



City of Ashtabula
Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, August 19, 2024 at 7:00 PM
Council Chambers
4230 Lake Avenue

Minutes

Opening of Regular Meeting

Call to Order

The meeting of the Ashtabula City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council President Roskovics. Vice President Russell Simeone offered the opening prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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, Finance Director Marie Yvrose Augustin, City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper, 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.

Presentations/Announcements

None.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman moved to waive the reading of the minutes in their entirety; Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio seconded.

Discussion: None

VOICE VOTE

Hearing no corrections to the minutes, they were approved as presented.

Regular Council Meeting Minutes August 5, 2024

Administrative Reports

Motion: Vice President Russell Simeone moved for a resolution to honor Cathy Speelman; Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero seconded.

Discussion: Cathy Speelman previously owned the Chalk Box. She had a tremendous impact on the young people in the area. Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman wants to ensure the Council's policy about honoring individuals is aligned with resolution requests.

VOICE VOTE

Motion passed

Motion: Vice President Russell Simeone moved for a resolution for Steve Sargent; Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio seconded.

Discussion: Mr. Sargent has an incredible impact on the community. He is the Director of the Samaritan

House. The resolution presentation will be timed with the opening of the organization's new facility.

VOICE VOTE

Motion passed.

President John Roskovics complimented the diligent work of the Sanitation Department following the storm that occurred on August 6.

Reappoint Chip Goodell to the Planning Commission

City Manager

The following legislation was formally requested:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH TRAVELERS INSURANCE COMPANY THROUGH GLAZIER INSURANCE TO PROVIDE LIABILITY, PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR THE CITY OF ASHTABULA FOR THE PERIOD OF 8/21/2024 THROUGH 8/21/2025 AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$280,701.00

Motion: Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills moved to approve the City Manager's request; Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio seconded.

Discussion: None.

VOICE VOTE

Motion passed.

An ordinance to enter into an agreement with Kinsale Insurance Company through Glazier Insurance Company with the mailing address of 41 Wall Street, Jefferson, OH 44047 in the amount not to exceed \$145,168.00 from 8/21/24 through 8/20/25. Funding for this expense will be taken from fund 101.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to approve the City Manager's request; Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills seconded.

Discussion: If the City gets sued, this coverage protects law enforcement.

VOICE VOTE

Motion passed.

An ordinance to enter into an agreement with Atwell's Police & Fire Equipment with the mailing address of 207 Chestnut Street, Painesville, OH 44077 through State Purchasing, contract number RS1012064 in the amount not to exceed \$20,726.25. Funding for this will be paid in part through a grant and fund 101.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to approve the City Manager's request; Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman seconded.

Discussion: The funding is used to replace the plates that are in the vests.

VOICE VOTE

Motion passed.

The city's paving project is still ongoing. Currently, the project is in the intermediate phase. After the final phase, the next step is utility hole adjustments. The Ohio Department of Transportation's paving project is now in the phase of adjusting utility holes. The Sanitation Department is going through neighborhoods and picking up debris from the storm that occurred on August 6. The Sanitation Department has several openings. The jobs will be posted soon. Training for a Commercial Driver's License is available with an employment agreement of three years.

City Solicitor

City Solicitor Cooper stated that her office has handled approximately 1800 cases since implementing Matrix software.

Finance Director

The following legislation was formally requested:

AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL INCREASES AND/OR DECREASES TO APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL FUND, SANITATION, PARKS & RECREATION FUND, PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT FUND, WPC/WASTEWATER FUND, WPC CAPITAL FUND, FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, STATE OF OHIO, FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to approve the Finance Director's request; Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman seconded.

Discussion: None.

VOICE VOTE

Motion: passed

AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL INCREASES AND/OR DECREASES TO APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL FUND, POLICE GRANT FUND FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, STATE OF OHIO, FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to approve the Finance Director's request; Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills, seconded.

Discussion: None.

VOICE VOTE

Motion: passed

Clerk of Council

No report.

City Council Committee Reports

Community Development/Economic Development/Parks & Recreation

(4th Tuesday @ 5:00 p.m.)

Members: Chair DiGiacomo/Council Liaison to Parks and Recreation Board; Vice Chair Mills; Holman

August 22-5:30 pm

September 24

Finance & Personnel

(3rd Friday @ 8:30 a.m.)

Members: Chair Foglio, Vice Chair DiGiacomo, Roskovics

August 16

September 20

October 18

November 15

December 20

Committee Chair Foglio provided the report. Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero inquired about the city's current funds and the city's current expenditures. Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills inquired about the Finance Departments Drop Box. The box was recently installed outside the current City Hall Building. (4250 Lake Avenue). The drop box is used for sewer, trash and quarterly income tax.

Public Works/Public Utilities/Cable/Schools

(4th Tuesday @ 8:30 a.m.)

Members: Chair Mills, Vice Chair Guerriero, Roskovics

August 27

September 24

October 22

November 26

Committee Chair Mills stated GPD Group, the City's (engineering company), will be in attendance at the upcoming meeting.

Safety Forces

(2nd Monday @ 8:30a.m.)

Members: Chair Roskovics, Vice Chair Foglio, Guerriero

August 12

September 9

October-Holiday

November-Holiday

December 9

Committee Chair Roskovics provided the report.

Planning Commission and Ashtabula Historic Preservation Commission

Presentation of Legislation

Council President Roskovics previewed the legislation.

Additional Formal Requests

Public Communications on Legislation

Overview / Discussion

Reading of Legislation

Clerk of Council Ashley Bell presented the following legislation for council's consideration.

