

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, February 3rd, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

The President of Council called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., the Ward 4 Councilor offered the opening prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

MEMBER(S) ABSENT: Ms. Jane E. Haines (Ward 5 Councilor)

OFFICER(S) PRESENT: Mr. James M. Timonere (City Manager)
Ms. Traci R. Welch (Director of Finance)
Mr. Michael Franklin (City Solicitor)
Mrs. Stacy H. Senskey (Clerk of Council)

OFFICER(S) ABSENT: None

EXCUSED ABSENCE(S): Mr. Speelman moved; Mrs. Foglio seconded to excuse the Ward 5 Councilor from this meeting; motion CARRIED.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda is a means whereby Council can 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:

The Clerk of Council presented the minutes from the following meetings:

- January 21, 2020 Regular Meeting

Mr. Roskovics moved; Mr. Speelman 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

Formal Requests

Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) Grant Agreement

The City Manager requested an ordinance to enter into an agreement with NOPEC with a mailing address of 31360 Solon Road, Suite 33, Solon, OH 44139 for the purpose of accepting the 2020 NOPEC Energized Community (NEC) grant in the amount of \$43,174.00. Mrs. Foglio moved; Mr. Speelman seconded to approve this request; motion CARRIED.

Water Pollution Control Plant Pump Room Exhaust Fans

The City Manager requested an ordinance to enter into an agreement with Have with a mailing address of P.O. Box 912 Ashtabula, OH 44004 as the most responsible bid for the purchase, removal of two existing exhaust fans, and installation of two exhaust fans in the pump room at the Water Pollution Control Plant in the amount not to exceed \$11,595.00. Funds for this expense will be taken from fund 504. Mr. Crawford moved; Mrs. Foglio seconded to approve this request; motion CARRIED.

Radioactive Electronics Change Order #1– Bridge Street Cameras

The City Manager requested an ordinance to execute Change Order #1 with Radioactive Electronics with a mailing address of 15624 W. High St., Middlefield, OH 44062 in the amount not to exceed \$585.00. Funding will be taken from the 290 fund: Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund. Mr. Speelman moved; Mrs. Foglio seconded to approve this request; motion CARRIED.

These items were added to the Regular Business, Legislation Agenda for the February 3, 2020 Regular Meeting.

CITY SOLICITOR – None

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Formal Requests

Repeal Payroll Ordinance

The Director of Finance requested an ordinance to repeal Payroll Ordinance No. 2019-139 for the purpose of establishing the 2020 salary and wages for the Ashtabula Municipal Court and the Probation Department in accordance with the amended Municipal Court Salary and Wages Journal Entry No. 28-17. Mr. Roskovics moved; Mr. Speelman seconded to approve this request; motion CARRIED.

Replace Payroll Ordinance

The Director of Finance requested an ordinance authorizing compensation, salaries and wages to employees of the Ashtabula City Municipal Court and Probation Divisions. Mr. Speelman moved; Mr. Roskovics seconded to approve this request; motion CARRIED.

Repeal Payroll Ordinance

The Director of Finance requested an ordinance repealing, in its entirety, Payroll Ordinance No. 2019-130, enacted on December 16, 2019, for the purpose of correcting errors in pay rates within current Ashtabula Local 1197 and the Ashtabula Police Lodge 26 Collective Bargaining Agreements. Mrs. Foglio moved; Mr. Speelman seconded to approve this request; motion CARRIED.

Replace Payroll Ordinance

The Director of Finance requested an ordinance authorizing compensation, salaries and wages to employees of the City of Ashtabula and the Ashtabula City Health District. Mrs. Foglio moved; Ms. Harris seconded to approve this request; motion CARRIED.

Supplemental Appropriation Ordinance

The Director of Finance requested an ordinance to make supplemental and/or reductions to appropriations in the General, Police Levy, Food Service, Public Works, AMC Security, Probation, Law Enforcement Trust, Sanitation, Housing Code Enforcement and Wastewater Capital Funds for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Ashtabula, State of Ohio, for the period January 1 through December 31, 2020. Mr. Speelman moved; Mr. Crawford seconded to approve this request; motion CARRIED.

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These items were added to the Regular Business, Legislation Agenda for the February 3, 2020 Regular Meeting.

The Director of Finance reported the City's 2019 General Fund closing balance is over \$867,000.00. Increased income tax revenue and reallocating police salaries and wages. Because of the increased gas tax revenue, Public Works was not supplemented by the General Fund. In 2019, the General Fund did supplement the following funds in order to eliminate fund deficits:

- 192 Parking Deck - \$939
- 201 Police Levy - \$146,000
- 202 Street Lighting Assessment - \$112,885
- 204 Food Service - \$12,842
- 214 AMC Probation - \$1,400
- 231 Fire Pension - \$104,639
- 232 Police Pension - \$136,000

The Park Levy Fund carryover is \$192,600 unencumbered. The fund carried over \$24,750 reserved for improvements, specifically the Walnut Beach tree and shrub removal project.

