



City of Ashtabula
Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, February 2, 2026 at 7:00 PM
Council Chambers
4230 Lake Avenue, Ashtabula, OH 44004

Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting of the Ashtabula City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council President Roskovics.

Prayer

Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman offered the opening prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance

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.

Reading of Legislation

Clerk of Council Stacy Millberg read the legislation titles to be considered at the meeting.

Motion to Approve the Order of the Agenda

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to approve the order of the agenda; 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, Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Special Items

Communications

Citizen Comment and Community Announcements

Blake Hinkle, of Ward 1, thanked Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero for mentioning education on civil liberties, noting that it would benefit citizens even if they are not breaking the law. He asked City Manager James Timonere about the Appalachian grant and whether it came through the American Rescue Act. City Manager James Timonere confirmed that the funding was through the American Rescue Act that funneled through the state. He

stated that this portion of the funds that was distributed to the Appalachian region was the governor's decision on how the state's rescue funds were going to be spent.

Dee Scruggs, of Cleveland Avenue, inquired about the status of a resolution for the Morrison family. She stated that Mr. Morrison has contributed significantly to the community through employment and other means. City Manager James Timonere clarified that there would not be a resolution, but street signage similar to existing Urban Meyer and Connie Schultz signage, with the Morrison Foundation sign being planned. A committee is working on a more unified approach to these signs at City ery points. Ms. Scruggs also inquired about upcoming street paving projects. City Manager James Timonere stated that a list is being compiled and should be available by mid-February.

Councilor Comments, Liaison Reports and Meeting Announcements

President John Roskovics announced that due to Presidents' Day, the next Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 17, 2026.

Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman raised concerns about private phone numbers being listed on the Council roster and again requested that the Clerk of Council's office phone number be listed as the Ward 3 contact number. She also suggested institutionalizing a rotation for councilors to lead the opening prayer. President John Roskovics noted that these items had been previously discussed when reviewing the Council Rules. He stated that the Council Roster had been approved.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes

Pre-Council Meeting Minutes, January 20, 2026

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

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, the minutes were approved as presented.

Regular Council Meeting Minutes, January 20, 2026

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to waive the reading of the minutes in their entirety; 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

Hearing no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

Resolutions

New Business

For Passage

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 17

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO AMEND THE CONTRACT WITH AMENDOLA ENGINEERING INC. FOR MIXING ZONE STUDIES AND OTHER NECESSARY WORK RELATED TO THE RELOCATION OF OUTFALL 001

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 18

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TRAFFIC CONTROL MAP AND FILE, FOR THE PURPOSE OF VACATING A PORTION OF EAST 5th STREET BETWEEN LAKE ROAD AND EAST 6TH STREET

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 19

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TRAFFIC CONTROL MAP AND FILE, FOR THE PURPOSE OF VACATING AN ALLEY BETWEEN PARCELS 05-208-00-009-00 AND 05-208-00-008-00

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 20

AN ORDINANCE TO PAY PRIOR-YEAR INVOICE

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 21

AN ORDINANCE TO PAY PRIOR-YEAR INVOICE

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 22

AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL CHANGES TO APPROPRIATION IN THE GENERAL 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, 2026

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 23

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN APPALACHIAN COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM SUB-RECIPIENT GRANT AGREEMENT WITH EASTGATE REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS FOR MAIN AVENUE STREETScape IMPROVEMENTS RELATED TO THE APPALACHIAN COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 24

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CATTS CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR MAIN AVENUE STREETScape IMPROVEMENTS RELATED TO THE APPALACHIAN COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM MAIN AVENUE STREETScape PROJECT

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 25

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 26

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH SCHULTZ FLUID HANDLING FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING A REPLACEMENT DIGESTER RE-CIRCULATION PUMP FOR THE WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT

President John Roskovics asked for a motion to dispose of the Regular Business Legislation by consent agenda for Ordinance No. 2026-17 through 2026-26.

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 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman moved to waive the reading of the legislation; Ward 1 Councilor Kym Folgio 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.

First Reading(s)

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 27

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING EXISTING CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 913.11, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADOPTING REPLACEMENT LEGISLATION

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 28

AN ORDINANCE ENACTING REPLACEMENT CODIFIED ORDINANCE 913.11

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 29

AN ORDINANCE MODIFYING CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 959, ENTITLED PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES, TO INCLUDE A PROVISION WHICH REQUIRES A TREE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM BE ENACTED WITHIN CITY PARKS

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 30

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING TO AMEND THE JANUARY 1, 2026 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2028 COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ASHTABULA AND LOCAL 1197 OF THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY & MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES, OHIO COUNCIL 8, AFL-CIO ("1197") FOR THE PURPOSE OF RESTRUCTURING THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 31

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE 2021-87 FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENACTING REPLACEMENT LEGISLATION

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 32

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TRAFFIC CONTROL MAP AND FILE TO PROHIBIT PARKING ON THE EAST SIDE OF WASHINGTON AVENUE BETWEEN BUNKER HILL ROAD AND WEST 58TH STREET

President John Roskovics asked for a motion to dispose of the Regular Business Legislation by consent agenda for Ordinance No. 2026-27 through 2026-32.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to dispose of the Regular Business Legislation by consent agenda;
Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo 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 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.

