

ALTOONA CITY COUNCIL MEETING &  
2015 BUDGET/TAX MILLAGE/EIT ADOPTION MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY – DECEMBER 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, December 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

Mayor Pacifico welcomed Fire Chief Tim Hileman back from his duty in Kuwait

ALL PUBLIC COMMENT – Patricia Antesberger, 8 Log Cabin Court brought to Council's attention a letter received regarding City real estate taxes which said she didn't pay and also that there was a penalty; the tax bill was sent when she was away and the post office would not forward it

Vice-Mayor Neugebauer and Omar Strohm were aware of others with similar Issues; Omar will follow up and refunds will have to be issued

PRESENTATIONS – IRC Update – John Frederick, Executive Director of the IRC Stated they recently introduced a smart phone app that they are sharing with All municipalities

Monthly Financial Report, Finance Director Omar Strohm reviewed October 2014 revenues and expenditures and 2013 comparisons

MANAGER'S REPORT – the Managers Information Memo was distributed previously; there were no further questions or comments

#### RESOLUTIONS

a)approving the minutes of the Altoona City Council Budget Worksession held Monday, November 10, 2014. (0147-14)

b)approving the minutes of the Altoona City Council Meeting held Wednesday, November 12, 2014. (0148-14)

c)authorizing a Proposal of Service/Contract with Keller Engineers to assist the City with the permitting process and design review for the Spring Run Retaining Wall Replacement Project in the amount of \$8,600.00 payable from

the Capital Budget and further authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0149-14)

d)authorizing the Interim City Manager or Acting City Manager and the City Solicitor to sign, either electronically or manually, the Project Reimbursement Agreement (No. 098995) for the 10<sup>th</sup> Street over Brush Run Bridge Project and the West Spruce Avenue Bridge Project in the amount of \$605,000.00 payable from Federal, State and Local Funds and further authorizing the City Clerk to attest to same as necessary. (0150-14)

e)amending the 2013 CDBG Program transferring \$3,163.29 from the 2013 ADA Ramps Upgrade to the 2013 Street Resurfacing Project. (0151-14)

f)amending the 2014 CDBG Program deleting the 2014 ADA Ramps Upgrade Project and transferring \$30,500.00 to the 2014 Street Resurfacing Project and also changing the project name of the 2014 Street Resurfacing Project to the 2014 Street Reconstruction. (0152-14)

g)amending the 2014 CDBG Program by amending the project locations of the 2014 Street Light Enhancement Project from the proposed locations to the precise locations. (0153-14)

h)amending the Citizen Participation Plan for the Housing and Community Development Programs funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to remove all reference to the Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG) due to the City of Altoona no longer being an entitlement community for the ESG Program AND amending Section IX "Substantial Amendment of a Project" from 25% to 50%. (0154-14)

i)awarding a demolition contract to Altoona Contracting Excavating Demolition Services of 535 Sandy Run Road, Altoona, PA, for demolition of 1506 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue in the amount of \$8,950.00, and 1816 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue in the amount of \$8,400.00 for a combined total of \$17,350.00 payable from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Blighted Property Program and authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0155-14)

j)amending and restating the Fee Resolution 0121-09 as amended increasing monthly parking rates for 2015. (0156-14)

k)approving the Proposal for the 2015 Tax Revenue Anticipation Note (TRAN) in the amount of \$3,000,000.00 and awarding the proposal to First National Bank at an interest rate of 1.19% and further authorizing the Interim City Manager or Acting City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk or Deputy City Clerk to attest to same. (0157-14)

l)authorizing a Special Warranty Deed (attached hereto) between the City of Altoona and the Altoona Redevelopment Authority for 900 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Altoona, PA and further authorizing the Mayor to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0158-14)

m)approving the City Council meeting schedule for the year 2015. (0159-14)