Funds 225 Sanitation, 503 Wastewater (WPC), and 504 WPC Capital Improvement are funded through user fees. These funds have healthy year-end balances because of the additional revenue collected from 2018 utility billing.

The Vice-President asked about the significance of carryover balance. The Director of Finance explained it is best to have more carryover available for the first few months of the year, before property taxes are collected. She recalled the 2018 unencumbered carryover balance was \$647,000.00.

CLERK OF COUNCIL – None

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS and COMMUNICATIONS

Council committees meet in the August A. Pugliese Conference Room – M.B. 2nd Floor

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

Members: Chair/Council Liaison to Parks and Recreation Board Haines; Vice Chair Harris; Roskovics
Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday @ 4p

- The next meeting is Tuesday, February 11th, 2020 at 4p. The Parks & Recreation Board is the featured guest.

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FINANCE & PERSONNEL - (F&P)

Members: Chair Foglio; Vice Chair Roskovics

Meetings are held the 2nd Friday @ 8a

- The next meeting is Friday, February 14, 2020 at 8a.

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

Members: Chair Crawford; Vice Chair Harris; Roskovics

Meetings are held the 3rd Monday @ 5p

- Report from Monday, January 27th, 2020 Meeting –
The main topic of the meeting was paving projects for 2020, the first year of the paving levy. The City Manager presented a preliminary list of roads that need the most attention. Bid Packets will be sent out by the end of February. The Committee Chair explained residents should understand the process of evaluating the roads. The third-party company assigns a grade reflecting the conditions of each road and their scores determine the project schedule. City road crews are patching and filling potholes as the weather permits. The waste treatment plant is finishing projects funded by the 8-mill loan. The Committee Chair and Vice-Chair are creating introduction letters to send to the City schools since they are new to Council and the PUBLIC WORKS/PUBLIC UTILITIES/CABLE/SCHOOLS Committee.
- Next meeting is Monday, February 24, 2020 at 5p

SAFETY FORCES - (SF)

Members: Chair Speelman; Vice Chair Foglio; Haines

Meetings are held the 3rd Monday @ 8a

- The January meeting was canceled due to lack of attendance. The Committee Chair is seeking recommendations from the Police Chief and City Manager about the parking issue on Riverside Drive. The Fire Chief is working on a solution for an ambulance purchase and he supplied Council with the Fire Department's 2019 Annual Report. The report should be available on the City website soon.
- The next meeting is Monday, January 24th at 8a.

Communications –

Council Members were asked to supply the Clerk of Council with dates in March or April for a Work Session.

LEGISLATION AGENDA

- Formal Legislation Request(s): No additional requests were made at this time.
- Form and Correctness
- Legislation Overview

The Council President provided an overview of the Legislation Agenda, consisting of Ordinance Nos. 2020-06, 2020-07, 2020-08, 2020-09, 2020-10, 2020-11, 2020-12, 2020-13, 2020-14, 2020-15 and the Addendum Agenda Ordinance No. 2020-16

- Public Discussion (on legislation only) – None

CONSENT AGENDA FORMAT –

Mrs. Foglio moved; Mr. Speelman seconded to dispose of Regular Business Legislation by Consent Agenda Format; motion CARRIED.

• **LEGISLATION READING**

The Clerk of Council presented the following legislation:

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-06 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO DISPOSE OF OBSOLETE AND UNNEEDED VEHICLES AND/OR EQUIPMENT (City Manager)

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-07 AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE CURRENT REPLACEMENT PAGES TO THE ASHTABULA CODIFIED ORDINANCES (Clerk of Council/City Council)

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-08 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO UTILIZE AN EXISTING AGREEMENT WITH US BANK FOR A \$300,000.00 LOAN, TO ACQUIRE COPIER EQUIPMENT FOR THE FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS OF THE CITY.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-09 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO DISPOSE OF OBSOLETE AND UNNEEDED EQUIPMENT (City Manager)

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-10 AN ORDINANCE REPEALING, IN ITS ENTIRETY, ORDINANCE NO. 2020-03 FOR THE REASON THAT THE LEASE OF COPIERS AUTHORIZED THEREIN IS NO LONGER NECESSARY DUE TO THE PASSAGE OF OTHER LEGISLATION (Finance Director)

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-11 AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL, IN ITS ENTIRETY, PAYROLL ORDINANCE NO. 2019-139, ENACTED ON DECEMBER 16, 2019, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING THE 2020 SALARY AND WAGES FOR THE ASHTABULA MUNICIPAL COURT AND THE PROBATION DEPARTMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMENDED MUNICIPAL COURT SALARY AND WAGES JOURNAL ENTRY NO. 28-17 (Finance Director)

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-12 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING COMPENSATION, SALARIES AND WAGES TO EMPLOYEES OF THE ASHTABULA CITY MUNICIPAL COURT AND PROBATION DIVISIONS (Finance Director)

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-13 AN ORDINANCE REPEALING, IN ITS ENTIRETY, PAYROLL ORDINANCE NO. 2019-130, ENACTED ON DECEMBER 16, 2019, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CORRECTING ERRORS IN PAY RATES WITHIN CURRENT ASHTABULA LOCAL 1197 AND THE ASHTABULA POLICE LODGE 26 COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS (Finance Director)

