhood immunizations and fall flu vaccines. The Environment Health Department continues health inspections and reported businesses subject to health inspections are recovering but struggling to find employees. Signature Health is arranging a debriefing retreat for ACHD staff.

Upcoming COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics:

07/08/21 Drive-Thru COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic - Ashtabula City Muni Building 2:30 - 5:30 PM

07/10/21 Community COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic at the Towne Square Mall Parking lot in front of the old Dillard's hosted by University Hospital, Ashtabula County Medical Center, and local health departments all three vaccines available 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

07/16/21 Partnering with Ashtabula Area City Schools and the Dragon Empowerment Center (DEC) during Friday Fun Night to provide COVID-19 vaccines to students & families 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM at the Elementary Campus on Wade Avenue

07/27/21 Drive-Thru COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic - Ashtabula City Muni Building 2:30 - 5:30 PM

08/14/21 Back to School event help at People's Missionary Baptist Church, 3837 West Avenue noon – 4:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

The Clerk of Council presented minutes from the June 21st, 2021, Regular Meeting and the June 28th, 2021, Special Meeting. Mrs. Foglio moved; Ms. Young 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 AMHA for the purpose of commercial trash removal at various locations for a period of two (2) years in the amount of \$49,680.00 annually, for a period to commence retroactive to July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2023. Mrs. Foglio moved; Mr. Crawford seconded to approve the request. Discussion: AMHA is paying the City to remove trash. Motion CARRIED.

The City Manager formally requested an ordinance to deem obsolete a 2007 SAAB, VIN YS3FD49Y371011649. Mrs. Foglio moved; Mr. Speelman seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

The garbage pick-up schedule is running normally. The transfer station has been closed since last Thursday due to needed repairs. Recycling bins remain in front of the Public Works building. The hotel project is ongoing. The initial investors and local bank continue to organize the project and are pursuing new market tax credits. The Petmin project is scheduled to commence in the third quarter. The Beach Glass Festival was successful, and Bridge Street business owners are excited for the upcoming Wine and Walleye Saturday, July 24th, 2021.

Finance Director Report and Communications

The Finance Director requested a public hearing to present the 2022 tax budget. The Council President announced this public hearing is scheduled for July 19th at 6:00 p.m.

The Finance Director formally requested an ordinance authorizing the City Finance Director to enter into a modification agreement with Charles E. Harris & Associates and State Auditor Keith Faber for the City of Ashtabula's single audit requirement for fiscal year 2020. Mrs. Foglio moved; Ms. Haines seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

Clerk of Council Report and Communications

The Clerk of Council announced the City Councilors have new City email addresses. They are: president@cityofashtabula.com, vicepresident@cityofashtabula.com, ward1@cityofashtabula.com, ward2@cityofashtabula.com, ward3@cityofashtabula.com, ward4@cityofashtabula.com, and ward5@cityofashtabula.com. The CivicClerk agenda management platform project is progressing well, and the clerk is pleased with the company's innovations. Lastly, the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) gave special thanks to Mrs. Senskey for contributing to the Records Management resources page on the IIMC website. Her efforts were emphasized in recent IIMC E-Briefing's sent via email to all IIMC members.

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

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 13th, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Finance and Personnel Committee Report and Communications

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, July 16, 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 26th, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Safety Forces Committee Report and Communications

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 26th, 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)
- Stephen Kellat spoke in opposition to Resolution No. 2021-67. He stated that Congressman David Joyce voted against the proposed Protecting the Right to

Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting Minutes Tuesday, July 6, 2021

Organize (PRO) Act in both the current and previous session of Congress. The PRO Act is presently stalled in the Senate. He feels it will cause harm to the local economy.

- Ray Gruber, Jr. spoke in favor of Resolution No. 2021-67. He stated the PRO Act's proposed changes to current labor laws are the first and most significant in decades. He feels this law protects middle class workers and be a benefit to the community and local business.
- The Council President provided a brief overview of the Legislation Agenda.

Legislation Reading

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-67 A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE PROTECTING THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE (PRO) ACT, ALSO KNOWN AS H. R. 842; URGING THE U. S. SENATE TO PASS H. R. 842; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Finance & Personnel Committee/City Council)

Mr. Roskovics moved, Mrs. Foglio seconded to waive the reading of the legislation; motion CARRIED.