Ordinances 2026-27 through 2026-32 will receive their second readings at the February 17, 2026 meeting.

Liquor Permit - Tucanes Mexican Cuisine, Inc., 729 Lake Avenue

The business is located in Ward 2. There were no concerns.

Liquor Permit - 4641 Main Avenue LLC

The business is located in Ward 4. There were no concerns.

Continuing Business/Public Hearings

Second Reading(s)

Administrative Approval Votes

City Manager James Timonere presented two board recommendations for Council approval:

- The appointment of Jennifer Shannon to the Parks and Recreation Board with a term to expire on May 21, 2029 was approved by a 7-0 vote.
- The appointment of Roger Altier to the Port Authority with a term expiring on October 22, 2028 was approved by a 7-0 vote.

City Manager James Timonere noted that Mr. Altier would be replacing Ron Kister, who has served on the Port Authority since its inception and is now retiring. He suggested that Council consider a resolution recognizing Mr. Kister's service in the future.

Tell Us Something We Don't Know

Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio announced the Our Lady of Peace fish fry would begin on February 20 from 4 to 7 p.m., with dine-in or takeout options available at the parish community center.

Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman highlighted Black History Month events including: the Ashtabula NAACP Unit 3171 program on February 14 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Edgewood Senior High School; and the Ashtabula County Public Library's third annual Films of the Freedom Movement showing "Harriet" on February 12 from 6 to 8:15 p.m. with free admission and refreshments. She also noted that the Ad Hoc Committee: Exploring Racism as a Public Health Crisis recently conducted a racial wealth gap simulation for 60 leadership students and plans to offer the experience to Council members.

Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills shared several upcoming community events:

- Remote property tax collection will be held at Council Chabers on February 17, 2026 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- The County Board of Developmental Disabilities will host a talent show on February 27 at the Ashtabula Arts Center from 5 to 7 p.m.
- The Ashtabula Animal Protective League pet food pantry is now operating at 3703 Station Avenue during Monday food co-op hours.
- Planning for the City Clean Up has begun. This year's event will be held May 9, 2026 and volunteers are needed. Anyone interested in volunteering can contact Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills, Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo or Clerk of Council Stacy Millbers.

Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman added that work continues on legislation for the proposed thriving communities

advisory board. The draft legislation has been going back and forth between the leadership of the Ad Hoc Committee: Exploring Racism as a Public Health Crisis and the Solicitor's Office. She stated it would be brought back to Council soon.

Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo announced that the Parks and Recreation Board is organizing the Memorial Day Parade to be held on May 25. Any organizations that would like to participate should contact her.

City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper reminded citizens that tenants experiencing heating issues during the winter should contact the City's Planning and Community Development Department if landlords are not responsive, so housing inspectors can investigate the complaints.

Executive Session (if needed)

Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman moved to enter into executive session for the purpose of Personnel, specifically to share results of exit interviews she conducted with two former employees; Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo seconded.

Discussion: Discussion took place regarding the purpose of the request and whether it was allowable under the Ohio Revised Code. City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper stated that an executive session for the purpose of personnel is for the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of public employees. So, discussing the dismissal of an employee would be a matter for investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee. However, it could be dismissal in a broad sense as they are not talking about firing someone, but they are talking about employees dismissing themselves. She stated that if it was going to fall under anything, it would fall under dismissal.

Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman revised her request to enter into executive session for the purpose of Personnel: Dismissal of former employees, to share results of exit interviews she conducted with two former employees; Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo seconded.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Yeas: Vice President Russell Simeone, Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero, Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman, Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo

Nays: President John Roskovics, Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio, Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills
Motion carried.

Following the vote, Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills asked about the legality of Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman conducting the exit interviews alone as she was not asked to do so and there was not another person present to act as a witness. City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper stated that it was not illegal unless confidential information was being released. President John Roskovics stated that Council never requested the interviews be conducted. They never adopted any kind of exit interview form and have never conducted exit interviews with any other employees who have left.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. by President John Roskovics.

Ashtabula City Council will meet again on Tuesday, February 17, 2026 in Council Chambers. The Pre-Council meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Regular Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

DATE APPROVED:

February 17, 2026

ATTESTED BY:

John S. Roskovics

John S. Roskovics, President of Council

ATTESTED BY:

Stacy L. Millberg

Stacy L. Millberg, Clerk of Council