

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, January 22, 2019

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 the passing of Alex D. Lambros, a lifelong Ashtabula resident who served 34 years with the Ashtabula Police Department as Patrolman, 16 of which were as Commander of the Detective Bureau; retiring at the rank of Detective/Captain. He was a 1943 Ashtabula High School graduate, who from 1947 to 1951 served full-time with the local National Guard unit as Master Sergeant.

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Ms. Jane E. Haines	(Ward 5 Councilor)
	Mrs. Kym A. Foglio	(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.

PRESENTATION(S):

Kids for Positive Change and Ms. Camille Licate, Founder of the organization, filled Council Chambers to present their report (attached) on the importance of recycling and the use of reusable bags instead of plastic bags. One student told how his family depends of the use of plastic bags for getting rid of their cat's litter waste☺

EXECUTIVE SESSION: (SEE MANAGER'S REPORT)

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 January 7, 2019, Regular City Council Meeting minutes. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Quaranta seconded to waive the reading of the minutes; motion CARRIED.
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

Executive Session

The City Manager requested an Executive Session to discuss the purchase and sale of property. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Foglio seconded to approve the request. On the roll call to convene an Executive Session for the stated purpose: Ms. Haines, Mrs. Foglio, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. Quaranta, Mr. Speelman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Roskovics voted aye; motion CARRIED.

2018 Community Development Critical Infrastructure (CDCI) Grant

The City Manager praised the City's Planning and Community Development Department for securing this grant. We were one of twenty-three political subdivisions that applied. The State of Ohio Development Services Agency awarded \$4,344,000.00 to ten proposals; we were awarded \$299,000. The following work will be performed on Tivision Place: repair all sewers, relocate the pump station located in the middle of the road and place it off to the side of the road on a city-owned parcel, repave the road and repair and/or replace sidewalks. The project will cost about \$330,000; our financial contribution will be \$30,000. We have until 2021 to complete the project; we hope to begin this year.

Snowplowing Report

Crews began plowing at 6:00 a.m. Saturday and finished up about 2:00 p.m. Monday. It was challenging due to the amount of snow that fell, coupled with 30 to 40 mph winds. "Our goal is

to have all of the streets hit within a 24 hour period. We were done with the neighborhoods early Monday morning.” Sometimes a road or two are missed during shift changes. However, when it is brought to our attention, crews respond. When it is as cold as it was over the weekend, roads are not salted because it is too cold for the salt to work. The City is financially unable to salt neighborhood roads, except in extreme cases. The City has seven trucks, five or six staff members per crew and aging equipment. “Blade shoes” are used to protect the blades from storm drains, manholes and potholes, but they also cause the blade to be lifted off the ground a bit. He may have crews remove them to see if it would make a difference in the removal of snow. The Manager and City Council praised the crews for their diligence and for doing a great job clearing the roads. The Manager explained how that the City is responsible for clearing all city and state routes located in the City limits. The townships have assistance from the state and county, leaving their crews to be able to get to neighborhood roads faster and often.

A Gift of Art from Bayham (Canada) by Artist Barry Wade

The City Manager received, from the Mayor of Bayham, a framed artist rendering of the “Ashtabula” docked in their port. On the back of the piece is the following, “On behalf of the Municipality of Bayham and the citizens of Port Burwell, we would like to offer this to the citizens of Ashtabula. With 88 km of water between us we rarely have the time to meet our American neighbors. Our two communities have been linked for many years by the service provided by the “Ashtabula”, from 1906 to the unfortunate sinking on September 18, 1958. The history and stories of the “Ashtabula” are what unites our communities. Please enjoy and feel free to visit our community; you are always welcome. Sincerely yours, Paul Ens, Mayor of the Municipality of Bayham.” P. O. Box 160, 56169 Heritage Line, Straffordville, ON, NOJ 1Y0 – www.bayham.on.ca. The Manager would like to reciprocate, if possible.

Questions / Comments for City Manager

Garbage Pick-up

City Council thanked Sanitation workers for braving Monday’s extremely cold weather to pick-up garbage.

