

ALTOONA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Oath of Office for Newly Elected, Organizational/Council Meeting
MONDAY – JANUARY 12, 2026 - 5:00 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, January 13, 2026.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH OF OFFICE by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer to newly elected Council Members Dave Ellis, Bruce Kelley, Ron Beatty and Dave Butterbaugh

Councilman Beatty thanked the people of Altoona for electing him to another term and for their support and stated Council worked well together and made a lot of progress and there are a lot of exciting projects in the near future; they are working on housing, Prospect Pool

Councilman Dave Ellis thanked the people of Altoona for their support and stated there has been a lot of change in the last four years and sometimes change is difficult for people to accept and the results of the election showed Council is heading in the right direction; this is a great Council to work with although they don't always agree on everything that is being done, they agree on the direction the City needs to go; Councilman Ellis stated he is looking forward to the next four years

Councilman Dave Butterbaugh thanked the people of the City stating it's a great honor to have an opportunity to serve another term on City Council and that he is proud of what the team has been able to accomplish in the last term and that he is excited about upcoming projects and events in the City during the next term

Councilman Bruce Kelley stated he echoed many of the comments of his colleagues and that he is appreciative of the people of Altoona and the voters for the opportunity to be re-elected and to serve as there are a lot of good things happening and he will continue to keep in mind that it is the taxpayers who pay the bills; Councilman Kelley stated he looks forward to the challenges of the next four years

CALL TO ORDER – by Mayor Pacifico at 5:05 PM in Council Chambers

SILENT MEDITATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL – taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer

Present: Council members Beatty, Butterbaugh, Ellis, Ickes, Kelley and Mayor Pacifico; Councilwoman Clinich was absent

Mayor Pacifico announced that Council held an executive session for real estate matters and potential litigation

ALL PUBLIC COMMENT

Autumn Temple of 905 N. 4th Avenue stated she was in favor of proposed ordinance 3 as family should be able to support one another without government or bureaucracy or government; stated she is concerned about proposed ordinance 5 and the limit of homes within 1500 feet of each other stating it was discriminatory and a certain population of people are protected and they would be limited

Lisa Hahn, Executive Director, Family Services-2022 Broad Avenue, Agarwal Teen Shelter/Center at 17th Street and 6th Avenue, the Family Shelter and five residential adult group homes for adults with intellectual disabilities stated one of the regulations she falls under already limits distance between group homes so if there is an additional restriction by the City this reduces the area that they can look for homes for adults; their homes only have three people and it is their home and they are cared for in their home until they pass or until their issues become too great physically for staff to maintain; asked Council to review that restriction;

Nate Germany, owner of a licensed recovery house in Altoona and pastor of the 18th Street Community Church stated he is concerned about the distance between homes because where the affordable housing is located is usually where the houses are closer to one another; there is a violation of the Fair Housing Act which involves the state, and the limit of occupancy for recovery houses to only four persons; this is more restrictive than the Building Code and the PA Code; the application and what the structure of the facility means – is it through the building code; is there a rental license in addition to this ordinance; there cannot be discrimination against affordable housing, which the City provides grants for, through the CDBG program.

RESOLUTIONS

- a) appointing Councilman Dave Ellis to serve as Vice-Mayor with said term expiring the first Monday of January 2028. (0001-26)
- b) approving the City Council Meeting Schedule, attached hereto, for the year 2026, in accordance with the Home Rule Charter and Administrative Code of the City of Altoona. (0002-26)
- c) approving the minutes of the Altoona City Council Meeting held Monday, December 1, 2025. (0003-26)
- d) amending and re-stating the Fee Resolution 0153-25, adopted 12/01/25 to include: Business/Mercantile Related Licenses, Land Development Fees, Miscellaneous Planning Fees, Sidewalk Fund Fees, Planned Development Fees, Subdivision Fees, and Zoning Fees. (0004-26)

- e) reappointing Barbara Kooman to the Altoona Water Authority for a term of five years. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2031. (0005-26)
- f) reappointing Chris Kirwin to the Altoona Housing Authority for a term of five years. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2031. (0006-26)
- g) appointing Steve Kasun to the Altoona Parking Authority fill the unexpired term of Sherri McGregor. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2027. (0007-26)
- h) reappointing UPMC Representative, Monica Klatt to the AMED Authority for a term of five years. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2031. (0008-26)
- i) appointing Mayor Matt Pacifico to the AMTRAN Authority for a term of five years. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2031. (0009-26)
- j) appointing Joe Rispoli to Blighted Property Review Committee for a term of two years. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2028. (0010-26)
- k) appointing Dave Servello Sr. to Blighted Property Review Committee for a term of two years. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2028. (0011-26)
- l) appointing Janice Ellis to the Civil Service Board for a term of four years. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2030. (0012-26)
- m) appointing Tom Beam, alternate, to the Civil Service Board to fill the unexpired term of Ted Beam. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2029. (0013-26)
- n) appointing Mike Blackie, alternate, to the Civil Service Board for a term of four years. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2030. (0014-26)
- o) reappointing Richard Fiore Jr. to the Redevelopment Authority of Altoona for a term of five years. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2031. (0015-26)
- p) reappointing Horace McAnuff to the Zoning Hearing Board for a term of five years. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January, 2031. (0016-26)
- q) appointing Andrew Arnold to the Zoning Hearing Board for a term of five years. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January, 2031. (0017-26)
- r) approving an agreement with PennDOT for the Meadow Street Over Brush Run Bridge Rehabilitation Project (R25090011), with full funding provided by PennDOT, and authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0018-26)

