

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, September 16, 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.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

A moment of silence was observed for Mr. Tim Meola, a well-known and respected Ashtabula business owner for many years.

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)
	Mr. Michael Franklin	(City Solicitor)
	Ms. Traci R. Welch	(Director of Finance)
	Mrs. LaVette E. Hennigan, MMC	(Clerk of Council)
	Mrs. Stacy H. Senskey	(Clerk of Council)

(NOTE: Clerk Hennigan will remain on staff to provide instructions to Clerk Senskey on the duties and responsibilities of the Office of the Clerk of Council.)

OFFICER(S) ABSENT: None

EXCUSED ABSENCE(S): None

SUNSHINE LAW: Clerk of Council Hennigan 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: None

LEGISLATION AGENDA - None

- Formal Legislation Request(s)
- Form and Correctness
- Legislation Overview
- Public Discussion (on legislation only)
- Reading

REGULAR BUSINESS AGENDA

PRESENTATION OF MEETING MINUTES: Clerk of Council Hennigan presented the minutes of the September 3, 2019 Regular City Council meeting. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Quaranta 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 presented the following:

Building Technicians Change Order No. 1 – Walnut Beach Concession Stand Roof Project

A request for an ordinance to execute Change Order No. 1 for Building Technicians for the purpose of providing additional materials for the Walnut Beach Concession Stand Roof Project in the amount not to exceed \$8,338.95 for a total contract price of \$73,238.95. This funding will be taken from Park Improvements Fund 233. Mr. Quaranta moved, Mrs. Foglio seconded to approve this request; motion CARRIED.

Great Lakes GMC Buick - Public Works Trucks

A request for an ordinance to enter into an agreement with Great Lakes GMC Buick for the purchase of two (2) newer model one ton trucks to be utilized in the Public Works Department in the amount not to exceed \$37,380.80 and \$41,846.86 for a total price of \$79,227.66. This funding will be taken from Permanent Improvement Fund 412. The Manager reported loan proceeds will be used for this purchase. Mrs. Foglio moved, Mr. McClure seconded to approve this request; motion CARRIED.

Radioactive Electronics – Bridge Street Cameras

A request for an ordinance to enter into an agreement with Radioactive Electronics in the amount not to exceed \$13,274.00. Funding will be taken from the 290 Fund and split as follows: \$9,815.00 from the Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund, and \$3,459.00 contributed by the Lift Bridge Community Association. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Quaranta seconded to approve this request. As a member of the Ashtabula Downtown Development Association (ADDA) and a downtown business owner, the Ward 5 Councilor said she would like to look into utilizing the Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund for similar projects to help ADDA in their quest to improve Downtown Ashtabula. The motion CARRIED.

Brobst Tree and Stump Removal Service – Trees and Brush Removal – South Hillside

A request for an ordinance to enter into an agreement with Brobst Tree and Stump Removal Service to remove trees on Walnut Beach and clear brush on the south hillside, in the amount not to exceed \$24,750.00. The funding will be taken from Park Improvement Fund 233. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Foglio seconded to approve this request. Mr. Speelman asked the City Manager for a brief description of the project. The Manager reported the project's location to be the southern hillside between the parking lot and library going up towards Walnut Boulevard from the stairs located on the west side to the road on the east side. Underbrush and ground level growth will be mowed and chopped into the ground. There are approximately eighteen large, dead Ash trees and twenty-one smaller dead trees to be cut down and removed. The remainder of the trees will be trimmed in an "umbrella" style for a better view through the hillside. The City will maintain the hillside thereafter, but large scale clearing will periodically need to be performed by a professional company. The concrete steps should not be traversed because they need extensive repairs. The motion CARRIED.

Obsolete Equipment

A request for an ordinance to deem obsolete and dispose of the following equipment: A 2002 Pierce Contender Fire Truck with a VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) ending in 2214; one Dell Inspiron Laptop Computer, City fix asset tag No. 3187. Mr. Quaranta moved, Mrs. Foglio seconded to approve this request. The Clerk of Council asked the City Solicitor if an ordinance is needed for this request. He replied affirmatively and said he will prepare the appropriate legislation. The Ward 4 Councilor asked if the laptop gets sold or destroyed. The Manager said the hard-drive is removed and kept in accordance with the records retention schedule; the rest of laptop can be destroyed. The motion CARRIED.

