

ALTOONA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Oath of Office for Newly Elected, Organizational/Council Meeting
MONDAY – JANUARY 10, 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 Thursday, January 11, 2022.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH OF OFFICE – City Solicitor Tom Finn
REMARKS BY THE NEWLY ELECTED
Councilman-Elect Bruce Kelley
Councilman-Elect Dave Ellis
Councilman-Elect Dave Butterbaugh
Councilman-Elect Ron Beatty

CALL TO ORDER – by Mayor Pacifico at 6:10 PM in Council Chambers
SILENT MEDITATION
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
ROLL CALL – taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer
Present: Council members Beatty, Butterbaugh, Carper, Ellis, Ickes, Kelley, and Mayor Pacifico

Mayor Pacifico announced that Council held an executive session before the meeting for personnel matters and real estate.

Councilman Ickes, as the next senior member on Council, will serve as Vice-Mayor as indicated in resolution a and as presented by Councilman Butterbaugh.

The Mayor offered recommendations for appointments to authorities, boards and commissions and all members of Council were in favor of the Mayor’s recommendations and none were opposed

ALL PUBLIC COMMENT – offered and none given

RESOLUTIONS

- a) appointing Councilman Jesse Ickes to serve as Vice-Mayor with said term expiring the first Monday of January, 2024. (0001-22)
- b) approving the City Council Meeting Schedule attached hereto, for the year 2022, in accordance with the Home Rule Charter and Administrative Code of the City of Altoona. (0002-22)
- c) approving the minutes of the Altoona City Council Meeting held Wednesday, December 1, 2021. (0003-22)

- d) approving the minutes of the Altoona City Council Special Meeting held Monday, December 27, 2021. (0004-22)
- e) amending the 2019 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) transferring the unused COVID-19 Catholic Charities Emergency Financial Assistance Program balance of \$16,843.86 to the Salvation Army Pandemic Economic Assistance Program and revising the Altoona Blair County Development Corporation (ABCD) Economic Recovery Program to include hiring part-time individuals for a grant of \$1,500.00 to local businesses. (0005-22)
- f) awarding a demolition contract to G&R Excavating and Demolition, Inc., of 900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Tyrone, PA 16686, for the demolition and asbestos removal of 2013-2019 11th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601, in the amount of \$18,950.00, payable from Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Blighted Property Program Fund, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0006-22)
- g) authorizing an agreement between the City of Altoona and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for the Green Light-Go Program Grant for signal upgrades at Broad Avenue and 29th Street in the amount of \$332,967.50 of which \$266,374.00 (80%) is payable from the Grant and \$66,593.50 (20%) is payable from the General Fund and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0007-22)
- h) authorizing an Easement Agreement between the City of Altoona and the Cesare Battisti Mutual Benefit Association for the purpose of the construction, installation, repair and maintenance of a storm sewer inlet, as shown on the Easement Plan (No 11360), and further authorizing the Mayor to execute the Easement and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0008-22)
- i) awarding the Kettle Street Storm Sewer Rehabilitation Project to National Gunite of 111 Roosevelt Blvd., Johnstown, PA 15906, in the amount of \$45,312.00, payable from ARPA Funds, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0009-22)
- j) awarding the 17th Street Corridor & Ward Avenue School Safety Improvements Project to Kuharchik Construction, Inc. of 420 Schooley Avenue, Exeter, PA 18643, in the amount of \$168,610.00, with \$140,547.00 payable from the Automated Red Light Enforcement Grant (ARLE) and \$28,063.00 payable from the City of Altoona. (0010-22)
- k) amending the Central Blair Recreation and Park Commission Agreement (CBRC) between CBRC, the City of Altoona, the Township of Logan and the Altoona Area School District, to include Incorporation of Recitals, amendment of Paragraph 8 entitled, "Insurance" and amendment of Paragraph 14 entitled, "Dissolution" and

further authorizing the Mayor to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0011-22)

l) reappointing City Manager Omar Strohm to the Altoona Water Authority for a term of five years. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2027. (0012-22)

m) reappointing Robin Beck to the Altoona Housing Authority for a term of five years. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2027. (0013-22)

n) reappointing Sherri McGregor to the Altoona Parking Authority for a term of five years. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2027. (0014-22)

