



City of Ashtabula

Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 7:00 PM
Council Chambers
4230 Lake Avenue, Ashtabula, OH 44004

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 John Roskovics. Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero 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
Absent: Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo
Officers Present: City Manager James Timonere, City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper, Finance Director Marie Yvrose Augustin, Clerk of Council Stacy Millberg

Motion: Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman moved to excuse Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo; Council Vice President Russell Simeone seconded.

Discussion: None.

VOICE 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

Nays: None

The motion to excuse the absences was adopted.

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

Approval of Minutes

Regular Council Meeting Minutes, January 6, 2025

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to waive the reading of the minutes in their entirety; Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills seconded.

Discussion: None.

VOICE VOTE

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

Work Session Minutes, January 6, 2025

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.

Administrative Reports

City Manager

The following legislation was requested:

An ordinance to enter into an agreement with GPD group to provide design engineering, bid documents and construction administration services for the OPWC Michigan Avenue sanitary improvements project, in an amount not to exceed \$37,300.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to approve the City Manager's request; Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero seconded.

Discussion: None.

Motion passed.

An ordinance to enter into a contract with USALCO to purchase sodium aluminate in an amount not to exceed \$130,000.

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

Discussion: None.

Motion passed.

An ordinance to enter into a contract with Polydyne Inc. to purchase Clarifloc in an amount not to exceed \$55,000.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to approve the City Manager's request; Council President John Roskovics seconded.

Discussion: Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman asked if there are any closer facilities to purchase the chemical from. City Manager James Timonere stated unfortunately there are not. The chemical is shipped from Georgia. All chemical purchases are put out for bid and City officials take into account shipping costs when determining the lowest bid.

Motion passed.

An ordinance to accept a Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) Energized Community Grant in the amount of \$29,204.

Motion: Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman moved to approve the City Manager's request; Council Vice President Russell Simeone seconded.

Discussion: The grant funds are for the City's use to offset General Fund expenses as long as there is an energy efficiency component present. In prior years, the funds have been used for roof replacement for energy efficiency, LED light conversions, and HVAC updates. The funds are not earmarked for this year.

Motion passed.

An ordinance to deem the following equipment obsolete:

- Leg Press Workout Machine #3045

- Planning and Community Development Trailer #1212Y6004507

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to approve the City Manager's request; Council President John Roskovics seconded.

Discussion: Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman asked if the City is allowed to offer obsolete equipment for sale. City Manager James Timonere stated in some cases yes, especially with vehicles; however, this particular equipment is in poor condition and will be scrapped. If items do go up for sale, sealed bids are requested and the highest bid is accepted. There are agencies the City

can offer equipment to without going through the bid process.
Motion passed.

Trash pick-up will go forward as scheduled despite the cold temperatures. Sanitation workers were given the option to delay but chose to work. This is the last week for Christmas tree pick-up.

City Solicitor

No report.

Finance Director

The following legislation was requested:

An ordinance to make supplemental decreases to appropriations in the General Fund, Public Health Nursing Fund, Auto Reg/Perm Tax Fund, Motor Vehicle Fund, Sanitation Fund and all other funds listed on Exhibit A for current expenses and other expenditures for the period January 1 through December 31, 2025.

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

Discussion:

Motion passed.

An ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with CPA firm Charles E. Harris and Associates for the preparation of the ACFR and GAAP conversion as well as the preparation of the report for the Board of Health.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to approve the Finance Director's request; Council Vice President Russell Simeone seconded.

Discussion:

Motion passed.

Clerk of Council

No report.

City Council Committee Reports

Community Development/Economic Development/Parks & Recreation

(1st Wednesday @ 5:30 p.m.)

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

February 5

March 5

April 2

May 7

Finance & Personnel

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

Members: Chair Foglio, Vice Chair DiGiacomo, Roskovics

February 21 - Cancelled

March 21

April 18

May 16

Committee Chair Kym Foglio gave the report.

Public Works/Public Utilities/Cable/Schools

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

Members: Chair Mills, Vice Chair Guerriero, Roskovics

January 28

February 25

March 25

April 22

Safety Forces

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

Members: Chair Guerriero, Vice Chair Foglio, Roskovics

February 10

March 10

April 14

May 12

Committee Chair Terence Guerriero gave the report.

