



City of Ashtabula
Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, April 6, 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 President John Roskovics.

Prayer

Vice President Russell Simeone 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 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo moved to approve the order of the agenda; 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 carried.

Special Items

Communications

Citizen Comment and Community Announcements

Ryan Humphrey, Ward 1, addressed Council regarding a transfer station reuse program proposal he had submitted via email. He read his original email suggesting a small area where usable items could be placed for residents to take before disposal, citing environmental and financial benefits. He then read a response from Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio, which he described as dismissive.

Steve Chase, Ward 1, expressed frustration about Council's responsiveness, noting that only three of seven Council members had responded to emails he sent regarding a property issue at W. 4th Street and Franklin. He criticized Council and questioned Council's legal authority to vote on Community Reinvestment Area tax abatement, indicating they lacked the authority based on his interpretation of the ordinance.

Dee Scruggs, Ward 3, thanked individual City officials for taking time to answer questions, but encouraged Council members to better educate themselves on current issues, specifically referring to the Racial Wealth Gap Simulation conducted earlier. Mrs. Scruggs encouraged Council members that have previously participated in the RWG to do it again because things have changed in our area and nationally.

Anthony Oquendo, Ward 1, inquired about potential conflicts between a proposed VA clinic near the library and the City's master plan, which designates Lake Avenue as the medical corridor. He expressed concern about moving the YMCA to Kent State and its impact on accessibility for students who walk to the current location. City Manager James Timonere clarified that the VA clinic proposal was prior to master plan discussions and that the developer had not yet received word on the federal RFP decision. He explained that the YMCA's announcement of moving to Kent State was a surprise and that the City had no input in that decision, contrary to social media speculating about the City forcing the move.

Blake Hinkle, Ward 1, thanked the City for their efforts with the Welcome Home Ohio program. He thanked Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero and Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo for attending the Racial Wealth Gap Simulation. He also supported Mr. Humphrey's recycling idea as environmentally beneficial and easy to implement.

Jennifer German, Ward 4, asked about accessing information from the Kent State master plan meeting for those who could not attend. City Manager James Timonere confirmed that slides and survey information would be posted on the City website.

Councilor Comments, Liaison Reports and Meeting Announcements

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes

Pre-Council Meeting Minutes, March 16, 2026

Motion: Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero 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, March 16, 2026

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

Hearing no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

Resolutions

New Business

For Passage

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 63

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO MAKE APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT FOR A DOWNTOWN BUILDINGS FLEXIBLE GRANT PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$245,000.00 TO ASSIST WITH A PROJECT LOCATED AT 1104 BRIDGE STREET

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 64

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH PERRAM ELECTRIC, INC. TO MAKE UPGRADES TO THE W. 19TH, LAKE AVE. AND WEST AVENUE TRAFFIC SIGNAL

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 65

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH KOSKI CONSTRUCTION CO. FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAVING CITY STREETS

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 66

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 – 67

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE 2026 - 50 FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENACTING REPLACEMENT LEGISLATION

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 68

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 69

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO DISPOSE FINANCE DEPARTMENT OBSOLETE ASSETS

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 70

AN ORDINANCE TO FORMALLY INCLUDE SMALL CITIES PROGRAM GRANT AS A PASS-THROUGH EXPENSE IN THE PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT FUND #412 IN FISCAL YEAR 2026

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 71

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO DISPOSE OF OBSOLETE AND UNNEEDED EQUIPMENT FROM THE ASHTABULA POLICE DEPARTMENT

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 72

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ASCENDANCE TRUCK CENTERS FOR STREET SWEEPER REPAIRS

President John Roskovics asked for a motion to dispose of the Regular Business Legislation by consent agenda for Ordinance No. 2026-63 through 2026-72.

Motion: Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman moved to dispose of the Regular Business Legislation by consent agenda; 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 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; President John Roskovics 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 - 73

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH BEST TRUCK EQUIPMENT, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF A SCAG ZERO TURN AND PUSH MOWER FOR PARKS & RECREATION

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 74

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA TAX INCENTIVE AGREEMENT WITH SHAWN & DELIA HOCH FOR TAX ABATEMENT AT 100% FOR 7 YEARS FOR NEW RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS LOCATED AT 1814 WEST 10TH STREET, ASHTABULA, OH

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 75

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA TAX INCENTIVE AGREEMENT WITH MITCHELL MALASKY & AMANDA WOOD FOR TAX ABATEMENT AT 100% FOR 7 YEARS FOR NEW RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS LOCATED AT 2602 BROOKE LANE, ASHTABULA, OH 44004

Motion: Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo moved to waive the reading of the legislation; 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.

Continuing Business/Public Hearings

Second Reading(s)

Administrative Approval Votes

Tell Us Something We Don't Know

Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo announced the America 250 speech contest for students aged 10 to 14 and 15 to 18. Speeches should be four to five minutes in length and will be delivered on May 28 at the America 250 event at the courthouse in Jefferson. She also reminded residents that early voting begins on Tuesday.

Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills announced several community events including a volunteer fair at the Ashtabula Public Library on April 24th, a Friends of the Library book sale on May 1st and 2nd, a Lift Bridge Community cleanup on April 21st, and RAM USA health services at Lakeside Junior High on Saturday and Sunday beginning at 6 a.m. She emphasized that RAM USA serves both uninsured and underinsured residents with various medical services.

Executive Session (if needed)

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m. by President John Roskovics. Ashtabula City Council will meet again on Monday, April 20, 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:

April 20, 2020

ATTESTED BY:

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

ATTESTED BY:

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