

ALTOONA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY – SEPTEMBER 13, 2017 – 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, September 14, 2017.

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, Cacciotti (via phone), Haire, Neugebauer and Mayor Pacifico
Absent: Councilman Cagle, Councilwoman Jordan

PRESENTATIONS – Proclamation presented to Dawn Morden of the Brian Morden Foundation for National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and Gold Ribbon Day

2018 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) was presented by Omar Strohm, Finance Director with comparison to previous years as well as the current funding levels by percentage; the 2018 Minimum Municipal Obligation or amount the City must provide for its 2018 budget is as follows: police-\$2,669,372, non-uniformed-\$588,619 and fire-\$2,561,844; Mr. Strohm stated the presentation of this worksheet required no action by Council and the certification of the information to the Governing Body is a requirement by the end of September 2017; the contributions to the appropriate plans have to be made by December 31, 2018.

Mayor Pacifico announced that a resolution would be added to the council agenda regarding the support for the Hudson Company's application to PHFA for a potential housing project on Fairway Drive.

Mayor Pacifico also announced that resolution c would be tabled at this time

City Solicitor Larry Clapper read the resolution into the record.

ALL PUBLIC COMMENT – Matt Stachmus of 908 7th Avenue, Altoona provided Council with two different plate examples to hang

Pam Mitchell of 307 Cherry Avenue stated the matter she emailed to Council was resolved at the Zoning Hearing Board meeting stating there is still a lack of enforcement and she questions her own motive as a compliant landlord while she is watching other landlords who are non-compliant

RESOLUTIONS

- a) approving the minutes of the Altoona City Council Meeting held Wednesday, August 9, 2017. (0067-17)
- b) authorizing the City to extend the time to consider the liquor license transfer request of Weis Markets, Inc for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days. (0068-17)
- c) adopting the guidelines set forth for the Altoona City Transformation (ACT) Investment Program relating to public/private partnerships and instructing City staff to develop an application and review process for said Program. (TABLED)
- d) approving the 2017-2021 Payment in Lieu of Taxes Agreement (PILOT) between the City of Altoona and UPMC Altoona and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same, contingent upon language acceptable to the Solicitor. (0069-17)
- e) awarding the ADA Upgrades for the Restrooms at Highland Park to Ralph J. Albarano & Sons, Inc. of 1873 Old Route 22, Duncansville, PA 16635, in the amount of \$19,045.00, payable from the Highland Park Roof Line Item, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0070-17)
- f) authorizing an application for a Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program Grant with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for approximately 1300 feet of improvements along Margaret Avenue between Union Avenue and 17th Street to include resurfacing, curbs, sidewalks, ADA ramps, bicycle friendly stormwater inlets, bike route signage, LED street lighting and street trees as well as other improvements for pedestrians and bicyclists at the intersection of Margaret Avenue and 17th Street, in the amount of \$858,780.00 matched with \$243,234.00 of Highway Aid and other City funds, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and for the City Clerk to attest to same. (0071-17)
- g) amending the 2016 Community Development Block Grant Program to adjust estimated program income to reflect actual program income received between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017 and reallocating \$85,479.16 to the Single-Family Homeowner Rehabilitation Program and \$5,873.31 to the Neighborhood Police Patrol. (0072-17)
- h) approving a Repository Bid in the amount of \$250.00 submitted by Amy Green of 110 East Walnut Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601, for property located at 102 E. Walnut Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601 and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0073-17)

i) approving a Repository Bid in the amount of \$1200.00 submitted by Marc Cook of 714 Pottsgrove Road, Altoona, PA 16602, for property located at 418 4th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602 and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0074-17)

j) approving a Repository Bid in the amount of \$50.00 submitted by John Henderson Jr. of 609 2nd Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602, for property located at 607 2nd Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602 and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0075-17)

k) approving a Repository Bid in the amount of \$100.00 submitted by Wanda Geist of 719 4th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602, for property located at 713 4th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602 and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0076-17)

l) approving a Repository Bid in the amount of \$600.00 submitted by Michael Hemberger of 1618 20th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601, for property located at 1619-1621 20th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601 and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0077-17)

m) approving a Repository Bid in the amount of \$50.00 submitted by Amy Green of 110 East Walnut Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601, for property located at 1405 1st Street, Altoona, PA 16601 and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0078-17)

n) approving a Repository Bid in the amount of \$250.00 submitted by Amy Green of 110 East Walnut Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601, for property located at 301 Lexington Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601 and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0079-17)

o) authorizing a letter of support for the Hudson Company for their application to the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) for a potential housing project on Fairway Drive. (0080-17)

