



City of Ashtabula
Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, August 4, 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 7:01 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, 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: Vice President Russell Simeone

Officers Present: City Manager James Timonere, City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper, Finance Director Vladimir Kan, Clerk of Council Stacy Millberg

Motion: Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo moved to excuse Vice President Russell Simeone; Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero seconded.

Discussion: None.

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: President John Roskovics, 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

The motion to excuse the absence 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, July 21, 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.

Administrative Reports

City Manager

The following legislation was formally requested:

An ordinance to enter into a contract with Koski Construction, Co. for the resurfacing of a portion of W. 19th Street for an amount not to exceed \$190,889.60 to be made from Funds 209, 219, and 290.
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 enter into a contract with Greatwave Communications for the purpose of providing IT services to the City of Ashtabula for an amount not to exceed \$5,042.00 per month for 24 months to be made from Fund 101.

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

Discussion: The cost has increased due to additional requests from the City's insurance companies regarding cybersecurity protection.

Motion passed.

City Manager James Timonere expressed gratitude to all the volunteers at the Wine and Walleye Festival this year. President John Roskovics commended City Manager James Timonere for all of his work on the festival as well.

Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills stated that she heard a lot of compliments on the DORA and asked how it was going. City Manager James Timonere stated the only issue encountered at the festival was that they ran out of cups.

Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman asked for the location of the trees to be removed by Brobst Tree and Stump Service. City Manager James Timonere stated that most of the trees that will be removed are ones the City has received complaints about.

Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo asked if the City was planning to replace the trees that would be removed. City Manager James Timonere stated the trees would not be replaced.

Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman asked for clarification on payroll ordinance 2025-142. Finance Director Vladimir Kan stated that the previous payroll ordinance is being repealed and replaced to honor a contractual obligation for a salary increase for Assistant Water Pollution Control Superintendent Carl St. Angelo, who recently passed his Class III certification.

City Solicitor

City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper stated that if any councilors would like to make changes to the Council Rules of Order, as discussed at a previous work session, they should reach out to her or Assistant City Solicitor Catherine Colgan to discuss them.

Finance Director

The following legislation was formally requested:

An ordinance repealing ordinance 2025-127 for the purpose of enacting replacement legislation for providing compensation.

Motion: President John Roskovics moved to approve the Finance Director's request; Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero seconded.

Discussion: None.

Motion passed.

An ordinance repealing ordinance 2024-158 for the purpose of enacting replacement legislation providing compensation, salaries and wages to employees of the Ashtabula Municipal Court and Probation Divisions.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to lay on the table the Finance Director's request (Ordinance No. 2025-144 and 2025-145); President John Roskovics seconded.

Discussion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio asked for additional information regarding whether the new employee will be required to remain employed with the City after her training is paid for, as other City employees are required to do.

Motion to lay on the table passed by a 5-0 vote with Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo abstaining.

An ordinance to make supplemental increases to appropriations in the General Fund, WPC Capital Fund and Sanitation Fund, and all other funds listed on Exhibit A for current expenses and other expenditures, including a transfer of \$161,243.80 from WPC Fund to WPC Capital Fund of the City of Ashtabula, State of Ohio, for the period January 1 through December 31, 2025.

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

Discussion:

Motion passed.

Clerk of Council

No report.

City Council Committee Reports

Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio stated that the Naming and Recognition Committee will meet on August 13, 2025 at 5 p.m. to discuss a plaque for Fred Benedict at Walnut Beach and signs for the Birthplace of the Corvette to be placed in the City limits.

Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman stated that the work session with the Ad Hoc Committee: Exploring Racism as a Public Health Crisis is rescheduled for September 15, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

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

August 6

September 3

October 1

November 5

December 3

Finance & Personnel

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

Members: Chair Foglio, Vice Chair DiGiacomo, Roskovics

August 15

September 19

October 17

November 21

December 19

Public Works/Public Utilities/Cable/Schools

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

Members: Chair Mills, Vice Chair Guerriero, Roskovics

August 26

September 23

October 28
November 25
December 23

Committee Chair Jodi Mills provided the report.

Safety Forces

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

Members: Chair Guerriero, Vice Chair Foglio, Roskovics

August 11

September 8

October TBA

November 10

December 8

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 - 140

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO PURCHASE SUPER PRODUCTS CAMEL MAX SERIES SEWER CLEANING COMBO TRUCK FROM MTECH

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 141

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH BROBST TREE & STUMP SERVICE FOR THE REMOVAL OF TREES IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 142

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE 2025-127 FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENACTING REPLACEMENT LEGISLATION FOR PROVIDING COMPENSATION

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 – 143

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 144

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE 2024-158 FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENACTING REPLACEMENT LEGISLATION PROVIDING COMPENSATION SALARIES AND WAGES TO EMPLOYEES OF THE ASHTABULA CITY MUNICIPAL COURT AND PROBATION DIVISIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 145

