

ALTOONA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY – JULY 14, 2025 - 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 Tuesday, July 15, 2025.

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 and Mayor Pacifico

PRESENTATIONS

City Wide Service Line Renewals – Doug Minnigh, Restoration Manager of Peoples Natural Gas Company reviewed their long-term infrastructure improvements program which consists of 176 projects, a 21 million dollar investment consisting of replacement and restoration; they are trying to sync with the other utility companies; there is a construction page on their website – peoples-gas.com/construction; contact Doug at dminnigh@peoples-gas.com or Nick Paradise is the Media Relations Manager

ALL PUBLIC COMMENT

Chuck LaMark of 310 Lexington Avenue discussed the many needs of the Logan town neighborhood

Larry Carter of 105 Broadway stated changing the electrical and plumbing ordinances is a plus for the City and should increase competition, lower prices and improve services

Bridgette Jackson of 313 Grant Avenue spoke about a July 4th police incident

Tim Baker of 306 S 8th Street asked for the release of body cam footage from a July 4th incident

Sarah Edmiston of 2209 4th Avenue stated she is a licensed psychologist and doctor of psychology and asked for a transparent proactive approach to a July 4th incident

Ahmil Johnson of 517 E Caroline Avenue stated he is a local activist asking about expenditures for police training and overtime

RESOLUTIONS

- a) approving the minutes of the Altoona City Council Meeting held Monday, June 9, 2025. (0103-25)
- b) awarding the Ash Tree Treatment Project to Bennetti Tree Service of 162 Bennetti Drive, Altoona, PA 16602, in the amount of \$13,410.00, payable from the General Fund, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0104-25)
- c) authorizing the submission of an application to DCED for a Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant, for Baker Boulevard Traffic Calming Improvements, in the amount of \$1,766,973.60, with \$1,590,276.24 from the grant and a local match of 10% or \$176,697.36, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents associated with the grant and the project and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0105-25)
- d) authorizing a Right-of-Way Acquisition by PennDOT for a small portion of land owned by the City of Altoona, utilized by the Altoona Water Authority, located on Old Mill Run Road, as shown on the attached Plan, in the amount of \$500.00, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same as needed. (0106-25)
- e) authorizing a Professional Services Agreement between the City of Altoona and Pennsylvania Municipal Code Alliance, Inc., for services in accordance with the PA Construction Code, PA Uniform Construction Codes, as amended, Zoning and Code Enforcement and all applicable local codes and ordinances pertaining thereto, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0107-25)
- f) approving an agreement with OpenGov for Phase 1 software for Code Enforcement, Community Development and Public Works, in the amount of \$272,449.68, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0108-25)
- g) awarding a Demolition Bid for 903 2nd Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602, to G&R Excavating & Demolition of 900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Tyrone, PA 16686, in the amount of \$17,100.00, 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. (0109-25)
- h) awarding a Demolition Bid for 1010 3rd Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602, to G&R Excavating & Demolition of 900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Tyrone, PA 16686, in the amount of \$12,200.00, 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. (0110-25)

- i) awarding a Demolition Bid for 509 21st Street, Altoona, PA 16602, to G&R Excavating & Demolition of 900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Tyrone, PA 16686, in the amount of \$9,940.00, 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. (0111-25)
- j) awarding a Demolition Bid for 227 3rd Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602, to G&R Excavating & Demolition of 900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Tyrone, PA 16686, in the amount of \$13,800.00, 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. (0112-25)
- k) awarding a Demolition Bid for 1000 3rd Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602, to G&R Excavating & Demolition of 900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Tyrone, PA 16686, in the amount of \$850.00, 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. (0113-25)
- l) approving a Repository Bid, in the amount of \$525.00, submitted by J & R Pennsylvania Properties, LLC/James Ganey of 423 Fair Valley Road, Martinsburg, PA 16662, for property located at 819 6th Avenue, Altoona, PA, 16602, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0114-25)
- m) approving a Repository Bid, in the amount of \$200.00, submitted by Amarillis Rodriuez of 2311 W. Chestnut Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602, for property located at 203 6th Avenue, Altoona, PA, 16602, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0115-25) (VOTE DID NOT PASS)
- n) approving a Repository Bid, in the amount of \$200.00, submitted by Amarillis Rodriuez of 2311 W. Chestnut Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601, for property located at 810 6th Avenue, Altoona, PA, 16602, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0116-25) (VOTE DID NOT PASS)
- o) approving a Repository Bid, in the amount of \$300.00, submitted by Amarillis Rodriuez of 2311 W. Chestnut Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601, for property located at 601 3rd Avenue, Altoona, PA, 16602, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0117-25) (VOTE DID NOT PASS)
- p) approving a Repository Bid, in the amount of \$300.00, submitted by Amarillis Rodriuez of 2311 W. Chestnut Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601, for property located at 607 3rd Avenue, Altoona, PA, 16602, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0118-25) (VOTE DID NOT PASS)

