

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, January 7, 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 Miss Olivia Hall, a 10 year young Ashtabula Area City School student who passed away fighting cancer with courage and bravery.

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Mr. Michael D. Speelman	(Ward 4 Councilor)
	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. Christopher J. McClure	(Vice President)
	Mr. John S. Roskovics	(President)

MEMBER(S) ABSENT: None

OFFICER(S) PRESENT:	Mr. James M. Timonere	(City Manager)
	Mr. Michael Franklin	(City Solicitor)
	Ms. Traci R. Welch	(Director of Finance)
	Mrs. LaVette E. Hennigan, MMC	(Clerk of Council)

OFFICER(S) ABSENT: None

EXCUSED ABSENCE(S): None

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

PRESENTATION(S): None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

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 December 17, 2018 Public Hearing and Regular City Council Meeting minutes and the December 27, 2018 Special 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

The City Manager presented the following:

River Bend Hotel, LLC – Tax Incentive Agreement

A request for an ordinance to enter into a Community Reinvestment Area Tax Incentive Agreement with River Bend Hotel, LLC for a Tax Abatement at 75% for 10 years, for the construction of a hotel at the corner of West 6th Street and Morton Drive. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Foglio seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

River Bend Hotel, LLC – Economic Development Loan

A request for an ordinance to submit an application to the State of Ohio for an Economic Development Loan in the amount of \$167,500 for the River Bend Hotel. This funding will be used to purchase capital equipment/fixed assets. Ashtabula County will partner with the City for funding in the amount of \$167,500 for this project. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Foglio seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED. The Manager reported this project has been in discussion for over a year and a half and is a wonderful example of a public/private partnership. The lead on the project is Mr. Canter, a graduate of Edgewood High School. He approached the Manager when he saw the upswing in activity on Bridge Street and said he wanted to do something “transformative” for the area. Several projects were discussed; the hotel was introduced, which piqued his interest. A feasibility study was performed, which affirmed the need for a hotel in the Harbor. Mr. Canter was introduced to local developers, such as, Mr. Larry Laurello, the Huggins Family and the Borsukoff Family, which has now this a “grassroots” project. The Manager showed a rendering of the hotel, announced it will have 26

rooms, a rooftop wine bar overlooking the Ashtabula River and is slated to cost \$5 million. The rates will be priced at “market” value. The City of Ashtabula will realize revenue from the 3% bed tax. The rooms will be larger than traditional rooms and will include a kitchenette and suite area.

Trash and Curbside Recycling Pick-up

An overview of the holiday activity and why pickups were delayed was presented. Residents were asked to continue to be patient while this new program takes hold and were thanked for their participation in curbside recycling. Recycling can be dropped off at our Transfer Station, Monday through Friday (7:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.) and Saturday (9:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.). The pick-up schedule is on the City’s website (www.cityofashtabula.com). Social media content will be launched after a social media policy is drafted. It will be content/information only; no one will monitor the site for the purpose of responding to posts. As the Curbside Recycling Program advances, automated trucks, which cost between \$160,000 and \$200,000 per vehicle, will help pick-up move faster. A request to amend the codified ordinance section outlining trash pick-up will soon be presented to City Council.

Questions / Comments for City Manager

Quiet Zone

The Ward 2 Councilor asked if there is a “quiet zone” in the area of Ashtabula County Medical Center (A.C.M.C.), on Lake Avenue. The Manager responded no. The Councilor believes with the amount of medical facilities opening on Lake Avenue such a zone is warranted.

New Equipment

The Ward 3 Councilor suggested the public be permitted to preview new equipment prior to the equipment being put into service.

Trash Pick-up

The Clerk of Council asked if trash pick-up, the week of January 20, will remain the same with the observance of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Birthday holiday, Monday, January 21. The Manager responded, yes.

The President announced City Council’s Regular Meeting will be held Tuesday, January 22.

CITY SOLICITOR

No Report

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Sewer & Trash Billing

The Director reported she is very aware of the “extreme frustration” regarding the delay in issuing sewer and trash bills. Upon her October 1, 2018 arrival to the City, the 2019 budget was priority. Now that the budget has passed, staff is working on closing out 2018, and her

attention and time is being spent on how to “expedite and speed up” billing. The Director thanked everyone for their patience.

Formal Legislation Request

The Director formerly requested Ordinance Nos. 2019-02 and 2019-03. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. McClure seconded to approve the request. The Ward 4 Councilor asked for clarification on the voting procedure, which the President provided. The motion CARRIED.

CLERK OF COUNCIL

Repeal and Replace Codified Ordinance Section 111.05 (a)

The Clerk of Council reported Codified Ordinance Section 111.05 “NOTICE TO NEWS MEDIA OF SPECIAL MEETINGS” at part (a) states: Any news medium organization that desires to be given advance notification of special meetings of a municipal body shall file with the Clerk a written request therefor on a standard form to be provided by the Clerk. The Clerk suggested the following amended verbiage: Any news medium organization that desires to be given advance notification of special meetings of a municipal body shall notify the Clerk of Council verbally, in writing or by email. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Quaranta seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

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 announced the committee will meet Tuesday, January 8, at 4:00 p.m., directly followed by the Ashtabula City Parks and Recreation Board meeting at 6:00 p.m., in Pre-Council Chambers.

