



City of Ashtabula
Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, April 4, 2022 at 7:00 PM
Council Chambers
4717 Main Avenue

Minutes

Opening of Regular Meeting

- **Call to Order**
- **Prayer**
- **Pledge of Allegiance**
- **Moment of Silence (if needed)**

The April 4, 2022, Regular 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 5 Councilor Haines, Ward 1 Councilor Foglio, Ward 2 Councilor Crawford, Ward 3 Councilor Holman, Ward 4 Councilor Mills, Vice President Speelman, President Roskovics

Absent:

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

Absent:

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

Approval of Minutes

March 21, 2022

Clerk of Council Senskey presented minutes from the March 21st Regular Council meeting.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Foglio moved to approve the minutes; Vice President Speelman seconded.

Discussion:

VOICE VOTE

Ayes: President Roskovics, Vice President Speelman, Ward 1 Councilor Foglio, Ward 2 Councilor Crawford, Ward 3 Councilor Holman, Ward 4 Councilor Mills, Ward 5 Councilor Haines

Nays: None

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

Administrative Reports

City Manager

City Manager Timonere formally requested an ordinance to execute an MOU with A.F.S.C.M.E Local 1197 Union approving amendments to the Collective Bargaining Agreement to modify one job description and create the position of Sanitation Laborer without a Commercial Drivers License (CDL).

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Foglio moved to approve the City Manager's request; Vice President Speelman seconded.

Discussion:

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: President Roskovics, Vice President Speelman, Ward 1 Councilor Foglio, Ward 2 Councilor Crawford, Ward 3 Councilor Holman, Ward 4 Councilor Mills, Ward 5 Councilor Haines

Nays: None

Motion Passed.

City Manager Timonere formally requested an ordinance to enter into a Preliminary Participation Agreement with ODOT for repairs to certain sections of Route 20 and Route 84.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Foglio moved to approve the City Manager's request; Vice President Speelman seconded.

Discussion: The repairs to Route 20 will begin near West 48th Street on the eastern portion of Route 20 and extend to Woodman Avenue. The repairs to Route 84 will begin at East 46th Street and extend to the railroad tracks on State Road. There will also be some repair work to the Spring Street Bridge. The City is responsible for 20% of the cost of the total project, though the City's responsibility for certain repairs would be 100%. The estimate for the City's portion is \$220,000.00 but it could be more due to inflation.

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: President Roskovics, Vice President Speelman, Ward 1 Councilor Foglio, Ward 2 Councilor Crawford, Ward 3 Councilor Holman, Ward 4 Councilor Mills, Ward 5 Councilor Haines

Nays: None

Motion Passed.

City Manager Timonere formally requested an ordinance to enter into an agreement with American Fireworks with a mailing address of P.O. Box 1447 Hudson Ohio as the most responsive bid to provide fireworks for the City of Ashtabula in the amount not to exceed \$12,500.00. Funding for this expense shall be taken from the 233 fund.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Foglio moved to approve the City Manager's request; Ward 2 Councilor Crawford seconded.

Discussion: The fireworks will be held in the same location as in previous years. Agreements between American Fireworks and Sidley's are in process and the Coast Guard was contacted to schedule shutting down river traffic during the event. The expense is paid out of the Parks and Recreation fund and supplemented by donations raised by the Ashtabula Fire Fighters Union, IAFF(International Association of Fire Fighters).

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: President Roskovics, Vice President Speelman, Ward 1 Councilor Foglio, Ward 2 Councilor Crawford, Ward 3 Councilor Holman, Ward 4 Councilor Mills, Ward 5 Councilor Haines

Nays: None

Motion Passed.

Curbside leaf bag pickup starts the week of April 11th in the Wards and April 18th in the Harbor district. Citizens are encouraged to use the curbside services. Leaf bags deposited in front of the transfer station are still acceptable. Some contractors are leaving excessive amounts, which could mean an end to this service.

City Solicitor

Finance Director

The filing deadline for city income tax returns is Monday, April 18th. The Finance Department encourages citizens to file before the deadline to cut down on long lines and wait times on tax day. The current Income Tax Department hours are Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm, but staff will extend hours and remain open until 6:00 pm on Thursday, April 14th, Friday, April 15th, as well as Monday, April 18th. All residents over the age of 18 must file a tax return even if there is no tax due.

Finance Director Welch formally requested an ordinance for the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Ashtabula County Board of Commissioners for the purpose of collecting transient lodging tax (bed tax) on behalf of the City of Ashtabula.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Foglio moved to approve the Finance Director's request; Ward 5 Councilor Haines seconded.

Discussion:

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: Vice President Speelman, Ward 1 Councilor Foglio, Ward 2 Councilor Crawford, Ward 3 Councilor Holman, Ward 4 Councilor Mills, Ward 5 Councilor Haines

Nays: President Roskovics

Motion Passed.