Legislation - Enactment, Passage or Adoption

Ordinance 2024-98

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO DISPOSE OF OBSOLETE AND UNNEEDED COMPUTER/OFFICE EQUIPMENT

Ordinance 2024-99

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH BROWN SPRINKLER SERVICE, INC. FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING LABOR AND MATERIALS TO UPGRADE FOUR BACKFLOW DEVICES LOCATED IN VARIOUS CITY BUILDINGS

Ordinance 2024-100

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH TRAVELERS INSURANCE COMPANY THROUGH GLAZIER INSURANCE TO PROVIDE LIABILITY, PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR THE CITY OF ASHTABULA FOR THE PERIOD OF 8/21/2024 THROUGH 8/21/2025 AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$280,701.00

Ordinance 2024-101

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH GLAZIER INSURANCE AGENCY AND KINSALE INSURANCE COMPANY TO PROVIDE LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR A PERIOD OF ONE (1) YEAR AT A COST OF \$145,168.00

Ordinance 2024-102

AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL INCREASES AND/OR DECREASES TO APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL FUND, SANITATION, PARKS & RECREATION FUND, PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT FUND, WPC/WASTEWATER FUND, WPC CAPITAL FUND, FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF

THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, STATE OF OHIO, FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024.

Ordinance 2024-102

AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL INCREASES AND/OR DECREASES TO APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL FUND, SANITATION, PARKS & RECREATION FUND, PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT FUND, WPC/WASTEWATER FUND, WPC CAPITAL FUND, FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, STATE OF OHIO, FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024.

Ordinance 2024-103

AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL INCREASES AND/OR DECREASES TO APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL FUND, POLICE GRANT FUND FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, STATE OF OHIO, FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024.

Council President Roskovics entertained a motion to dispose of the Regular Business Legislation by consent agenda.

Motion: Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman moved to dispose of the Regular Business Legislation by consent agenda; Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo seconded.

Discussion: None.

VOICE VOTE

Motion passed.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to waive the reading of the legislation; Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman seconded.

Discussion: None.

VOICE VOTE

Motion passed.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to waive the Charter Requirements of two readings of the legislation; Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero seconded.

Discussion: None.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Yeas: 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

Nays: None.

Motion passed.

Adoption of legislation

ROLL CALL VOTE

Yeas: 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

Nays: None.

Legislation passed.

Unfinished Business

Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero inquired about hiring Aqua Utility to pave Columbus Avenue and its entirety. The City Manager explained the procedure for that type of project, includes creating a program and gathering bids. Any project over 30 thousand dollars the city must publicly bid.

New Business

None.

Tell Us Something We Don't Know

Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio stated there was a great turn out for Midget League football at Massuci Field last Saturday.

Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero stated Sons of Italy of America is hosting a Bocce Tournament. The event is August 24 at 9:30 a.m., called "For Vets Sake".

Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman stated the former Pastor of Hiawatha Church of God in Christ died. Elder David Howard served the church for over 40 years. Ms. Holman asked what is the appropriate way to honor Elder Howard.

Motion: Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman moved for a resolution to honor Pastor David Howard Jr.; Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero seconded.

Discussion: None.

VOICE VOTE

Nays: None

Motion passed

Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo stated My Neighborhood Collaborative is hosting a Family Party in the Park. The event takes place on August 24 from 12 p.m.-2 p.m. at Kayden Park off West 58th Street.

Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills would like to remind everyone that school will start soon. Please be mindful of the students who are riding the buses. The last Bands on the Beach concert is on August 22. The event is at Walnut Beach from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Public Communications on General Matters

Dr. Pullano of West 8th Street, is concerned about the construction in her neighborhood. She is also concerned about the Riverbend Hotel using Hulbert Avenue for parking. The City Manager explained that Hulbert Avenue will remain a one-way street and the use of the street for parking is temporary. The hotel is constructing a parking lot between West 6th Street and West 8th Street.

Karen Ollikainen, West 8th Street, stated her apartment building is in the area where the parking lot for Riverbend Hotel is being completed. She is stating silt from the construction site is entering their drains.

Ryan DeMario, 1033 West 8th Street, also stated silt is coming to the drains due to construction of the Riverbend Hotel's parking lot.

Ken Vanyo, Eleanor Driver, would like an ordinance for Gulf Carts to be allowed within the City limits.

Bob Licata, Lake Road, wanted to discuss the appeal for his building at 1317 Bridge Street. The Planning Commission ordered the facade to be removed from the building (1317 Bridge Street). Mr. Licata made an appeal to the Planning Commission. His appeal request to keep the facade on the building (1317 Bridge Street) was denied. The appeal came before council. According to City ordinances, an appeal takes 5 votes to reverse, 4 votes to accept a compromise, and 4 votes to affirm. A compromise for the building was not approved nor was the appeal overturned by the Council. The City Solicitor obtained a 2nd opinion from a tenured colleague. The City Solicitor stated it is appropriate for City Council to send a letter to the owners of 1317 Bridge Street with the official response. Mr. Licata was referred back to the decision of the Planning Commission.

Addison Goddell, Walnut Boulevard, stated that approval for subdivisions must be submitted through the Planning Commission and City Council. He stated that the Planning Commission has not received any subdivision requests.

Executive Session (if needed)

None.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 PM by Council President Roskovics.

Ashtabula City Council will meet again on Tuesday, September 3, 2024, in Council Chambers. The Pre-Council meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Regular Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

DATE APPROVED:

September 3, 2024

ATTESTED BY:

John S. Roskovics
John S. Roskovics, President of Council

ATTESTED BY:

AB
Ashley M. Bell, Clerk of Council