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

The Chair announced the committee will meet Friday, January 11, at 8:00 a.m.

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

The Chair announced the committee will meet Friday, February 1, at 8:00 a.m., unless something changes.

The President suggested members of Council begin drafting their 2019 Street Paving/Resurfacing wish list. Lists shall be emailed to the Clerk.

The Chair announced that at the January 11, Finance & Personnel Committee meeting, he will recommend the consideration of a Street Paving/Resurfacing Levy. “I believe the residents should have the opportunity to make that decision”. The main thoroughfares need attention.

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
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- Legislation Overview: The Clerk of Council provided.
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- Public Discussion (Legislation Only): None
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- Consent Agenda Format: The President announced the items on tonight's Legislation Agenda will be disposed of individually.
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- Legislation Reading: The Clerk of Council presented the following legislation for Council's consideration:

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-01, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA TAX INCENTIVE AGREEMENT WITH RIVER BEND HOTEL, LLC, FOR TAX ABATEMENT AT 75% FOR 10 YEARS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A HOTEL AT THE CORNER OF WEST 6TH STREET AND MORTON DRIVE, ALSO KNOWN AS GOODWILL DRIVE . (City Manager) Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Foglio seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; motion CARRIED. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Foglio seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Mr. Speelman, Ms. Haines, Mrs. Foglio, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. Quaranta, Mr. McClure, Mr. Roskovics voted aye; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinance: Mr. Speelman, Ms. Haines, Mrs. Foglio, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. Quaranta, Mr. McClure, Mr. Roskovics voted aye; motion CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-02, AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL, IN ITS ENTIRETY, ORDINANCE NO. 2018-78 FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING POSITIONS AND COMPENSATION, SALARIES AND WAGES FOR THE EMPLOYEES IN THE ASHTABULA CITY MUNICIPAL COURT AND PROBATION DIVISION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ASHTABULA CITY MUNICIPAL COURT JOURNAL ENTRY NOS. 27-379 AND 27-264. (Municipal Court Judge) Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Quaranta seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; 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: Mr. Speelman, Ms. Haines, Mrs. Foglio, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. Quaranta, Mr. McClure, Mr. Roskovics voted aye; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinance: Mr. Speelman (nay), Ms. Haines (aye), Mrs. Foglio (nay), Mr. Pugliese (aye), Mr. Quaranta (nay), Mr. McClure (aye), Mr. Roskovics (aye); motion CARRIED by a 4 to 3 vote, and will take effect in 30 days due to the lack of 5 or more votes in the affirmative.

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-03, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING COMPENSATION, SALARIES AND WAGES TO EMPLOYEES OF THE ASHTABULA CITY MUNICIPAL COURT AND PROBATION DIVISION. (Municipal Court Judge) Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Quaranta seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; 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: Mr. Speelman, Ms. Haines, Mrs. Foglio, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. Quaranta, Mr. McClure, Mr. Roskovics voted aye; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the ordinance: Mr. Speelman (nay), Ms. Haines (aye), Mrs. Foglio (nay), Mr. Pugliese (aye), Mr. Quaranta (nay), Mr. McClure (aye), Mr. Roskovics (aye); motion CARRIED by a 4 to 3 vote, and will take effect in 30 days due to the lack of 5 or more votes in the affirmative.

NEW BUSINESS

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

Ward 5 Councilor: The Kiwanis Club of Ashtabula will host the 2nd Annual Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King , Jr. High School Oratorical Contest, Saturday, January 19, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., at the Ashtabula County District Library. The cost is \$25.00 per person. There will be refreshments, a cash wine bar, desserts and entertainment.

Ward 4 Councilor: Today, the Star Beacon reported on the bad behavior of a few police department personnel who previously served in North Kingsville. A headline about a couple "bad apples" is not necessarily true for the whole profession. "Our department does a really good job".

PUBLIC DISCUSSION/COMMENTS (General Matters)

Mrs. Kathy Pallaise, Washington Avenue, announced she is moving to her home town of Macedonia this weekend. Starting tomorrow, Mr. Harry Baldwin, a Ward 2 resident, will replace her as the Commander of the city-wide Neighborhood Watch Program and will attend City Council meetings. She said it was an honor to know everyone and thanked City officials for their support.

Mrs. Pallaise was thanked for all she has done.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business to come before this Council, the President declared the meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Ashtabula City Council - Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 7, 2019

DATE APPROVED: January 22, 2019

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

ATTESTED BY: LaVette E. Hennigan
LaVette E. Hennigan, MMC
Clerk of Council