Halloween Trick or Treat Announcement

Halloween Trick or Treat for the City of Ashtabula will be Saturday November 2, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Questions / Comments for City Manager

Street Repairs

The Ward Councilor 3 thanked the City Manager for patching West 58th Street, and reported Strong Avenue is also be in bad shape. The Council Vice President reported repairs have not yet been completed by the sprinkler company working on the Carpenter Road building that used to be the offices of Ashtabula Pediatrics. The City Manager reported they are waiting on Ashtabula County to inspect the system before they close it up. He said several other areas on Carpenter Road were patched last Friday or today.

CITY SOLICITOR

No Report

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

The Director formally requested the following legislation for consideration this evening:

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-110, AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL, SANITATION, AND WASTEWATER FUND FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, STATE OF OHIO, FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2019 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2019. Mr. McClure moved, Mr. Roskovics seconded to approve this request; motion CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-111, A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Foglio seconded to approve this request; motion CARRIED.

CLERK OF COUNCIL

Clerk of Council Hennigan reported the instruction process with newly appointed Clerk of Council Senskey is coming along smoothly; and that she will be ready by December when Clerk Hennigan retires. She reiterated how no one should have to fill anyone's shoes. She feels Clerk Senskey is quite capable of taking the respected position of Ashtabula City Clerk of Council to the next level by her knowledge of present day technology. Clerk Hennigan reported the City Manager has been very helpful by quickly getting the Office of the Clerk of Council through some computer set up glitches. She sincerely thanked him for his assistance.

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/Quaranta)

The Chair announced the committee met Tuesday, September 10, at 4:00 p.m. Their guest was Ms. Meeghan Humphrey, Executive Director of the Ashtabula Arts Center. The topic of discussion was how the arts can transform communities. Ms. Humphrey reported high percentages of people believe the art industry is good for the economy and jobs, art should be taught in grades Kindergarten through 12, and the arts unify us regardless of age, race and ethnicity. She reported property values go up near where art is installed, public art projects create ownership of public spaces, and emphasized using arts in the Ashtabula Downtown District. Ms. Humphrey presented the following five principals of how the arts can help struggling communities:

1. Promote interactions in public space (provide public areas to encourage socializing)
2. Increase civic participation through celebrations (create community connections)
3. Engage youth in the community (including youth brings more adults)
4. Promote power and preservation of place (getting people involved creates "ownership")
5. Broaden participation in civic agendas (by encouraging diverse citizens to volunteer)

The Chair said she would like to see more collaboration of Ashtabula City government with the Downtown District. The Chair asked Clerk Hennigan to invite Mary Church, Assistant Director of the City's Planning & Development Department, to her committee's November 12, meeting to discuss ways to utilize these ideas.

Questions / Comments for CD/ED/P&R Committee

The Ward 4 Councilor said encouraging art downtown can be difficult. He cited the permission process to paint murals as an example. The City Manager responded by reporting that current legislation prohibits murals without first obtaining a special use permit or conditional use permit. He said the murals on the Smith Field dugout and on Main Avenue were permitted because a conditional or special use permit was granted. He said there are pros and cons to allowing murals without an approval process.

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

The Chair announced the committee will meet Friday, September 20, at 8:00 a.m.

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

The Chair announced the committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Friday, September 4 at 8:00 a.m.

SAFETY FORCES - (SF) (Speelman/Foglio)

The Chair announced the committee will meet Monday, September 23, at 8:00 a.m.

LEGISLATION AGENDA

- Formal Legislation Request(s): None
- Form and Correctness: Satisfied
- Overview: Clerk Hennigan provided a brief overview of the legislation to be considered.
- Public Discussion (Legislation Only): Mr. Pugliese asked to abstain from voting on Resolution No. 2019-112. Mr. McClure moved, Mrs. Foglio seconded to approve Mr. Pugliese's abstention request; motion CARRIED.

Consent Agenda Format

Ms. Haines moved, Mrs. Foglio seconded to dispose of the Regular Business Legislation by consent agenda. Mr. Speelman objected. The President asked Clerk Hennigan to present the legislation individually.

