

ALTOONA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY – DECEMBER 5, 2022 - 6:00 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 Tuesday, December 6, 2022.

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

SILENT MEDITATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL – taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer

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

ALL PUBLIC COMMENT

Dave Wolesslagle of 1422 N. 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Altoona stated he is a 33-year veteran and the Juniata Community Center needs a flag on the flag pole; Mr. Wolesslagle stated the mechanism is in working order and he will take care of the flag; Mr. Wolesslagle stated that he would like to recommend a celebration beyond the Christmas parade that is extended over the weekend to help the businesses of Downtown Altoona

Autumn Temple of 905 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Altoona spoke on the residential rental ordinance to be adopted; Ms. Temple stated she cannot pay on time and is willing to pay a late fee; Ms. Temple is not in favor of a license being revoked

RESOLUTIONS

- a) approving the minutes of the Altoona City Council Meeting held Monday, November 14, 2022. (0131-22)
- b) amending and restating the Fee Resolution 0130-21, attached hereto. (0132-22)
- c) approving the City Council Meeting Schedule attached hereto, for the year 2023, in accordance with the Home Rule Charter and Administrative Code of the City of Altoona. (0133-22)
- d) amending the 2019 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) transferring funding in the amount of \$97,634.76 from the Altoona Blair County Development Corporation (ABCD) Economic Recovery Program COVID-19, to The Nehemiah Inc., Meal Preparation Program in the amount of \$48,817.38 and to the Family Services, Inc., Homeless Shelter Rehabilitation in the amount of \$48,817.38. (0134-22)

- e) awarding the Request for Proposal for Independent Auditing Services for the City of Altoona for the years 2022, 2023 and 2024, including a financial audit of the Federal Housing and Community Development Funds, the Redevelopment Authority and the Altoona Water Authority, to Young, Oakes, Brown and Company of Altoona, PA, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0135-22)
- f) authorizing an agreement between the City of Altoona Fire Department and Cambria County Children & Youth Service/Cambria County Administrative Office of Juvenile Court for Juvenile Firesetter Program Training/Interviewing and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0136-22)
- g) accepting Blair County Planning Commission's Proposal for Professional Services, attached hereto, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents associated with this proposal and for the City Clerk to attest to same. (0137-22)
- h) approving the minutes of the LERTA Public Hearing held on Tuesday, October 25, 2022. (0138-22)

City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer read the resolutions into the record; Vice-Mayor Ickes asked to have item d pulled for separate vote; the City Clerk called for the consent vote on all items excluding item d; the consent vote passed 7 to 0 with all present; the City Clerk called for a vote on item d; Vice-Mayor Ickes abstained due to being on the Family Services Board; the vote passed 6 to 0 with all present

## ORDINANCES

### Adoption - Councilman Butterbaugh

- 1) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, A HOME RULE MUNICIPALITY IN THE COUNTY OF BLAIR, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 5707 AND AUTHORIZING THE FINANCING OF AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FOUR MILLION (\$4,000,000) DOLLARS FOR THE PURCHASE OF VARIOUS PIECES OF EQUIPMENT TO INCLUDE PUMPER AND LADDER FIRE TRUCKS, THROUGH A MASTER EQUIPMENT LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH COMMUNITY FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF MANHATTAN KANSAS; PROVIDING FOR THE PROPER OFFICIALS OF THE CITY TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS INVOLVED WITH SAID PURCHASES; REPEALING ALL INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (ORD. NO. 5794)

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer  
Introduction – Councilman Butterbaugh  
Motion for Adoption – Councilman Carper

Second – Councilman Beatty

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

Adoption -Mayor Pacifico

- 2) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, BLAIR COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, WHICH AMENDS CHAPTER 570-11 "ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT" OF THE ALTOONA CITY CODE WITH RESPECT TO RESIDENTIAL RENTAL INSPECTION TO PROVIDE FOR ADDITIONAL ENFORCEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION PROVISIONS REGARDING REVOCATION AND REINSTATEMENT OF CONDITIONAL HOUSING PERMITS AND RESIDENTIAL RENTAL LICENSES. (ORD. NO. 5795)

