



City of Ashtabula
Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, November 21, 2022 at 7:00 PM
Council Chambers
4717 Main Avenue

Minutes

Opening of Regular Meeting

Call to Order

The meeting of the Ashtabula City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council President Roskovics. Councilor Kym Foglio offered the opening prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call

Members Present: President John Roskovics, Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio, Ward 2 Councilor Calvin Crawford, Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman, Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills, Ward 5 Councilor Jane Haines-DiGiacomo

Absent: Vice President Michael Speelman

Officers Present: City Manager James Timonere, Finance Director Traci Welch, City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Foglio moved to excuse Vice President Speelman, Ward 4 Councilor Mills seconded.

Discussion:

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: President John Roskovics, Ward 1 Councilor Foglio, Ward 2 Councilor Crawford, Ward 3 Councilor Holman, Ward 4 Councilor Mills, Ward 5 Councilor Haines-DiGiacomo

Nays: None.

The motion to excuse the absence was adopted.

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

City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper and Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio presented Assistant City Solicitor Lori

B. Lamer a Resolution Honoring Ms. Lamer's on her retirement from the City of Ashtabula. Ms. Lamer served as the Assistant City Solicitor for thirteen years and served in Ashtabula and Portage Counties for thirty years, twenty-seven years in Ashtabula County.

President Roskovics requested an executive session prior to the meeting adjournment for the purpose of discussing personnel, employment of a public employee and the purchase of property.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Foglio made a motion to adjourn to executive session prior to the meeting adjournment to discuss personnel, employment of a public employee, Ward 5 Councilor Haines-DiGiacomo seconded.

Discussion:

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Nays: None.

Motion passed.

Motion: Ward 5 Councilor Haines-DiGiacomo made a motion to to adjourn to executive session prior to the meeting adjournment to discuss sale of property, President Roskovics seconded.

Discussion:

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Nays: None.

Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes

November 7, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

President Roskovics introduced the minutes from the regular council meeting held on November 7, 2022.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Foglio made a motion to approve the November 7, 2022 minutes, Ward 2 Councilor Crawford seconded.

Discussion:

VOICE VOTE

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

Nays: None.

Motion passed.

Administrative Reports

City Manager

Formal Requests:

An ordinance be added to the next council meeting to approve collective bargaining agreements for ASME Local 97, IAFF 165 and FOP 26 for the period January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2025.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Foglio made a motion to approve the Manager's request, Ward 2 Councilor Haines-DiGiacomo seconded.

Discussion:

VOICE VOTE

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

Nays: None.

Motion passed.

An ordinance to adopt pay rates for current personnel.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Foglio made a motion to approve the Manager's request, Ward 2 Councilor Crawford seconded.

Discussion:

VOICE VOTE

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

Nays: None.

Motion passed.

Mngr. Rpt. 11-21-22

The union contracts are normally negotiated every three years. In 2020 and again 2021 a one year extension was entered into. The contracts previously were up in April. One of the new changes is that the contracts will be on the calendar year. The contracts will be ready by the next meeting.

The Christmas Parade was canceled due to the weather. The Ashtabula Downtown Business Development District is looking to rescheduled for December 9th.

The storm was intense for a first season storm. There are things the City will do differently in the future. Crews were out nonstop until 3:00 p.m. today.

The city does not intentionally put snow in driveways. Some parts of the city received eighteen inches of snow. Request that private snow plow drivers not plow snow across the road.

City Solicitor

Formal Request:

An ordinance be prepared for the next council meeting allowing the new Assistant Solicitor, Catherine Colgan, three weeks paid vacation in recognition of her service beginning January 1, 2023. Ms. Colgan has nineteen years experience with the County Prosecutor's office. Ms. Colgan falls under the employee handbook for non-union employees and would have no vacation until she finishes her first year with the city.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Foglio made a motion to approve the Solicitor's request, Ms. Haines DiGiacomo seconded the request.

Discussion:

VOICE VOTE

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

Nays: None.

Motion passed.

Finance Director

None.

Clerk of Council

None.

City Council Committee Reports

Community Development/Economic Development/Parks & Recreation

(2nd Tuesday @ 4:00 p.m.)

Members: Chair Haines/Council Liaison to Parks and Recreation Board; Vice Chair Mills; Roskovics

NOVEMBER 8 - Report of Meeting

DECEMBER 13

JANUARY 10

FEBRUARY 14

MARCH 14

APRIL 11

MAY 9

JUNE 13

Community Development / Economic Development

Ward 5 Councilor Haines-DiGiacomo provided a report on the Community Development / Economic Development meeting. The guest speaker was Ginny Pasha, Youngstown Business Incubator. The Youngstown Business Incubator began offering services in Ashtabula County in part thanks to an Appalachian Regional Grant. The program supports minority businesses, women-owned and Veteran-owned businesses in seven Appalachian counties, including Ashtabula. Ms. Pasha is at the Ashtabula Library from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., appointments are preferred but not required. Revitalizing Downtown Ashtabula Upcoming Session is Thursday, December 1st from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and December 5th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for December 13, 2022. Octavia from the Cleveland Crisis Center will be the guest speaker.

