

ALTOONA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY – AUGUST 10, 2026 - 6:00 P.M.
CITY OF ALTOONA TRAINING FACILITY & COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1320 WASHINGTON AVENUE, ALTOONA, PA ALTOONA

The Meeting was televised live on cable Public Access Channel 14 and re-broadcast Tuesday, August 11, 2026.

CALL TO ORDER – by Vice-Mayor Ellis 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, Clinich, Ellis, Ickes, and Kelley
Mayor Pacifico was absent

PRESENTATIONS

Disaster Recovery Information/Funding - Riley Oats, Public Affairs Specialist-U.S. Small Business Administration, provided information for residents who received damage from the flooding on July 5th and 6th and reviewed the available programs, services, funding and borrowing available

9/11 25th Anniversary Event – Duane Bordell & Tony DeGol discussed the upcoming event at the Jaffa Shrine on 9/11 and invited Council and the public to attend

2025 Audit – Dan Bradley-Young Oakes Brown & Company reviewed the audit stating they gave a clean opinion and there were no material numbers in the audit

ALL PUBLIC COMMENT

Dan Stuckey of 106 Halleck Place stated that he proposed a flag pole 5-6 years ago and it was not approved and now that the trees have died he would like to propose it again; suggested the fall zone be eliminated in the application; he plans to provide a very sturdy pole and a solar light and he has a succession plan

Devin Saylor of 1515 25th Ave asked Council to use the City of Pittsburgh's ordinance in relation to homelessness

Dan Casey of 417 N 12th Ave asked about the expenses and reimbursement for the Big Boy visit and for the Mangione case

Dwight Kennedy of 2332 Reservoir Road Hollidaysburg and Indivisible Blair County /Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Blair County and co-sponsor of No Kings Rally referred to ICE and asked how an ordinance can be introduced

Joe Foor of 141 Apple Lane stated he bid on 1314 N 4th Ave and he already owns 1318 N. 4th Avenue and his plan is to build a house

Tony Deely of 100 Wordsworth Ave asked about a decision regarding the trees in the unopened section of W Holmes

Major Chris Blessing of the Salvation Army, 1813 6th Avenue, thanked City Council for their assistance and for taking homelessness seriously stating they had 19 unsheltered and 17 on course for housing; some were transported back to their home areas

Caleb McCoy of 1327 30th Avenue stated he received phone calls and questions about flock cameras

RESOLUTIONS

- a) approving the minutes of the Altoona City Council Meeting held Monday, July 13, 2026. (0080-26)
- b) awarding the Prospect Pool Bath House Renovations to Clark Contractors, Inc. of 145 Clark Building Road, Bedford, PA 15522, in the amount of \$696,313.85, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0081-26)
- c) adopting the revised Citizen Participation Plan for the City of Altoona's HUD Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership programs. (0082-26)
- d) amending the 2024 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) transferring \$1,685.28 from the previously cancelled Pleasant Village Roof Replacement Project to the existing Emergency Homeowner Roof Replacement Project. (0083-26)
- e) awarding a Demolition Bid for 613 N. 7th Avenue (Garage Only), Altoona, PA 16601, to Leckey's Demolition of 440 Donruth Lane, Johnstown, PA 15909, in the amount of \$5,100.00, payable from the City of Altoona All Together Altoona Fund, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0084-26)
- f) awarding a Demolition Bid for 226 Beech Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601, to Leckey's Demolition of 440 Donruth Lane, Johnstown, PA 15909, in the amount of \$10,300.00, payable from the City of Altoona All Together Altoona Fund, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0085-26)

- g) approving a Repository Bid, in the amount of \$300.00, for property located at 1604 N. 8th Avenue, Altoona, PA, 16601, to Kent Tonkin of 735 N. 17th Street, Altoona, PA 16601 and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0086-26)
- h) approving a Repository Bid, in the amount of \$1001.00, for property located at 2321 W. Chestnut Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601, to Jose Volnei De Souza Matos (JVFM, LLC) of 2515 W. Chestnut Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601 and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0087-26)

City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer read the resolutions into the record; the consent vote was taken and passed 6 to 0; Mayor Pacifico was absent

CITY MANAGER UPDATES – City Manager McGuire stated that the City’s Arson Dog Lucille recently suffered a medical emergency and passed away and offered thoughts and prayers to handler and AFD Fire Inspector, Justin Smithmyer

MAYOR AND COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilman Kelley thanked APD and AFD for their work at the July 14th incident at the Jaffa Shrine

Councilman Ickes thanked the Finance Department and City staff for their work and for the clean audit; also, thanks to Major Blessing for the Salvation Army’s help and for supporting the City of Altoona

Councilman Beatty thanked AFD for an incident which occurred at this home; also, thanked Major Blessing for everything he and his organization are doing for homelessness

Councilwoman Clinich thanked Major Blessing for everything he does for the City; also, thanks to Downtown Manager Jamie for the events downtown and to APD for the National Night Out event

Vice-Mayor Ellis thanked Major Blessing for all of his help over the past three years stating they are waiting for funding for a homeless coordinator; also Mayor Pacifico asked VM Ellis to read a statement in his absence which thanked Jamie for the music events and art walk and for her hard work as well as thanks to the participants of the summer work program; the Mayor also stated he plans to establish a public art committee in the City

QUESTIONS FROM THE MEDIA – none

ADJOURNMENT – by Vice-Mayor Ellis at 6:46 p.m.