



City of Ashtabula
Ashtabula City Council Emergency Meeting
Friday, August 18, 2023 at 4:00 PM
4717 Main Avenue, Ashtabula, OH 44004

Minutes

Opening of Emergency Meeting

Call to Order

The Emergency/Special meeting of the Ashtabula City Council was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Council President Roskovics.

Prayer

We took a moment of silence to say a prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call

Members Present: President John Roskovics, Vice President Michael Speelman, Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio, Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills, Ward 5 Councilor Jane Haines-DiGiacomo
Absent: Ward 2 Councilor Calvin Crawford, Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman
Officers Present: City Manager James Timonere, City Solicitor Cecilia Cooper, Finance Director Marie Yvrose Augustin, Clerk of Council McKenzie Burgan

Motion: Vice President Michael Speelman moved to excuse Ward 2 Councilor Calvin Crawford and Ward 3 Councilor RoLesia Holman from the meeting; Ward 5 Councilor Jane Haines-DiGiacomo seconded.

Discussion: None

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: President John Roskovics, Vice President Michael Speelman, Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio, Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills, Ward 5 Councilor Jane Haines-DiGiacomo

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.

Statement of Purpose

To approve insurance contracts for the City and the Police Department

Welcome and Acknowledgement of Visitors

Presentation of Legislation

Formal Legislation Request

City Manager Timonere apologized for the last-minute meeting. We have been trying to get bids in for our insurance coverage for the entire city for all departments. Our insurance policy expires on Sunday at midnight or Monday at 12:01 a.m. We were told that we could sign the agreements on Monday, but we did not feel very comfortable doing that and that is why we are trying to rush to get these through. He stated it had been a difficult journey to get to this point with the insurance. Currently, it is a little bit over \$100,000.00 more than what we paid last year. Increases come from the property coverage increasing by almost 5 million dollars due to the replacement costs of buildings. He does believe this will come down a little bit once we move to the new buildings. General liability and public entity management liability have increased based on our budget figures, so the better we do, the more coverage we need. This was up 2 million dollars from last year. Auto rates have gone up due to vehicle book values having gone up and they are up by over \$200,000 this year. This then increases our umbrella insurance premiums based on the premiums of our liability. With all of that taken into account, this has increased our insurance policies. The big purpose of trying to do this as an emergency is to make sure there is no lapse in coverage.

He requested two ordinances. First, an ordinance to enter into a contract with Glazier Insurance and Travelers Insurance Agency for our liability, property, and casualty insurance coverage for the city for one year at \$227,044.00. Second, an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Glazier Insurance and Kinsale Insurance Company to provide our law enforcement professional liability insurance coverage for a period of one year at a cost of \$131,735.30. Mr. Timonere stated that for the law enforcement insurance, they have been pushing hard to try and get these premiums lowered and that is why there were some last-minute adjustments.

Mrs. Haines-DiGiacomo asked if we did any shopping around and Mr. Timonere said yes, for about four months. He stated we contract with Glazier and they then shop around and make calls and present all of our information. He said this is the worst bid we do and we usually do it every two years, but because of the premiums, we did this for one year. He said they would probably get right back into it and continue looking. He said everyone's premiums are going up due to replacement values and car values.

Mr. Roskovics asked if the police are out on their own policy and Mr. Timonere said yes. He said he believes last year, for all the policies, it cost about \$220,000.00. Mr. Roskovics asked if the police were separated out last year too and Mr. Timonere said no, they were all under one.

Mrs. Haines-DiGiacomo asked if this was due to us making claims that it had gone up. Mr. Timonere said it is based on everything including any claims they put through. They look at the history of claims filed, claims paid, and any lawsuits currently pending, and then base the insurance rates on that.

Mrs. Mills asked if the insurance company could drop us. Mr. Timonere said he is not sure if they can in the midst of a contract, but he believes there are certain dates when either party can terminate.

Mr. Timonere stated we have seen this in the past when you have hurricane seasons where all the insurance companies are involved and they look at who they want to continue to cover or they tell you this is what you are going to pay for this coverage and that is where we are. We have to pay what they want for the coverage. He said the bulk of our stuff is our buildings and our cars. Once we get the ladder truck, it will be at about a 2.5 million dollar replacement value in three years and that is just one vehicle. We have a lot of assets.

Council President John Roskovics presented the legislation.

Reading of Legislation

Clerk of Council Burgan read the legislation titles.

2023-121 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH GLAZIER INSURANCE AGENCY AND TRAVELERS INSURANCE COMPANY TO PROVIDE LIABILITY, PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR THE CITY OF ASHTABULA FOR A PERIOD OF ONE (1) YEAR AT A COST OF \$227,044.

2023-122 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH GLAZIER INSURANCE AGENCY AND KINSALE INSURANCE COMPANY TO PROVIDE LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR A PERIOD OF ONE (1) YEAR AT A COST OF \$131,735.30.

Council President Roskovics asked for a motion to dispose of the Regular Business Legislation by consent agenda.

Motion: Ward 5 Councilor Jane Haines-DiGiacomo 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 Michael Speelman, Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio, Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills, Ward 5 Councilor Jane Haines-DiGiacomo

Nays: None

Motion passed.

Motion: Ward 5 Councilor Jane Haines-DiGiacomo moved to waive the reading of the legislation; Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio seconded.

Discussion: None

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: President John Roskovics, Vice President Michael Speelman, Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio, Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills, Ward 5 Councilor Jane Haines-DiGiacomo

Nays: None

Motion passed.

Motion: Vice President Michael Speelman moved to waive the Charter Requirements of two readings of the legislation; Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio seconded.

Discussion: None

ROLL CALL VOTE

Yeas: President John Roskovics, Vice President Michael Speelman, Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio, Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills, Ward 5 Councilor Jane Haines-DiGiacomo

Nays: None

Motion passed.

Adoption of legislation

ROLL CALL VOTE

Yeas: President John Roskovics, Vice President Michael Speelman, Ward 1 Councilor Kym Foglio, Ward 4 Councilor Jodi Mills, Ward 5 Councilor Jane Haines-DiGiacomo

Nays: None

Legislation passed.

Adjournment

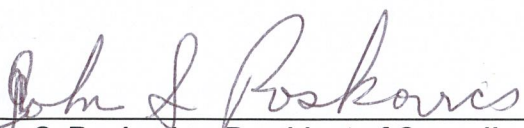
The meeting was adjourned at 4:12 PM by Council President Roskovics.

Ashtabula City Council will meet again on Monday, August 21st 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.

DATE APPROVED:

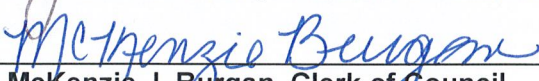
August 21, 2023

ATTESTED BY:



John S. Roskovics, President of Council

ATTESTED BY:



McKenzie J. Burgan, Clerk of Council