



City of Ashtabula
Ashtabula City Council
Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting
Thursday, April 4, 2024 at 4:30 PM
4717 Main Avenue, Ashtabula, OH 44004

Minutes

Opening of Committee Meeting

Call to Order

The emergency meeting of the Ashtabula City Council Finance and Personnel Committee was called to order at 4:38 p.m. by Committee Chair Foglio.

Roll Call

Members Present: Chair: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio, Vice Chair: Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo, Member: President John Roskovics

Absent: none

Officers Present: City Manager James Timonere, Finance Director Marie Yvrose Augustin, Clerk of Council Ashley Bell

Visitors: City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper, Assistant Finance Director Carolyn Sheldon

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

Special Guest Presentation

N/A

Finance Director's Report

N/A

City Manager's Report

N/A

New Business

Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio stated it was brought to her attention that the Ashtabula Municipal Court would like to close at noon on April 8 (Solar Eclipse Day) and would like the staff to be paid for a full day.

City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper stated that you cannot pay people for not working unless it is a holiday or unless the Council decides that you can. The City Solicitor stated she informed Judge DiGiacomo about the Emergency Finance and Personnel Meeting. Judge DiGiacomo stated she spoke with other municipalities and some are closing their buildings and paying their staff for a full day. The City Solicitor stated paying employees when they are not working makes the City of Ashtabula vulnerable to a Fair Standards Labor Act Claim. She recommends the Council consider not funding the

payment.

City Manager James Timonere stated the only policy the City has in regard to paying employees when they are not at work, is if the Sheriff declares a level three road emergency. If the City decides to close the buildings in that circumstance, the employees will get paid.

City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper stated, with permission from the committee, she could inform Judge DiGiacomo that the committee voted to recommend that the Council not pay that department from 12 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on April 8th if they are not working.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio, moved to deny the payment to Ashtabula Municipal Court on April 8, 2024, from 12 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. President John Roskovics seconded.

Discussion: None

VOICE VOTE

Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo (Abstained)

Motion passed.

Municipal Court Closing on April 8

Next Meeting

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:28 p.m. by Committee Chair Kym Foglio.