



City of Ashtabula

Ashtabula City Council

Public Works / Public Utilities / Cable / Schools Committee Meeting

Tuesday, October 22, 2024 at 8:30 AM

Council Chambers

4230 Lake Avenue

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 8:30 a.m. by Committee Chair Mills.

Roll Call

Members Present: **Chair:** 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: None

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

City Manager's Report

The City Manager provided the report. Various parks and facilities are closing for the season. During the Regular Council meeting, round 3 of the road cuts were approved. City workers are completing "punch list" items so that the paving project can be finalized. The asphalt plants typically close at the end of November, but it also depends on the weather.

Water Pollution Control Report

Superintendent Mark Verzella provided the report. The department recently hired a new employee who will complete training by the end of the week. Once his training is complete, the current Swing Shift Operator will be moved to maintenance. The department purchased a new freight-liner dump truck for sludge hauling. Modifications are being made to the truck accommodate departmental needs. The department is working with Aqua Ohio to resolve issues with the potable water system. The automatic transfer switch on the bar screen generator was replaced. The Industrial Pre-treatment Inspections is ongoing for the month of October. This is an annual state-mandated inspection.

Assistant Solicitor Colgan provided an update regarding the update to the Industrial Pre-Treatment ordinance. A draft form of the updated Ordinance 933.12 and 933.13 was sent to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). A small change was made. The ordinance will be introduced to Council during the next Regular Council Meeting. The updates will allow for better action when violations are noted.

Currently, the department is working with the Army Corps of Engineer's and Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) to obtain permits for the relocation of the outfall. Once approved by those agencies, we will submit a permit to install (PTI) to the Ohio EPA, for review and approval. After the Ohio EPA approves the PTI, we can proceed with going out to bid for a contract to install the new outfall. It is time-consuming and challenging to make sure that we satisfy all the requirements for each state and federal agency. Currently we continue to rent the needed pump at \$16,000/month.

Water Pollution Control Update

Public Works Report

Superintendent Melnik provided the report. The department is continuing with tree removal and stumping. They are also completing catch basin repairs and patching. Repairs are being completed between Walnut Boulevard and 3rd Street. The department is still picking up leaf bags. The jet vac was sent to the manufacturer for repair. The manufacturer will cover the cost and will send a temporary jet vac for the department to use. A position is open in the sanitation department.

Solicitor's Report

None.

Old Business

City Manager Timonere stated City and County officials are researching grants to help with the city's recycling project. The approximate cost of the project is 1 million dollars. There are approximately 2800 households that need the service. The trucks for the service are approximately \$280,000. The totes are about \$50.00. An additional cost of \$280,000 is needed for the totes. The manager would like to purchase two trucks. The sanitation department is researching the current routes to verify if garbage pick up and sanitation pick up can be done on the same day. The project will be completed in two phases. The recycling project is a requirement of the County. Currently, we utilize our local land fill, which will decrease with full city recycling. The recycling goes to Twinsburg and the county pays for that transfer cost. The city would save on transfer fees to the land fill and the landfill bill but would receive decreased grant funding.

New Business

None.

Next Meeting

November 26, 2024

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 a.m. by Committee Chair Mills.