Planning Commission and Ashtabula Historic Preservation Commission

President John Roskovics stated the Planning Commission approved a sign for the new Buckeye Senior Day Center that will be located in the former Rite Aid building on Lake Avenue. The Planning Commission also discussed moving forward with updating the City's zoning regulations.

The Historic Preservation Commission approved an addition on a house on West 6th Street across from Mother of Sorrows Church. A sign was approved for a new tattoo business on Bridge Street. The Historic Commission also discussed what role it will play in Appalachian Grant program for downtown businesses once the project begins.

Presentation of Legislation

Council President John Roskovics previewed the legislation.

Additional Formal Requests

Public Communications on Legislation

Overview / Discussion

Reading of Legislation

Clerk of Council Stacy Millberg presented the following legislation for the council's consideration.

Legislation - Enactment, Passage or Adoption

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 05

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH GPD GROUP FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING DESIGN ENGINEERING, BID DOCUMENTS AND CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION SERVICES FOR THE OPWC MICHIGAN AVENUE SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$37,300.00

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 06

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF SODIUM ALUMINATE WITH USALCO FOR THE CITY OF ASHTABULA IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$130,000.00

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 07

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF CLARIFLOC WITH POLYDYNE INC. FOR THE CITY OF ASHTABULA IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$55,000.00

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 08

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO ACCEPT A NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL (NOPEC) ENERGIZED COMMUNITY GRANT

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 09

AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL DECREASES TO APPROPRIATIONS IN THE

GENERAL FUND, PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING FUND, AUTO REG/PERM TAX FUND, MOTOR VEHICLE FUND, SANITATION FUND AND ALL OTHER FUNDS LISTED ON EXHIBIT A FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, STATE OF OHIO, FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2025

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 10

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CPA FIRM CHARLES E. HARRIS & ASSOCIATES ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, OHIO, FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE ACFR AND THE GAAP CONVERSION FOR THE CITY OF ASHTABULA IN ACCORDANCE WITH GENERALLY ACCEPTED ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024, AS WELL AS THE PREPARATION OF THE REPORT FOR THE BOARD OF HEALTH

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

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio, moved to dispose of the Regular Business Legislation by consent agenda; Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman, seconded.

Discussion: None.

VOICE 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

Nays: None

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

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

Nays: None

Motion passed.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to waive the Charter Requirements of two readings of the legislation; Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills 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

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

Nays: None

Legislation passed.

Motion: None

Unfinished Business

The RAM (Remote Area Medical) Clinic will be held at Lakeside Junior High School on March 22.

New Business

Council President John Roskovics asked Clerk of Council Stacy Millberg to research firms that may be able to assist the City with conducting an Equity Audit as recommended by the Ad hoc Committee: Racism as a Public Health Crisis. Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman stated she circulated a document, "Advancing Racial Equity in Your City or Town," that may be a helpful resource. The committee is also a member of GARE (Government Alliance for Racial Equity), which may be able to provide other helpful resources.

Tell Us Something We Don't Know

Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio congratulated the Riverbend Hotel which was recently awarded the Muse Award for design. It is a very prestigious global award. Residents are encouraged to visit the new hotel.

Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills stated that the Youngstown Business Incubator program on small business tax information scheduled for January 23 will be held virtually due to the weather. The Ashtabula County District Library will have computers and headphones available for anyone that goes to the library. The next avenue will be working with different funders for the Appalachian grant for the Façade Program. The safety manual for downtown is being reviewed and will be passed out to businesses.

Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman stated there will be a book talk and movie viewing on the life of Rosa Parks in honor of Black History Month. The event will be held February 6 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Ashtabula County District Library.

City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper stated the Ashtabula Municipal Court will be closed on Wednesday, January 22 due to the expected wind chill. All hearings will be rescheduled.

Public Communications on General Matters

Executive Session (if needed)

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m. by Council President John Roskovics.

Ashtabula City Council will meet again on Monday, February 3, 2025 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:

February 3, 2025

ATTESTED BY:

John S. Roskovics

John S. Roskovics, President of Council

ATTESTED BY:

Stacy L. Millberg

Stacy L. Millberg, Clerk of Council