



City of Ashtabula

Ashtabula City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, November 7, 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 Holman 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, City Solicitor Cecelia Cooper, Finance Director Traci Welch, Clerk of Council Phyllis Dunlap.

Motion: Ward 2 Councilor Crawford moved to excuse Vice President Michael Speelman, Ward 5 Councilor Jane Haines-DiGiacomo seconded.

Discussion:

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: 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

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 Law Open Meetings Act.

Presentations/Announcements

Ms. Lamer is unable to attend this evening.

2022-144 A RESOLUTION HONORING LORI B. LAMER ON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE CITY OF ASHTABULA

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Foglio moved to approve Resolution 2022-144; 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.

President Roskovics requested an executive session prior to the meeting adjournment to discuss contract negotiations and personnel, appointment of a public employee.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Foglio moved to approve to adjourn to executive session prior to the meeting adjournment to discuss contract negotiations and personnel, appointment of a public employee; Ward 5 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.

Approval of Minutes

October 17, 2022 Public Hearing Meeting Minutes

October 17, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

Clerk of Council Phyllis Dunlap introduced the minutes of the Public Hearing and the minutes of the regular council meeting held on October 17, 2022.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Haines-DiGiacomo made a motion to approve the October 17, 2022 Public Hearing and October 17, 2022 regular council meeting minutes; Ward 3 Councilor Holman seconded.

Discussion:

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:

Ordinance 2022-140 an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract in the amount of \$23,100 with Rocky Road Paving for various street cut road restorations.

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.

Ordinance 2022-141, an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract in the amount of \$32,770 with Rocky Road Paving for various street cut road restorations on Lake Avenue.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Foglio made a motion to approve the Manager's request; Ward 4 Councilor Mills 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.

Resolution 2022-142, a resolution accepting and approving the donation by the MFG Foundation of funds to purchase a Kawasaki Mule and Skid Unit for the Ashtabula City Fire Department.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Foglio made a motion to approve the Manager's request; Ward 3 Councilor Holman 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.

Ordinance 2021-143, an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to purchase a 2023 Kawasaki Mule Pro FX EPSLE from Loudermilk Tractor & Cycle in an amount not to exceed \$15,874 paid by a generous donation from Molded Fiber Glass.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Foglio made a motion to approve the Manager's request; Ward 5 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.

The City Manager made a request to sign a liquor transfer request for a proposed convenience store

and gas station on Route 20 north of Arby's.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Foglio made a motion to approve the Manager's request; Ward 4 Councilor Mills 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.

The City Manager made a request to execute Change Order No. 1 for the ABT 537 Culvert Project in the amount of \$2,729.08.

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.

The City Manager requested to add to the next agenda an ordinance to enter into an Agreement with Ashtabula County for Emergency Management Services.

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.

City Mngr. Rpt.

City Offices will be closed on Friday, November 11, 2022 in honor of Veteran's Day. Garbage will continue to be picked up. Recycling will be picked up in Ward 2.

Mr. Timonere thanked our veterans.

The officer that went through the academy on the Shelby Scholarship was sworn in.

The parking on Walnut Blvd. that is not in line with the parking in the area was reviewed by staff. What is there is permissible. The City has talked with the County Building Department regarding the property.

A comprehensive rezoning plan is needed involving a lot of public input.

The City financial obligation in entering into the Emergency Management Agreement is to pay a

portion of the costs such as the bomb squad. The agreement will be attached to the ordinance for review.

Officer DeAngelo is the Resource Officer at Kent State. When Officer DeAngelo is not doing that function, he will be walking the beat in Downtown and in the parks, as long as nothing changes. The City intends to continue that program in the summertime.

City Solicitor

None.

Finance Director

Formal Request:

Ordinance 2022-145, an ordinance to make supplemental increases to appropriations in the general, police levy, street light assessments, food service, AMC computer, AMC security, permanent improvement, and water pollution control funds for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Ashtabula, State of Ohio, for the period January 1 through December 31, 2022.

Motion: President Roskovics made a motion to approve the Finance Director's request; Ward 2 Councilor Crawford 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.

The public hearing on the anticipated budget will be held on December 5, 2022. The budget will be available for public view for ten (10) days. Council will vote on the budget at the December 19th meeting.