West 58th Street Project

At the request of the Ward 5 Councilor, the Manager provided a project updated. He noted that the project has lingered longer than expected. He believes all the concrete work is completed. Straw has been put on treelawns where grass should be, but the areas have not been seeded, due to weather conditions. Crews will return in the spring to complete the project.

CITY SOLICITOR

No Report

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Sewer & Trash Billing

The Director assured the public she is doing everything possible to determine the best course of action to get sewer and trash billing back on track. She welcomes calls to her office.

Formal Legislation Request

The Director formerly requested Ordinance Nos. 2019-07 and 2019-08. Mr. Pugliese moved, Ms. Haines seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

CLERK OF COUNCIL

No Report

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS and COMMUNICATIONS

All Council committees meet in the Municipal Building 2nd Floor Conference Room
(Chair/Vice Chair)

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/PARKS & RECREATION
(CD/ED/P&R) (Haines/Speelman)**

The Chair reported on the committee's Tuesday, January 8, meeting, as follows:

My Neighborhood Collaborative (MNC)

Representatives Stacy Bryan and Mary Graves were guest speakers. The mission of the group is to bring people and resources together to help revitalize and rebuild a stronger neighborhood where people want to live, work, play and prosper. MNC provided produce from the Clifford Kadon President Park (CKPP) community garden to area residents and local food pantries. MNC hosted free family events and a school supply giveaway. MNC continues to work with the City and the Ashtabula City Parks & Recreation Board to coordinate park enhances at CKPP.

City's Economic Direction

The Chair reported reaching out to various City officials and department heads to get their thoughts on our economic direction. "The way our government is set up it sometimes feels like we're all operating a little bit separately because we are all elected separately." Her goal in reaching out was to be united in our 2019 goals.

The Manager told the committee his 2019 goals were to finish projects, such as the construction of River Bend Hotel and the opening of the Pig Iron Plant by Kinder-Morgan/Pinney Dock.

The committee felt the biggest project is to work on seeing compliance to our ordinances. With the creation of new jobs, such as those that will be available at the Pig Iron Plant, we want our

community's appearance to be such that everyone wants to live here. It will only be accomplished if ordinance compliance is enforced. It is easy to sit in committee and say what should be done. However, realizing how much work our Planning and Community Development Department and our Housing Inspector have is crucial. Therefore, it has been suggested that another Housing Inspector is hired. Whether the position is part-time and eventually full-time is up to the City Manager.

The committee also believes we need to communicate better with our citizens. Technology has changed the way we get our news; not everyone goes to the same source for all their information. To achieve better communication, a quarterly City newsletter, a facebook page and improvements to our website were suggested.

Some of the eyesores throughout the City will be difficult to address due to the property's zoning. For instance, the railroad property located at the major intersection across the street from City Hall, is zoned M-1/Light Industrial. While the property is an eyesore, its condition is not in violation of M-1 zoning. This is something to look at very closely so our economic development efforts will be impacted, positively.

The top three projects for the Ashtabula City Parks & Recreation Board are:

1. A new roof on the Walnut Beach concession stand
2. Clearing of the Walnut Beach hill, and
3. Electricity in CKPP.

The committee's February meeting will be Tuesday, February 12; with downtown development as the focus.

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

The Chair reported the committee met Friday, January 11. The topics of discussion were the amended Purchasing (credit) Card Policy (PCP) and the Ward 2 Councilor's suggested placement of a Road Resurfacing / Street Paving Levy on the November General Election ballot. The Chair reported the passage of House Bill 312 is the reason for the PCP amendments. He reported that due to the lack of time in this evening's Pre-Council meeting, the proposed levy will be discussed at the February 4, Pre-Council meeting, scheduled for 6:00 p.m.

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

The committee did not meet this month. The next scheduled meeting is Friday, February 1, if agenda items are submitted.

SAFETY FORCES - (SF) (Speelman/Harley)

The Chair announced the committee will meet Monday, January 28, at 8:00 a.m.

