



City of Ashtabula
Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, November 3, 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. President John Roskovics 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: City Solicitor Ceclia Cooper

Officers Present: City Manager James Timonere, 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

City Manager James Timonere requested to convene an executive session for the purpose of Collective Bargaining Agreement negotiations.

Motion: President John Roskovics moved to convene an executive session prior to the adjournment of the meeting; Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio seconded.

Discussion: None.

ROLL CALL

Yeas: President John Roskovics, Vice President Russel 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 Councilors present and City Manager James Timonere were requested to attend.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - 185

A RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR INEOS PIGMENTS ON THEIR COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROJECT AT W. 38TH ST. PARK

City Manager James Timonere presented the Resolution.

President John Roskovics asked for a motion to accept Resolution No. 2025-185.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to accept Resolution No. 2025-185; Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills seconded.

Discussion: None.

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: President John Roskovics, Vice President Russel 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.

Approval of Minutes

Regular Council Meeting Minutes, October 20, 2025

Motion: Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman moved to waive the reading of the minutes in their entirety; 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

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

Administrative Reports

City Council

President John Roskovics reminded Council of several upcoming meeting dates:

- November 17: A work session with the Ad Hoc Committee: Exploring Racism as a Public Health Crisis will be held at 5:30 p.m. with Pre Council and the Regular Council meeting to follow at 6:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.
- November 28: Swearing in of Council members elected on November 4 will be held at 6 p.m.
- December 1: Budget Hearing at 5:30 p.m., Pre Council at 6 p.m., Organizational Meeting at 6:30 p.m. and Regular Council Meeting at 7 p.m.

Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo requested a resolution recognizing Staff Sergeant Monte R. Foltz for his service at Veterans Park between 2018 and 2023, to be presented to his widow on Veterans Day; Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman seconded.

Discussion: Discussion took place regarding the proper procedure as the resolution was not on the meeting agenda. City Manager Timonere suggested adding the resolution request to the agenda and voting on it after the regular legislation, with Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo reading the full text during that time.

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: President John Roskovics, Vice President Russel 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.

Re-appointment of Ken Vanyo to Parks & Recreation Board

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

Re-appointment of Dave Payne to Historic Preservation Commission

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

Appointment of Chrissy Speelman to Planning Commission

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

Appointment of Frank Brown to Historic Preservation Commission

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

City Manager

The following legislation was formally requested:

An ordinance to enter into an agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation for the reconstruction of West 48th Street/SR 84 from Park Avenue to East 46th Street.

Motion: President John Roskovics moved to approve the City Manager's request; Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman seconded.

Discussion: Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills asked if the project would address complaints about the road condition between East 46th Street to West 45th Street coming off the bridge. City Manager James Timonere explained that the project is a state route project funded by a \$1.2 million grant that specifically covers Park Avenue to East 46th Street. He noted that they are exploring options to extend the improvements to West 45th Street if the budget allows, though it would not be a full-depth removal like the main project. He stated that the City's portion of the project is approximately \$385,000, which will use a significant portion of the annual \$900,000 paving budget.

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.

An ordinance to enter into a contract with Union Industrial Contractors, Inc., for the purpose of providing labor and materials to make repairs to the Hulbert Parking Lot to control water runoff in an amount not to exceed \$26,157.00. Expenses will be paid from Fund 412.

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

City Manager James Timonere stated that curbside leaf bag pickup will continue until November 24. He stated that the U.S. Coast Guard Buffalo District commander visited to discuss the Ashtabula station, but unfortunately, it could be several years before they return to permanent operations at the station. He stated that the City is exploring options to improve emergency response capabilities in the Coast Guard's absence.

Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero asked about the status of the U.S. Coast Guard building. City Manager James Timonere stated that the Coast Guard is still renting the building and there has been no discussion of them breaking the lease. The building is owned by the City Port Authority.

Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman asked for an update on the Petmin project and the CSX Railroad underpass on Lake Avenue. City Manager James Timonere stated that there has not been much communication on the Petmin project since the November 2024 election. He stated that he had a conference call with them about two months ago and, while nothing was confirmed, he got the feeling Petmin would not be moving forward with the project. He stated that they are still doing a lot of exploratory work, but there has not been much activity recently.

In regard to the CSX Railroad underpass, City Manager James Timonere stated that since the meeting he organized that was cut short, he has not received a response to his inquiries about the bridge from the railroad.

City Solicitor

No report.

Finance Director

The following legislation was formally requested:

An ordinance to make supplemental increases and decreases to appropriations in the General Fund, Workers Compensation Fund, S.C.M.R. Public Works, AMC Security, WPC Wastewater, Sanitation, Law Library, 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; President John Roskovics seconded.

Discussion: Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills asked for clarification on the \$220,000 for county sewer distribution.

Finance Director Vladimir Kan stated that the account line was not budgeted correctly last year. It is basically sewer fees collected from Saybrook Township and Ashtabula Township, on behalf of the county, that have to be paid to the county. City Manager James Timonere stated that City sewer lines that are within the City limits are maintained by the City. Once they leave the City limits, it becomes the county system. The residences that are in those townships are charged by both the City and county. The City collects fees for some and the county collects fees for some and the money is traded back and forth.

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.

Clerk of Council

No report.

City Council Committee Reports

The Ad Hoc Committee: Exploring Racism as a Public Health Crisis will meet with City Council on November 17 at 5:30 p.m. Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman added that the committee had completed a Racial Wealth Gap Simulation with Ashtabula Regional Medical Center's management team, with about 60 attendees, and thanked Council members who participated.

Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero provided a report for the Memorial Naming Committee. He stated that residents are requesting a memorial plaque for Mr. Morrison, founder of Molded Fiberglass and the inventor of the Corvette body. The plaques would be similar to existing plaques for Urban Meyer and Connie Schultz that are displayed at entrances to the City limits. The committee approved moving forward with the request. President John Roskovics stated that City Manager James Timonere would work on redesigning the signage to accommodate the request, after which the request would come to Council for a vote.

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

November 5

December 3

Finance & Personnel

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

Members: Chair Foglio, Vice Chair DiGiacomo, Roskovics

November 21

December 19

Public Works/Public Utilities/Cable/Schools

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

Members: Chair Mills, Vice Chair Guerriero, Roskovics

November 25

December 23 — CANCELED

Committee Chair Jodi Mills provided the report.

Safety Forces

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

Members: Chair Guerriero, Vice Chair Foglio, Roskovics

November 13

December 11

Planning Commission and Ashtabula Historic Preservation Commission

Presentation of Legislation

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 - 186

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF WEST 48TH STREET/SR 84 FROM PARK AVENUE TO EAST 46TH STREET

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 187

AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL INCREASES AND DECREASES TO APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL FUND, WORKERS COMPENSATION FUND, S.C.M.R. PUBLIC WORKS, AMC SECURITY, W.P.C. WASTEWATER, SANITATION, LAW LIBRARY, 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 - 188

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH UNION INDUSTRIAL CONTRACTORS, INC. FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING LABOR AND MATERIALS TO MAKE REPAIRS TO THE HULBERT PARKING LOT

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

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

Unfinished Business

Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo read Resolution No. 2025-189, A Resolution Recognizing and Honoring, Posthumously, Staff Sergeant Monte R. Foltz For His Distinguished Military Service and His Dedicated Leadership as Chairman of Ashtabula Veterans Park (2018-2023), for Council's consideration.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to approve Resolution No. 2025-189 so it could be presented to Mrs. Foltz at the Veterans Day ceremony on November 11; 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.

New Business

Liquor License Application for Change in LLC Membership Interests - Rennick Meat Market

The business is located in Ward 2. There are no issues with the change in membership.