Clerk of Council

City Council Committee Reports

Community Development/Economic Development/Parks & Recreation -

April 12, 2022, 4:00 p.m. in Council Chambers

The special guest for the upcoming meeting is Mary Gonia-Glauser, Executive Director, Ashtabula County Animal Protective League.

A Clean Up Ashtabula Day has been scheduled for April 30th from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Numerous volunteers have responded. More information is forthcoming.

Finance & Personnel -

April 15, 2022, 8:30 a.m. in Council Chambers

Public Works -

April 25, 2022, 5:00 p.m. in Council Chambers

Safety Forces -

April 25, 2022, 8:45 a.m. in Council Chambers

Motion: Vice President Speelman moved to request an ordinance prohibiting parking on West 54th Street on the south side of the street between Main Avenue and the railroad crossing just west of Chestnut Avenue.; Ward 5 Councilor Haines seconded.

Discussion: Councilor Mills thanked Chief Stell for handling the request expeditiously.

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: President Roskovics, Vice President Speelman, Ward 1 Councilor Foglio, Ward 2 Councilor Crawford, Ward 3 Councilor Holman, Ward 4 Councilor Mills, Ward 5 Councilor Haines

Nays: None

Motion Passed.

City Manager Timonere noted an evaluation is needed for the request to prohibit parking on portions of Walnut Boulevard. Chief Stell will review the street's parking situation from Point Park to West 9th Street and make a recommendation. If the Councilors agree, the residents of the street will be notified of the recommendation.

Presentation of Legislation

Additional Formal Requests

Public Communications on Legislation

Overview / Discussion

Reading of Legislation

Motion: Ward 5 Councilor Haines moved to approve the disposal of the Regular Business Legislation by Consent Agenda; Ward 1 Councilor Foglio seconded.

Discussion:

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: President Roskovics, Vice President Speelman, Ward 1 Councilor Foglio, Ward 2 Councilor Crawford, Ward 3 Councilor Holman, Ward 4 Councilor Mills, Ward 5 Councilor Haines

Nays: None

Motion Passed

Resolution No. 2022-48 A RESOLUTION HONORING JEANNIE DROESE'S YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CITY OF ASHTABULA (City Council, requested 3/21/2022)

Ordinance No. 2022-49 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA TAX INCENTIVE AGREEMENT WITH ASHTABULA SENIOR HOUSING LP, FOR COMMERCIAL TAX ABATEMENT AT 50% FOR 10 YEARS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF CHESTNUT VILLAGE APARTMENTS (City Manager, requested 3/21/2022)

Ordinance No. 2022-50 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH BUILDING TECHNICIANS CORPORATION, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$45,840.00 TO MAKE REPAIRS TO OR REPLACE THE WPC DIGESTER BUILDING ROOF, INCLUDING A SUBCONTRACTOR FOR THE BRICK AND MASONRY WORK (City Manager, requested 3/21/2022)

Ordinance No. 2022-51 AN ORDINANCE GRANTING THE LIFT BRIDGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION PERMISSION TO HOLD THE ANNUAL ASHTABULA WINE & WALLEYE FESTIVAL IN THE ASHTABULA HARBOR HISTORIC DISTRICT ON JULY 22 THROUGH 24, 2022, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CITY OF ASHTABULA (City Manager, requested 3/21/2022)

Ordinance No. 2022-52 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN AFSCME LOCAL 1197 AND THE CITY OF ASHTABULA TO MODIFY ONE JOB DESCRIPTION AND CREATING THE POSITION OF SANITATION LABORER WITHOUT CDL (City Manager, requested 4/4/2022)

Ordinance No. 2022-53 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION IN ORDER TO REPAIR U.S. ROUTE 20 FROM WOODMAN AVE TO JUST EAST OF CORNELL AVE AND SR 84 (STATE RD) FROM E. 46TH ST TO THE NORFOLK & SOUTHERN RR CROSSING (JUST

SOUTH OF E 47TH ST), INCLUDING MINOR BRIDGE WORK TO ONE STRUCTURE (City Manager, requested 4/4/2022)

Legislation - Enactment, Passage or Adoption

Motion: Ward 5 Councilor Haines moved to waive the reading of the legislation; Vice President Speelman seconded.

Discussion:

VOICE VOTE: Waive the reading of the legislation in its entirety.

Yeas: President Roskovics, Vice President Speelman, Ward 1 Councilor Foglio, Ward 2 Councilor Crawford, Ward 3 Councilor Holman, Ward 4 Councilor Mills, Ward 5 Councilor Haines

Nays: None

Motion Passed.

Motion: Vice President Speelman moved to waive the Charter Requirements of two readings of the legislation; Ward 5 Councilor Haines seconded.

Discussion

ROLL CALL VOTE: Waive the Charter Requirements of two readings of the legislation.