Ward 3 Councilor Holman inquired about hybrids and electric vehicles. Mr. Timonere stated that the City's fleet does not consist of traditional sedans, SUVs and smaller trucks other than the inspector and supervisor vehicles. The City will keep an eye on how EV is coming along. The City does not see a significant decrease in costs by going to electric for what it would cost to install charging ports.

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

DECEMBER 13

Ward 5 Councilor Haines-DiGiacomo reporting.

The Community Development Committee will meet tomorrow at 4:00 p.m. It is also election day.

The Parks and Recreation Board has an opening on the Board. A link to the application can be found on the City's website on the Boards and Commissions page. Completed applications can be e-mailed to a council person or the City Manager's office.

Finance & Personnel

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

Members: Chair Foglio, Vice Chair Haines, Roskovics

NOVEMBER 18

DECEMBER 16

The Finance and Personnel Committee will meet on November 18, 2022 at 8:00 a.m.

Public Works

(4th Monday @ 5:00 p.m.)

Members: Chair Crawford, Vice Chair Holman, Mills

OCTOBER 24 - Report of Meeting

NOVEMBER 28

DECEMBER 27

Ward 2 Councilor Crawford provided a report on the October 24, 2022 Public Works meeting.

The first presentation - Jennifer Bunnell of the Dragon Empowerment Center provided information on assistance available to help the kids. Ms. Bunnell is employed by the Community Action Agency to help the students meet their needs, including food and clothing. Anyone wishing to donate new or gently used clothing is welcome. The highest clothing needs are for pants, underwear, socks and shoes. Food can also be donated. Donations can be brought to any of the school offices and they will get the donations to Ms. Bunnell. Also provided is tutoring, vision and dental exams. Dental work is provided by Cleveland Dental on site. Tutoring is provided by volunteers. Storytime is on Tuesday and Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Volunteers (including Councilor Mills and Councilor Holman) read a bedtime story, children watch it online. Ms. Bunnell's office is located at Huron Elementary. Ms. Bunnell can be reached at jbunnell@accaa.org.

The second presentation - wastewater treatment study, the collection system. Sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs), wastewater overflows into the storm, were outlawed by the EPA in 1972-1973. The City, over time, has started to address this. There continues to be four SSOs in the City, two are large. GPD Group and Mr. Timonere are looking at options. The estimated cost to address the two large SSOs is \$30 million each for a total of \$60 million. The total estimated cost to complete both portions of the study is \$63 million. The City has not raised sewer rates since 2019. A council worksession can be held to learn more.

There are five trucks ready to address the snow. They were out doing dry runs.

The next Public Works meeting will be held on Monday, November 28, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

Safety Forces

(4th Monday @ 8:45 a.m.)

Members: Chair Speelman, Vice Chair Foglio, Roskovics

OCTOBER 24 - Report of Meeting

NOVEMBER 28

DECEMBER 27

President Roskovics attended the Safety Forces meeting. It was a short meeting. The Police and Fire Departments provided an update on the numbers. Nothing seemed out of line, no large increases in calls.

Molded Fiber Glass is donating a vehicle to the Fire Department.

The call volume for EMS has been up a little.

Presentation of Legislation

President Roskovics introduced the legislation.

Additional Formal Requests

None.

Public Communications on Legislation

None.

Overview / Discussion

Reading of Legislation

The Clerk of Council read the titles of the legislation on the agenda.

Legislation - Enactment, Passage or Adoption

President Roskovics requested a motion to dispose of the Regular Business Legislation by consent agenda.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Foglio moved to approve, Ward 5 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.

2022-140 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$23,100.00 WITH ROCKY ROAD PAVING FOR VARIOUS STREET CUT ROAD RESTORATIONS

2022-141 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$32,770.00 WITH ROCKY ROAD PAVING FOR VARIOUS STREET CUT ROAD RESTORATIONS ON LAKE AVENUE

2022-142 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AND APPROVING THE DONATION BY THE MFG FOUNDATION OF FUNDS TO PURCHASE A KAWASAKI MULE AND SKID UNIT FOR THE ASHTABULA CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

2021-143 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO PURCHASE A 2023 KAWASAKI MULE PRO FX EPS LE FROM LOUDERMILK TRACTOR & CYCLE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$15,874.00 PAID BY A GENEROUS DONATION FROM MOLDED FIBER GLASS

2022-145 AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL INCREASES TO APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL, POLICE LEVY, STREET LIGHT ASSESSMENTS, FOOD SERVICE, AMC COMPUTER, AMC SECURITY, PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT, AND WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FUNDS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF ASHTABULA, STATE OF OHIO, FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2022

Motion: Ward 2 Councilor Crawford moved to waive the reading of the legislative, Ward 3 Councilor Holman 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.

