



City of Ashtabula

Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, January 3, 2022 at 7:00 PM
Council Chambers
4717 Main Avenue

Minutes

Opening of Regular Meeting

Call to Order

The January 3rd, 2022 meeting of the Ashtabula City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council President Roskovics. Councilor Mills offered the opening prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call

Members Present: Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills, Ward 2 Councilor Calvin Crawford, Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman, Vice President Michael Speelman, President John Roskovics,

Absent: Ward 5 Councilor Jane Haines, Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio

Officers Present: City Manager James Timonere, City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper, Finance Director Traci Welch, Clerk of Council Stacy Senskey

Absent: none

Motion: Vice President Speelman moved to excuse Ms. Haines and Mrs. Foglio from the meeting; Ward 2 Councilor Crawford seconded.

Discussion: None

VOTE

Yeas: President Roskovics, Vice President Speelman, Ward 2 Councilor Crawford, Ward 3 Councilor Holman, Ward 4 Councilor Mills

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Sunshine Law Certification

A quorum was established as defined by Ashtabula City Council Rules of Order. The meeting met the requirements of the Ohio Sunshine Laws Open Meetings Act.

Presentations/Announcements

Council President Roskovics asked City Solicitor Cooper to repeal the last payroll ordinance and replace it with new legislation increasing Clerk of Council Senskey's salary.

Motion: President Roskovics moved to request legislation to increase Clerk Senskey's salary; Vice President Speelman seconded.

Discussion:

VOTE

Yeas: President Roskovics, Vice President Speelman, Ward 2 Councilor Crawford, Ward 3

Councilor Holman, Ward 4 Councilor Mills

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

December 20, 2021 Regular Council Meeting

Clerk of Council Senskey presented minutes from the December 20, 2021, Regular Council Meeting.

Motion: Vice President Speelman made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes; Ward 3 Councilor Holman seconded.

Discussion: None

VOTE

Ayes: President Roskovics, Vice President Speelman, Ward 2 Councilor Crawford, Ward 3 Councilor Holman, Ward 4 Councilor Mills

Nays: None

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

Administrative Reports

City Manager

Formal Request:

An ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Refuse Equipment & Truck Service for Sanitation transfer trailer repairs

Motion: Vice President Speelman moved to approve the City Manager's request; Ward 2 Councilor Crawford seconded.

Discussion: None

VOTE

Yeas: President Roskovics, Vice President Speelman, Ward 2 Councilor Crawford, Ward 3 Councilor Holman, Ward 4 Councilor Mills

Nays: None

Motion carried.

City Manager Timonere announced garbage pickup is on schedule for the week. Live, bare Christmas trees will be picked up within the next two weeks. Citizens are asked to remove all decorations before placing them along the curbside.

COVID update - from the Ashtabula City Health Department (ACHD). Currently, ACHD has 169 active COVID cases, bringing the total cases to 3663 since the beginning of the pandemic. Seven people are currently hospitalized, bringing the total to 227 hospitalizations. The City of Ashtabula recorded six deaths this week, bringing the total number of 68 deaths. The City has been experiencing a significant surge in COVID cases. There were 321 new active cases in October, 572 new cases in November, and 821 cases in December. The City Manager, Council President, and Vice President are urging citizens to consider getting vaccinated and masking in order to stay healthy. COVID testing has been difficult, whether through a lab or at-home testing kits. Citizens can click on the link "**CITY RESIDENTS ONLY - REPORT NON PROCTORED COVID-19 HOME TESTS HERE**" on the "COVID-19 Updates" page of the City's website

(<https://www.cityofashtabula.com/covid-19>) to report the results of at-home COVID tests. While waiting for COVID test results from area labs, City Manager Timonere advises citizens to consider themselves positive and take the necessary precautions and stay home when feeling ill. Vaccination rates in the City are difficult to determine, but recent COVID vaccination clinics have been well attended. President Roskovics said the vast majority of COVID patients in the hospitals are unvaccinated. City Manager Timonere said the statistics of hospitalizations since June 2021 in the state of Ohio is 92.5% of patients with COVID are unvaccinated. Vice President Speelman said,

"You're betting your life" by not vaccinating. Ward 4 Councilor Mills has received numerous positive calls praising the ACHD staff for their efforts to keep in contact with COVID patients, even during the holidays and after normal business hours. Many municipalities do not track cases at all.