o) reappointing Louisa Lobre-Riley to the Altoona Redevelopment Authority for a term of five years. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2027. (0015-22)

p) reappointing Mayor Matt Pacifico to the Altoona Redevelopment Authority for a term of five years. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2027. (0016-22)

q) reappointing Jessica Sprouse to the Altoona Redevelopment Authority for a term of five years. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2027. (0017-22)

r) reappointing Jordan Settle to the AMED Authority for a term of five years. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2027. (0018-22)

s) appointing Fire Chief Tim Hileman to the AMED Authority for a term of five years. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2027. (0019-22)

t) appointing Mark Ritchey to the AMED Authority to fill the unexpired term of Dave Cowger. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2024. (0020-22)

u) reappointing Larry Bilotto to the AMTRAN Authority for a term of five years. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2027. (0021-22)

v) reappointing Councilman Bruce Kelley to the AMTRAN Authority for a term of five years. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2027. (0022-22)

w) appointing Bob Baranik to the AMTRAN Authority to fill the unexpired term of Anthony Roscia. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2023. (0023-22)

- x) reappointing Richard Wagner to the Civil Service Board for a term of four years. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2026. (0024-22)
- y) appointing Janice Freehling (alternate) to the Civil Service Board for a term of four years. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January 2026. (0025-22)
- z) reappointing Cory Gehret to the Zoning Hearing Board for a term of five years. Said term shall expire the first Monday of January, 2027. (0026-22)

City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer read the resolutions into the record; Councilman Ellis requested that item y be pulled for a separate vote; the consent vote was taken by the City Clerk on all items except for item y and passed 7 to 0; a vote was taken on item y and passed 6 to 0; Councilman Ellis abstained because his wife was appointed to the Civil Service Board; Councilman Ellis completed an abstention statement which was filed with the resolution; appointment agreements were also signed and attached to the pertaining resolutions by the Mayor and members of Council serving on authorities

ORDINANCES - Introduction

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 CITY OWNED LAND LOCATED AT 1306-10 11th AVENUE, ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA, BLAIR COUNTY TAX MAP NO. 01.03-10.-058.00-000. TO THE ALTOONA REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FOR \$1.00; REPEAL ALL OTHER ORDINANCES OR PARTS THEREOF IN CONFLICT THEREWITH; PROVIDE SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS AND PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

CITY MANAGER UPDATES

City Manager Omar Strohm provided the following:

- the newly-elected Councilmembers will be scheduled to meet with individual department heads over the next month
- the January worksession will include and ARPA discussion and review and setting guidelines for the revolving loan fund

MAYOR & COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council Committee Assignments were reviewed and discussed and are as follows:

Metropolitan Planning Organization - Mayor Pacifico and Councilman Butterbaugh

Greater Altoona Economic Development Corporation Board - Mayor Pacifico and Councilman Butterbaugh

Blair County 24 Member Advisory Committee - Councilman Butterbaugh

Blair County Community Action Agency – Councilman Ickes and Councilman Ellis

Central Blair Recreation Commission - Councilman Carper (voting member) and Mayor Pacifico

South Central Blair Co. Enterprise Zone Advisory Committee - Mayor Pacifico And City Manager Omar Strohm

ABCD Corporation- Mayor Pacifico and City Manager Omar Strohm

Intermunicipal Relations Committee - Councilman Beatty and City Manager Omar Strohm

Pyramid Healthcare - Councilman Carper

Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation – Councilman Ellis and Chief Merrill

Councilman Ickes thanked Council for their support as he serves as Vice-Mayor for the next two years

Councilman Beatty stated it is a privilege to work with Council and he thinks they will be successful and accomplish a lot

Mayor Pacifico asked for updates on the stormwater projects; Nate Kissell stated Council approved the National Gunitite project this evening that was a part of the ARPA package and it will begin soon; the slip line project is almost complete on 17th street and that corridor will be sink hole free; Walnut Avenue/Toytown is about 99% complete as far as design and gas and water will start and there will be a February bid and a May start date; all of the survey work is finished by the engineer in the Pleasant Valley area and now they will complete analysis to determine bridges or obstruction or what can be put in place; there is a project on West Whittier Ave that is designed and will be bid in a few months

MEDIA – media attendance included Bill Kibler, *Altoona Mirror*

ADJOURNMENT – by Mayor Pacifico at 6:36 p.m.