

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

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, July 20, 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.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

A moment of silence was observed for our Assistant Superintendent of Water Pollution Control, Larry Meaney, who passed-away July 8, 2020. The City Manager recounted Larry's history. "Larry came to the City in 2014 as the Superintendent of Public Services, bringing many years of experience from his position with Ashtabula County. He worked alongside the employees and improved documentation and reporting of our department's activities throughout the years. Larry then went to Water Pollution in 2017. He worked with our industrial pre-treatment program and assisted with many of the renovation projects we have going on at the plant. Our sympathies go out to Larry's wife, Michelle, his children, his family, and his friends. Mr. Meaney, I appreciate your service to the public and to our City and I will miss our times together and our conversations my friend. Rest in peace."

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Ms. Octavia V. Harris	(Ward 4 Councilor)
	Ms. Laydean Young	(Ward 3 Councilor)
	Mr. Calvin C. Crawford	(Ward 2 Councilor)
	Mrs. Kym A. Foglio	(Ward 1 Councilor)
	Mr. Michael D. Speelman	(Vice President)
	Mr. John S. Roskovics	(President)

MEMBER(S) ABSENT:	Ms. Jane E. Haines	(Ward 5 Councilor)
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OFFICER(S) PRESENT:	Ms. Traci R. Welch	(Director of Finance)
	Mr. James M. Timonere	(City Manager)
	Mr. Michael Franklin	(City Solicitor)

OFFICER(S) ABSENT:	Mrs. Stacy H. Senskey	(Clerk of Council)
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EXCUSED ABSENCE(S): Mrs. Foglio moved; Mr. Crawford seconded to excuse the Ward 5 Councilor from this meeting; motion CARRIED.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

PRESENTATIONS: None

REGULAR BUSINESS AGENDA

PRESENTATION OF MEETING MINUTES:

The Council President presented the minutes from the following meeting:

- July 6, 2020 Regular Council 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.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS and COMMUNICATIONS

CITY MANAGER:

The City Manager requested to appoint Mark Brockway to serve as a member of the Ashtabula City Port Authority Board effective immediately with a term to expire on April 1, 2021.

Mrs. Foglio moved; Ms. Harris seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

The 2020 paving project has commenced and should be completed within the next two weeks.

CITY SOLICITOR: None

FINANCE DIRECTOR:

The Finance Director requested a resolution adopting the Tax Budget Of The City Of Ashtabula for the fiscal year beginning on January 1, 2021, and submitting the same to the Ashtabula County, Ohio Budget Commission. Mrs. Foglio moved; Ms. Young seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED. This item was added to the evening's legislative agenda.

Comparing revenue received in 2020 to 2019 at June month end, property tax revenue is down a little over \$20,000. City income tax collections are also down over \$395,000. I am hoping this deficit will tighten up with the tax deadline being pushed out to July 15. A better view of where we are at will be determined when we receive the 2nd half property taxes and income tax collected in July is posted. Trash collection charges are also down by over \$124,600, while Sewer collection charges are up over \$251,600. The fluctuation in trash collection can be linked to not assessing properties for non-payment in 2019 which would have been collected in 2020. The increase in sewer collection revenue could be linked to an increase in amount a water usage as well as, the proportion of those paying city residents versus township residents.

Expenses:

With the reduction in appropriations, departments are still averaging over the 50% target for expenditures. This could be a concern if revenue doesn't come in even as projected.

Questions/Comments: The lower trash collection revenue is due to non-payment of billed accounts. Last year, delinquent trash bills were added to the property tax bills as assessments and the City collected \$148,823. Because the 2020 delinquent trash bills were not added to property tax bills as assessments, the City only collected \$27,000. Going forward, the Finance Director wants to resume sending delinquent trash bills over \$250 to Ashtabula County for collection.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS and COMMUNICATIONS

- **Community Development/ Economic Development/ Parks & Recreation**

The Committee Vice Chair gave a report of the CD/ED/P&R Committee meeting from July 14, 2020. The minutes from the meeting are available upon request. The next meeting is August 24, 2020 at 4p. The featured guest speaker is Ashtabula County Medical Center, Chief Executive Officer, Michael J. Habowski.

