



City of Ashtabula
Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, May 18, 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

President John Roskovics 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
Absent: Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills, Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo
Officers Present: City Manager James Timonere, City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper, Finance Director Vladimir Kan, Clerk of Council Stacy Millberg

President John Roskovics asked for a motion to excuse Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to excuse Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills; Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman seconded.

Discussion:

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

Nays: None

Motion passed.

President John Roskovics asked for a motion to excuse Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to excuse Ward 5 Councilor Jane DiGiacomo; Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman seconded.

Discussion:

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

Nays: None

Motion passed.

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

Prior to the agenda being approved, a discussion took place regarding the tabled payroll ordinances from the May 4, 2026 meeting. City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper explained that because the Municipal Court had issued a judgment entry ordering new salary rates, and Council had not yet approved the corresponding payroll ordinances, the City was not in compliance with the court's order. Payroll staff had been processing pay at the old rate pending Council action.

Motion: Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero moved to take Ordinance 2026-87 and 2026-88 off the table and add them to the agenda. Vice President Russell Simeone seconded.

Discussion: None

ROLL CALL VOTE

Yeas: President John Roskovics, Vice President Russell Simeone, Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero, Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman

Nays: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio

Motion carried.

Additionally, prior to agenda approval, a discussion took place regarding Ordinance 2026-97 and 2026-98, which concerned the repeal and replacement of the food truck legislation, removing the existing requirement that food truck owners submit to both FBI and BCI background checks as a condition of obtaining a City permit. The question of whether the ordinance went back to committee for discussion prior to being placed on the agenda was raised. City Manager James Timonere explained that it was briefly discussed at the last Community Development / Economic Development / Parks & Recreation Committee meeting; however, a detailed discussion did not take place. He reported that the City has received considerable pushback from food truck operators, who noted that no other business type in the City, including brick-and-mortar restaurants, tobacco retailers, or car dealerships, are required to submit to a background check as a condition of a City license. He noted that no permit applications have been received to date and attributed this in part to the background check requirement. The cost to comply is \$88 for both background checks combined. Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman expressed support for the original rationale behind the requirement, noting that unlike brick-and-mortar establishments, food trucks are mobile, travel into neighborhoods, and attract children. She stated that she had received constituent emails supporting the background check as a child safety measure and indicated that she did not feel the issue had received sufficient committee discussion. City Manager James Timonere clarified that the permit requirement applies only to food trucks seeking to operate on City property or at City-sponsored events; food trucks invited onto private property or operating as part of a privately organized event are not subject to background checks.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to approve the order of the agenda; 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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Special Items

Communications

Citizen Comment and Community Announcements

Barbara Kiphart, of E. 24th Street addressed Council regarding a nuisance property, located at 900 E. 23rd Street, which is behind her property. She noted that a visiting Judge had ruled in the City's favor on April 8, ordering the property to be cleaned up, but nothing had been done. City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper explained that the judgment entry was not filed by the clerk's office until recently. Mrs. Kiphart expressed strong frustration with the delay, citing deteriorating conditions including abandoned vehicles, debris, multiple lawnmowers, and what she described as the smell of dead animals from a structure on the property. City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper acknowledged Mrs. Kiphart's frustration, and confirmed that a court order granting the City authority to clean the property is now in place. It was also noted that the history of the case extends back to 2015.

Blake Hinkle, of Ward 1, inquired about whether the food truck background check legislation would actually apply to ice cream trucks operating on public streets, given that the ordinance appeared to be prompted by concerns about those operators. He also asked whether a letter referenced on the Facebook Live stream by viewer Maria

Rivera would be read into the public record. President John Roskovics indicated it would not be read.

Jennifer German, of Ward 4, raised a concern about the Municipal Court's new website and the apparent absence of certain historical judgment entries from the public docket. City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper explained that the transition to the new court computer system has created navigation difficulties and that some older documents may not yet be fully migrated, but that any document previously on the docket remains available by request at the clerk's office window.

Bobby Keene, of W. 15th Street, returned to Council following his appearance at the May 4 meeting regarding his inability to obtain a permit to build an addition to a garage on his property due to the existing moratorium. He expressed strong frustration, stating he believes the restriction is an infringement on his property rights, and that ongoing delays are causing his contractor to push back the project timeline and potentially increase the cost. He also raised a related concern about a drainage ditch along Grant Street, noting that he had not received a return call from City staff after being told he could not install a French drain himself. City Manager James Timonere clarified that the City's practice for ditch elimination is that the property owner pays for the pipe materials while the city performs the installation, and that residents are not permitted to work on City infrastructure. President John Roskovics acknowledged Mr. Keene's frustration and stated that Council is reviewing the moratorium issue.

