



City of Ashtabula
Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, June 16, 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 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo offered the opening prayer, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A moment of silence was observed for Betty Kist.

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

Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero and City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper presented a Resolution honoring William Parkomaki on his retirement from the City of Ashtabula Police Department.

Approval of Minutes

Regular Council Meeting, June 2, 2025

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to waive the reading of the minutes in their entirety; Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo seconded.

Discussion: None.

VOICE VOTE

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

Administrative Reports

A Public Hearing will be held on Monday, June 23, 2025, at 6 p.m. to present the 2026 Tax Budget.

City Manager

City Manager James Timonere asked for a voice vote to approve the lateral hiring of Monika Brown as a Patrol Officer for the City of Ashtabula Police Department.

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.

City Manager James Timonere asked for a voice vote to approve the lateral hiring of Shane Posey as a Patrol Officer for the City of Ashtabula Police Department.

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.

The following legislation was formally requested:

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. I am requesting Council authorize a 100 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: Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman asked for clarification as to why this was being presented again at 100 percent after it was voted down at 75 percent at the previous meeting. President Roskovics stated that when the City Manager previously presented the abatement, there was discussion among the councilors indicating that they would vote against the 75 percent because they felt more comfortable with the 100 percent that they have been approving for other applicants. Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio stated that she voted against the 75 percent because councilors have consistently approved 100 percent abatement for other applicants on new constructions, and she felt this property should not be different. Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero stated that this property is in his ward, and he wants his residents to receive every advantage that the City offers. Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills stated that if someone wants to spend \$400,000 to \$500,000 in the City, they should be given certain incentives. Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman stated that those residents are not paying their fair share for the services the City provides. Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills stated the City will eventually collect property taxes on the abated properties. Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo stated that she questions the City's policy of 100 percent in today's market because of supply and demand. If the City can get as many houses at 75 percent, why would it offer 100 percent.

Motion passed.

An ordinance to enter into a contract with Montrose Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, Ram for the purchase of three Dodge Durango Pursuit Vehicles for the Ashtabula Police Department for an amount not to exceed \$127,915.74 under and in accordance with the State Purchasing Program Contract No. RSI023078. Funds will be taken from Permanent Improvement Fund 412.

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 Envision Group, LLC for the purpose of preparing a comprehensive plan update with the City of Ashtabula for an amount not to exceed \$69,650. Funding for this expense will be paid from Fund 101, Planning and Community Development Professional Services.

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

Discussion: City Manager James Timonere stated that council had approved the application for a

grant to fund this project; however, the grant window closed due to an overwhelming number of applicants. The City was unable to submit its application. Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills asked for an overview of the Comprehensive Plan. City Manager James Timonere stated that the Comprehensive Plan already exists. This is an update. It is not a quick process and will require input from the community, from council and from the Planning Commission. Once the Comprehensive Plan is updated, the Zoning Code will be updated.

Motion passed.

An ordinance to enter into a contract with Shadrock's Tree Service, LLC for the removal of trees in various locations. This expense will be paid from Fund 205 and will not exceed \$10,000.

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 Memorandum of Understanding amending the current Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Ashtabula and the Fraternal Order of Police to adjust the wages of current staff in order to remain competitive and retain staff currently employed in the Ashtabula Police Department.

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

Discussion: None.

Motion passed.

An ordinance to repeal and replace Ordinance No. 2025-71 regarding the compensation, salaries, and wages of employees of the City of Ashtabula and the Ashtabula City Health District.

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

Discussion: None.

Motion passed.

Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills asked if there were any updates on the status of the new fire truck. City Manager James Timonere stated the build date is still at the end of this year, and it is a roughly six-month project. Officials may receive notification when the build starts. Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills asked if the officer who would be walking the downtown area to patrol had started. City Manager James Timonere stated that he has.

Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo stated she received a concern from a resident about individuals camping out on the porch at the Smith Home. She also received concerns from residents regarding increased issues with go-karts on Adams Avenue, Jefferson Avenue and West 58th Street. They are requesting increased patrols. Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo asked if handicap parking will be marked at the Inclusive Playground at Walnut Beach and if there will be benches for parents. City Manager James Timonere stated that the project is still not complete, but the parking spots will be marked, and the benches have been ordered. She asked about the City's policy on signs posted on poles and garage sales. City Manager James Timonere stated signs are not permitted on poles. A permit is required for garage sales. There is no charge for the permit and residents are limited to three garage sales each year. Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo asked about the City's ordinance regarding pitbulls. City Manager James Timonere stated that pitbulls are allowed in the City with a license from the Animal Protective League indicating they are not aggressive. Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo asked if landlords can have their rental permits revoked or suspended if they are consistently violating property maintenance codes. City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper stated that her office

has started filing civil nuisance lawsuits, so the nuisance properties can be abated. She also asked for an update on when a code enforcement officer will be hired. City Manager James Timonere stated that the purchase of three vehicles from AM Ford. Once those vehicles come in, the positions will be posted.

Vice President Russell Simeone asked about the leaf bag pickup schedule. City Manager James Timonere stated that curbside pickup is done but residents can drop off leaf bags at the transfer station. Curbside pickup will resume in September.

Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero stated there is a large pothole at the corner of Harbor Avenue and East 16th Street.

Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills asked if volunteer sign-ups were live for the Wine and Walleye Festival. City Manager James Timonere stated that sign-ups are not live yet but should be soon. Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills also asked for an update on the Appalachian Grant project in downtown Ashtabula. City Manager James Timonere stated that the sidewalk portion is almost ready to go out for bid and officials are expecting information back soon from Eastgate and LDA on the facade program.

City Solicitor

City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper stated that Emily Bussanich has joined her staff as a part-time victim advocate.

Resolution 2025-122, opposing HB 335, that council requested, is on the agenda.

Council President John Roskovics moved to add Resolution No. 2025-122, opposing HB 335, to the agenda. Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio seconded.

Discussion: Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo read the following statement: "My family and the Thomas family have shared a friendship that spans over 30 years. I have great respect for Dave Thomas and continue to support him as a leader; however, I do not support this particular bill. While I believe it was introduced with genuine concern for a system in need of reform, it ultimately creates new challenges without fully addressing the root issues. Yes, reform is necessary, but it must be thoughtful, inclusive, and responsive to the realities faced by our communities. We cannot afford to impose a one-size-fits-all solution that may do more harm than good. Tonight, I will sign the resolution, not out of opposition to any one person, but out of my responsibility to put the City of Ashtabula's best interests first."

President John Roskovics stated that he questions whether legislators at the state level are thinking about the long-term effects of some of the things they are proposing.

Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio asked City Manager James Timonere about the impact this would have on the City if it were to go through. City Manager James Timonere stated that it would affect the entire budget. He stated that the City's budget is sent to the County Auditor's Office every year, and it has never been returned, because the City had too much money, including the years David Thomas served as County Auditor.

Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills stated that HB 335 raises concerns about loss of local control to county budget commissions, and the impact on public education due to loss of funding.

Vice President Russell Simeone asked if state legislators reached out to officials at the local level for input. City Manager James Timonere stated that very rarely do state legislators ask local officials for input before proposing laws.

Motion passed.

Finance Director

The following legislation was formally requested:

An ordinance to make supplemental increases and decreases to appropriations in the general fund, WPC Capital Fund and ESID Special Improvement District 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 in the amount of \$75,894.67.

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

Discussion: Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman questioned why another appropriations ordinance was being presented at such a high amount in such a short amount of time. City Manager James Timonere stated that appropriation ordinances often happen, sometimes monthly. It's just the nature of the budget and having to move money around. The majority of this appropriations ordinance is to appropriate funds for the Master Plan update.

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

July 2 - CANCELED

August 6

September 3

October 1

Committee Chair Jane DiGiacomo provided the report. Camille Licate, founder of Kids for Positive Change, was the guest. She spoke about various projects the organization is working on. Discussion continued on food truck legislation.