City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer read the resolutions into the record; Councilman Butterbaugh asked to have items m,n,o,p pulled for separate votes which did not pass 0-7 with all present; the consent vote was taken on

items a through l and passed 7 to 0 with all present

ORDINANCES

Introduction

- 1) AN ORDINANCE IN THE CITY OF ALTOONA, BLAIR COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA WHICH ELIMINATES CHAPTER 646-15 TO 646-23 OF THE ALTOONA CITY CODE AS IT PERTAINS TO AMUSEMENT TAX ASSESSMENTS.

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

Introduction

- 2) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, BLAIR COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, WHICH AUTHORIZED THE VACATION AND ABANDONMENT OF A PORTION OF EAST ALTOONA AVENUE, AS DEPICTED IN THE SURVEY OF KELLER ENGINEERS, INC. PROJECT NO. 4569-1, PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 295-8 OF THE ALTOONA CITY CODE, AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE A QUIT CLAIM DEED TO ALTOONA PROPERTY LLC (AUBREY ALEXANDER) AND ANY ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION TO RELINQUISH ANY RIGHT, TITLE AND/OR INTEREST THE CITY OF ALTOONA HAS OR MAY HAVE IN SAID PORTION OF EAST ALTOONA AVENUE; PROVIDE SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS, REPEALER; AND PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer read this ordinance into the record. It was introduced by Councilwoman Clinich.

Introduction

- 3) AN ORDINANCE IN THE CITY OF ALTOONA, BLAIR COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA WHICH AUTHORIZED THE VACATION AND ABANDONMENT OF A PORTION OF EAST BLAIR AVENUE AS DEPICTED IN THE SURVEY OF KELLER ENGINEERS, INC. PROJECT NO. 4569-1 PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 295-8 OF THE ALTOONA CITY CODE AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE A QUIT CLAIM DEED TO ALTOONA PROPERTY LLC (AUBREY ALEXANDER) AND ANY ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION TO RELINQUISH ANY RIGHT, TITLE AND/OR INTEREST THE CITY OF ALTOONA HAS OR MAY HAVE IN SAID PORTION OF EAST BLAIR AVENUE; PROVIDE SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS, REPEALER; AND PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer read this ordinance into the record. It was introduced by Councilman Beatty.

Introduction

- 4) AN ORDINANCE IN THE CITY OF ALTOONA, BLAIR COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA WHICH AUTHORIZED THE VACATION AND ABANDONMENT OF ONE-HALF OF AN UNOPENED PORTION OF LLOYD STREET BETWEEN E. LOGAN AVE. AND E. GRANT AVE. PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 295-8 OF THE ALTOONA CITY CODE AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE A QUIT CLAIM DEED TO MICHAEL COHO, AND ANY ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION TO RELINQUISH ANY RIGHT, TITLE AND/OR INTEREST THE CITY OF ALTOONA HAS OR MAY HAVE IN SAID PORTION OF EAST ALTOONA AVENUE; PROVIDE SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS, REPEALER; AND PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer read this ordinance into the record. It was introduced by Vice-Mayor Ellis.