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

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

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-68 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH GREATWAVE BROADBAND SERVICES FOR ON-SITE COMPUTER, INTERNET AND NETWORK MAINTENANCE AND RELATED SERVICES FOR A PERIOD OF 24 MONTHS AT A MONTHLY RATE OF \$2,800 (City Manager)

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-69 AN ORDINANCE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH GPD GROUP TO PROVIDE ENGINEERING DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION FOR THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING ROOF AND MASONRY PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$20,000.00 (City Manager)

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-70 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE ASHTABULA METROPOLITAN HOUSING AUTHORITY (AMHA) FOR THE PURPOSE OF COMMERCIAL TRASH REMOVAL AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS FOR \$49,680.00

Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting Minutes Tuesday, July 6, 2021

ANNUALLY FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS TO COMMENCE
RETROACTIVELY ON JULY 1, 2021, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2023 (City Manager)

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-71 AN ORDINANCE APPOINTING CECILIA M. COOPER AS ASHTABULA CITY SOLICITOR EFFECTIVE UPON THE RETIREMENT OF SOLICITOR MICHAEL FRANKLIN ON SEPTEMBER 25th, 2021, AND CONTINGENT UPON ESTABLISHING RESIDENCY IN THE CITY OF ASHTABULA (City Council)

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-72 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY FINANCE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A MODIFICATION AGREEMENT WITH CHARLES E. HARRIS & ASSOCIATES AND STATE AUDITOR KEITH FABER FOR THE CITY OF ASHTABULA'S SINGLE AUDIT REQUIREMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020 (Finance Director)

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: Mrs. Foglio, Mr. Crawford, Ms. Young, Ms. Haines, Mr. Speelman, Mr. Roskovics voted yea; motion CARRIED.

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

The Council President acknowledged the presence of Cecilia M. Cooper who was appointed City Solicitor according to Ordinance No. 2021-71. Ms. Cooper said, "I just want to thank you all for the opportunity to serve as your solicitor. I look forward to working with all of you. I'm very grateful to Mr. Franklin for leaving such a wonderful department behind, and a wonderful working relationship, not just with law enforcement but with the Council. And I hope to follow through with that in my tenure. Thank you all very much."

Tell Us Something We Don't Know

The Ward 3 Councilor announced the Charity, Faith, Love Project is sponsoring a Back to School Giveaway and Fun on Saturday, August 14th 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 or to donate, please contact Ms. Young by calling 440-637-4846.

The Ward 2 Councilor announced the Paddle & Pints event held Thursday, July 8th at 6:30 p.m. hosted by Harbor Yak. The event includes a kayak ride on the river, then concludes at Cloven Hoof where pizza and beer are available.

Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting Minutes Tuesday, July 6, 2021

The Ward 2 Councilor wished Catholic Charities Executive Director, Jill Valentic, a happy birthday.

The Ward 5 Councilor announced Ashtabula Arts Center and volunteers are painting murals in three crosswalks on Main Avenue. Interested people can call the Ashtabula Arts Center at 964-3396 to sign up, or show up on Sunday, July 11th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The rain date is Sunday, August 1.

Public Discussion/Comments on General Matters

The City of Ashtabula's Animal Control Officer, and Local 1197 President Steve Lanham thanked Council for supporting the PROAct.

Amy Scott-Paciotti read a statement she previously emailed, attached. The Council President explained the coal conveyor belt is still owned by Norfolk Southern, and Council can further discuss her request when ownership status changes. He thanked her and the Kelly and Bruckman families for attending the meeting. The City Manager explained the bridge structure will not be owned by the City. The Ashtabula River Foundation will have control of and maintain the structure.

Jodi Mills stated the Walnut Beach area is looking great. She has been helping paint the railings surrounding the concession stand. People are using the newly painted railings to secure their bicycles, as there are no bike racks in the area. The City Manager explained the Parks & Recreation Board requested the purchase of bike racks for parks, which have been purchased through state funding. Additionally, some unused bike racks were found and will be installed. The ten foot bike rack that was at Walnut Beach was stolen. Plans to secure the racks with concrete will prevent theft in the future.

Ray Gruber, Jr. thanked Council for supporting the PROAct. He added he supports the efforts of the Ashtabula City Health Department with vaccination public service announcements.

