

**ALTOONA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY – MAY 8, 2013 - 7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 1320 WASHINGTON AVENUE, ALTOONA, PA**

The meeting was televised live on cable Public Access Channel 14 and re-broadcast Thursday, May 9, 2013.

CALL TO ORDER – by Mayor Schirf at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers.

SILENT MEDITATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL – taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer

Present: Councilmen Butterbaugh, Cagle, Geis, Haire, Neugebauer and Mayor Schirf
Absent: Councilman Kelley

ALL PUBLIC COMMENT – none

PRESENTATIONS – none

MANAGER’S REPORT – the report was distributed previously

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS –

Mayor Schirf thanked the school district for the upcoming clean-up project they plan to do for the city

Councilman Neugebauer reminded the public about the Blair County Community Action Agency’s Summer Concert Program which begins on June 19th and are listed on the City’s website

Councilman Geis reminded the public about the 23rd Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive to take place on Saturday, May 11th

Councilman Butterbaugh asked about a local traffic only sign on the detour going toward Race Street; Joe Weakland stated there are already no truck signs in the Race Street area and it is an enforcement issue which will be increased when possible

Councilman Butterbaugh reminded the public about Operation Our Time Crime Clean Up Day on Saturday, May 11th at 8:30 am meeting at Highland Park

RESOLUTIONS

a) approving the minutes of the Altoona City Council Meeting held Wednesday, April 24, 2013. (0051-13)

b) approving the Highway Maintenance Agreement between Chevron Appalachia, LLC and the City of Altoona and authorizing City Manager

Joseph F. Weakland to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0052-13)

c)adopting the 2013 HUD Action Plan for the Community Development Block Grant and the HOME Investment Partnership Grant Programs and authorizing City Manager Joseph F. Weakland to execute all documents and certifications and the City Clerk to attest to same and to file appropriate documents with the Department of Housing and Urban Development. (0053-13)

d)amending the 2011 Emergency Solutions Grant Program transferring \$20,312.20 from the Home Nursing Agency Rapid Rehousing Project to the Homelessness Prevention Project. (0054-13)

e)amending the 2011 HOME Program cancelling the project known as IDA-CDC Homeownership Program and transferring \$59,793.00 to create a new project known as IDA-CDC Altoona Manors, Inc. (0055-13)

f)amending the 2012 HOME Program cancelling the project known as IDA-CDC Homeownership Program and transferring \$38,160.60 to the IDA-CDC Altoona Manors, Inc. Project. (0056-13)

g)awarding a Demolition Contract for 1613 9th Street, Altoona, PA to Earthmovers Unlimited Inc., P.O. Box 187, Kylertown, PA, in the amount of \$6,347.00 payable from CDBG Funds and authorizing City Manager Joseph F. Weakland to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0057-13)

h)approving the Repository Bid submitted by Frank Gehard of 203 S. 12th Street, Altoona, PA 16602 for property located at 2513 Beale Avenue, Altoona, PA, Control No. 14-13770, in the amount of \$200.00 and further authorizing City Manager, Joseph F. Weakland, to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0058-13)

i)approving the Repository Bid submitted by Regency Energy, LLC of 597 Waverly Drive, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648 for property located at 3000 2nd Street, Altoona, PA, Control No. 11-269440, in the amount of \$500.00 and further authorizing City Manager, Joseph F. Weakland, to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0059-13)

j)approving the Repository Bid submitted by LUCB, Inc. of 1600 Pleasant Valley Boulevard, Altoona, PA 16602 for property located at 1226 16th Avenue, Altoona, PA, Control No. 12-194070, in the amount of \$500.00 and further authorizing City Manager, Joseph F.

Weakland, to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0060-13)

k) approving the Repository Bid submitted by James Swan of 846 23rd Street, Altoona, PA 16601 for property located at 723 6th Avenue, Altoona, PA, Control No. 12-122700, in the amount of \$150.00 and further authorizing City Manager, Joseph F. Weakland, to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0061-13)

l) approving the Repository Bid submitted by James Swan of 846 23rd Street, Altoona, PA 16601 for property located at 109 6th Avenue, Altoona, PA, Control No. 12-120360, in the amount of \$150.00 and further authorizing City Manager, Joseph F. Weakland, to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0062-13)

m) authorizing the Intermunicipal Relations Committee to negotiate the renewal of a cable franchise agreement with Atlantic Broadband and for the City to pay its pro-rata share of the cost for the same. (0063-13)

the resolutions were read by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer; the consent vote was taken on all items and passed 6 to 0; Councilman Kelley was absent

ORDINANCES - Introduction

AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE, ADOPT AND ENACT AN ORDINANCE CODIFICATION OF A COMPLETE BODY OF LEGISLATION FOR THE CITY OF ALTOONA, COUNTY OF BLAIR, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA; TO PROVIDE FOR THE REPEAL OF CERTAIN LEGISLATION NOT INCLUDED THEREIN; TO SAVE FROM REPEAL CERTAIN OTHER LEGISLATION NOT INCLUDED THEREIN; TO PROVIDE A SUMMARY OF PROPOSED SUBSTANTIVE REVISIONS; AND TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION OF THE CODE OR CHAPTERS THEREOF.

The ordinance was read by the City Clerk and introduced by the Governing Body

the Mayor mentioned the codification project and thanked City Solicitor Larry Clapper, City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer, Deputy City Clerk Kim Carrieri, City Manager Joe Weakland who worked on this project for two years with assistance from the Department Directors; Joe Weakland thanked the City Clerk and Deputy City Clerk for their hours and organization on the project stating they did a terrific job; Joe stated the ordinances were cataloged; the City Clerk stated the Department of Administration spearheaded the project

with the direction and guidance of the City Solicitor; the ordinance will now sit for 30 days and a Public Hearing will be held on June 12th at 6:30 p.m. followed by the regular council meeting and adoption of the ordinance which will become effective on June 24th

The City Clerk stated General Code, the codification company made the process easier than expected and they were very efficient and the approach was systematic; the City clerk thanked City Council for their cooperation and approval for funding to complete this project

The City Clerk also stated that as the Open Records Officer for the City that this will give the public easy access to the City's ordinances which will be available 24/7 on eCode on the City website as well as free staff time of research and delivery; there is also a goal to incorporate some of the resolutions with the eCode as well to view in combination with certain ordinances

The City Clerk also stated that although the recommendation of a codification is in the Act 47 Plan the codification was nearly complete when the Act 47 plan was put into place and it really should not have been a recommendation of theirs and staff did ask to have the item removed although the coordinator refused as they needed something to put in the plan

DISCUSSION ITEMS –Government Study Commission – Mayor Schirf encouraged City voters to vote yes on the May 21st primary election ballot on the referendum question about the formation of a government study commission and also to vote for seven people out of eleven to serve on that commission; this would give them the opportunity to look at the home rule charter form of government

Councilman Butterbaugh stated one of the key issues is that anybody that is a registered voter in any party in the City of Altoona can vote on this and you don't have to be of a certain party; independent voters can also vote on this referendum question and elect seven people running

Mayor Schirf stated they can compare the present form of government with the home rule charter form of government and they have nine months to do this; they then have an extra nine months if they decide to recommend home rule charter; at this time they will write a charter and the voters will have to approve that; there will be hearings and meetings along the way; they will determine their meeting schedule as well as a chairman within two weeks of the ballot vote

City Solicitor Larry Clapper stated by voting for the study commission a person is not voting to change the form of government in the City; they are voting to study the form of government; within home rule they can study strong Mayor and Council/Manager; if the commission votes to keep the form of government as it is then it remains as is and the commission is dissolved

Councilman Butterbaugh asked about union negotiations for all three contracts; Joe Weakland stated the kick off meeting was scheduled for Thursday, May 9th

MEDIA – Bill Kibler, *Altoona Mirror* and Chris Forshey, WRTA

ADJOURNMENT – by Mayor Schirf at 8:00 p.m.