WORK SESSION

None

LEGISLATION AGENDA

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-04, AN ORDINANCE REPEALING, IN ITS ENTIRETY, CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 111.05 FOR THE PURPOSE OF UPDATING THE CITY'S POLICIES ON NOTICE TO MEDIA OF SPECIAL MEETINGS. (Clerk of Council)

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-05, AN ORDINANCE ENACTING NEW CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 111.05 FOR THE PURPOSE OF UPDATING THE CITY'S POLICIES ON NOTICE TO MEDIA OF SPECIAL MEETINGS. (Clerk of Council)

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-06, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF OHIO FOR AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOAN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$167,500 FOR THE RIVER BEND HOTEL PROJECT. (City Manager)

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-07, AN ORDINANCE REPEALING, IN ITS ENTIRETY, ORDINANCE NO. 2014-162, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENACTING AN AMENDED CITY OF ASHTABULA, OHIO PURCHASING (Credit) CARD POLICY. (Assistant Director of Finance)

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-08, AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AN AMENDED CITY OF ASHTABULA, OHIO PURCHASING (Credit) CARD POLICY. (Assistant Director of Finance)

Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Foglio seconded to waive the reading of the ordinances; 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. Foglio, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. Quaranta, Mr. Speelman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Roskovics voted aye; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinance: Ms. Haines, Mrs. Foglio, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. Quaranta, Mr. Speelman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Roskovics voted aye; motion CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

• **Tell Us Something We Don't Know**

- President: The "Men Who Cook" charity benefit for Catholic Charities is Saturday, January 26, from 6:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m., at Our Lady of Peace Parish Community Center.
- Ward 4: This evening, Sub Zero Mission and community members will convene to conduct the annual Ashtabula County homeless count.
- Ward 2: A warning was issued about the construction of snow forts, due to the recent suffocation of a little girl.
- Manager: Suggested Council recognize Good Karma Soup Kitchen, who on Sunday, January 13, served their 20,000th meal to those in need.
- Clerk: Girl Scout Danielle DiGiacomo's Gold Award Project installation of a K-9 Monument will take place at the City Hall Annex/Justice Center, tomorrow at 5:00 p.m.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION/COMMENTS (General Matters): None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The dais convened in Executive Session. At 8:35 p.m., the President reconvened the open portion of the meeting a, with no business to transact as a result of the Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business to come before this Council, the President declared the meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

DATE APPROVED:

February 4, 2019

ATTESTED BY:

John S. Roskovics
John S. Roskovics
President of Council

ATTESTED BY:

LaVette E. Hennigan
LaVette E. Hennigan, MMC
Clerk of Council

Kids for Positive Change City Council Presentation
January 22, 2019

Good evening Ashtabula City Council. We are Kids for Positive Change students from Erie and Superior Intermediate School and Lakeside Jr. High School.

We are here to present you with two Kids for Positive Change classroom-community action projects.

The first project is about the importance of recycling and the second project is about the importance of replacing plastic bags with reusable bags.

Recycling is very **important** because waste has a huge negative impact on the natural environment. Harmful chemicals and greenhouse gasses are released from rubbish in landfill sites.

Recycling helps reduce the pollution caused by waste. **Recycling** reduces the need for raw materials so that the rainforests can be preserved.

Things you can recycle:

- Plastics like bottles and containers
- Paper
- Cardboard
- Metals like tin, aluminum, and steel cans
- Glass
- Soiled food and organic items like apple cores, grass and banana peels
- Clothing and shoes
- Ink Cartridges

Facts about recycling verses not recycling:

Plastic: If just five plastic bottles are recycled, they will provide enough fiber fill for an entire ski jacket, or for a square foot of carpet.

Only 1 in 5 plastic water bottles are recycled. Out of the 50 billion plastic water bottles used in the United States, each year, 38 billion are not recycled!

Aluminum: We throw away so much aluminum that we could rebuild the entire commercial air fleet of the United State four time a year!

Recycling an aluminum can requires 95% less water and energy than creating one from scratch.

Paper: Every year, office workers throw away so much paper that a paper wall could be built from New York to Seattle. The wall would be 12 feet high and it could be rebuilt each year.

If new paper is created from recycled paper, it can cause air pollution to drop by 74%. If a three foot stack

of newspaper is recycled, a tree is saved. There are also alternatives to paper made from trees, like paper made from elephant dung!

