

ALTOONA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY – OCTOBER 9, 2019 – 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, October 10, 2019.

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, Cagle, Jordan, Kelley, Neugebauer and Mayor Pacifico

PRESENTATIONS – A Proclamation was presented by Mayor Pacifico to Altoona Fire Chief Tim Hileman for Fire Prevention Week

Mayor Pacifico announced that Council held an Executive Session prior to this meeting for personnel matters.

Mayor Pacifico announced that three additional resolutions were going to be added to this agenda. The City Clerk read the resolutions into the record for traffic signals, tree pruning bid and Heritage Plaza.

#### ALL PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Gibbons of 2821 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue stated he was there to address traffic in his neighborhood and speeding due to the opening of Rutter's; Mr. Gibbons thanked Council for the reflective signs and asked to have STOP painted on the asphalt at the stop sign; Mr. Gibbons stated a hit and run accident took place at the intersection this morning; Mr. Gibbons asked about a property with codes violations in his neighborhood that he previously mentioned at a council meeting

Richard Slitzker of 611 Ruskin Drive presented information regarding Ruskin Drive on poster boards for Council to review at their leisure

#### RESOLUTIONS

a) approving the minutes of the Altoona City Council Meeting held Wednesday, September 11, 2019. (0094-19)

b) approving a Repository Bid in the amount of \$200.00 submitted by William Smith of 308 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602, for property located at 304 2nd Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0095-19)

c)approving a Repository Bid in the amount of \$200.00 submitted by William Smith of 308 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602 for property located at 306 2nd Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0096-19)

d)approving a Repository Bid in the amount of \$250.00 submitted by Gary and Denise Evangelisto of 557 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601, for property located at 559-561 21st Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0097-19)

e)approving a Repository Bid in the amount of \$250.00 submitted by John Westerfer of 413 27th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601, for property located at 1501-1507 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Altoona, PA 16601, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0098-19)

f)approving application for a Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the Margaret Avenue Streetscape Project, to replace approximately 2,600 feet of curb and sidewalk, together with handicap ramps and a bike lane, along Margaret Avenue from Union Avenue to 17<sup>th</sup> Street, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0099-19)

g)approving application for a Dirt, Gravel & Low Volume Road Grant with the Blair County Conservation District, for the improvement of the roadway and drainage on North 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue between North 9<sup>th</sup> Street and North 13<sup>th</sup> Street, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0100-19)

h)authorizing Application for Traffic Signal with PennDOT for the replacement/update of traffic signal supports, controllers, detection systems and pedestrian signals at the following locations:

58<sup>th</sup> Street & California Avenue

58<sup>th</sup> Street & 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue

Logan Boulevard & Arlaryd Street and Stewart Street

and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0101-19)

i)awarding the 2019-2020 Tree Pruning & Removal Project to Henry Enterprises, Inc. of P.O. Box 156, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648, in the amount of \$52,778.00, payable from Shade Tree Commission line items, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0102-19)

j)approving a Heritage Plaza Donation Agreement, attached hereto, between the City of Altoona and The Devorris Downtown Fund/CPCF, the Devorris Family, Blair Companies, Altoona Pipe & Steel Supply Company, Inc., and New

Enterprise Stone & Lime Company, Inc. and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0103-19)

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

## ORDINANCES

### Introduction

1)AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA TO AMEND AND RESTATE CHAPTER 44§44-13 "FULL-TIME FIREFIGHTER (RANKING/PROMOTION POSITIONS)" A. APPLICATION AND QUALIFICATIONS. CORRECTING NUMBERING IN THIS SECTION, ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR FULL-TIME FIREFIGHTER RANKING POSITIONS CORRECTING TIME REQUIREMENTS FOR ELIGIBILITY FOR CAPTAIN, AND ADDING THE PREREQUISITE QUALIFICATIONS FOR ASSISTANT FIRE INSPECTOR.

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and introduced by Councilman Butterbaugh.

### Introduction

2)AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA TO AMEND CHAPTER 647, ENTITLED "LOCAL ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION TAX ASSISTANCE", TO EXTEND THE DATE OF TERMINATION IN SECTIONS 647-6 AND 647-10 FOR AN ADDITIONAL FIVE YEARS; REAFFIRM CHAPTER 647 AS AMENDED; PROVIDE SEVERABILITY AND REPEAL PROVISIONS; AND PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and introduced by Mayor Pacifico.

### Adoption - Mayor Pacifico

3)AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA CHAPTER 800 ENTITLED "ZONING" TO: AMEND THE DEFINITION OF "STUDENT HOME" AT 800-6; REMOVE SECTION 800-42 ENTITLED "WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES" IN ITS ENTIRETY AND REPLACE IT WITH A NEW SECTION 800-42 ENTITLED "WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES" AS SHOWN BELOW; PROVIDE FOR A PURPOSE, REAFFIRMATION AND RESTATEMENT OF CHAPTER 800 AS AMENDED; PROVIDE SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS; AND PROVIDE A REPEALER OF INCONSISTENT PROVISIONS; AND PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (ORD. NO. 5752)

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

Introduction – Mayor Pacifico

Motion for Adoption – Mayor Pacifico

Second – Councilman Neugebauer

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

#### MAYOR & COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilman Kelley referenced a letter to the editor in the *Altoona Mirror* on October 7, 2019, from a James Sikorski Jr. of Wapwallopen, PA who is the PA Advocate for the National Motorists Association. The letter stated that if people were going over the speed limit on Ruskin Drive that the posted speed limit on Ruskin Drive was too low and suggested that the speed limit be raised. This gentleman also talked about cameras. Councilman Kelley stated if Mr. Sikorski is the advocate for this group that he should know that the only municipality in the Commonwealth of PA that is allowed to use cameras for traffic enforcement is Philadelphia. Councilman Kelley stated that he has been on Route 11 near Wapwallopen and there is a lot of traffic on Route 11. Councilman Kelley stated Mr. Sikorski should focus on the large amount of traffic on Route 11 in his County of either Columbia or Luzerne, and thanked him for his interest in our community, even if he is ill-informed.

Councilman Kelley thanked Nate Kissell for his memo regarding traffic issues in the City asking since the signage is in place, will there be follow up to see if it had an affect and if it actually slowed people down; Chief Freehling stated they continue to check on the area; they will continue to monitor the speed; Councilman Kelly likes the idea of the continued monitoring to see if the efforts are having an impact; Councilman Kelley asked about the policy mentioned by Nate Kissell to use for excessive speeding complaints; Nate Kissell stated when meeting with a consultant earlier in the year, it was discussed, and maybe a board could be put in place and parameters could be set; the other area that a board would help is with parking issues; Councilman Kelley stated it is a concern and it isn't in only one area of the City, and standards would be a good thing to have in place

Councilman Butterbaugh congratulated Mayor Pacifico for being elected President of the Pennsylvania Municipal League

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

ADJOURNMENT – by Mayor Pacifico at 7:34 p.m.