Councilor Comments, Liaison Reports and Meeting Announcements

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes

Pre-Council Meeting Minutes, May 4, 2026

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to waive the reading of the minutes in their entirety; President John Roskovics seconded.

Discussion: Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman requested that an additional comment be included, noting that she had questioned the appropriateness of sharing certain employee information during the meeting.

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

Nays: None

The minutes were approved with the addition of Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman's request.

Regular Council Meeting Minutes, May 4, 2026

Motion: President John Roskovics 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

Nays: None

Hearing no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

Resolutions

New Business

For Passage

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 91

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH MONTROSE CHRYSLER, JEEP, DODGE, RAM FOR THE PURCHASE OF A DODGE RAM 2500 TRADESMAN FOR THE MOTOR MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 92

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH COLUMBIANA CHRYSLER JEEP DODGE FOR THE ACQUISITION OF A DODGE RAM REGULAR CAB 5500 DUMP TRUCK FOR PUBLIC WORKS

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 93

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH PROLINE TECHNOLOGY TO INSTALL SECURITY CAMERAS IN THE CITY ANNEX

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 94

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING FINANCE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AN INDIVIDUAL EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH MS. RACHELLE BABCOCK FOR A TWO-YEAR PERIOD, COMMENCING ON JUNE 8, 2026

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 95

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 - 96

AN ORDINANCE ENACTING ADOPTION OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT POLICY

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 97

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING, IN ITS ENTIRETY, CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 759.08 FOR THE PURPOSE OF REMOVING THE REQUIREMENT TO OBTAIN A COMPLETED FBI (NATIONAL) AND BCI (OHIO) BACKGROUND CHECK

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 98

AN ORDINANCE ENACTING NEW CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 759.08

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 99

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO DISPOSE OF OBSOLETE AND UNNEEDED VEHICLES

Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio asked that Ordinance No. 2026-87 and 2026-88 be separated should Council choose to handle the legislation in consent agenda format. Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman asked that Ordinance No. 2026-97 and 2026-98 be separated as well.

President John Roskovics asked for a motion to dispose of the Regular Business Legislation by consent agenda for Ordinance No. 2026-87 and 2026-88.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio moved to dispose of the Regular Business Legislation by consent agenda for Ordinance No. 2026-87 and 2026-88; 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

Nays: None

Motion passed.

Motion: Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero moved to waive the reading of the legislation; 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

Nays: None

Motion passed.

Motion: Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman 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

Nays: None

Motion passed.

Adoption of legislation

ROLL CALL VOTE

Yeas: President John Roskovics, Vice President Russell Simeone, Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero, Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman

Nays: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio

Legislation passed.

President John Roskovics asked for a motion to dispose of the Regular Business Legislation by consent agenda for Ordinance No. 2026-91 through 2026-96 and 2026-99.

Motion: Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman moved to dispose of the Regular Business Legislation by consent agenda for Ordinance No. 2026-91 through 2026-96 and 2026-99; 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

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

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

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

Nays: None

Legislation passed.

Motion: Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman moved to return Ordinance No. 2026-97 and 2026-98 to committee for further discussion; Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio seconded.

Discussion: None

ROLL CALL VOTE

Yeas: Vice President Russell Simeone, Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio, Ward 2 Councilor Terence Guerriero, Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman

Nays: President John Roskovics

Motion carried.

First Reading(s)

Continuing Business/Public Hearings

Second Reading(s)

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 90

CONSENT LEGISLATION FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A CABLE BARRIER ALONG SR 11 WITHIN THE CITY OF ASHTABULA

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio 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

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

Nays: None

Legislation passed.

Administrative Approval Votes

Tell Us Something We Don't Know

Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio announced that the final preparations were underway for the Our Lady of Peace Parish Festival, scheduled for June 11–14, from 5 to 10 p.m. The festival will feature 16 rides. Thursday is Kids' Night, featuring youth performance groups Kings of the Castle and The Slack. Friday will feature Rough Cut; Saturday, Coming Together Back for Us; and Sunday, Blue Siren, with fireworks at 10 p.m. Sunday night.

Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman reported on behalf of the City Cleanup Committee, noting that this year's cleanup collected 5,000 pounds of trash and 30 tires across 34 routes. City Manager James Timonere added that last year's cleanup had collected over 15,000 pounds and more than 90 tires, indicating that the annual event is making a measurable difference. The committee extended thanks to residents, county participants, City employees, Council members in attendance, and Signature Health for providing lunch.

President John Roskovics noted that several new businesses are opening on Bridge Street and encouraged residents to visit them.

Executive Session (if needed)

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m. by President John Roskovics.

Ashtabula City Council will meet again on Monday, June 1, 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:

June 1, 2026

ATTESTED BY:

John S. Roskovics

John S. Roskovics, President of Council

ATTESTED BY:

Stacy L. Millberg

Stacy L. Millberg, Clerk of Council