

ALTOONA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY – SEPTEMBER 10, 2014 - 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, September 11, 2014.

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

SILENT MEDITATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL – taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer

Present: Councilmen Butterbaugh, Cacciotti, Cagle, Haire, Kelley, Neugebauer and Mayor Pacifico

PRESENTATIONS- Mayor Pacifico presented a proclamation to Dawn Morden of the Brian Morden Foundation for National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and Gold Ribbon Day

PUBLIC COMMENT – Jack Quatrara of 3827 Beale Avenue asked for an update on the Cesare Battisti noise complaint

Interim City Manager Peter Marshall stated the City is looking at a revised noise ordinance which eliminates decibel levels and meters and readings and will better stand up in court; the revised ordinance would tolerate noise on the property only and anything heard outside of the property would be considered in violation

Jim Riley asked Council to consider only the AWA proposal or the ABCD Corp proposal in regards to leasing of the water

Joseph Cote stated he is not in favor of the City selling or leasing the Altoona Water Authority stating there will eventually be a rate increase; recommended that Council come up with another solution to get the City out of debt; also mentioned the reassessment and recommended Council wait for this to be complete

Maureen Miller of 3440 Beale Avenue asked about the Cesare Battisti noise situation and for the details of a new noise ordinance as mentioned earlier

Virginia Marino of Altoona stated she is the former president of the former Altoona Taxpayers League and this is the third time Council has gone through this leasing or selling issue regarding the water stating if the City leases the AWA the City will never get it back again; stated she will petition for an injunction and fight Council if they move forward with a sale or lease

Betty Jane Restauri of 3910 Beale Avenue commented on the Cesare Battisti noise issue; stated the new ordinance is good news and asked when it would happen; Peter Marshall stated it would have to be presented to Council and go through the process which could begin in October

Paul Weimer of 886 Greenway Drive stated he reviewed Griffin Financial Group's proposal regarding the Altoona Water Authority and noticed it reported only the pros of their proposal and no cons which he believed to be unrealistic; considering the numbers that were in the report of 180 – 200 million dollars to a publicly held company does not make sense as they are there to make money so where is the return on their investment; Mr. Weimer stated the value of the Altoona Water Authority is tremendous and a huge asset and turning it over to private entity is a huge error

Steve Harker, Cesare Battisti Board Member, 4116 Beale Avenue; stated representatives of the Cesare attended this meeting because of what transpired during and after the last Council meeting and due to the phone calls received and the news media questions and stories; Mr. Harker stated the Cesare is there to do their best and they are willing to work with the neighbors

MANAGER'S REPORT – the report was distributed previously

RESOLUTIONS

a)approving the minutes of the Altoona City Council Meeting held Wednesday, August 27, 2014. (0123-14)

b)awarding the Tree Revitalization Project – Phase II Bid to Henry Enterprises Inc. (Yingling's Tree Service) of P.O. Box 156, Hollidaysburg, PA in the amount of \$7,104.93 payable from the Shade Tree Commission Line Item and further authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0124-14)

c)amending the 2012 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) transferring \$50,000.00 from the 2012 Un-programmed Funds (Reserve Fund) which will close out this project and moving \$29,500.00 to the 2012 Single Family Rehabilitation Program and \$20,500.00 to create a 2012 Juniata Memorial Park Project. (0125-14)

d)amending the 2014 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) transferring \$30,000.00 from the 2014 Prospect Park Project to create the 2014 Juniata Memorial Park Project.
(0126-14)

e)approving the Repository Bid submitted by Jinnette L. Davinsizer & James H. Vincent of 1409 2nd Avenue, Altoona, PA for property located at 1401 2nd

Avenue, Altoona, PA, (map no. 0104-06-189) (control no. 12-32940) in the amount of \$250.00 and further authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0127-14)

f) approving the Repository Bid submitted by Autumn L. Temple of 905 N. 4th Avenue, Altoona, PA & Thaddeous M. Campanaro of 203 2nd Street, Altoona, PA for property located at 922-24 8th Avenue, Altoona, PA, (map no. 0102-03-22) (control no. 12-147870) in the amount of \$1500.00 and further authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0128-14)

g) approving the Repository Bid submitted by Taylor J. Muekel of 416 3rd Avenue, Altoona, PA for property located at 409 3rd Avenue, Altoona, PA, (map no. 0108-04-165) (control no. 12-50010) in the amount of \$50.00 and further authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0129-14)

h) approving the Repository Bid submitted by Taylor J. Muekel of 416 3rd Avenue, Altoona, PA for property located at 411 3rd Avenue, Altoona, PA, (map no. 0108-04-164) (control no. 12-50040) in the amount of \$50.00 and further authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0130-14)

i) approving the Repository Bid submitted by Taylor J. Muekel of 416 3rd Avenue, Altoona, PA for property located at 413 3rd Avenue, Altoona, PA, (map no. 0108-04-163) (control no. 12-50070) in the amount of \$50.00 and further authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0131-14)

j) approving the Repository Bid submitted by Taylor J. Muekel of 416 3rd Avenue, Altoona, PA for property located at 415 3rd Avenue, Altoona, PA, (map no. 0108-04-162) (control no. 12-50100) in the amount of \$50.00 and further authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0132-14)

k) approving the Repository Bid submitted by Taylor J. Muekel of 416 3rd Avenue, Altoona, PA for property located at 417 3rd Avenue, Altoona, PA, (map no. 0108-04-161) (control no. 12-50130) in the amount of \$50.00 and further authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0133-14)

the resolutions were read and the consent vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer; the consent vote passed 7 to 0 with all present

DISCUSSION ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Councilman Cagle reported the Prospect Park Playground ribbon cutting was held and it is handicap accessible and a great addition to the neighborhood

Councilman Cagle stated the following regarding public comment and Council meetings: when the public speaks at Council meetings it is local government in action; Council does care and all members of Council are city residents, it is an honor and a privilege to serve; when the public approaches the microphone Council does respect them and encourages this as this is a place to express opinion; ultimately Council wants to do what is best for the City; Councilman Cagle thanked all residents who attend and participate in the public process stating Council has their best interest in mind

Councilman Butterbaugh stated the work ethic of this Council is exemplary and a lot of time goes into their work; there are time when Council cannot talk about certain things due to the nature of the subject and it is the preference of Council that all is out in the open but sometimes it cannot be out in the open

MEDIA in attendance included Bill Kibler for the *Altoona Mirror*, Steve Willet, WRTA Radio and Ben Manning, WTAJ TV-10

ADJOURNMENT – by Mayor Pacifico at 8:05 p.m.