

**ALTOONA CITY COUNCIL MEETING &
2014 BUDGET/TAX MILLAGE ADOPTION MINUTES
WEDNESDAY – DECEMBER 11, 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, December 12, 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 (via phone), Haire, Kelley, Neugebauer and Mayor Schirf

PRESENTATIONS – Introduction of Captain Matt & Captain Wendy Morrison of the Salvation Army Corps by Frank Thompson, Salvation Army Corps Chairman

Omar Strohm, Finance Director, reviewed October's financial statement of revenues and expenditures

ALL PUBLIC COMMENT – Representative John McGinnis stated Mayor Schirf and Councilman Geis are outstanding men and magnificent public officials

Pat Miller, Altoona Parking Authority Director, spoke on the requested increase in the parking rates in downtown and recommended a two dollar increase in monthly parking rates for all parking which will net \$13,500 and help to establish a small reserve fund; Mr. Miller stated the Altoona Parking rates are still lower than most Third Class Cities who are charging 70 to 100 dollars per month

Jennifer Knisley, Altoona Public Library Director, thanked Mayor Schirf for all that he has done over the years to promote the library; there will be a Basket Bingo fundraiser March 16th and tickets are available at the library; the library will be closed from December 28th through January 12th for air handler renovations to the building; the library will be able to take returns and process materials but the public will not be admitted and the digital and online items will still be functioning

MANAGER'S REPORT – the report was distributed previously

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS – Mayor Schirf stated Pat Miller will update Council in the future regarding GAEDC and downtown news

CBRC – Mayor Schirf stated they received the go ahead from DCNR for the Juniata Park Project and will receive a \$400,000 grant which will cut down on

the project costs; Council will receive more information in the next few months; Prospect Park will be revitalized and receive ADA equipment and become handicap accessible; Garden Heights will be refurbished

Mayor Schirf thanked staff and City Council for their support stating it was an honor to serve and that he will cherish the memories and friendships

RESOLUTIONS

a) approving the minutes of the Altoona City Council Meeting held Wednesday, November 13, 2013. (00137-13)

b) amending the 2012 CDBG Program transferring \$68,000.00 from the 2012 Lloyd Street Curb and Sidewalk Project to the 2012 Street Resurfacing Project in the amount of \$50,000.00 and creating the 2012 Street Light Enhancement Project in the amount of \$18,000.00. (0138-13)

c) amending and restating the Fee Resolution 0121-09 as amended increasing monthly parking rates for 2014. (0139-13)

d) approving the Proposal for the 2014 Tax Revenue Anticipation Note (TRAN) in the amount of \$4,000,000.00 and awarding the proposal to First National Bank at an interest rate of 1.57% and a \$250.00 documentation fee and further authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0140-13)

e) authorizing the attached Omnibus Agreement with the County of Blair and Altoona Regional Health System n/k/a UPMC Altoona and further authorizing Interim City Manager Omar Strohm to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0141-13)

f) approving the attached Agreement for Legal Services between the City of Altoona and Larry C. Clapper, Esq. and authorizing Mayor William Schirf, or the Vice-Mayor in his absence, to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0142-13)

g) authorizing Interim City Manager Omar Strohm to enter into an agreement with Atlantic Broadband extending the existing Cable Franchise Agreement for a period of six months, June 30, 2014, with a continuation of all existing terms and conditions of the Franchise during this extension period. This extension execution shall be contingent upon the uninterrupted payment of not only the cable franchise fees as set forth in said Cable Franchise Agreement, but also the sum of \$17,750 quarterly being paid by Atlantic Broadband to the Intermunicipal Relations Committee (IRC) for the

continuation of Public, Educational and Governmental Access operations and further authorizing the City Clerk to attest to same. (0143-13)

the resolutions were read by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer; the consent vote was taken on all items and passed 7 to 0; Councilman Geis voted by phone; all were present

ORDINANCES

Adoption

The Governing Body

An Ordinance of the City of Altoona, in the County of Blair, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, appropriating specific sums estimated to be required for the specific purposes of the municipal government, hereinafter set forth, during the year 2014. (2014 BUDGET) (ORD. NO. 5647)

This ordinance was read by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer

Introduction – The Governing Body

Motion for Adoption – Councilman Butterbaugh

Second – Councilman Neugebauer

The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 7 to 0; Councilman Geis voted by phone; all were present

Adoption

The Governing Body

An Ordinance of the City of Altoona amending the Code of the City of Altoona Chapter 646 entitled "Taxation" by deleting and repealing Article VIII thereof entitled , "Earned Income and Net Profits Tax", and replacing the same with a new Article VIII, to levy a tax on earned income and net profits of both residents and certain non-residents of the City of Altoona in excess of the limits established under the local tax enabling law as permitted by the municipalities financial recovery act for general revenue purposes and to levy a tax on earned income and net profits of both residents and certain non-residents for the special purpose of raising revenue to defray costs related to the pension plans of the City of Altoona; requiring tax returns; requiring employers to withhold and remit tax; and related provisions. (ORD. NO. 5648)

This ordinance was read by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer

Introduction – The Governing Body

Motion for Adoption – Councilman Haire

Second – Councilman Butterbaugh

The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 7 to 0; Councilman Geis voted by phone; all were present

Adoption

The Governing Body

An Ordinance of the City of Altoona, in the County of Blair, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, fixing the tax rate for the year 2014. (2014 TAX MILLAGE) (ORD. NO. 5649)

This ordinance was read by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer

Introduction – The Governing Body

Motion for Adoption – Mayor Schirf

Second – Vice-Mayor Cagle

The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 7 to 0; Councilman Geis voted by phone; all were present

DISCUSSION ITEMS – none

MEDIA – media attendance included Bill Kibler, *Altoona Mirror* and Steve Willet, WRTA , who had several questions of Council and staff

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