

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, March 18, 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.

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 following meeting minutes for Council approval:

- February 9, 2019 Emergency City Council Meeting
- February 19, 2019 Regular City Council Meeting
- March 4, 2019 Regular City Council Meeting

Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Quaranta seconded to waive the reading of the minutes; motion CARRIED.

The Clerk of Council reported the starting time of the February 9, Emergency Meeting was 7:30 a.m. Hearing no further corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

LEGISLATION AGENDA

- **Formal Legislation Request(s)**

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-35, A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE AUXILIARY TO THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS (VFW) POST 943 ON THEIR 85TH ANNIVERSARY. (Vicki Krug / City Council) Mr. Roskovics moved, Mr. Quaranta to approve the formal legislation request. The Clerk announced the actual celebration date has not been set. Everyone will be invited to the event, however, a member of Council should be appointed to make the actual resolution presentation at that time. The Ward 5 Councilor, a two tour veteran accepted. The motion CARRIED.

- Form and Correctness: None
- Legislation Overview: None
- Public Discussion (on legislation only): None

- **Legislation Reading**

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-32, AN ORDINANCE REPEALING, IN ITS ENTIRETY, SECTION 193.03 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, OHIO, ENTITLED APPLICATION; TERMS OF AGREEMENT. (City Manager)

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-33, AN ORDINANCE ENACTING NEW SECTION 193.03 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, OHIO, ENTITLED APPLICATION; TERMS OF AGREEMENT. (City Manager)

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-34, AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE WAIVING, FOR THE BALANCE OF 2019, LATE FEES ON SEWER AND RUBBISH SERVICE BILLINGS AND CERTIFICATION OF DELINQUENT SEWER AND RUBBISH SERVICE ACCOUNTS; AND AUTHORIZING PERIODIC PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS WITH CUSTOMERS AFFECTED BY LATE SEWER AND RUBBISH SERVICE BILLINGS. (Finance Director)

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-35, A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE AUXILIARY TO THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS (VFW) POST 943 ON THEIR 85TH ANNIVERSARY. (Vicki Krug / City Council)

Mr. Pugliese moved, Mrs. Foglio seconded to waive the reading of the legislation; 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 legislation: Mr. Speelman, Ms. Haines, Mrs. Foglio, Mr. Pugliese, Mr Quaranta, Mr. McClure, Mr. Roskovics voted aye; motion CARRIED.

REGULAR BUSINESS AGENDA

PRESENTATION OF MEETING MINUTES: None

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS and COMMUNICATIONS

CITY MANAGER

The City Manager presented the following requests and announcements:

Legislation Request

Community Reinvestment Area Tax Incentive

An ordinance to authorize the continuation of seven (7) Community Reinvestment Area Tax Incentive Agreements in accordance with the recommendations of the Tax Incentive Review Council. Mr. Quaranta moved, Ms. Haines seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

Abstain

Mr. Pugliese moved to abstain from voting on agreement No. 6 of the above legislation, the actual number for which is 2019-36, scheduled to be read this evening. Mr. Roskovics moved, Mr. Quaranta seconded to approve the Ward 2 Councilor's request to abstain; motion CARRIED.

Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) Residential Tax Exemption Application

An ordinance to authorize a CRA for residential property located 1818 Harbor Avenue in accordance with the CRA Application for Exemption from Taxation. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Roskovics seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

Nerone & Sons, Inc. Change Order (CO) #3 Contract C

An ordinance to execute Change Order No. 3 with Nerone & Sons, Inc. for a decrease of \$60,225.30 for the Water Pollution Control UV Light Disinfection Improvements Project, Contract C. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Quaranta seconded to approve the request; motion CARRIED.