Finance & Personnel

The Committee Chair reported on the meeting held July 17, 2020. The minutes from the meeting are available upon request. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 21, 2020 at 8a.

Public Works/Public Utilities/Cable/Schools

The next meeting is July 27, 2020 at 5p.

- **Safety Forces**

The next meeting is July 27, 2020 at 8a.

LEGISLATION AGENDA

- Formal Legislation Request(s): no additional requests
- Form and Correctness
- 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: none

LEGISLATION READING

The Council President presented the following legislation:

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-58 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH INFINITY PAVING COMPANY, FOR MAKING REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE WALNUT BOULEVARD TENNIS COURTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$142,855.30 (City Manager)

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

Mrs. Foglio moved; Mr. Roskovics seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings.

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

Mr. Roskovics moved; Mr. Crawford seconded to approve Ordinance 2020-58. On the roll call to adopt the legislation: Ms. Harris, Ms. Young, Mr. Crawford, Mrs. Foglio, Mr. Roskovics voted yea, Mr. Speelman voted nay; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-59 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH HUGH'S EXCAVATING & DEMOLITION, LLC, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$13,720 FOR ASBESTOS ABATEMENT AND DEMOLITION OF AN ABANDONED AND BLIGHTED STRUCTURE AT 4012 STATION AVENUE IN THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, OHIO (City Manager)

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

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

Ms. Young moved; Mrs. Foglio seconded to approve Ordinance 2020-59. On the roll call to adopt the legislation: Ms. Harris, Ms. Young, Mr. Crawford, Mrs. Foglio, Mr. Speelman, Mr. Roskovics voted yea; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-60 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 TO A CONTRACT WITH SIDLEY TRUCK GROUP FOR SANITATION TRUCK REPAIRS (City Manager)

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

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

Mrs. Foglio moved; Mr. Crawford seconded to approve Ordinance 2020-60. On the roll call to adopt the legislation: Ms. Harris, Ms. Young, Mr. Crawford, Mrs. Foglio, Mr. Speelman, Mr. Roskovics voted yea; motion CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-61 A RESOLUTION CALLING UPON CITIZENS, BUSINESSES AND VISITORS IN THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, OHIO, TO FOLLOW CDC GUIDELINES FOR FACE MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING DUE TO THE WORLD-WIDE COVID-19 PANDEMIC (City Council)

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

Ms. Young moved; Mrs. Foglio seconded to approve Resolution 2020-61. Discussion: The Council President added the Ward 5 Councilor sent an email in support of the mask resolution. The Ward 1 Councilor thanked the City Solicitor for his work drafting this resolution. On the roll call to adopt the legislation: Ms. Harris, Ms. Young, Mr. Crawford, Mrs. Foglio, Mr. Roskovics voted yea, Mr. Speelman voted nay; motion CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-62 A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE TAX BUDGET OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING ON JANUARY 1, 2021, AND SUBMITTING THE SAME TO THE ASHTABULA COUNTY, OHIO BUDGET COMMISSION (Finance Director)

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

Mrs. Foglio moved; Ms. Harris seconded to approve Resolution 2020-62. Discussion: The Council President expressed Council's appreciation to the Finance Director and the City Manager. On the roll call to adopt the legislation: Ms. Harris, Ms. Young, Mr. Crawford, Mrs. Foglio, Mr. Speelman, Mr. Roskovics voted yea; motion CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC DISCUSSION/COMMENTS (General Matters): None

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business to come before this Council, the President declared the meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

DATE APPROVED: _____

Aug. 3, 2020

ATTESTED BY: _____

John S. Roskovics

John S. Roskovics, President of Council

ATTESTED BY: _____

Stacy H. Senskey

Stacy H. Senskey, Clerk of Council