Introduction

- 5) AN ORDINANCE IN THE CITY OF ALTOONA, BLAIR COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA WHICH AUTHORIZED THE VACATION AND ABANDONMENT OF THE N. 7TH AVENUE ALLEY BETWEEN N. 19TH STREET & N. 20TH STREET PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 295-8 OF THE ALTOONA CITY CODE AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE A QUIT CLAIM DEED TO HOLLY & MICHAEL BIANCONI, AND ANY ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION TO RELINQUISH ANY RIGHT, TITLE AND/OR INTEREST THE CITY OF ALTOONA HAS OR MAY HAVE IN SAID PORTION OF EAST ALTOONA AVENUE; PROVIDE SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS, REPEALER; AND PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

Adoption - The Governing Body

- 6) AN ORDINANCE INCURRING "LEASE RENTAL DEBT," AS DEFINED IN THE PENNSYLVANIA LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT DEBT ACT, IN A PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$4,000,000, EVIDENCED BY ITS GUARANTY OF 100% OF THE PAYMENTS DUE UNDER A "DEBT OBLIGATION" OF THE ALTOONA WATER AUTHORITY ISSUED TO THE PENNSYLVANIA INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AUTHORITY (PENNVEST), IN CONNECTION WITH THE SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM OPERATED BY THE AUTHORITY, AND PAY RELATED EXPENSES; AUTHORIZING A GUARANTY AGREEMENT, BY AND AMONG THIS CITY, AS GUARANTOR, THE AUTHORITY, AND PENNVEST, AS LENDER, SECURING THE DEBT OBLIGATION; PLEDGING (1) CERTAIN SEWER SYSTEM LEASE REVENUES OF THIS CITY, AND (2) THE FULL FAITH, CREDIT, AND TAXING POWER OF THIS CITY, IN SUPPORT OF ITS GUARANTY; APPOINTING A SINKING FUND DEPOSITORY IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH GUARANTY; AND AUTHORIZING RELATED ACTIONS AND DOCUMENTS. (ORD. NO. 5823)

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer
Introduction – The Governing Body
Motion for Adoption – Councilman Butterbaugh
Second – Mayor Pacifico
The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 7 to 0
with all present

Adoption - Vice-Mayor Ellis

- 7) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA SPECIFICALLY CHAPTER 98 ENTITLED "PERSONNEL POLICIES", ADDING SECTION 11.9 VOLUNTARY LEAVE DONATION PROGRAM; REPEALING ALL OTHER ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF LAWS IN CONFLICT THEREWITH; PROVIDE SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS AND PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (ORD. NO. 5824)

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer
Introduction – Vice-Mayor Ellis
Motion for Adoption – Vice-Mayor Ellis
Second – Councilman Ickes
The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 7 to 0
with all present

Adoption - Councilman Beatty

- 8) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA CHAPTER 550 ENTITLED "PROPERTY MAINTENANCE", ADOPTING THE INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE 2021 EDITION, REPEALING OF ALL INCONSISTENT PROVISIONS, AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (ORD. NO. 5825)

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer
Introduction – Councilman Beatty
Motion for Adoption – Councilman Beatty
Second – Councilwoman Clinich
The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 7 to 0
with all present

Adoption - Councilman Butterbaugh

- 9) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA CHAPTER 711 ENTITLED "VEHICLES, STORAGE OF", CHANGING THE TITLE TO "VEHICLES, STORAGE OF AND PARKING", ADDING RECREATIONAL VEHICLE AND VEHICLE PARKING REQUIREMENTS TO THE CODE, REPEALING ALL INCONSISTENT PROVISIONS, REAFFIRMATION OF CHAPTER 711 AS AMENDED AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (ORD. NO. 5826)

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer
Introduction – Councilman Butterbaugh
Motion for Adoption – Councilman Butterbaugh
Second – Councilman Beatty
The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 7 to 0
with all present

CITY MANAGER UPDATES – City Manager McGuire thanked Council for the approving the Personnel Policies ordinance and for the openGov vote which will increase production, align processes and streamline operational efficiencies and transparency

MAYOR AND COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Pacifico thanked Blair Regional YMCA for the July 4th Race

QUESTIONS FROM THE MEDIA - Bill Kibler of the *Altoona Mirror*

ADJOURNMENT – by Mayor Pacifico at 6:51 p.m.