



City of Ashtabula
Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, May 19, 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 1 Councilor Kym Foglio 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, City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper, Finance Director Vladimir Kan, Clerk of Council Stacy Millberg

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, May 5, 2025

Motion: Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo 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.

Special Council Meeting Minutes, May 7, 2025

Motion: Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman moved to waive the reading of the minutes in their entirety; Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero seconded.

Discussion: None.

VOICE VOTE

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

Administrative Reports

President John Roskovics stated that Council held a Public Hearing at 6 p.m. on the proposed Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) for the Historic Ashtabula Harbor District. An ordinance to establish the DORA will be presented to Council for consideration at the June 2, 2025

Regular Council Meeting.

Resolutions for the suggested zoning moratoriums will be presented for a first reading at tonight's meeting. Council will vote on the items at the June 2, 2025 Regular Council Meeting.

President John Roskovics asked City Manager James Timonere for clarification on a notice he saw in the newspaper regarding a grant for Hulbert Hill. City Manager James Timonere stated the City has to hold several public hearings before it can apply for grant funding to redo Hulbert Hill.

City Manager

The following legislation was formally requested:

An ordinance to enter into a contract with Lake Erie Construction to repair a section of guardrail on West Avenue for an amount not to exceed \$17,220. Funding for this project will be taken out of Fund 412.

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

Discussion: None.

Motion passed.

An ordinance to enter into an amendment with the Appalachian Community Grant Program Sub-Recipient Grant Agreement with Eastgate Regional Council of Governments for the purpose of permitting a direct pay process.

Motion: President John Roskovics moved to approve the City Manager's request; Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills seconded.

Discussion: None.

Motion passed.

An ordinance to enact new rules and regulations of the Civil Service Commission of the City of Ashtabula to change the number of years of service required to be eligible to take the Lieutenant's test from 10 to seven years.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to approve the City Manager's request; Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo seconded.

Discussion: None.

Motion passed.

An ordinance to abolish one currently vacant position of Lieutenant within the Ashtabula Police Department.

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

Discussion: None.

Motion passed.

An ordinance to enter into a new construction Community Reinvestment Area Tax Agreement with Brian J. Hamilton, 1022 Ohio Avenue, Ashtabula, OH 44004. Mr. Hamilton has requested a CRA of 100 percent for seven years. City Manager James Timonere is requesting Council authorize a 75 percent CRA for seven years.

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

Discussion: This property is on the former Wenner Field property and has received funding through the Ashtabula County Land Bank. There will also be some City obligations with the MS4 permit pertaining to stormwater management and monitoring. For these reasons, City Manager James Timonere is requesting a 75 percent abatement rather than the 100 percent that was requested in

the property owner's application. Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero stated he would be voting no on this. The property is in his ward, and he wants his residents to have the same opportunities other residents have received.

Motion passed.

An ordinance to enter into an agreement with the Ashtabula County Y.M.C.A. for the purpose of providing lifeguard services for the 2025 season at Walnut Beach.

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

Discussion: None.

Motion passed.

City Manager James Timonere stated he would like to thank Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo, Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills and Clerk of Council Stacy Millberg for all of their work in organizing and kicking off the City Clean Up that took place on May 17. He also thanked the residents and volunteers for coming out to help. Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman stated that the areas she went to had far less trash than in previous years. Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo stated when they drove around the City to identify the areas that would be targeted during the event, there were several areas that had been on the list in the past that did not need attention this year. She also stated there were several areas where illegal dumping was present. Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills thanked new Finance Director Vladimir Kan for coming out and helping as well as Signature Health for providing lunch and the Ashtabula District Library for providing the venue for lunch. Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo thanked the volunteers and City officials for helping. More than 15,500 pounds of trash were collected, and 93 tires were removed in approximately two hours.

Responses have been sent back to the 24 businesses that applied for the Appalachian Community Grant program. City Manager James Timonere stated each business would receive a minimum of \$20,000.

City Solicitor

No report.

Finance Director

The following legislation was formally requested:

An ordinance to make supplemental increases to appropriations in the General Fund, Public Health Nursing Fund, Court Special Projects 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.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to approve the Finance Director's request; Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo seconded.

Discussion: None.

Motion passed.

Clerk of Council

No report.

City Council Committee Reports

Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman requested a work session to further discuss the previous recommendations of the Ad hoc Committee: Exploring Racism as a Public Health Crisis.

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

June 4

July 2

August 6

September 3

Committee Chair Jane DiGiacomo provided the report. The 11 items for suggested moratoriums were recommended by the committee. These specific items present saturation issues in the City and increase the workload of the staff.

Finance & Personnel

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

Members: Chair Foglio, Vice Chair DiGiacomo, Roskovics

June 20

July 18

August 15

September 19

Committee Chair Kym Foglio provided the report.

The following legislation was formally requested:

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved for an ordinance authorizing the Council President to amend the employment agreement with Stacy Millberg, Clerk of Council, to allow flex time and an ordinance authorizing the Council President to enter into an agreement with Stacy Millberg, Clerk of Council, for reimbursement of educational and professional expenses; President John Roskovics seconded.

Discussion: None.

Motion passed.

Public Works/Public Utilities/Cable/Schools

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

Members: Chair Mills, Vice Chair Guerriero, Roskovics

May 27

June 24

July 22

August 26

Safety Forces

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

Members: Chair Guerriero, Vice Chair Foglio, Roskovics

June 9

July 14

August 11

September 8

Committee Chair Terence Guerriero provided the report.

The following legislation was formally requested:

Motion: Council President John Roskovics moved for golf cart legislation to be drafted; Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio seconded.

Discussion: None.

Motion passed.