Motion: Ward 1 Councilor Foglio moved to waive the Charter Requirement of two readings of the legislation, Ward 2 Councilor Crawford 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.

Adoption of 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-DiGiacomo

Nays: None.

Motion passed.

Unfinished Business

Ward 5 Councilor Haines-DiGiacomo received an e-mail about noise pollution on Route 20. A short discussion was had. The city has an ordinance that is enforced when possible. A no blow ordinance was looked into by the City for train horns. The regulations require expensive signalization upgrades.

The businesses downtown have seen a huge improvement in the transient population. Discussion regarding the homeless population. Agencies have a return policy, but that does not mean that that happens against a person's will. Nothing forces people to return.

Discussed possible reasons for the increase in homeless including services provided in the City. The homeless are more visible as homes that were previously vacant are taken over for rehab and development. There are fewer vacant houses where homeless can seek shelter.

Services available in the city can assist the homeless if they are willing to get into a program and work. The gap we are missing is those that need intensive mental health therapy.

Rents are an issue. People are paying \$800, \$1,000, \$1,200 for not very good living conditions. Renters are coming to the city regarding landlords not making needed repairs. The City is providing options to renters to get landlords to fix things. The City is diligently doing inspections. Rents are unaffordable for some.

The City of Ashtabula is the only political subdivision doing something in the County. The City that money into the bus system and provides a building to ACTS. Churches provide food and clothing.

The City requested and was awarded funding in the State Capital Budget to expand the Samaritan House. The funding will run through Samaritan House. The City will assist.

Affordable senior housing, Chestnut Village (32 one bedroom units) is anticipated to be completed at the end of 2023. Rent will be charged based on income.

New Business

None.

Tell Us Something We Don't Know

Mr. Roskovics reported that two businesses have located on Bridge Street: Phooey Farms and Ewes who will make rugs and have rug teaching class.

The Ashtabula Downtown Christmas Parade is Friday, November 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. Downtownashtabula.com to apply to be in the parade.

New business going into the Heshey's Building on Main Ave., the Space on Main.

Ward 2 Councilor Crawford congratulated all the schools that advanced in the playoffs for football. The Jefferson Falcons continue to advance. Good luck to those students playing basketball.

Ward 3 Councilor Holman a number of donors contributed over a hundred acres of land to the school district and have a group called Environmental Design Group who want to explore environmental studies and how to make that area a classroom. They are opening the board office at Lakeside tomorrow between 1:00 and 3:00 p. for community residents to provide input on how that space could be used.

Ward 5 Councilor Haines-DiGiacomo stated that tomorrow between 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. there is a lunar eclipse and blood moon.

Ward 4 Councilor Mills the Hallo event was this past weekend. Hallo does allot for the holidays. Registration sign-ups continue through next week. The first round of the G.O. CDC boot give away went well. There will be a second round this Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. There will be Thanksgiving meals. Meals can be delivered. RAM USA will be April 1st and 2nd at Lakeside.

The leaf bag pick-up continues through the end of November.

This is Veteran's Day week. If you see a veteran, thank them. Mr. Speelman was in the service for many years, recognize and thank him for his service.

Public Communications on General Matters

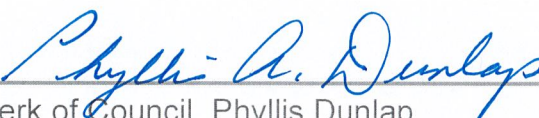
None.

Executive Session (if needed)

Council President Roskovics announced the executive session would convene off camera at 8:18 p.m. After the executive session was over, Council President Roskovics reconvened the public portion of the meeting, with no action taken.

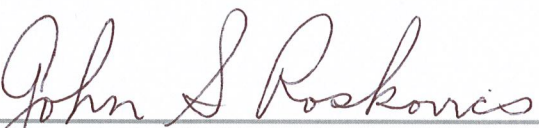
Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m. by Council President Roskovics. Ashtabula City Council will meet again on Monday, November 21, 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:

