

ALTOONA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY – DECEMBER 01, 2021 - 6:00 P.M.
CITY OF ALTOONA TRAINING FACILITY & COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1320 WASHINGTON AVENUE, ALTOONA, PA

CALL TO ORDER – by Mayor Pacifico at 6:00 PM

SILENT MEDITATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL – taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer

Present: Council members Butterbaugh, Cacciotti, Carper, Ickes, Kelley and Mayor Pacifico

Absent: Councilwoman Jordan

Mayor Pacifico announced that Council held an Executive Session on November 8, 2021 for the purpose of potential litigation, personnel and real estate.

ALL PUBLIC COMMENT – Mayor Pacifico called for public comment. The call-in number was included on the agenda and on the City’s website calendar approximately one week prior to the meeting. The number was also displayed on Public Access Channel 14 during the meeting for television viewers.

Ed Kruez of 1709 N 14th Ave stated he wants to fence in his property but needs DPW to look at the alley; Mr. Kruez asked about cutting down trees on the neighbors’ properties and also if the alley can be moved and then blacktopped. Mr. Kruez stated the City cleared brush from the right of way on private property at N 18th Street; Councilman Kelley asked the City Manager to have staff follow up with Mr. Kruez

Mike Byrne of 2324 16th Avenue asked about the City placing an impound facility in Westfall Park

RESOLUTIONS

a) approving the minutes of the Altoona City Council Meeting held Monday, November 8, 2021. (0126-21)

b) authorizing the destruction of City public records in the attachment and ratifying the destruction of Police Department records in the attachment, in accordance with the Municipal Records Manual of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. (0127-21)

c) authorizing an Easement Agreement between the City of Altoona and City Hall Commons PA, LLC, for the purpose of the construction of a handicap accessible ramp and sidewalk, as shown on the Easement Plan, and further authorizing the Mayor to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0128-21)

d) authorizing a Right-of-Way Agreement between the City of Altoona and Everstream Solutions, LLC, of 1228 Euclid Avenue, Suite 250, Cleveland, OH 44115, for construction, installation, maintenance and operations of telecommunications facilities within the City's right-of-way and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0129-21)

e) amending and restating the Fee Resolution 0111-19 to include updating the language under POLICE for Police Photographs, deleting "plus film cost" and the language and fees to reflect the Small Cell Ordinance No. 5781 as follows: The addition of Small Cell Wireless Facility Fees and the deletion of the current language for Wireless Communications Facility. (0130-21)

f) setting the meeting date of Monday, January 10, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the City of Altoona Training Facility & Council Chambers, 1320 Washington Avenue, Altoona, PA for the purpose of an Organizational Meeting of Altoona City Council, and to conduct any other business that may come before Council, in accordance with the Home Rule Charter and Administrative Code of the City of Altoona. (0131-21)

City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer read the resolutions into the record; the consent vote was taken by the City Clerk on all items and the consent vote passed 6 to 0; Councilwoman Jordan was absent

ORDINANCES – Adoption – the Governing Body

1)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 2022. (2022 BUDGET ORDINANCE) (ORD. NO. 5785)

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer
Introduction – The Governing Body
Motion for Adoption – The Governing Body
Second – Mayor Pacifico
The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 6 to 0; Councilwoman Jordan was absent

Prior to the vote Councilman Ickes stated it has been over a decade since Central Blair Recreation Commission had an audit and asked if contingency funds could be used and YOBCO could perform the audit as an expansion of the City's audit; City Manager Strohm stated it could be done if Council wants to go in that direction he can contact YOBCO for an estimate.

MAYOR & COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilman Kelley asked if as a courtesy DPW could run through the City again and do a leaf pick up

Councilman Butterbaugh stated he received a request for leaf collection to be extended for a week for next year or to re-schedule it for a later date

City Manager Strohm stated he will discuss this with Nate Kissell

Councilman Butterbaugh commended the light crew and all that did the work downtown to beautify it for the holiday season

Councilman Ickes thanked Councilman Matt Cacciotti for his service to the City as this is his last Council meeting and that he enjoyed working with him

Councilman Ickes stated he had a family member on and off in the UPMC Emergency Department with an estimated wait time of 56 hours; Councilman Ickes stated this is astonishing for our local hospital and it is hard to believe there is an international health care system here and the officials of UPMC are paid well and some are making upwards of \$600,000 per year here in our community and essentially the UPMC Altoona Emergency Department has turned into Venezuela; Councilman Ickes called on UPMC to treat their employees well as the culture has become very corporate driven

Councilman Ickes asked questions of DPW Director Nate Kissell regarding the alley in Juniata

Mayor Pacifico stated the Christmas Parade would be held on December 2nd at 6 pm in Downtown Altoona

Mayor Pacifico thanked Councilman Cacciotti for his 8 years of service on City Council and for his hard work and dedication

Councilman Cacciotti thanked everyone for their support and stated the City is in good hands moving forward; the perception of the City is that there is a strong Council and Mayor and the respect and trust is strong; Councilman Cacciotti encouraged the public to volunteer and get involved and encouraged Council and staff to keep up the good work; Councilman Cacciotti would like to see the landbank transpire in the years to come; Councilman Cacciotti encouraged removal of the trees along 8th street and work on the sidewalks and re-beautification of this gateway area

Media attendance included Bill Kibler, *Altoona Mirror* who asked questions of the Mayor and Council, the City Solicitor and City staff

ADJOURNMENT – by Mayor Pacifico at 6:45 p.m.