City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer read the resolutions into the record; Councilman Butterbaugh asked to have item o pulled for separate vote due to a conflict of interest; the consent vote was taken by the City Clerk on items a through n, excluding item c which was tabled, and item o which would be voted on separately, and passed 5 to 0; Councilman Cagle was absent, Councilwoman Jordan was absent; a vote was taken by the City Clerk on item o and passed 4-0; Councilman Butterbaugh abstained, Councilman Cagle was absent, Councilwoman Jordan was absent

ORDINANCES

Adoption

Councilman Cacciotti

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, CHAPTER 800 ENTITLED "ZONING," TO: 1. AMEND SECTION 800-27 ENTITLED "ZONING MAP" TO REZONE, FROM R-S, SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL TO R-MH MULTIPLE-HOUSEHOLD RESIDENTIAL TWO PARCELS OF PROPERTY BOUNDED BY BECKMAN DRIVE ON THE SOUTH, BY LANDS NOW OR FORMERLY OF KATHLEEN R. PAUL, JANET G. EBERSOLE AND KEYSTONE CUSTOM HOMES & DEVELOPMENT INC. ON THE WEST, BY PENN CIRCLE DRIVE AND LANDS NOW OR FORMERLY OF LEO D. ENGLEMAN ON THE NORTH, AND BY LANDS NOW OR FORMERLY OF JENNIFER L. MILLER, DENNIS J. AND MARJORIE A. ANSMAN, AND STEVEN J AND CYNTHIA M. OSEWALT ON THE EAST; UPON REQUEST OF KEYSTONE CUSTOM HOMES AND DEVELOPMENT, INC. AND GRETKA REAL ESTATE PARTNERSHIP, ALL AS SHOWN ON THE MAP ATTACHED TO SAID ORDINANCE AS EXHIBIT "A"; 2. PROVIDE ENABLING AND SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS, REPEALER AND 3. ESTABLISH AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (ORD. NO. 5708)

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer.

Introduction – Councilman Cacciotti

Motion for Adoption – Vice-Mayor Haire

Second – Councilman Butterbaugh

Prior to the vote Councilman Butterbaugh asked if after the vote a letter could be drafted between for the neighbor who is waiting for a letter; Mr. Swope gave his word it would be built according to plan but the neighbor was promised a letter by Mr. Swope; City Solicitor Larry Clapper stated the City has Mr. Swope's word and believes Mr. Swope has other properties in the City and that he would not want to appear before Council and not have given his word and do something else; Mr. Swope can provide a letter to the neighbor but a letter to Council will have no binding affect; Council cannot condition what they are doing with this ordinance and they either have to vote yes or no on the ordinance; at this time the Mayor asked the City Clerk to call for the vote

The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 4 to 1; Councilman Neugebauer voted no; Councilman Cagle was absent, Councilwoman Jordan was absent; following the vote Mayor Pacifico asked Mr. Swope if first thing on Thursday he could please provide Mrs. Osewalt and the neighbors a letter stating he would build what he said he verbally said he would build and have the letter notarized

MAYOR & COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – Councilman Dave Butterbaugh thanked the City staff for their hard work over the past years stating a nice ceremony was held with DCED Secretary Dennis Davin prior to the Council meeting to sign the order for the City to exit Act 47; Councilman Butterbaugh stated it feels a lot better already and it was a lot of work on the part of staff and a blessing to see this day finally come; Councilman Butterbaugh also thanked Mayor Pacifico for carrying the torch after Mayor Schirf did a lot of work regarding Act 47 during his term as Mayor; the conditions were that nobody would lose their job over Act 47 and there were countless hours spent working on this issue and Mayor Schirf laid down the gauntlet on this right from the start; Councilman Butterbaugh also thanked former Mayor Schirf for attending the ceremony

Mayor Pacifico agreed

Vice-Mayor Haire thanked the City employees for working with Council and for taking on some of the burden of Act 47; the City was able to keep the numbers the same rather than lay-off more than 30 employees

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

ADJOURNMENT – by Mayor Pacifico at 7:45 p.m.