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-14 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING COMPENSATION, SALARIES AND WAGES TO EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA AND THE ASHTABULA CITY HEALTH DISTRICT (Finance Director)

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-15 AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL AND/OR REDUCTIONS TO APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL, POLICE LEVY, FOOD SERVICE, PUBLIC WORKS, AMC SECURITY, PROBATION, LAW ENFORCEMENT TRUST, SANITATION, HOUSING CODE

ENFORCEMENT AND WASTEWATER CAPITAL FUNDS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, STATE OF OHIO, FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020 (Finance Director)

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-16 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH TOSHIBA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS FOR COPIER EQUIPMENT THROUGH THE STATE OF OHIO PURCHASING PROGRAM (City Manager)

DISCUSSION: Council President explained Ordinance 2020-08 does not request an additional \$300,000.00 USBank loan but asks to use the available balance of the existing loan for the purchase of the Toshiba copiers.

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

NEW BUSINESS

- *Liquor Permit Request – New Permit*
 - To: Hil Mak2 LLC dba Hil Mak Seafood, 449 Lake Ave 1st Floor, Ashtabula, OH 44004
 - Permit Class:
D3 Spirituous liquor for on premises consumption only, until 1:00 a.m.

ACTION: Neither the Ward 2 Councilor nor anyone else requested a hearing.

Tell Us Something We Don't Know

Ward 2 Councilor

- Ashtabula Little Leagues 2020 baseball season is starting up soon. They are starting a Girls Softball Coach Pitch League for ages five to seven and a Challenger League. Little League offered the adaptive baseball program in 1989 for individuals with physical or intellectual challenges. Ashtabula Little League will convert a field to allow access for all individuals. Families can sign up now online at www.ashtabulalittleleague.com. Tryouts are Saturday, March 7th at Saint John School.

Ward 4 Councilor

- Lakeside students grades five through twelve can attend Trailblazers Recognition and Luncheon Event from 10a – noon at Lakeside High School on February 26th for Black History Month. Different persons in the community will be recognized. Ms. Harris is pleased to announce she will receive the Citizenship and Government award at the event.

President

- Hil Mak Seafood Restaurant is reopening this upcoming weekend after interior renovations. We wish them good fortune and continue to be a fixture of the Bridge Street district.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION/COMMENTS (General Matters)

Dr. Irene Fiala spoke on behalf of the Community Cat Coalition (CCC) of Ashtabula County. She invited everyone to attend a tour, presentation and luncheon at TNR of Warren (<https://www.tnrofwarren.org/>). The plan is to leave Ashtabula from the Keybank parking lot at 9a and return by 3p. The City of Warren has a similar situation as Ashtabula, and they have a successful trap/neuter/return program. TNR of Warren is holding 40 spots open for CCC March 8 for their low-cost clinic. CCC negotiated and was able to reduce the cost to \$25 for each cat brought in a trap, \$35 for a cat in a carrier. Hassett Roofing donated \$400 to CCC to defray the cost of this clinic or to purchase more humane traps, but the group needs an additional \$400 to \$600 to support the March 8 clinic. Ms. Fiala asked the Councilors to report any areas of cat colonies in the City. Hot spots reported are: East 45th Street between State Street and Valleyview Boulevard, Woodman Avenue between Prospect Road and South Ridge Road, and Station Avenue. The Animal Control Officer recognized several locations including: Mobile Acres Trailer Park, West 34th Street, Woodman Trailer Park and Thayer Avenue, among others. Members of CCC will trap the cats, transport to the clinic, then release them back to their community. They will be ear-tipped, a visible method regularly used to identify altered cats. CCC members are submitting a grant application for \$5000 to the Walmart Local Community Grant Program and are asking Council to write a letter in support of CCC and Animal Welfare Center (AWC) of Ashtabula County. Additionally, CCC requested Council to offer ideas and/or financial assistance for the March 8 TNR clinic and assist with long-range funding plans. The groups next meeting is Monday, February 17th, 6p at Lakeway Restaurant. Many come at 5p to enjoy a good meal and discussion. The Council President commended the group's efforts in coming up with solutions to a community problem by putting "democracy to action". The Clerk of Council applauded the hard work and dedication the Animal Control Officer has exhibited in the City and surrounding areas.

Beth Dougherty is the Chairperson of the Property and Finance Committee at Trinity Presbyterian Church, located 1342 West Prospect Road. The church owns a side lot that is used for a community garden. Water is available and being used to care for the garden, but they are also billed \$12.50 each month for City Sewer. She is asking the Sewer portion of the bill to be waived. The Director of Finance invited Mrs. Dougherty to come to the Finance Department to review the account. Ward 1 Councilor realized this issue was discussed in a past Finance and Personnel Committee Meeting.

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ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business to come before this Council, the President declared the meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

DATE APPROVED: February 18, 2020

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

ATTESTED BY: Stacy H. Senskey
Stacy H. Senskey, Clerk of Council

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