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING COMPENSATION, SALARIES AND WAGES TO EMPLOYEES OF THE ASHTABULA CITY MUNICIPAL COURT AND PROBATION DIVISIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 – 146

AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL INCREASES TO APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL FUND, WPC CAPITAL FUND AND SANITATION FUND, AND ALL OTHER FUNDS LISTED ON EXHIBIT A FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES, INCLUDING A TRANSFER OF \$161,243.80 FROM WPC FUND TO WPC CAPITAL FUND OF THE CITY OF

ASHTABULA, STATE OF OHIO, FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2025

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 147

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH KOSKI CONSTRUCTION, CO. FOR THE RESURFACING OF A PORTION OF W. 19TH STREET

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - 148

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING PRESERVATION, STAFFING, AND OPERATION OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD STATION AT ASHTABULA, OHIO

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 149

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH GREATWAVE COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING IT SERVICES TO THE CITY OF ASHTABULA

Council President John Roskovics asked for a motion to dispose of the Regular Business Legislation by consent agenda for Ordinance No. 2025-140, 2025-141, 2025-142, 2025-143, 2025-146, 2025-147, 2025-148, and 2025-149.

Motion: Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo 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, 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 4 Councilor Jodi Mills seconded.

Discussion: None.

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: President John Roskovics, 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 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo moved to waive the Charter Requirements of two readings of the legislation; Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio seconded.

Discussion: None.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Yeas: President John Roskovics, 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, 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.

Unfinished Business

Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero asked about garbage containers being picked up at a property on E. 15th Street now that the house has been demolished. City Manager James Timonere stated he would notify the Sanitation Department.

Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo stated she has received several complaints that sewers are plugged with debris on City streets. City Manager James Timonere asked Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo to provide him with the locations, and he would forward the information to the Public Works staff.

Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman asked which City streets received striping. City Manager James Timonere stated that the streets that are more frequently traveled receive striping. Neighborhood streets do not.

New Business

Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo made a motion to have the Community Development / Economic Development / Parks & Recreation Committee research and discuss the possibility of a "Responsible Release and Discharge Accountability" ordinance; Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero seconded.

Discussion: The ordinance would be aimed at addressing situations where individuals are being released into the community from treatment facilities, with no housing, support or follow-up care. Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio stated she has concerns about the legality of such an ordinance. Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman asked for clarification from City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper regarding whether an idea should originate in committee and then be brought to Council or if it has to be approved by Council first and then referred to a committee to explore. She believes the latter is problematic as that gives Council the authority to shut an idea down before any research has been conducted. City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper stated that, legally, neither approach is inappropriate. It is entirely at Council's discretion which approach they prefer.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Yeas: Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero, Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman, Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills, Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo

Nays: President John Roskovics, Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio
Motion passed.

Tell Us Something We Don't Know

Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo stated that Ashtabula County Technical & Career Campus will host a household hazardous waste collection event on September 22, 2025 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio stated that the Madison Jazz Project will be performing from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Bands on the Beach on Thursday, August 7, 2025, at Walnut Beach.

Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills stated the Ashtabula Municipal Court Recovery Court will hold its graduation on Thursday, August 7, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. at the Ashtabula Public Library. The Ashtabula Area City Schools will host a Back-to-School Bash on Tuesday, August 12, 2025 from 4 to 6 p.m. She wished all area students a successful school year.

Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman stated that the Ashtabula Regional Medical Center will open the first school-based health center in Ashtabula County at Huron Elementary School, 2300 Wade Avenue. A grand opening celebration will be held on Thursday, August 28, 2025 at 1 p.m. at the school.

President John Roskovics stated that he attended the ribbon cutting at the new Buckeye PACE facility on Lake Avenue, and it is a great asset to the community.

Public Communications on General Matters

Steve Chase, of Arlington Avenue, stated that it doesn't matter where an idea comes from. Council should let ideas be discussed in committee and then vote on them.

Michael Wagner, of Spencer Avenue and W. 38th Street, asked if new housing was being built in that area. City Manager James Timonere stated that he has not seen any plans but will inquire about it. It could possibly be a Land Bank project. Mr. Wagner also asked if there were plans to pave Spencer Avenue. City Manager James Timonere stated it is something the City could look at for next year's paving project.

Barb Kiphart, of 815 E. 24th Street, asked if the City enforces its vacant building enforcement ordinance. She expressed concerns about vacant properties behind her house. City Manager James Timonere stated that the City enforces the ordinance and tries to collect fines from the property owners.

Gary Stuyvesant, of Columbus Avenue, updated City officials on the homeless camp situation on East 7th Street. He also suggested contacting the Ashtabula County Technical & Career Campus to help with the lifeguard shortage. City Manager James Timonere stated that the City has a contract with the YMCA, but may consider exploring different options next summer.

Executive Session (if needed)

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m. by Council President Roskovics.

Ashtabula City Council will meet again on Monday, August 18, 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:

August 18, 2025

ATTESTED BY:

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

ATTESTED BY:

Stacy L. Millberg
Stacy L. Millberg, Clerk of Council