Cardboard: If cardboard is recycled, 75% less energy is needed than if new cardboard was created from new materials. Recycling just one ton of cardboard means that 46 gallons of oil are saved.

The EPA reports 25.8% of items that can be recycled are being recycled. The percentage of items that can be recycled and are not recycled and are in landfills is around 53%!

We would like 100% of recycled items to be recycled. We have already started to recycle at Superior and Erie Intermediate and Lakeside Jr. High!

We have created recycling collection boxes for our school hallways. We are currently collecting paper and plastic water bottles and containers. We will also collect cardboard milk containers and plastic food containers, from school lunches, once our recycling project is fully functional!

We are so happy the city of Ashtabula has started to recycle. We know the city is working very hard on this program and want to say THANK YOU for recycling!

We would like to ask the city to help us with our school-wide, campus recycling program by providing our school campuses with large recycling collection bins and recycling pick up! We are happy to help the city expedite this process. Please let us know what we can do to help!

The 4th grade classes, at Superior Intermediate, are raising awareness about how single use plastic bags harm people, animals and the environment.

We would like to see a city tax on plastic bags and, eventually a ban on plastic bags in the city of Ashtabula. We encourage everyone to use reusable bags instead of plastic bags!

Plastic and Humans Plastic is not only bad for the environment, it is also harmful to humans. Chemicals in plastics, like plastic water bottles and plastic bags, can cause cancer, diabetes type 2, and is linked to heart disease if the chemicals leach into food, soil and water sources.

Plastic and animals: Tons of animals like turtles, birds, seals, and whales get hurt from plastic bags. A reason that a turtle could eat plastic is they might mistake a plastic bag for their favorite food jellyfish and eat it. A whale died after he eating 6 square meters of plastic. A pelican named pete died because he swallowed 17 plastic bags.

Plastic and the environment: When plastic for plastic bottles and bags is being produced it causes air pollution. Air pollution causes lung cancer, and heart disease. It affects your brain, nerves, and kidneys.

Plastic Bag Facts:

- Every minute 1 million plastic bags are used
- The United States goes through over 38 billion single use plastic bags each year. Single use means the bag is used one time and thrown away.
- Worldwide 500 billion single use plastic bags are used a year!
- Many plastic bags have an average 12 minute lifespan from store to the trash
- It takes plastic bags over 1,000 years to completely breakdown
- Over 1,000,000 animals, a year, are killed by plastic bags
- It is very difficult to recycle plastic bags. Some recycling facilities do not recycle plastic bags.

A simple solution to the single use plastic bag problem: Use reusable bags!

Reusable bags are environmentally friendly and reduce pollution from plastic bags.

There are reusable bags made from environmentally friendly materials, so they don't harm humans!

You can also make reusable bags from an old t-shirt. This is also another way to recycle!

To help community members make this positive change we can:

Tax plastic bags. A plastic bag tax would require consumers to pay money for a plastic bag.

Implement a reusable bag incentive where consumers get money or a reward for using reusable bags.

Cities and towns all over the world have passed plastic bag taxes and bans. Hawaii and California have statewide plastic bag bans. Seattle, Washington has a plastic bag ban and consumers must pay 5 cents for paper bags at the store. These cities and towns strongly encourage the use of reusable shopping bags.

The City of Ashtabula can encourage the use of reusable bags and start to discuss implementing a plastic bag tax and ban!

As Kids for Positive Change we fully support a recycling program at school and throughout our beautiful city! We call for a tax and eventual ban on plastic bags. We will start to reach out to local restaurants and grocery stores about discontinuing the use of plastic bags.

We further support the replacement of single use plastics and styrofoam - bottles, bags and containers - with sustainable alternatives.

We would like to ask everyone in this room and everyone watching tonight to please recycle, reuse and use reusable alternatives like reusable containers, reusable bags and reusable bottles! And, of course, we continue to ask everyone to skip the straw!

Together, we are moving toward a greener more sustainable world! Every choice we make impacts people, animals and the planet! Together, let's continue to create positive change for Ashtabula and the world!

Thank you!

Reference: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/trevornace/2018/09/20/heres-a-list-of-every-city-in-the-us-to-ban-plastic-bags-will-your-city-be-next/#1c5a21cc3243>







