



City of Ashtabula

Ashtabula City Council

Public Works / Public Utilities / Cable / Schools Committee Meeting

Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 8:30 AM

4717 Main Avenue, Ashtabula, OH 44004

Minutes

Opening of Committee Meeting

Call to Order

The meeting of the Ashtabula City Council Public Works/ Public Utilities/ Cable/ Schools Committee was called to order at 8:32 a.m. by Committee Chair Mills.

Roll Call

Members Present: **Chair:** Chairperson Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills, Vice Chair, Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero, Member, Council President John Roskovics

Absent: None

Officers Present: City Manager James Timonere, Clerk of Council Ashley Bell

Visitors: Superintendent Craig Pierce Water Pollution Control, Assistant Superintendent Mark Verzella Water Pollution Control, Public Works Superintendent John Melnik

Sunshine Law Certification

A quorum was established as defined by the Ashtabula City Council Rules of Order. The meeting met the requirements of the Ohio Sunshine Laws Open Meetings Act.

Welcome and Acknowledgement of Visitors

Ashtabula Area City Schools Superintendent Lisa Newsome was unable to attend the meeting.

Superintendent Lisa Newsome, Ashtabula Area City Schools

Absent

City Manager's Report

City Manager James Timonere stated at this time the City workers are patching roads. He said the asphalt plants would be opening in Mid-April which is beneficial because hot mix can be used for some of the roads. Mr. Timonere stated that we should receive the information needed from GPD by the end of March to put the street list out to bid. The restrooms at Walnut Beach will be open for the Solar Eclipse on April 8, 2024. The beach cleaner has been used once on the beach this year. The city workers are cleaning up various parks in the city for spring activities. The drainage project for Smith Field worked out well. The St. John's baseball team was able to utilize the field. Mr. Timonere stated the drainage that was put in previously did not work well. The improvement to Smith Field was a part of the allocation grant the city received. The remainder of the grant will be used to move the first baseline fencing, so that a football field can be added in the outfield. The grant will also be used to pave some of the track, add a basketball court, as well as add a tennis court.

Water Pollution Control Report

Superintendent Craig Pierce Water Pollution Control provided the Water Pollution Control Update. He stated their department is preparing for disinfecting season. This season is from May 1st-November 1st. He stated

their Ultra Violet System has 96 bulbs and every year they must clean the crystals the bulbs go into. Assistant Superintendent Mark Verzella of Water Pollution Control invited the staff to their facility for a tour. Mr. Pierce stated their department is waiting on parts for their grip blowers. Mr. Verzella stated their department has notified community members that live near the Tivision Pump Station that they can not flush any type of wipes. He also explained that less than a dozen houses use the Tivision pump station.

Mr. Pierce stated when the water gets too high in the sanitary sewer it spills over to the storm sewer and this information is reported to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). There is an SSO Ultrasonic level sensor that alerts the department when this occurs.

Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero asked what causes the overflow of water. Mr. Pierce responded and said wet weather and rain.

Mr. Verzella stated that recently a pump stopped working properly, and the repairs were close to 15 thousand dollars. He also stated the department's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit expired in 2023.

Water Pollution Control Update

Public Works Report

Public Works Superintendent John Melnik came in after roll call.

Superintendent Melnik provided the Public Works report. He stated their department was back on the day shift. Starting in Mid-April their department will have several department employees to clean the city parks. Mr. Melnik stated his department will patch roads, complete sign work, and paint crosswalks. They will also begin mowing city lots and parks. Leaf bag pick up starts April 15th. The department will continue to repair utility holes. Mr. Melnik also encourages people to report potholes, litter and things of that nature that their department is not aware of. Their department and a hired company will cut trees around the city. The department saves the city money by removing tree stumps themselves.

Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills stated some of the streets do not have street signs. City Manager James Timonere stated that typically street signs are on main streets and secondary streets.

New Business

Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills stated she will inform the sanitation department about the routes for City Clean up on April 20th, 2024.

Assistant Superintendent Mark Verzella stated that their department has a hazardous waste department and for anyone who needs to dispose of mercury. They do not want anyone pouring mercury into their drains.

Next Meeting

April 23, 2024, at 8:30 am

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m. by Committee Chair Jodi Mills.