Finance & Personnel

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

Members: Chair Foglio, Vice Chair DiGiacomo, Roskovics

June 20

July 18

August 15

September 19

No report.

Public Works/Public Utilities/Cable/Schools

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

Members: Chair Mills, Vice Chair Guerriero, Roskovics

June 24 - CANCELED

July 22

August 26

September 23

No report.

Safety Forces

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

Members: Chair Guerriero, Vice Chair Foglio, Roskovics

July 14

August 11

September 8

Committee Chair Terence Guerriero provided the report. Employment of corrections officers was discussed. Revisions to the recently passed golf cart legislation were discussed.

Committee Chair Terence Guerriero moved to add Ordinance No. 2025-124 to the agenda for a first reading; Vice President Russell Simeone seconded.

Discussion: Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills asked for clarification on what changes were made. City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper stated the hours when golf carts can be operated were changed. Another change is that golf carts will not be permitted on Lake Avenue but will be permitted on Columbus Avenue.

Motion passed.

President John Roskovics moved to add Ordinance No. 2025-125 to the agenda for a first reading; Vice President Russell Simeone seconded.

Discussion: None.

Motion passed.

Planning Commission and Ashtabula Historic Preservation Commission

No report.

Presentation of Legislation

Council President John Roskovics previewed the legislation.

Additional Formal Requests

Public Communications on Legislation

Anthony Oquendo stated that with regard to the tax abatement on the agenda, he agrees with Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman that the City should consider different amounts for the abatement, especially when the City has some ongoing responsibilities for the properties. He also stated he feels there is some hypocrisy among council members as they are opposing HB 335, which would essentially give everyone a 100 percent tax abatement. Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero stated that the program is set up to give people an incentive to build homes in the City. Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman added that some of the services taxes pay for are police and fire, schools, libraries, road maintenance, health services, and other programs and services that benefit the community and public safety workers. She does not agree with 100 percent abatement across the board and stated that she believes that circumstances should be evaluated individually.

Dennis DeGennaro commented on school funding being unconstitutional. He does not believe taxpayers should help fund religious institutions.

In reference to the lateral hiring of Monika Brown, Anthony Oquendo asked if she was the same individual that faced felony charges for entering her ex-husband's home while she was a deputy with the Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office. City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper confirmed that she was the same person.

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 - 113

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA TAX INCENTIVE AGREEMENT WITH BRIAN J. HAMILTON FOR TAX ABATEMENT AT 100% FOR 7 YEARS FOR NEW RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS LOCATED AT 1022 OHIO AVENUE, ASHTABULA, OH 44004

Council President John Roskovics asked for a motion to waive the reading of Ordinance No. 2025-113.

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

Nays: Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman, Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo

Legislation passed.

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 114

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH AM FORD FOR THE PURCHASE OF THREE 2025 FORD EXPLORERS

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 115

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH MONTROSE CHRYSLER, JEEP, DODGE, RAM FOR THE PURCHASE OF THREE DODGE DURANGO PURSUIT VEHICLES FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 116

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ENVISION GROUP, LLC. FOR PURPOSE OF PREPARING A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 117

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH SHADROCK'S TREE SERVICE LLC FOR THE REMOVAL OF TREES IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 118

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING TO AMEND THE JANUARY 1, 2023 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2025

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ASHTABULA AND THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE, ASHTABULA LODGE NO. 26 (“FOP”)

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 119

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE 2025 - 71 FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENACTING REPLACEMENT LEGISLATION FOR PROVIDING COMPENSATION

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 – 120

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING COMPENSATION, SALARIES AND WAGES TO EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA AND THE ASHTABULA CITY HEALTH DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - 121

A RESOLUTION HONORING WILLIAM PARKOMAKI ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE CITY OF ASHTABULA

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - 122

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING HOUSE BILL 335 AND URGING THE OHIO GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO REJECT LEGISLATION THAT ELIMINATES INSIDE MILLAGE AND TRANSFERS LOCAL BUDGETARY AUTHORITY TO COUNTY BUDGET COMMISSIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 123

AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL INCREASES AND DECREASES TO APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL FUND, WPC CAPITAL AND ESID SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT 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

Council President John Roskovics asked for a motion to dispose of the Regular Business Legislation by consent agenda for Ordinance No. 2025-114, 2025-115, 2025-116, 2025-117, 2025-118, 2025-119, 2025-120, 2025-121, 2025-122, and 2025-123.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to dispose of the Regular Business Legislation by consent agenda; Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero, 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 reading of the legislation; Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio 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 Charter Requirements of two readings of the legislation; Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills 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.

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 124

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING EXISTING CODIFIED ORDINANCE CHAPTER 380, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADOPTING A NEW CHAPTER 380

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to waive the reading of Ordinance No. 2025-124; Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero 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.

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 125

AN ORDINANCE ENACTING REPLACEMENT CODIFIED ORDINANCE CHAPTER 380

Motion: Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman moved to waive the reading of Ordinance No. 2025-125; Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills seconded.

Discussion: City Manager James Timonere stated there are still two items he would like Council to consider changing in the legislation, including limiting golf carts to traveling at speeds not exceeding 20 mph. The second item is an exemption for festivals.

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.

Unfinished Business

New Business

Tell Us Something We Don't Know

Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills stated that the Arts Center Community Painting Party, which was held on June 8, 2025, will finish on Sunday, June 22, 2025.

Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio stated that the Our Lady of Peace Mt. Carmel Festival will be held from July 11, 2025 – July 13, 2025. This year's festival will feature the Ashtabula's Got Talent event. Participants can register with the parish for a fee of \$20. Prizes will be awarded.

Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills stated that the Ashtabula Pride Festival will be held on June 21, 2025, at Walnut Beach.

President John Roskovics stated that the Blessing of the Fleet will be held on June 22, 2025, and the Beach Glass Festival will be held on June 28 and June 29.

City Manager James Timonere stated the Slice of Summer event will also be held on Bridge Street on Saturday, June 21, 2025.

City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper stated that the County Commissioners are discussing moving the Law Library out of the County Courthouse. A public meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, to discuss the matter.

Public Communications on General Matters

Dennis DeGennaro, Ward 2, expressed concerns about visitors at Walnut Beach mistreating seagulls.

Gary Stuyvesant, of Columbus Avenue, discussed concerns regarding a homeless camp on E. 7th Street and Columbus Avenue. City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper stated that administrative search warrants were executed last week and charges were filed against a business owner for various code violations. If the business owner brings the property up to code, and allows individuals to stay on the property, there is not much the City can do. Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills asked if the person could be charged criminally if the business owner wanted them removed, and they refused to leave. City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper stated that they could be charged with criminal trespassing. Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo stated that it is frustrating when the rights of a few people are put in front of the rights of everyone else. She stated that situations like this are infesting every neighborhood and people are fed up.

Austin Clark, of Columbus Avenue, also discussed his concerns regarding the homeless camp.

Anthony Oquendo asked for any updates on the CSX Railroad underpass on Lake Avenue. City Manager James Timonere stated that CSX came out again to inspect the bridge and advised that it was in the same condition as it was when it passed the inspection last October, which is structurally sound for train travel. He has approached CSX about touring the bridge, so City officials can point out their concerns. He is waiting to schedule that. Mr. Oquendo asked if the City had an emergency response/evacuation plan in place if a situation were to occur on the bridge. City Manager James Timonere stated that the City has several emergency plans in place, not just for the bridge in question.

Gary Stuyvesant asked about the street sweeper. City Manager James Timonere stated it is still being repaired. Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills asked about the cost of a new street sweeper. City Manager James Timonere stated the cost is approximately \$300,000.

Executive Session (if needed)

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m. by Council President Roskovics. Ashtabula City Council will meet again on Monday, July 7, 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:

July 7, 2025

ATTESTED BY:

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

ATTESTED BY:



Stacy L. Millberg, Clerk of Council