

ALTOONA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY – FEBRUARY 10, 2016 - 7:00 P.M.
CITY OF ALTOONA TRAINING FACILITY & COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1320 WASHINGTON AVENUE, ALTOONA, PA

The meeting was televised live on cable Public Access Channel 14 and re-broadcast Thursday, February 11, 2016.

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: Council members Butterbaugh, Cagle, Haire, Jordan, Neugebauer and Mayor Pacifico

Absent: Councilman Cacciotti

PRESENTATIONS – Lou Ann Bickel of the Because We Care Program stated the program began in October of 2015 to provide early intervention and a positive interaction between children and police officers; since October 24, 2015 - 200 bears have been given out through three fire departments, eight police departments in Blair County and four in Cambria County; the following statistics were provided through Chief Freehling of the Altoona Police Department for December of 2015 as follows: 22 bears were given to children at 10 domestic disturbances, 5 bears were given to children at 3 drug overdoses, 4 bears were given to the children of Catherine Copley, 1 bear was given to a child who had a medical emergency, 1 bear was given to a child who was removed from the home by CYS, 1 bear was given to a child brought to the Altoona Police Station to await pickup by the father following the mother's arrest, 1 bear was given to a 2 year old physical assault victim, 3 bears were given to victims of suspected sexual assault and 5 bears were given to children involved in motor vehicle crashes

Mayor Pacifico announced that Council held an Executive Session prior to this meeting for the purpose of potential litigation

Mayor Pacifico nominated Bruce Kelley to the AMTRAN Authority and to the Altoona General Authority which he previously served on as a Councilman

PUBLIC COMMENT – Virginia Morino of 4th Avenue, Altoona, PA stated the Altoona Water Authority Board recommended the re-appointment of Tom Martin to the Water Authority; Ms. Morino also stated she visited Manheim Township and the police department, which was compared to Altoona during the Act 47 process, is nothing like the Altoona Police Department and should not have been compared when the Act 47 plan eliminated the Deputy Chief position; Ms. Morino asked Council to bring back the Deputy Chief position

City Manager Marla Marcinko stated the City of Altoona is obligated to comply with the Act 47 initiatives and the City is now in the process of amending the plan and positions will be evaluated in various departments

RESOLUTIONS

- a) approving the minutes of the Altoona City Council Meeting held Wednesday, January 27, 2016. (0024-16)
- b) appointing Bruce Kelley of 43 Seneca Avenue, Altoona, PA to the AMTRAN Authority to fill the unexpired term of Councilman Bruce Kelley. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2020. (0025-16)
- c) appointing Bruce Kelley of 43 Seneca Avenue, Altoona, PA to the Altoona General Authority to fill the unexpired term of Councilman Bruce Kelley. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2021. (0026-16)

City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer read the resolutions into the record; the City Clerk took the consent vote which passed 6 to 0; Councilman Cacciotti was absent

ORDINANCES

Introduction

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA SPECIFICALLY CHAPTER 94 ENTITLED "PENSIONS," ARTICLE II ENTITLED "POLICE PENSION FUND" TO ADD REQUIRED INTERNAL REVENUE CODE AND STATE LAW PROVISIONS; ADD BENEFITS THAT HAVE BEEN COLLECTIVELY BARGAINED; REPEAL ALL OTHER ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF LAWS IN CONFLICT THEREWITH; PROVIDE SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS AND PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This ordinance was read by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and introduced by Councilman Butterbaugh

DISCUSSION ITEMS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilman Haire stated the MPO meeting addressed the 17th street project and sidewalks; this project should cut down on accidents and help motor vehicle traffic

Councilman Cagle stated the CBRC dinner and auction will be held on February 20th at 5:30 pm; Don Witherspoon is receiving the respected citizen award; tickets are \$35.00 and can be purchased at the CBRC office

Councilwoman Jordan attended the Pyramid Healthcare meeting and stated needs and concerns of their clients were discussed and they will be exploring therapy and ¾ homes in the future

MEDIA – media attendance included Bill Kibler, *Altoona Mirror*

ADJOURNMENT – by Mayor Pacifico at 7:30 pm