Questions/Comments for City Manager

Garbage, Recycling and Non-Traditional Trash Pickup

At the Ward 2 Councilor's request, the City Manager provided a brief outline of the policy. All garbage is to be placed in the black container and recycling in the blue/yellow container. The City and residents are working through it. There is coming a time when any garbage placed outside the container will not be removed. Residences where bags are not removed week after week because of excessiveness will be asked to purchase an additional can at a \$10 per month charge. In the wards where curbside recycling has not been enacted, residents are permitted to place at curbside (2) – 32 gallon cans OR six bags. The City is making an attempt to reach the tenant to let them know why their garbage is not being picked up. To have non-traditional garbage items picked up residents should call Sanitation at 993-8101. The Manager asked that items not be placed on the treelawn until someone is able to visit the property, make a cost assessment and give a pickup date. It will cost less if plans are made for the City to pick it up. Payment is required at time of pick up and a receipt will be provided.

Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 18, 2019

It will cost a minimum of \$75 if plans are not made. Non-traditional items delivered to the Transfer Station will be charged according to weight. Effective October 8, 2018, Pounds Fee/Rate:

1 – 50	=	\$ 4.00
51 – 100	=	\$ 8.00
101 – 150	=	\$12.00
151 – 200	=	\$16.00
201 – 300	=	\$24.00
301 – 400	=	\$32.00
401 – 500	=	\$40.00
501 - 600	=	\$48.00
601 - 700	=	\$56.00
701 – 800	=	\$64.00
801 – 900	=	\$72.00
901 – 1000	=	\$80.00
Over 1000	=	\$ 0.08 (eight cents) per pound

He apologized for the Transfer Station periodically being closed. He said a note is usually posted letting customers know when the Station is scheduled back open.

Executive Session: None

CITY SOLICITOR

No Report

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

The Director reported the Finance Department continues to diligently work on the matter of unissued sewer and trash bills. She thanked Council for enacting Ordinance No. 2019-34, this evening, permitting the suspension of late fees and forego the property tax assessment on any unpaid bills for the remainder of 2019. This will provide customers time to pay the large bill that will be issued; some of which will be two to three times the normal amount. She issued assurance that the Finance Department will work with everyone and invited calls to the department for personal attention. The President said communication is going to be important. The Finance Director reported a notice will accompany bills, the City's website will have information, it has been in the newspaper and efforts will continue to communicate what is happening.

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, March 12, meeting highlights, as follows:

- The City has 35 to 40 acres of Opportunity Zones on the east side of the river
- The City of Ashtabula was voted No. 41 in the nation as a Micropolitan community
- Talked about creating an infomercial for the selling of Ashtabula City real estate, which is a "reasonable buy"
- Walnut Beach Lifeguard coverage is expanding – Hours 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and:
 - Memorial Day through Monday, June 15 (weekends only), and
 - Weekends only will resume August 24 through Labor Day
- Hot Dog It will return as the Walnut Beach concessionaire, and
- Upgrades to the concession stand are still being discussed.

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

At the request of the Ward 3 Councilor, the City Manager explained the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) designates a certain amount of areas as Opportunity Zones (OZ). We have one of the two areas in all of Ashtabula County labeled as an OZ. Our OZ goes from the east side of the river, almost down to east 21st Street, and then over to the western side of Route 11, but does not include the Route 11 Industrial Park.

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

The Chair announced the committee will meet Friday, April 12, at 8:00 a.m.

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

The Chair announced the committee will meet Friday, April 5. He asked members of Council to submit their road paving/repair wish list to the Clerk of Council. The Manager asked that the top three roads be submitted. He said he is meeting with Aqua Ohio tomorrow to discuss West Avenue paving and their part in the project.

The Chair reported the road where Walnut Boulevard at Lake Avenue intersects needs to be patched.

SAFETY FORCES - (SF) (Speelman/Harley)

The Chair announced the committee will meet Monday, March 25 @ 8:00 a.m.