City Solicitor

Finance Director

Clerk of Council

Clerk Senskey announced the Parks & Recreation Board changed their meeting to Tuesday, January 4th at 5 p.m. in the Pre-Council chambers, and the Civil Service Commission changed their meeting to Tuesday, January 4th at 10:00 a.m. in the August A. Pugliese 2nd Floor conference room. She recited Amanda Gorman's poem, "New Day's Lyric".

City Council Committee Reports

Community Development/Economic Development/Parks & Recreation

The next meeting is scheduled for 4:00 p.m. January 11, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Finance & Personnel

The next meeting is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. on Friday, January 21, 2022 in Council Chambers.

Public Works

The next meeting is scheduled for 5:00 p.m. on Monday, January 24, 2022, in Council Chambers.

Safety Forces

The next meeting is scheduled for 8:45 a.m. on Monday, January 24, 2022 in Council Chambers.

Presentation of Legislation

Additional Formal Requests

Public Communications on Legislation

Overview / Discussion

Reading of Legislation

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-01 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH REFUSE EQUIPMENT & TRUCK SERVICE FOR SANITATION TRANSFER TRAILER REPAIRS (City Manager)

Motion: Vice President Speelman moved to waive the reading of the legislation in its entirety; Ward 2 Councilor Crawford seconded.

Discussion:

VOTE

Yeas: President Roskovics, Vice President Speelman, Ward 2 Councilor Crawford, Ward 3 Councilor Holman, Ward 4 Councilor Mills

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Motion: Vice President Speelman moved to waive the Charter requirements of two readings of the legislation; Ward 3 Councilor Holman seconded.

Discussion:

ROLL CALL VOTE

Yeas: Ward 4 Councilor Mills, Ward 2 Councilor Crawford, Ward 3 Councilor Holman, Vice President Speelman, President Roskovics

Nays: None

Motion carried.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON ADOPTION OF THE LEGISLATION

Yeas: Ward 4 Councilor Mills, Ward 2 Councilor Crawford, Ward 3 Councilor Holman, Vice President Speelman, President Roskovics

Nays: None

Unfinished Business

New Business

Ward 4 Councilor Mills signed up for Sunshine Law Certification training on January 26, 2022. Several opportunities to sign up for the Sunshine Law webinars are listed on the Ohio Attorney General's website <https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/legal/sunshine-laws/sunshine-law-training>.

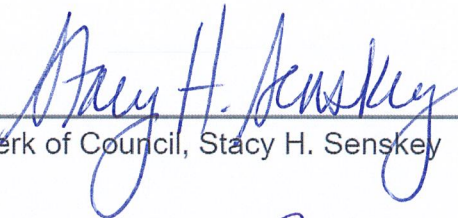
Tell Us Something We Don't Know

Public Communications on General Matters

Executive Session (if needed)

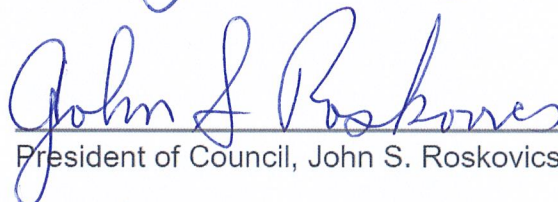
Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m. by Council President Roskovics. Ashtabula City Council will meet again on Tuesday, January 18th, 2022, 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.



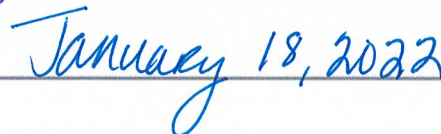
Clerk of Council, Stacy H. Senskey

Attested By:



President of Council, John S. Roskovics

Date Approved:



January 18, 2022