



City of Ashtabula
Ashtabula City Council Public Hearing
Monday, July 1, 2024 at 6:00 PM
Council Chambers
4230 Lake Avenue

Minutes

Opening of Public Hearing

Call to Order

The Meeting Was called to order by Council President Roskovics.

Roll Call

Members Present: President John Roskovics, Vice President Russell Simeone, Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio, Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero, Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman, Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills, Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo

Absent: None

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

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.

Purpose of Public Hearing

Presentation of 2025 City of Ashtabula Tax Budget

Finance Director Marie Yvrose Augustin provided the report.

The Tax Budget is due to the Ashtabula County Budget Commission by July 19th of this year and is required by Ohio Revised Code 5705.17, which gives the County Auditor the property tax the City is eligible for. The budget is used by the County Budget Commission to fix property tax rates and certify that the requested millage for levies on the property tax is needed for the upcoming fiscal year.

This budget includes a history of the City's revenues and expenditures for 2022 and 2023. It also provides the City's projected financial position at year-end 2024, as well as anticipated revenue and proposed budget appropriations requested for the fiscal year 2025.

The 2025 Tax Budget provides for:

1. 2% wage increases as negotiated with the three City unions. The 2% is also accounted for in the projected salaries for the non-union employees.
2. We did not add a 5% medical insurance increase as usual, because the City has not had an increase for the past two years.
3. The General Fund is projected to assume all deficits in the following funds: Police & Fire Pension, Police Levy, Public Works, Street Lighting, Food Service, Probation Planning & Community Development, and the Parking Deck Fund.

The Federal Local Fiscal Recovery remaining funding balance of \$817,982.05 from 2022 is currently allocated to supplement the City's paving projects for 2024.

If all estimated revenue is received and there are no increases to expenditures, the following significant funds will end 2024 with the following estimated carryover into 2025:

- General Fund, \$ 5,660,800.28
- Public Health Fund, \$12,880.42. This carryover is low compared to the Financial Year End 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 due to the COVID funding being expensed.
- Permanent Improvement Fund, \$ 40,264.41; this low carryover is since there are no projected loan proceeds for 2024 and 2025, while in 2022, the City had 622K and 860K in 2023. Additionally, the City recorded around 700K in 2023 and 409K in 2024 for the sale of assets.
- Paving Levy Fund, \$376,212.14
- Sanitation Fund, \$ 112,255.35
- Wastewater Fund, \$ 852,352.48
- WPC Capital Fund, \$ 468,632.89
- Park Levy Fund, \$234,994.11

The formal budget process will begin in August.

Welcome and Acknowledgement of Visitors

Discussion

Questions/Comments

Closing Remarks

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 p.m. by Council President Roskovics.

DATE APPROVED: July 15, 2024

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

ATTESTED BY: AB
Ashley M. Bell, Clerk of Council