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

## ORDINANCES

### Adoption

#### The Governing Body

An Ordinance amending the Code of the City of Altoona to add a new Chapter 647 to be entitled "Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance" and pursuant to the Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance Act said Ordinance will establish tax exemptions for real property located within deteriorated areas of the City designated by City Council, specifically for purposes of this Ordinance, certain parts of the downtown section of the City; providing for the implementation thereof, including the contingency of adoption of concurrent legislation by the County of Blair and the Altoona Area School District. (LERTA ORD.) (ORD. NO. 5655)

This ordinance was read by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer

Introduction – The Governing Body

Motion for Adoption – Mayor Pacifico

Second – Councilman Butterbaugh

The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 7 to 0 with all present

### Adoption

#### Councilman Haire

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 2015. (2015 BUDGET) (ORD. NO. 5656)

Prior to the City Clerk reading the budget ordinance Councilman Cagle motioned for the following amendment to the budget:

-eliminate the 2.5 additional mills above the soft cap and the additional expenditures associated with the increase

-the need for the \$45,000 increase in recreation funding still exists and will be achieved by affecting the following line items in the 2015 budget:

- line item 34130-0341 Highway Department Street Cut Fees – increase from \$215,000 to 260,000 (page 8)

Vice-Mayor Neugebauer seconded the motion

The City Clerk re-read the proposed amendment and called for a vote on just the proposed amendment; the proposed amendment passed 4 to 3; Councilman Butterbaugh voted no; Councilman Haire voted no; Mayor Pacifico voted no

This budget ordinance as amended was read by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer

Introduction – Councilman Haire

Motion for Adoption – Councilman Cagle

Second – Councilman Kelley

The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 4 to 3 with all present; Councilman Butterbaugh voted no; Councilman Haire voted No; Mayor Pacifico voted no

### Adoption

#### Councilman Butterbaugh

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. (EIT ORD.) (ORD. NO. 5657)

This ordinance was read by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer

Introduction – Councilman Butterbaugh

Motion for Adoption – Councilman Kelley

Second – Councilman Cagle

The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 7 to 0 with all present

## Adoption

### Vice-Mayor Neugebauer

An Ordinance of the City of Altoona, in the County of Blair, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, fixing the tax rate for the year 2015. (2015 TAX MILLAGE) (ORD. NO. 5658)

Solicitor Clapper stated Council would need an amendment to this ordinance before adoption because Council is following through with an amendment to the budget ordinance and decreasing millage by 2.5%

Councilman Kelley motion for adoption of the amended millage ordinance by deleting the 2.5 mills for general fund purposes; Vice-Mayor Neugebauer seconded the motion; the vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 4 to 3 with all present; Councilman Butterbaugh voted no; Councilman Haire voted No; Mayor Pacifico voted no

The millage ordinance as amended was read by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer

Introduction – Vice-Mayor Neugebauer

Motion for Adoption – Vice-Mayor Neugebauer

Second – Councilman Kelley

The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 4 to 3 with all present; Councilman Butterbaugh voted no; Councilman Haire voted No; Mayor Pacifico voted no

DISCUSSION ITEMS & ANNOUNCEMENTS– Vice-Mayor Neugebauer stated he volunteered at Sister Paula’s food for Families over Thanksgiving and served 160 people; these facilities are important and need help with volunteering

Councilman Haire stated talent bank application are available and encouraged people to sign up to serve on and authorities, boards and commissions

Mayor Pacifico congratulated the Bishop Guilfoyle Marauders football team who beat South Williamsport and offered good luck as they advance to the PIAA State Finals in Hershey

Councilman Kelley mentioned the Christmas Parade that was recently held and the nice turnout and cooperative weather; thank you to GAEDC for putting it together and to Burgemeir Hauling for the sponsorship

Mayor Pacifico read an end of the year letter which is attached to these minutes.

**MEDIA** – media attendance included Bill Kibler, *Altoona Mirror* and Steve Willet, WRTA and Ben Manning, WTAJ TV-10 who had several questions of Council and staff

**ADJOURNMENT** – by Mayor Pacifico at 8:00 pm