Planning Commission and Ashtabula Historic Preservation Commission

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 - 73

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA TAX INCENTIVE AGREEMENT WITH KSS ENTERPRISES LLC, FOR COMMERCIAL TAX ABATEMENT AT 75% FOR 10 YEARS FOR THE RENOVATIONS OF A BUILDING LOCATED AT 5614 POPLAR AVENUE

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 74

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CONTINUATION OF TEN (10) COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA TAX INCENTIVE AGREEMENTS UPON CONDITIONS AS INDICATED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - 75

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO PREPARE AND FILE AN APPLICATION FOR AN OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES NATUREWORKS PUBLIC RECREATION GRANT

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 76

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH LAKE ERIE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY TO REPAIR A SECTION OF GUARDRAIL ON WEST AVENUE

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 77

AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL INCREASES TO APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL FUND, PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING FUND, COURT SPECIAL PROJECTS 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. 2025-78

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT TO AMEND THE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH STACY MILLBERG, CLERK OF COUNCIL, TO ALLOW FLEX TIME

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 79

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AMENDMENT TO THE APPALACHIAN COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM SUB-RECIPIENT GRANT AGREEMENT WITH EASTGATE REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PERMITTING A DIRECT PAY PROCESS

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 80

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH STACY MILLBERG, CLERK OF COUNCIL, FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXPENSES

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 81

AN ORDINANCE ENACTING NEW RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, OHIO

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2025 - 82

AN ORDINANCE ABOLISHING ONE CURRENTLY VACANT POSITION OF LIEUTENANT WITHIN THE ASHTABULA POLICE DEPARTEMENT IN THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, OHIO

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - 83

A RESOLUTION IMPOSING A MORATORIUM ON ACCESSORY STRUCTURES OVER 200 SQ/FT

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - 84

A RESOLUTION IMPOSING A MORATORIUM ON AUTO AND/OR TRUCK RENTALS

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - 85

A RESOLUTION IMPOSING A MORATORIUM ON BOARDING/ROOMING HOUSES

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - 86

A RESOLUTION IMPOSING A MORATORIUM ON CHECK CASHING AND/OR PAYDAY LENDING

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - 87

A RESOLUTION IMPOSING A MORATORIUM ON E-CIGARETTE, VAPING AND/OR TOBACCO SALES

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - 88

A RESOLUTION IMPOSING A MORATORIUM ON FOOD TRUCKS WITH PERMANENT LOCATIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - 89

A RESOLUTION IMPOSING A MORATORIUM ON JUNK AND/OR SCRAP YARDS

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - 90

A RESOLUTION IMPOSING A MORATORIUM ON MOTOR VEHICLE FUEL DISPENSING

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - 91

A RESOLUTION IMPOSING A MORATORIUM ON SMALL BOX RETAIL/DISCOUNT STORES

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - 92

A RESOLUTION IMPOSING A MORATORIUM ON THRIFT AND/OR SECONDHAND STORES

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - 93

A RESOLUTION IMPOSING A MORATORIUM ON USED AND/OR NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES

Council President John Roskovics asked for a motion to dispose of the Regular Business Legislation by consent agenda for Ordinance No. 2025-73, 2025-74, 2025-75, 2025-76, 2025-77, 2025-78, 2025-79, 2025-80, 2025-81, and 2025-82.

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, Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo

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, Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo

Nays: None
Motion passed.

Motion: Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman moved to waive the Charter Requirements of two readings of the legislation; Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio seconded.

Discussion:

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.
Motion: None

Council President John Roskovics asked for a motion to waive the reading of Resolution No. 2025-83, 2025-84, 2025-85, 2025-86, 2025-87, 2025-88, 2025-89, 2025-90, 2025-91, 2025-92, and 2025-93 in their entirety.

Motion: Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills, moved to waive the reading of the legislation; 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 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo

Nays: None
Motion passed.

Unfinished Business

New Business

Tell Us Something We Don't Know

Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio congratulated all the 2025 graduates. She also stated the Ashtabula Arts Center is holding mini-camps throughout the summer. The Ashtabula Police Department and Ashtabula Fire Department will host Safety Town the last week of June and first week of July.

Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills stated a ribbon-cutting and dedication ceremony will be held at the new inclusion playground at Walnut Beach on Friday, May 23, 2025 at 10:30 a.m.

City Manager James Timonere stated the spring flowers are out on Bridge Street and Main Avenue will be getting some flowers as well. Anyone wishing to donate to the Lift Bridge Community Association and Ashtabula Downtown Development Association is encouraged to do so to help offset the cost of supplying the flowers.

Public Communications on General Matters

Anthony Oquendo addressed Council regarding concerns about the condition of the CSX Railroad underpass on Lake Avenue.

Council President John Roskovics stated that City officials have contacted the railroad regarding the underpass and have been advised that the underpass is inspected every year.

City Manager James Timonere stated that the City has been in contact with the railroad for several years regarding the underpass. It is inspected by the railroad every year. The City does not see the inspection reports, but is told the underpass passes the inspections. Several years ago, the City inspected the bridge too and it passed the inspection. The railroad has done some repair work on the bridge recently. City Manager James Timonere has a follow-up meeting scheduled with CSX to discuss the bridge's condition.

Council President John Roskovics suggested passing a resolution to express Council's concerns about the underpass.

Executive Session (if needed)

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. by Council President Roskovics.

Ashtabula City Council will meet again on Monday, June 2, 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:

June 2, 2025

ATTESTED BY:

John S. Roskovics

John S. Roskovics, President of Council

ATTESTED BY:

Stacy L. Millberg

Stacy L. Millberg, Clerk of Council