Reading

Clerk of Council Hennigan presented the following legislation for Council's consideration:

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-110, AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL, SANITATION, AND WASTEWATER FUND FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, STATE OF OHIO, FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2019 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2019 (Finance Director), was presented. Ms. Haines moved, Mr. McClure seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance, motion CARRIED. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Foglio 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.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-111, A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR (Finance Director), was presented. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Foglio seconded to waive the reading, motion CARRIED. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Foglio 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 resolution: Ms. Haines, Mrs. Foglio, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. Quaranta, Mr. Speelman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Roskovics voted aye; motion CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-112, A RESOLUTION DEDICATING AND NAMING THE SECOND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM IN THE ASHTABULA MUNICIPAL BUILDING AS THE "AUGUST A. PUGLIESE CONFERENCE ROOM" (City Council), was presented. Mr. Quaranta moved, Mr. McClure

seconded to waive the reading of the resolution; motion CARRIED. Mr. Roskovics moved, Mr. McClure seconded to waive the Charter requirement of two readings. Mr. Speelman announced he is opposed to this resolution because he does not believe it is in keeping with the "Honors" Policy City Council approved on June 18, 2018. On the roll call to waive the Charter requirement of two readings: Ms. Haines, Mrs. Foglio, Mr. Quaranta, Mr. Speelman, Mr. McClure, Mr. Roskovics voted aye; motion CARRIED. On the roll call to adopt the resolution: Ms. Haines (aye), Mrs. Foglio (aye), Mr. Quaranta (aye), Mr. Speelman (nay), Mr. McClure (aye), Mr. Roskovics (aye). The motion CARRIED by a 5 to 1 vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Tell Us Something We Don't Know

Vice President

- The company he is employed with is in Indiana. He is in the fiberglass industry; an important industry to the City of Ashtabula. Tomorrow, six members of his team from Indiana are visiting their top three suppliers in Ashtabula: ChromoFlo Technologies LLC, Zehrco-Ginacola Composites, Inc. and Molded Fiberglass (MFG). He would like their overnight accommodations to be inside the City, but current overnight accommodations are lacking; therefore they have reservations outside the City. Two weeks ago he attended an automotive show. The marquis of the show was the 2020 mid-engine Corvette. General Motors had a display that showed all the components of the automobile. His guess is that over twenty components on that Corvette were manufactured by MFG, a key partner in the fiberglass industry. He wanted to bring knowledge of the inner workings of these three companies to the public because of the amount of jobs and revenue they are bringing to our area, and to show the positive impact they have on our City and surrounding areas. The City Manager added that MFG performed a large expansion at their Ashtabula facility to accommodate the new GM equipment (worth about \$10 million) for the new Corvette, and are looking for 100 or more new employees. ChromoFlo and Zehrco are also hiring. He said these companies, and many others, are seeking to hire competent and reliable labor staff. He said the growth potential is substantial, which lead to a discussion about skilled jobs and how to generate manpower right out of high school.

Ward 5 Councilor

- Art in the Alley Recap – There were over 65 business and individual sponsors who gave substantial amounts of money for this Downtown event. Over 1000 people attended, participated in hands-on activities and collaborated with different groups. Selfie Wings were painted on a West 46th Street wall. They are still visible if someone wants to take a picture. A huge thank you to everyone who made the event possible. Art in the Alley 2020 is planned for Saturday, September 12.
- Ashtabula Arts Center production of Steel Magnolias runs September 20 through 29.
- Kids for Positive Change Walnut Beach cleanup will be September 21, 9a until Noon.

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- My Neighborhood Collaborative's Chili Cook-Off will take place Sunday, October 27, at St. Peter's Episcopal Church on Main Avenue.

Ward 4 Councilor

- Due to the recent rains, the Councilor urged residents who think they have a claim because their basement flooded, to contact the City Manager's Office.
- Bicyclists are allowed 3 feet leeway. Motorists, please give leeway to cyclists. The Ward 3 Councilor commented that the City of Kirtland, Ohio has bike routes that are striped along the side of the road and asked if that is an option for West Avenue. The City Manager said there will be striping for a designated bike lane on West Avenue and removable barriers placed on the road. The unveiling of the entire Greenway Bike Trail will take place soon. The Manager said a bicycle has the same amount of rights as a passenger car; and that the public will be educated.
- Feed the Hope, organized by Country Neighbor and championed by Ohio Representative John Patterson, had about 600 volunteers package over 200,000 meals in a little over two hours last Friday, in the former Dillard's store, located at Ashtabula Towne Square. The meals were sent to Ashtabula County homeless shelters and food banks. The Councilor would like to organize a team for next year.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION/COMMENTS (General Matters) - None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business to come before this Council, the President declared the meeting adjourned.

DATE APPROVED:

October 7, 2019

ATTESTED BY:

John S. Roskovics
John S. Roskovics
President of Council

ATTESTED BY:

Stacy H. Sepskey
Stacy H. Sepskey
Clerk of Council

ATTESTED BY:

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