Yeas: Ward 5 Councilor Haines, Ward 1 Councilor Foglio, Ward 2 Councilor Crawford, Ward 3 Councilor Holman, Ward 4 Councilor Mills, Vice President Speelman, President Roskovics

Nays: None

Motion Passed

ROLL CALL VOTE: Adoption of legislation

Yeas: Ward 5 Councilor Haines, Ward 1 Councilor Foglio, Ward 2 Councilor Crawford, Ward 3 Councilor Holman, Ward 4 Councilor Mills, Vice President Speelman, President Roskovics

Nays: None

Legislation Passed

Unfinished Business

New Business

Notice to Legislative Authority

Transfer of ownership from CAP Real Estate LLC dba Purola Brothers Pizza to Hulbert Management LLC dba Club

Councilor Crawford had no objections to the transfer of ownership of the liquor permit from CAP Real Estate LLC dba Purola Brothers Pizza to Hulbert Management LLC dba Club 1035.

Tell Us Something We Don't Know

Ward 5 Councilor Haines

She attended the Ashtabula Municipal Recovery Court's sixth convocation. It is a two-year program and past graduates return to tell their stories. "It moved me to tears."

[NEO \(New Entrepreneur Opportunity\) Fund](#) and [ACAP \(Ashtabula Capital Access Program\)](#) are receiving a grant from Huntington National Bank to provide programming to support a variety of entrepreneurs in various fields. Many of the programs focus on minorities and women. This provides opportunities for growth in Ashtabula.

Ward 4 Councilor Mills

She worked as a triage nurse for the April 2-3 [RAM](#) Free Clinic held at Lakeside High School. Local volunteers as well as some from around the country came to serve 543 patients and provided \$255,758.00 worth of medical, dental, and vision services to our community members. Vendors

were on hand, including Signature Health. Their Community Liaison, Peggy Senskey started a mobile clinic offering free naloxone distribution and opioid overdose education. The [Mobile Clinic](#) schedule is on their website.

[Tire Amnesty Day](#) is Saturday, May 14 at the Ashtabula County Fairgrounds from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

She and Ward 3 Councilor Holman attended a day of training for newly elected officials in Independence, Ohio. Among the things she learned is that some municipalities charge the residents by the foot for paving, then add the expense to their property tax bill. This used to be a practice in the City of Ashtabula. Paving typically costs \$1 million a mile.

City Manager Timonere

Aqua and their staff are cleaning up Walnut Beach in celebration of Earth Day. They are also donating funds to the City, which will be put to use in the April 30th Clean Up Ashtabula event. Any remaining funds will be put in the Parks and Recreation Fund.

BoxCast is the technology service the City uses for streaming meetings to Spectrum, the City website, and Facebook. BoxCast is now offering an app for Apple TV, Roku, and Amazon Firestick. Once the Boxcast app is downloaded, an individual may watch City broadcasts by searching for Ashtabula.

Clerk of Council Senskey

[Harbor Gardens](#), located on Bridge Street, held a grand opening this past weekend. The store plans to be open Thursdays through Mondays from 10:00 am to 6:00 p.m. Harbor Gardens is a space to build community around self-reliance and food security, appreciation for our local ecosystems and all things sustainably grown and made in Ashtabula.

President Roskovics

Harbor Nutrition is a new option for healthy shakes and teas, located next to Little Charlie's Bake Shop. Councilor Mills added Harbor Hound is another new business now open. Located on Lake Avenue, they scheduled a ribbon-cutting ceremony for Thursday, April 7 at noon.

Public Communications on General Matters

Members of the public submitted questions and comments to the Clerk of Council.

Project Updates:

Petmin and Ashtabula Riverbend Hotel projects are ongoing. Construction delays have been an issue for Petmin. The hotel project is finalizing the new market tax credit. The City Manager is assisting with finding solutions for parking in the area.

Littering:

An anonymous community member said, "The first thing people see when they see the out-of-control litter problem in Ashtabula is a lack of respect for the community." The City has two codified ordinances dealing with littering. Zero citations have been made for [331.42](#) Littering from a Moving Vehicle since 2016 and zero or one per year for [521.08](#) General Littering. The community member

suggested policing littering and increasing the punishment for littering may be a solution. The fines should be increased and individuals who are unable to pay should do community service. The City Manager responded that only three or four officers are on the road at a time and they must witness the offense. Dashcam videos or traffic cameras may be an effective way to catch individuals in the act, but the current [City Charter](#) prohibits the use of cameras unless an officer is present.

Executive Session (if needed)

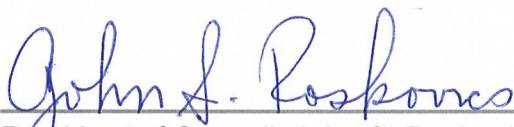
Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 07:43 PM by Council President Roskovics.
Ashtabula City Council will meet again on Monday, April 18, 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:

