

ALTOONA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY – AUGUST 8, 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, August 9, 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 (via phone), Ellis, Ickes, Kelley (via phone for a portion of the meeting and then in person) and Mayor Pacifico

PRESENTATIONS

2021 Audit – Dan Bradley, YOBCO

Mid-Year Financial Report – Bessie Mosey, Acting Finance Director

Mayor Pacifico announced that Council held an executive session after the July 11th meeting for personnel matters

ALL PUBLIC COMMENT – Craig Donnelly of 719 Bryon Avenue stated there are stray/feral cats in Garden Heights and they have been there for the last 3 years and they are being dropped off in the neighborhood by random people; the cats are destroying property and killing animals; also there are abandoned vehicles in the neighborhood, some since 2018 and 2019 (6 in a 3 block area); also grass and weeds and trash and a grease container being dumped by Popeye's in the alley

Christy Johnson of 108 E. 3rd Avenue asked for a 4 way stop sign at 1st Street and 3rd Avenue; near Luigetta's and Rolls Meat Market you cannot see beyond the parked vehicles at the intersection and there are no stop signs so people are speeding; also there are a lot of children in the neighborhood and a child was hit on a bicycle on July 12th; it is a school bus stop and there are also a lot of delivery trucks in the area

Diana Partner of 500 E. Wopsy Ave stated there is speeding in the area and vehicles are not stopping at stop signs; there were several accidents there in the last few months; students will be returning to Penn State and those in their teens and low twenties are tiding electric bikes and motor bikes and drifting through stop signs

RESOLUTIONS

- a) approving the minutes of the Altoona City Council Meeting held Monday, July 11, 2022. (0098-22)
- b) awarding a bid for the Margaret Avenue Training Center Renovation & Improvement Project to the following bidders:
- General Construction - Ventura Construction Services, Inc. of 800 North 3rd Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601 in the amount of \$457,304.00
 - Plumbing Construction – Charles D. Riley, Inc., 2701 Washington Ave, Altoona, PA 16601 in the amount of \$48,697.00
 - Electrical Construction – MH Electric, LLC., PO Box 335, Duncansville, PA 16635 in the amount of \$140,000.00
 - Mechanical Construction – Klesius & Sheedy, Inc., 1123 8th Ave, Altoona, PA 16602 in the amount of \$83,333.00

for a Grand Total of \$729,334.00, payable from ARPA Funds, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to the same. (0099-22)

- c) awarding the 13th Avenue Stormwater Improvements and Signal Upgrades between 12th Street & 13th Street to Cottles Asphalt Maintenance, Inc., 13136 Lincoln Highway, Everett, PA 15537, in the amount of \$1,628,745.80, payable as follows:
- Stormwater Improvements \$693,882.00 ARPA Funds
 - 13th Ave & 12th St Signals \$445,268.00 Capital & Liquid Fuels
 - 13th Ave & 13th St Signals \$408,753.80
 - GLG Grant: \$298,769.00
 - City's Share: \$109,984.80
 - Grant Match/Liquid Fuels
 - Mill & Pave \$ 31,000.00 2023 Capital Paving Program
 - Decorative Crosswalks \$ 49,842.00 Liquid Fuels

and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to the same. (0100-22)

- d) awarding the 20th Avenue to 23rd Avenue Drainage Improvements Project to C, H & D Enterprises, Inc., of 100 Brady Place, New Stanton, PA 15672, in the amount of \$630,128.00, payable from ARPA Funds, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0101-22)

- e) awarding the 2022 Asphalt Joint and Crack Seal Project to Russell Standard Corporation of 1514 Black Gap Road, Fayetteville, PA 17222, in the amount of \$44,900.00, payable from Highway Aid Funds, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0102-22)
- f) amending and restating Resolution No 0041-19 which establishes the eligibility criteria for development and redevelopment projects within the City of Altoona and determines the City's financial participation. (103-22)
- g) approving a Repository Bid in the amount of \$200.00, submitted by the City of Altoona of 1301 12th Street, Suite 100, Altoona, PA 16601, for property located at 1821 11th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (104-22)
- h) approving a Repository Bid in the amount of \$100.00, submitted by Kimberly Ferrone of 1835 6th Street, Altoona, PA 16601, for property located at 1834 6th Street, Altoona, PA 16601, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (105-22)
- i) expressing concern and opposition and encouraging the City of Altoona's state and federal legislators to do the same, regarding the welfare of residents, pedestrians and motorists, and the cost of the City's infrastructure maintenance, in relation to proposed federal or state truck size and weight increases, which would place subsidies on local governments, place increased wear and tear on roads and bridges, and threaten the safety of the public. (106-22)

City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer read the resolutions into the record; Vice-Mayor Ickes asked to have item b pulled for a separate vote; the City Clerk called for the consent vote on all items excluding item b; the consent vote passed 7 to 0; the City Clerk read item b and called for the vote; the vote passed 6-0; Vice-Mayor Ickes abstained due to serving as benefits manager for MH Electric and Klesius & Sheedy; all were present

ORDINANCES - Introduction

Introduction

1) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA TO AMEND CHAPTER 405 ENTITLED "LEASE AND/OR CONVEYANCE OF CITY OWNED LANDS", TO: AUTHORIZE CONVEYANCE OF THE FOLLOWING CITY OWNED LAND LOCATED AT 523 8TH AVENUE, ALTOONA, PA 16602; 1313 N. 7TH AVENUE, ALTOONA, PA 16601, TO THE REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF ALTOONA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1.00; REPEAL ALL OTHER ORDINANCES OR PARTS

THEREOF IN CONFLICT THEREWITH; PROVIDE SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS AND PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (TABLED)

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and introduced by Councilman Ellis; Councilman Kelley motioned to table the ordinance at this time; the City Clerk called for the vote which passed 7-0 with all present

Adoption -Councilman Ellis

2) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, BLAIR COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, WHICH AMENDS CHAPTER 800-6 "DEFINITIONS APPLICABLE TO ENTIRE CHAPTER 800" AND CHAPTER 800-55 "CENTRAL BUSINESS COMMERCIAL ZONE" OF THE ALTOONA CITY CODE TO PROVIDE A DEFINITION FOR "CORPORATE HOUSING" AND TO ADD CORPORATE HOUSING TO THE LIST OF PERMITTED RESIDENTIAL USES [RMB1][TF2] FOR CENTRAL BUSINESS COMMERCIAL ZONES WITHIN THE CITY OF ALTOONA. (ORD. NO. 5790)

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer
Introduction – Councilman Ellis
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, COUNTY OF BLAIR, PENNSYLVANIA, TO AMEND CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE III OF CHAPTER 94 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA ENTITLED, "NON-UNIFORMED EMPLOYEES PENSION PLAN." (ORD. NO. 5791)

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

Adoption - Mayor Pacifico

4) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, SPECIFICALLY CHAPTER 98 ENTITLED, "PERSONNEL POLICIES" AND REPEALING SECTION 98-1 OF THE CITY CODE AND REPLACING IT WITH ADOPTION OF "CITY OF ALTOONA – NON-UNIFORMED EMPLOYEES PERSONNEL POLICIES MANUAL 2022"; REPEAL ALL OTHER ORDINANCES OR

PARTS OF LAWS IN CONFLICT THEREWITH; PROVIDE SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS AND PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (ORD. NO. 5792)

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

CITY MANAGER UPDATES

City Manager Omar Strohm provided the following:

- budget preparations have started and meetings will be held with department directors over the next few weeks
- the capital improvement plan is a five-year plan and is being updated now and will be annually
- in the near future there will be an update of costs associated with the bargaining agreements and a five-year projection for the general fund before the end of the year, which is expected of municipalities within financial and accounting circles
- the City updated its website and it is live; it looks a lot better and is more user friendly; thanks to the IT Department and the City Clerk for their extensive efforts in putting it together

MAYOR & COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilman Kelley apologized for being late due to a work commitment

Councilman Kelley stated the five-year projection is a good idea as Council will have to look at how to match the revenues to cover the expenditures; Council has flexibility under the Home Rule Charter and will have to look at taxes and plan ahead while being sensible and responsible

Councilman Ellis stated nice work on the audit; good job on the stormwater projects and on getting them moving; based on discussions regarding Garden Heights, this will be a good time to do a neighborhood sweep with all of the departments who can begin to coordinate that

MEDIA – media attendance included Bill Kibler, *Altoona Mirror* and a videographer from WTAJ TV-10

ADJOURNMENT – by Mayor Pacifico at 6:59 p.m.