

ALTOONA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY – JUNE 8, 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, June 9, 2026.

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, Clinich, Ellis, Ickes, Kelley (via phone), and Mayor Pacifico

PRESENTATIONS

Recognition - Altoona Fire Department Chief Adam Free and Deputy Chief Mike Hawksworth.

Lifesaving Award and Valor Award

Captain Cameron Sunderland

Captain Nicholas Wuckovich

Unit Citation

Assistant Chief Steven Osmolinski

Engine 311

Captain Brian Caldwell

Firefighter Robert Seiler

Engine 312

Captain Jeff Hall

Firefighter Matt Rhoa

Engine 313

Engineer Shawn Daughenbaugh

Engine 314

Captain Trent Miller

Engineer Ben Parrish

Truck 351

Engineer Kevin Kuhn

Angie Giosia 4th of July Race - Phyllis Baker and Frank Kopriva, Blair Regional YMCA

Mayor Pacifico announced that Council held an Executive Session after the May 11th meeting to discuss real estate, potential litigation and active litigation

ALL PUBLIC COMMENT

Mary Ann Hughey of 2513 Oak Avenue addressed fighting, fire setting, sex, vulgar language, racial slurs, dirt bikes, vandalism, trespassing, damaging private property, and the use of mace at Izzy Park stating the issues need to be addressed and remedied or the park needs to be closed

Cassidy Foust of 2600 Maple Avenue stated the people doing everything mentioned previously do not fear anyone; 2 arrests were made but nothing was solved; a letter from Deb Izzolino was presented that stated she is aware of the park issues and she wants her family's name removed from the park and she requested the plaque be returned to her and she provided her email address

Anitra Weyandt of 2600 Maple Avenue suggested the park be downsized to a tot lot as the older teens should not be there; at times there are 20-30 teens there; stated they knock on her door saying they have to use the bathroom and have gone so far as to try to open her screen door; stated she is afraid that something bad is going to happen

Harriett Gaston of 302 2nd Avenue thanked the Mayor for the proclamation acknowledging Juneteenth which recognizes the end of slavery; it occurred on June 19, 1865 in Galveston, Texas; working with the Blair Co. NAACP and the St. Lukes Episcopal Church Shaped by Faith Initiative, the historic Eastern Light Cemetery has been restored and it is located at S. 10th St near Crawford Avenue Alley; Ms. Gaston stated it was created in 1864 in response to a black person not being able to be buried in an all-white cemetery; there are at least six men buried in that cemetery who fought with the US Colored Troops during the Civil War; there are others throughout Blair County cemeteries verifying there is a local connection and it is a holiday observation for everyone

RESOLUTIONS

a) approving the minutes of the Altoona City Council Meeting held Monday, May 11, 2026. (0058-26)

b) awarding the City of Altoona Replace 3 RTU's at East Juniata Rec Center to Clark Contractors, Inc., 145 Clark Building Road, Bedford, PA 15522, in the amount of \$75,932.30, payable from the Capital Budget, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0059-26)

c)approving a License Agreement for an ADA Ramp at 2714 8th Avenue, Altoona PA 16602, between the City of Altoona and Virginia Reed, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the agreement and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0060-26)

d)authorizing 37th Street Over NS Railroad PennDOT Reimbursement Agreement for Repair/Replacement, with the City's portion of 5% payable from the Liquid Fuels Fund, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0061-26)

e)awarding the Improvements and Upgrades of Logan Blvd & Beale Ave Traffic Control Signals to Dixon Electric, Inc., of 261 Ward Drive, Claysburg, PA 16625, in the amount of \$423,002.25, payable from the Green Light-Go Grant (80%) up to \$397,831.04 and the remainder from the Liquid Fuels Fund, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0062-26)

f)awarding Street Signs and Materials for 2026-2027 to PA Municipal, 10583 Raystown Road, Huntingdon, PA 16652, for Item No. 1, in the amount of \$7,609.00, payable from the Liquid Fuels Fund, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0063-26)

g)awarding Street Signs and Materials for 2026-2027 to National Highway Products, 301 Riverside Drive, Millville, NJ 08332 for Items No. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, & 7, in the amount of \$45,642.40, payable from the Liquid Fuels Fund, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0064-26)

h)adopting the 2026 CDBG/HOME Annual Action Plan and authorizing the Mayor to execute all documents and the City Clerk to file appropriate statements, certifications, and meeting minutes with the Department of Housing and Urban Development. (0065-26)

i)adopting the Blair County 2026 Hazard Vulnerability Assessment and Mitigation Plan as the official mitigation plan for the City of Altoona. (0066-26)

j)awarding a Demolition Bid for 1508 13th Aly, Altoona, PA 16601, to G&R Excavating & Demolition of 900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Tyrone, PA 16686, in the amount of \$14,900.00, 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. (0067-26)

k)awarding a Demolition Bid for 1128 17th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601, to G&R Excavating & Demolition of 900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Tyrone, PA 16686, in the

amount of \$13,640.00, 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. (0068-26)

