



City of Ashtabula

Ashtabula City Council
Safety Forces Committee

Monday, December 9, 2024 at 8:45 AM
Council Chambers
4230 Lake Avenue

Minutes

Opening of Committee Meeting

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Committee Chair Roskovics.

Roll Call

Members Present: Chair: Council President John Roskovics, Member: Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero

Absent: Vice Chair: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio

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

Ashtabula Department Heads Present: Police Chief Robert Stell, Fire Chief Shawn Gruber

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

Special Guest Presentation

None.

Police Department – Chief's Report

Chief Stell provided the report. Police utilized the High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle (Humvee) during last week's weather event. The Department also used sport utility vehicles.

September 2024 APD Stats

October 2024 APD Stats

November 2024 APD Stats

Fire Department – Chief's Report

Chief Gruber stated during last week's snow storm, the department put chains on the fire engine. The ambulance is four-wheel drive and is able to navigate the snow easily. The department also has staff that handle smaller incidents with a snow plow. Those individuals also cleared a path so that Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) may get patients out of the residence. When fire hydrants are covered with snow, the fire department uses a metal detector to locate them. Chief Gruber also added a tanker to the first alarm, so there would be water available without using the fire hydrants. Chief Gruber stated the department's calls were on par for the year.

Ashtabula Fire Department Statistics

City Manager's Report

City Manager Timonere stated there is no parking on the streets during a snow storm when the snow reaches three inches or more. City officials notify residents that their cars must be moved. The City Manager also stated the Samaritan House is up and running and was able to provide additional shelter for the homeless. Last week, the City declared a State of Emergency. This allowed the City to receive additional resources during the snow storm. Governor DeWine declared a State of Emergency at the state level which will provide more assistance. The City hired three independent contractors to assist with snow removal. City officials will pay bills for those services. The City should be reimbursed by the State of Ohio. The City Manager stated the shifts for the Public Works Department have been split. The shifts are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. If additional coverage is needed, the day shift will be held over four hours and the night shift will come in four hours early. This will provide 24-hour coverage.

The Police Department and Fire Department will hold entrance exams on March 23, 2025. The Police Department has openings for five officers. The Fire Department has one opening.

City Solicitor's Report

Unfinished Business

New Business

Committee Chair Roskovics stated Ward 2 Councilor Guerriero will serve as the Committee Chair for the Safety Forces Committee beginning January 2025. The announcement will be made at the next Regular Council Meeting.

Next Meeting

January 13, 2025

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 a.m. by Committee Chair Roskovics.