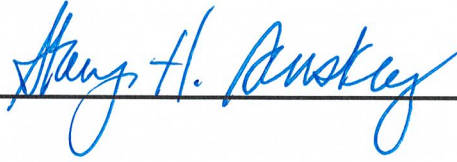
Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m. by the President of Council.

City Council will meet on Monday, July 19th, 2021, in Council Chambers. A Public Hearing is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. The Pre-Council Meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Regular Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

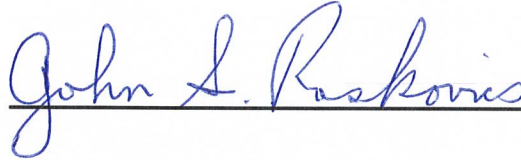
Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting Minutes Tuesday, July 6, 2021

Clerk of Council, Stacy H. Senskey

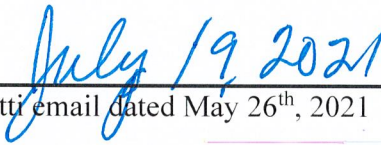


Attested by:

President of Council, John S. Roskovics



Date Approved:



Attachments: Amy Scott-Paciotti email dated May 26th, 2021

Stacy Senskey

From: Amy Scott-Paciotti <akscott@kent.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2021 3:06 PM
To: Jim Timonere; Brenda Sanders; cjrosko@roadrunner.com; kaharley@roadrunner.com; younglaydean@yahoo.com; michaelspeelman@yahoo.com; calvincrawford.ward2@gmail.com; ovharris.ward4@gmail.com; janehainescitycouncil@gmail.com; Stacy Senskey
Cc: bcscott@windstream.net; darcie.schneider@dallastown.net
Subject: Ashtabula River Conveyor Bridge

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

I recently learned the former conveyor bridge for the Ashtabula Coal Dock will continue to stand with the Ashtabula River Foundation providing maintenance.

As many know, this bridge was subject to a tragic event in Ashtabula's history when it caught fire the evening of September 13, 1986 taking the lives of two amazing men, Mr. Ralph Kelly and Mr. Ray Bruckman.

I am the granddaughter of Ralph Kelly. Seeing the bridge on everything related to Ashtabula does not bring pleasant memories for our family and I'm sure the same goes for the family of Mr. Bruckman. Since there was a petition to save the conveyor bridge and Ashtabula views the bridge as a positive reflection of the harbor, I feel like the families of the two lives lost deserve a better outcome with the conveyor bridge decision as well.

I am asking the City of Ashtabula with the Ashtabula River Foundation partnership to name the bridge in honor of Mr. Ralph Kelly and Mr. Ray Bruckman. This year marks 35 years since their tragic, untimely deaths so dedicating the bridge in their memory couldn't be more appropriate. By naming the conveyor bridge The Kelly-Bruckman Memorial Bridge (or The Bruckman-Kelly Memorial Bridge), it will preserve their heroic efforts of responding to and attempting to contain the bridge fire that September evening.

In my mind, their heroic efforts are similar to the terminal tower first responders on 9-11. They ran into a situation not knowing the horrific circumstances meeting them inside and like many of those first responders, they lost their lives trying to help a situation larger than they were equipped to handle.

Dedicating the bridge in memory of my Grandfather and Mr. Bruckman will help preserve the rich history of the Ashtabula Coal Dock since they were both highly respected and deeply missed coworkers to all who worked there during that time.

I know these are names on paper to you, but these names also represent the hardworking, dedicated citizens of Ashtabula, OH. With the overwhelming petition and decision to keep the conveyor bridge, I understand how the bridge honors and pays tribute to Ashtabula's great shipping history. It would only be appropriate to take it a step forward by honoring the hard working employees of the Ashtabula Coal Dock and memorializing the lives taken prematurely that September evening.

Their loss left a gaping hole within our two families along with the work family at the Ashtabula Coal Dock. Dedicating the bridge in their honor will not change the events of that evening, I know this. It will, however, change the thought process from the bridge my Grandfather lost his life to the bridge dedicated to his and Mr. Bruckman's heroic efforts that September 13th evening in 1986.

I appreciate you taking the time to read this email and I hope you take this into consideration. If I need to send this email to someone else, please let me know. I received all email addresses from the City of Ashtabula website (with the exception of my mother's and sister's cc'd above).

Sincerely,

Amy Scott-Paciotti
(440) 994-9031