l)awarding a Demolition Bid for 1522 N. 7th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601, to G&R Excavating & Demolition of 900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Tyrone, PA 16686, in the amount of \$7,907.50, 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. (0069-26)

m)awarding a Demolition Bid for 1908-12 W. Chestnut Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601, to G&R Excavating & Demolition of 900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Tyrone, PA 16686, in the amount of \$16,288.00, 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. (0070-26)

n)awarding a Demolition Bid for 2622 W. Chestnut Avenue (Garage Only), Altoona, PA 16601, to G&R Excavating & Demolition of 900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Tyrone, PA 16686, in the amount of \$3,973.00, 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. (0071-26)

o)awarding a Demolition Bid for 2001 7th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602, to G&R Excavating & Demolition of 900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Tyrone, PA 16686, in the amount of \$14,122.00, 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. (0072-26)

p)approving a Repository Bid, in the amount of \$2000.00, for property located at 806 6th Avenue, Altoona, PA, 16602, to Jonathan Wolf-Pyramid Healthcare Properties, 975 Scotch Valley Road, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0073-26)

q)approving a Repository Bid, in the amount of \$251.00, for property located at 3127-33 7th Avenue, Altoona, PA, 16602, to Jeremy Weaver, Cheap Home Finders, Inc., 482 SE Guava Terrace, Port St. Lucie, FL 34983, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0074-26)
(VOTE DID NOT PASS)

r)approving Repository Bids, in the amount of \$300.00, for property located at 417-19 S. 8th Street and in the amount of \$300.00 for property located at 1513 - 1515 N. 6th Avenue, Altoona, PA, to Chloe Domange, 800 Pacific Ave #207, Long Beach, CA 90813, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0075-26) (VOTE DID NOT PASS)

City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer read the resolutions into the record; Councilman Butterbaugh asked to have item q and item r pulled for a separate

vote; the City Clerk called for the consent vote on all items with the exception of item q and item r and the consent vote passed 7 to 0 with all present; the City Clerk called for the vote on item q and the vote did not pass 0 to 7 with all present; the City Clerk called for the vote on item r and the vote did not pass 0 to 7 with all present; Councilman Kelley voted by phone

CITY MANAGER UPDATES – None at this time

MAYOR AND COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilman Kelley congratulations the Altoona Fire Department for their commitment to the City and for their incredible bravery; Councilman Kelley stated we are blessed to have them working for the City of Altoona

Councilman Ickes stated that was a difficult evening on the night of that particular fire for the families and for many on the fire department and we are fortunate to have this department; for the Iuzzolino Park group – the City received your message and will get this corrected

Councilman Butterbaugh congratulated the Altoona Fire Department stating it is his prayer they never have to go through what they went through to receive an award like that again; the City is blessed to have them; Izzy Park is out of hand and the rules aren't good because you used to be punished for your actions regardless of age and now the kids are given a free pass; either a closure, partial closure or re vamping needs to take place

Vice-Mayor Ellis asked Chief Derek Swope to give an update; Chief Swope stated this isn't localized to just Iuzzolino Park; there is zero tolerance to any crime and increase of daily checks as well as body cam review; Chief Swope stated there was an arrest and a pending arrest and others as well; Vice Mayor Ellis stated this will be addressed at the next Central Blair Rec meeting and they and the City will work with Chief Swope to stop this conduct

Councilman Beatty stated he has been driving through the neighborhood recently and that he is requesting trail cams be placed to get more accurate information; Councilman Beatty thanked the neighbors for attending the meeting; Councilman Beatty stated there was a ground breaking for three new homes on the former Garfield School property and the City is investing in the community and the neighborhoods and their safety; Councilman Beatty stated Council will move forward to resolve the Izzy Park matter

Councilwoman Clinich offered congratulations to all of the firefighters recognized at tonight's meeting; thank you to the Izzy Park neighbors for attending and for voicing their concerns; thank you to the Altoona Women's Club, the Topsy Tulip and Kelly Irwin of Kelly's Collections for the flowers planted in Heritage Plaza

Mayor Pacifico stated Izzy Park will be brought to the CBRC board meeting and they will look at what is going on there and take appropriate action; Mayor Pacifico stated he would like to get the Shade Tree Commission revived and asked for people to submit talent bank applications; Mayor Pacifico stated tree requests including removals should go to the commission and the City should take back the responsibility of tree maintenance and not leave it to the property owner especially if the City is going to be serious about following the Comprehensive Plan and doing a lot of the community development initiatives that it calls for and have better control over the trees being planted as far as low maintenance; Mayor Pacifico stated the Pittsburgh Pirates invited him and Pittsburgh Mayor Cory O'Connor to participate in a baseball clinic at PNC Park; youth baseball and softball players from Altoona and Pittsburgh had a one hour free clinic on the field; that you to the Pirates, MLB and US Conference of Mayors for organizing this

QUESTIONS FROM THE MEDIA – media present included WTAJ-TV 10, the Altoona Mirror and Lightner Communications

ADJOURNMENT – by Mayor Pacifico at 6:50 p.m.