

ALTOONA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY – MARCH 8, 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

PRESENTATIONS – Police Pension Investment Policy Statement, Patrick Wing CFA, CIPM, Managing Partner, Marquette Associates – Mr. Wing reviewed the portfolios and entertained questions; Mr. Wing stated one of the priorities for all funds is to get an investment policy statement in place for each of the funds; Mr. Wing stated the City’s non-uniformed and fire employees approved portfolio D for both funds; the police will need to approve a portfolio as well; also, each fund has a different actuary but the City has the ultimate choice and can choose one actuary for all of the funds

ALL PUBLIC COMMENT (via telephone) – Mayor Pacifico called for public comment. The call-in number is included on the agenda and on the City’s website calendar approximately one week prior to the meeting. The number is also displayed on Public Access Channel 14 during the meeting for television viewers. There was no public comment.

RESOLUTIONS

- a) approving the minutes of the Altoona City Council Meeting held Monday, February 8, 2021. (0025-21)
- b) approving an Election Polling Place Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Board of Elections, and the City of Altoona, for polling places located at the City of Altoona Training Facility & Council Chambers and Fire Stations No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3, for the 2021 primary and general elections, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0026-21)
- c) appointing Timothy Hite of 5007 Highland Park Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602, to the AMTRAN Authority to fill the unexpired term of Michael Robinson. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2024. (0027-21)
- d) awarding the 2021 CDBG Street Reconstruction Project to Grannas Bros. Stone & Asphalt Co., Inc., of P.O. Box 488, 157 Grannas Road, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648, in the amount of \$196,913.26, payable from CDBG Funds 20-07, and

further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0028-21)

e) approving a Ten (10) Year Lease Agreement with Lois J. Hampton of 5704 Maryland Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602, for property located at 5708-10 Maryland Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602, in the amount of \$1.00 per year, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0029-21)

f) approving the execution of the Declaration of Restrictive Covenants for Conservation in Antis Township, Blair County as referenced in the attached agreement, for the Altoona Water Authority Bellwood Dam Modifications, and further authorizing the Mayor to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0030-21)

g) approving the appointment of City Manager Ken Decker as Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) of the City's three pension plans. (0031-21)

h) approving a Repository Bid in the amount of \$200.00 submitted by Anna Arthur of 1006 E. Atlantic Avenue Apt. 4, Altoona, PA 16602 and Andrew Doran of 226 E. Crawford Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602, for property located at 224 E. Crawford Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0032-21)

i) approving a Repository Bid in the amount of \$250.00 submitted by Antwaun Loner of 513 S. Juniata Street, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648, for property located at 304 2nd Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0033-21)

j) approving a Repository Bid in the amount of \$250.00 submitted by Antwaun Loner of 513 S. Juniata Street, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648, for property located at 306 2nd Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0034-21)

k) approving a Repository Bid in the amount of \$250.00 submitted by Donald Bowser of 1307 19th Avenue, Altoona, PA, 16601 for property located at 725 N. 5th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0035-21)

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

ORDINANCES - Adoption – Mayor Pacifico

1) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA BY CREATING CHAPTER 262 "CONDEMNATION ORDERS" TO IMPLEMENT ACT OF OCTOBER 29, 2020, P.L. NO. 101 ENTITLED "MUNICIPALITY CONDEMNATION ORDER ACT" AS ADOPTED BY THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO PROVIDE FOR ITS ADMINISTRATION; SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (ORD. NO. 5777)

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer
Introduction – Mayor Pacifico

Motion for Adoption – Mayor Pacifico

Second – Councilman Ickes

The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 6 to 0; Councilwoman Jordan was absent

Adoption – Vice-Mayor Butterbaugh

2) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA CHAPTER 536 ENTITLED "REGISTRATION OF VACANT BUILDINGS" BY REPLACING IT IN ITS ENTIRETY TO CREATE THREE CATEGORIES OF VACANT BUILDINGS INCLUDING: 1) NEGLECTED BUILDINGS, 2) DERELICT BUILDINGS, AND 3) UNSAFE BUILDINGS; REQUIRING REGISTRATION AND INSPECTION OF VACANT BUILDINGS; TO PROVIDE FOR ADMINISTRATION, ENFORCEMENT AND APPEALS; REPEAL OF ALL OTHER ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF LAWS IN CONFLICT THEREWITH; SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (ORD. NO. 5778)

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer
Introduction – Vice-Mayor Butterbaugh

Motion for Adoption – Vice-Mayor Butterbaugh

Second – Councilman Cacciotti

The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 6 to 0; Councilwoman Jordan was absent

CITY MANAGER UPDATES

Pension IPS - a resolution will be drafted for the next meeting; the money in the fire pension fund is transitioning from Wells Fargo to US Bank and it will continue with the non-uniform fund as well, although there have been difficulties dealing with Wells Fargo as Principal, the parent organization took action to move the pension fund into a different structure and Omar has been working diligently on this and the goal posts are moving a lot and there are no responses

Tax bills have been mailed and phone calls have increased and foot traffic has increased to City Hall

McCrorry's - A site inspection took place at the McCrorry's building and photos were provided to Council; a representative of the owner was in attendance; a structural engineer was contacted for prices on a structural inspection; correspondence was sent to the property owner's attorney; there is 3 to 4 feet of water in the basement and puddling water on the first and second floors and a large 10 to 15,000 pounds of HVAC units on the roof, which is also failing; the membrane is pulled away; there are holes cut into all of the floors; the owner's representative wants to clean it up and market it over the summer but there is no evidence of a clean-up; it is red tagged; the media coverage has generated interest from private developers; environmental testing needs to be done; it could be another 6 weeks before there are answers

Transportation Center - there have been many plumbing related issues

Public Library & Career Link - both are settled in and appreciative of the space; it could be a voting space if needed

Spring Cleaning - this is being considered for City Hall in April for a day with offices closed

14th Street partial closure - can place on the March worksession for discussion; there will be a farmers market at Heritage Plaza

Embankment locations - on the March worksession agenda

CDBG projects - the deadline is coming up and the information will be provided; the allocation is \$1.6 million

Demo program - on the March worksession agenda

Prospect Pool - suggested a joint meeting with CBRC in May

GIS - the GIS person for the City is leaving her job and there is a meeting to improve collaboration with the County in terms of data and make it more efficient and less labor intensive

Projects and plan/land development review - placing documents on the website for the public to view

MAYOR & COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice-Mayor Butterbaugh stated the City needs to consider what can be done to alleviate some of the downtown buildings with water

Councilman Ickes thanked Pat Wing for the presentation and for the in-depth view of the public pension plans with hopes the full conversion will take place soon

MEDIA – media attendance included Bill Kibler, *Altoona Mirror* and Amanda Lee, WTAJ TV-10 who asked questions of Mayor Pacifico and City Council Members.

ADJOURNMENT – by Mayor Pacifico at 7:45 p.m.