WORK SESSION

None

LEGISLATION AGENDA

- Formal Legislation Request(s): None
- Form and Correctness: None
- Overview: None
- Public Discussion (Legislation Only): None
- Consent Agenda Format: Not Applicable

- Reading: The Clerk of Council presented the following legislation for Council's consideration:

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-36, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CONTINUATION OF SEVEN (7) COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA TAX INCENTIVE AGREEMENTS UPON CONDITIONS AS INDICATED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL (agreement numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7 only) (City Manager). Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Quaranta 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. 2019-36, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CONTINUATION OF SEVEN (7) COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA TAX INCENTIVE AGREEMENTS UPON CONDITIONS AS INDICATED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL (agreement number 6 only) (City Manager). Mr. Roskovics moved, Mr. Quaranta seconded to waive the reading of the ordinance; motion CARRIED. Mr. Roskovics moved, Mr. McClure 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 (abstained), 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 (abstained), Mr. Quaranta, Mr. McClure, Mr. Roskovics voted aye; motion CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

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

Ward 5 Councilor

- Women, Wealth & Wine, a financial literacy informational meeting will take place at Park Avenue Winery, Thursday, March 28 from 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., at no cost. The purpose of the meeting is for women to learn more about protecting, growing and maintaining their money.

Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 18, 2019

- The two pieces of large art displayed in the front foyer of the Municipal Building are for sale. The artist Deb Hill may be reached at (440) 361-1095 or deborah.m.hill53@gmail.com. Persons may also contact the Clerk of Council.

President

- Kids for Positive Change are raising \$5,000 to travel by bus to Chicago on March 22, to meet Dr. Jane Goodall. Donations may be made online. She said Ms. Camille Licata, Founder of Kids for Positive Change, said even though they have not raised the full amount, she believes in the community; therefore scheduled the trip because she really wanted the students to go.
- Kids for Positive Change were invited to attend the Geneva City Council meeting, where a no plastic straw policy may also be adopted.

City Manager

- Last week at the Great Ohio Summit, the Greater Ohio Policy Center (GOPC) presented him with the Non Profit Luminary Award on behalf of the Lift Bridge Community Association. The award recognizes an entity or individual operating in the non-profit sector who has employed innovative thinking in identifying and addressing local needs of the community. This is an award that was not applied for nor was voting required. The GOPC staff and other influential persons who have a relationship with the GOPC, made the recommendation. After the award presentation he was congratulated by many who said they have been in the City of Ashtabula for a festival, or to visit Bridge Street, or just in our community and had a “wonderful time”. He said this is a testament to folks doing what they can to promote tourism. On behalf of Council, the President congratulated Bridge Street.

President

- It was good to see the property for the new hotel being cleared over the weekend.

Ward 4 Councilor

- The enactment of a City Council Ethics Policy is going to be discussed at the Friday, April 12, Finance & Personnel Committee meeting. Establishing a policy has been attempted for over one year. The focus of the policy will be illegal drug use and members of City Council testing positive for illegal drug use. It is a public meeting; at which the public is able to voice their concern.
- Tuesday and Thursday of last week, about 50 Youth Leadership students, under the direction of Ms. Kelli Jones and Ms. Stacy Stevenson, visited our Municipal Building as part of their Government Day. He and the Clerk spoke with the group. They then visited the City of Conneaut to speak with City Manager Jim Hockaday, the County Commissioners Office and the County Court operations. He encouraged them to consider running for elected office some day.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION/COMMENTS (General Matters): None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Convene: The President announced an Executive Session has been requested for this evening to discuss Threatened or Pending and Personnel-Employment. Mr. Pugliese moved, Mr. Quaranta seconded to convene the Executive Session for the two stated purposes. On the roll call to convene the Executive session. On a point of order, the Solicitor suggested the language mirror that of the ORC, which is Pending or Imminent Court Action. The President restated the motion, said no decision would result from the session and that the public portion of the meeting would adjourn off camera. The Vice-President announced the two sessions will be concurrent, but that some attending the first session would not be in the last session.

(For the record, the Clerk of Council notes that all members of City Council and all Officers present at the regular meeting were in the Pending or Imminent Court Action session; and only members of Council were in the Personnel-Employment session.)

On the roll call to convene the sessions: Mr. Speelman, Ms. Haines, Mrs. Foglio, Mr. Pugliese, Mr. Quaranta, Mr. McClure, Mr. Roskovics voted aye; motion CARRIED.

Reconvene Public Meeting: The President announced the public portion of the meeting reconvened at 8:34 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business to come before this Council, the President declared the meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

DATE APPROVED: April 1, 2019

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

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