- s) approving an agreement with PennDOT for the 13th Street Bridge Over Brush Run Rehabilitation Project (R25090010), with full funding provided by PennDOT, and authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0019-26)
- t) approving a Repository Bid, in the amount of \$100.00, submitted by Thomas Nagle of 204 Sharon Street, Duncansville, PA 16635 for property located at 209-209 ½ 10th Street, Altoona, PA, 16602, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0020-26)
- u) approving a Repository Bid, in the amount of \$100.00, submitted by Derek Ogden of 234 Butler Road, Clearfield, PA for property located at 1521 20th Avenue, Altoona, PA, 16601, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0021-26)
- v) approving a Repository Bid submitted by C5 Representation LLC, 20201 Sweet Meadow Lane, Gaithersburg, MD 20882, as follows: \$888.00 for property located at 1825 13th Avenue, \$888.00 for property located at 1823 13th Avenue, \$3,000.00 for property located at 1510 13th Aly, \$520.00 for property located at 810 6th Avenue, \$520.00 for property located at 1108 17th Avenue, \$520.00 for property located at 1110 17th Avenue and \$520.00 for property located at 1118 17th Avenue, Altoona, PA and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0022-26) (VOTE DID NOT PASS)

City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer read the resolutions into the record; the consent vote was taken on items a, c-h, j, k, m-u and passed 6 to 0; Councilwoman Clinich was absent; following a discussion at the request of Councilman Butterbaugh, item b was pulled and a motion was made by Councilman Kelley to amend the time of the meetings in the proposed 2026 schedule from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Councilman Ickes seconded the motion and a vote was taken by the City Clerk and passed 5-1; Councilwoman Clinich was absent and Mayor Pacifico voted no; Councilman Ickes requested to have item i pulled for separate vote which passed 5 to 0; Councilman Ickes abstained and Councilwoman Clinich was absent; Vice-Mayor Ellis requested to have item l pulled for separate vote which passed 5 to 0; Vice-Mayor Ellis abstained and Councilwoman Clinich was absent; Councilman Butterbaugh requested to have item v pulled for separate vote which did not pass by a vote of 0 to 6; Councilwoman Clinich was absent

ORDINANCES – Introduction

1)AN ORDINANCE IN THE CITY OF ALTOONA WHICH ELIMINATES CHAPTER 700.20-22.1 OF THE ALTOONA CITY CODE – OFF STREET PARKING.

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

2)AN ORDINANCE IN THE CITY OF ALTOONA, BLAIR COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA AMENDING CHAPTER 700, VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC TO CREATE A NEW ARTICLE XII, ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF ON-STREET PARKING REGULATIONS AS WELL AS THE ENFORCEMENT OF OFF-STREET PARKING LOTS OWNED BY THE CITY, TO PROVIDE ENFORCEMENT POWER TO THE ALTOONA PARKING AUTHORITY, TO PROVIDE SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

3)AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA CHAPTER 570 – RESIDENTIAL RENTAL INSPECTION - ADDING SECTION 570-1. A. FAMILY EXEMPTION AND ADDING 570-10. B. GENERAL DEFINITIONS. FAMILY; PROVIDE SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS; REPEALER; AND PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

4)AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA CHAPTER 295, ENTITLED "DISPOSITION OF SURPLUS REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY": AMENDING DEFINITIONS; ELIMINATING UNOPENED/PAPER STREET; AMENDING DISPOSAL OF OTHER PROPERTY; AMENDING UNOPENED RIGHTS OF WAY AND ORPHAN PARCELS; PROVIDE SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS, REPEALER; AND PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

Adoption – Vice-Mayor Ellis

5)AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, BLAIR COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA BY ADDING A NEW CHAPTER 571, TO BE ENTITLED "HALFWAY/RECOVERY, ROOMING AND BOARDING, AND INSTITUTIONALIZED FACILITY LICENSING PROGRAM"; PROVIDING, APPLICATION, INSPECTION, AND LICENSING REQUIREMENTS AND DEFINITIONS FOR HALFWAY/RECOVERY HOUSES, ROOMING AND BOARDING HOUSES, AND INSTITUTIONALIZED HOUSING, HEREINAFTER CALLED "HALFWAY/RECOVERY, ROOMING AND BOARDING, AND INSTITUTIONALIZED FACILITY LICENSING PROGRAM"; REPEALING OF ALL OTHER ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF LAWS IN CONFLICT THEREWITH; SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (ORD. NO. 5844)

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

Introduction – Vice-Mayor Ellis

Motion for Adoption – Councilman Ickes

Second – Vice-Mayor Ellis

The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 5 to 1; Councilwoman Clinich was absent; Mayor Pacifico voted no

CITY MANAGER UPDATES – none

MAYOR AND COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – none

Council Committee Assignments – no changes

QUESTIONS FROM THE MEDIA - Bill Kibler of the *Altoona Mirror*; and Jordan Mansberger of WTAJ TV-10

ADJOURNMENT – by Mayor Pacifico at 5:53 p.m.