Tell Us Something We Don't Know

Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills stated that the Comprehensive Plan Update Public Forum will be held on November 13 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the library. She explained that it would be an interactive session with different stations showing progress so far and opportunities for community input. City Manager James Timonere added that this would be the first of at least three public forums. He emphasized the importance of public participation in shaping the City's future.

Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills also mentioned recent changes to SNAP benefits and food assistance programs. She noted that food pantry usage has doubled at GO CDC's Wednesday pantry and reminded residents of upcoming holiday assistance program registration deadlines of November 14 for HALO and November 18 for GO CDC food and toy assistance.

Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman stated that the Hiawatha Church of God in Christ will host a program to honor veterans on November 16 at 10 a.m. The program includes lunch and care packages for the first 75 veterans attending.

President John Roskovics encouraged residents to continue supporting local businesses throughout the winter months when tourism slows down. He also commented on the large turnout and community spirit displayed during Halloween activities on Walnut Boulevard over the weekend.

Public Communications on General Matters

Austin Clark, of Columbus Avenue, thanked Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman for the Lunch and Learn at Ashtabula Regional Medical Center, which he and his wife attended. He suggested posting information about such events on the City's Facebook page to improve visibility. City Manager James Timonere explained that the event was not hosted by the City, which is why it was not posted.

Dave Coon, of North Kingsville, inquired about a time capsule buried in 1975 in front of the former Society Bank (now KeyBank) that was scheduled to be opened after 50 years on November 8, 2025. He explained it was a 3 by 4 foot fiberglass vessel provided by MFG containing photos and other artifacts, buried to commemorate Carlisle's, Arrowhead Mall, and the new Farmers Bank building. City Manager James Timonere reported they had scanned the area and identified a potential location. He stated they would obtain utility clearances before excavating, and if found, would organize a public event to open it.

Blake Hinkle, of Union Avenue and W. 16th Street, expressed his support of Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman's efforts to change the City's tax abatement process.

Haroldine Scruggs, of Cleveland Avenue, inquired about repairs to a pothole on Park Avenue. City Manager James Timonere stated that they had ordered new rings and lids for the repair and would complete the work before winter. Mrs. Scruggs also expressed strong support for the recognition of Robert Morrison, noting she had worked at his company for 50 years.

Linda Hines, of Bridge Street, presented petitions and letters from residents and merchants concerned about speeding traffic. She inquired about speed monitoring signs, which City Manager James Timonere explained had been on loan from the Ohio State Highway Patrol. He mentioned the City was considering purchasing portable radar signs that could be moved to different locations. Mrs. Hines also asked about rerouting construction trucks and reducing the speed limit. City Manager James Timonere stated that officials were waiting for stated approval regarding truck restrictions and explained that the current 25 mph speed limit was appropriate, but enforcement was the challenge.

Anthony Oquendo, of Ward 1, suggested developing a riverside park at the vacant Tannery Hill property where the old "gentleman's club" had been, possibly with a footbridge connecting to Indian Trails. City Manager James Timonere stated that the City's Port Authority owns the property and is considering similar ideas, though environmental remediation is needed due to contamination from the former tannery.

Rebecca Quirke, Ward 2, expressed concern about tax abatement for properties used as Airbnbs rather than permanent housing. She asked about the status of Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman's request for specific language to be added to abatement regulations. Vice President Russell Simeone mentioned the "but for" clause that had been proposed. City Manager James Timonere explained that adding such a clause would significantly change the residential abatement process, requiring approval before construction begins rather than after completion. Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman stated that she has not dropped the issue and is working with the Solicitor's Office to gather more information before bringing it back to Council.

Executive Session (if needed)

The executive session to discuss collective bargaining negotiations convened off camera at 8:39 p.m. with no action to be taken upon Council's return.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m. by Council President Roskovics.

Ashtabula City Council will meet again on Monday, November 17, 2025 in Council Chambers. A Work Session will be held at 5:30 p.m. The Pre-Council meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Regular Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

DATE APPROVED:

November 17, 2025

ATTESTED BY:

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

ATTESTED BY:

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