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

Introduction – Mayor Pacifico

Motion for Adoption – Vice-Mayor Ickes

Second – Councilman Ellis

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

Adoption - Vice-Mayor Ickes

- 3) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, BLAIR COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, WHICH AMENDS CHAPTER 270 "CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS, ARTICLE II BUILDING CONSTRUCTION" SECTIONS 270-7 THROUGH 270-10 AND ARTICLE III "PLUMBING STANDARDS" SECTION 270-11 OF THE ALTOONA CITY CODE, TO PROVIDE PROVISIONS FOR PERMIT RENEWALS, ANNUAL PERMITS, WORK BEFORE PERMITS AND APPEAL FEES, AND TO REAFFIRM THE REMAINDER OF CHAPTER 270. (ORD. NO. 5796)

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

Introduction – Vice-Mayor Ickes

Motion for Adoption – Councilman Butterbaugh

Second – Councilman Beatty

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

Adoption - Councilman Ellis

- 4) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA WHICH AMENDS AND REPLACES CHAPTER 647 OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA CODE, LOCAL ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION TAX ASSISTANCE AND ENACTS A NEW ORDINANCE PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION TAX ASSISTANCE ACT AND THE IMPROVEMENT OF DETERIORATING REAL PROPERTY OR AREAS OF TAX EXEMPTION ACT ESTABLISHING TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR REAL PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN DETERIORATED AREAS OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA DESIGNATED BY LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES; AND PROVIDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION THEREOF, INCLUDING THE CONTINGENCY OF ADOPTION OF CONCURRENT LEGISLATION BY OTHER AFFECTED TAXING BODIES. (ORD. NO. 5797)

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer  
Introduction – Councilman Ellis  
Motion for Adoption – Councilman Beatty  
Second – Councilman Ickes  
The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 7 to 0 with all present

Adoption - Councilman Ellis

- 5) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, BLAIR COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, WHICH AMENDS AND REPLACES CHAPTER 470 OF THE ALTOONA CITY CODE AS IT PERTAINS TO "NOISE" TO: PROVIDE DEFINITIONS; OUTLINE APPLICABILITY AND EXEMPTIONS, PROVIDE ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES AND PENALTIES, PROVIDE SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS, REPEALER; AND PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (ORD. NO. 5798)

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer  
Introduction – Councilman Ellis  
Motion for Adoption – Councilman Butterbaugh  
Second – Councilman Ellis  
The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 7 to 0 with all present

Adoption - Councilman Beatty

- 6) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, BLAIR COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, WHICH AMENDS CHAPTER 646-25 "DISCOUNT AND PENALTY FOR PAYMENT OF REAL ESTATE TAXES" OF THE ALTOONA CITY CODE WITH RESPECT TO REAL ESTATE TAXES LEVIED AND ASSESSED IN THE CITY OF ALTOONA TO PROVIDE A POTENTIAL WAIVER OF ADDITIONAL CHARGES BEYOND THE FACE VALUE AMOUNT OF REAL ESTATE TAXES FOR NEW HOMEOWNERS BEGINNING IN THE 2023 TAX YEAR PURSUANT TO PENNSYLVANIA ACT 57 OF 2022. (ORD. NO. 5799)

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer  
Introduction – Councilman Beatty  
Motion for Adoption – Councilman Carper  
Second – Councilman Butterbaugh  
The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 7 to 0 with all present

Adoption - Councilman Butterbaugh

- 7) 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 2023. (2023 BUDGET ORDINANCE) (ORD. NO. 5800)

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer  
Introduction – Councilman Butterbaugh  
Motion for Adoption – Councilman Beatty  
Second – Councilman Butterbaugh  
The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 7 to 0  
with all present

#### CITY MANAGER UPDATES

City Manager Omar Strohm provided the following:

- received the parking study and there will be a presentation at the January worksession
- the Christmas parade was well attended; clean up took place on Saturday
- the next round of grants will be out in January; there will be a different process and form; this will be reviewed with Council before it is released and advertised well in advance
- in the new year processes will be approached more systematically and programmatically rather than purely on input from individuals

#### MAYOR & COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and stated the following:

- It was nice to have a budget without a tax increase and thank you to staff for their hard work
- Asked to discuss the fewer positions that were in a previous budget at a future worksession and where the City is in this process
- The Christmas parade was a huge success and well attended and thanks to all of the organizations and businesses, organizers and attendees
- Great accomplishments with ARPA money to include stormwater projects, the McCrory's building being sold and receiving a new roof, and, the work on the lots going into the landbank and building a base for the future
- Systematic and programmatic processes are favorable and a good idea

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

ADJOURNMENT – by Mayor Pacifico at 7:03 p.m.