Finance & Personnel

(3rd Friday @ 8:30 a.m.)

Members: Chair Foglio, Vice Chair Haines, Roskovics

NOVEMBER 18 - Report of Meeting

DECEMBER 16

JANUARY 20

FEBRUARY 17

MARCH 17

APRIL 21

MAY 19
JUNE 16

The November 18th meeting was canceled. The next meeting is scheduled for December 16, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.

Public Works
(4th Monday @ 5:00 p.m.)
Members: Chair Crawford, Vice Chair Holman, Mills
NOVEMBER 28
DECEMBER 27
JANUARY 23
FEBRUARY 27
MARCH 27
APRIL 24
MAY 22
JUNE 26

The November 28th meeting is canceled.

Safety Forces
(4th Monday @ 8:45 a.m.)
Members: Chair Speelman, Vice Chair Foglio, Roskovics
NOVEMBER 28
DECEMBER 27
JANUARY 23
FEBRUARY 27
MARCH 27
APRIL 24
MAY 22
JUNE 26

The November 28, 2022 meeting is canceled.

Presentation of Legislation

President Roskovics introduced the legislation.

Additional Formal Requests

None.

Public Communications on Legislation

None.

Overview / Discussion

Reading of Legislation

President Roskovics presented Ordinance 2022-146 and Ordinance 2022-147.

Legislation - Enactment, Passage or Adoption

2022 - 146 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE ASHTABULA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND THE CITY OF ASHTABULA FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS.

2022 - 147 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 TO A CONTRACT WITH J. SEVERINO CONSTRUCTION CO. VARIOUS ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS FOR THE ATB 531-7 LAKE ROAD CULVERT PROJECT

Council President Roskovics asked for a motion to dispose of the Regular Business Legislation for Ordinances 2022-146 and 2022-147 by consent agenda.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Foglio moved to approve, Ward 5 Councilor Haines-DiGiacamo seconded.

Discussion: Mr. Timonere noted that City's obligation with regard to the EMS contract is to contribute towards the Bomb Squad (\$497.22) and Urban Search and Rescue (\$229.49).

VOICE VOTE

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

Nays: None..

Motion passed.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Foglio moved to waive the reading of the legislation in its entirety, Ward 2 Councilor Crawford seconded.

Discussion:

VOICE VOTE

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

Nays: None..

Motion passed.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Foglio moved to waive the Charter requirement of two readings of the legislation, Ward 3 Councilor Holman seconded.

Discussion:

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Nays: None..

Motion passed.

Adoption of the legislation:

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Nays: None..

Motion passed.

Unfinished Business

Mr. Timonere provided an update on the outfall, the pipe was punctured in two places. The City is working with the contractors, EPA and staff with regard to this.

New Business

None.

Tell Us Something We Don't Know

Ward 5 Councilor Haines-DiGiacomo noted that Saturday is Small Business Saturday.

Council thanked the City of Ashabula workers for their hard work in regard to the storms.

Ward 4 Councilor Mills reminded the public to watch out for bicyclists and walkers.

Mr. Timonere reminded private plow companies that snow on the person's property being plowed must remain on that property.

Mr. Timonere provided an update on the Appalachian Community Grant application due December 9. Growth Partnership is coordinating with all of the subdivisions. The grant is available only to the 32 Appalachian counties. The State has sent a clear message that the projects need to be transformational and regional. They are not looking for water and sewer projects. The County is looking at a few options. One of which will connect all the downtowns within the County; a planned bike trail. The lead applicant for this grant would be the Growth Partnership. Funding in the downtowns would focus on streetscapes, sidewalk. This would be a planning grant. Development grant applications must be shovel ready. There is \$250,000 available for planning.

Mr. Timonere stated that by transformational, the funding agency wants to see projects that are innovative, new creative projects; how to work with other regional partners including other counties to better more than just one community.

Ward 2 Councilor Crawford noted that on November 27, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the East Ashtabula Club basement volunteers are needed for fifteen positions.

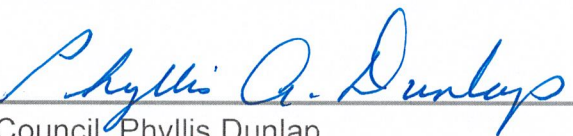
Public Communications on General Matters

Executive Session (if needed)

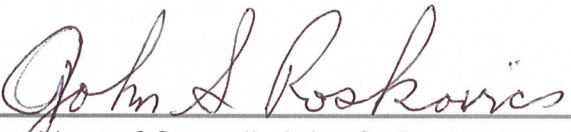
Council President Roskovics announced at 7:51 p.m. that the executive session would convene off camera. After the executive session was over, Council President Roskovics reconvened the public portion of the meeting, with no action taken.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. by Council President Roskovics.
Ashtabula City Council will meet again on Monday, December 5, 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, Phyllis Dunlap

Attested By:


President of Council, John S. Roskovics

Date Approved:
