

ALTOONA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY – AUGUST 9, 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 (via phone), Carper, Ickes (via phone), Kelley and Mayor Pacifico

Absent: Councilwoman Jordan

PRESENTATIONS – Remember 911 – 20th Anniversary Event – Duane Bordell & Rev. Gary Dull discussed the upcoming event on 9/11 at 7pm at the Jaffa Shrine honoring Military, First Responders, Religious Leaders, Police and Fire; free tickets are available at 11 locations for 3200 general admission seats; Pittsburgh Steeler, Rock Bleier will be presenting a video message; for more information about the event go to www.911anniversary.com

2020 Audit – Dan Bradley, YOBCO stated the City earned an unmodified, clean opinion; \$2,770,000 fund balance increase which was very positive; there were five findings for the financial statement audit and no findings for the single audit

Mid-Year Financial Report – Bessie Mosey, Acting Finance Director stated revenues are up from 2020; real estate is up ½ million dollars from 2020; earned income is up by \$30,000; 2021 expenditures increased over 2020

The Codes & Inspections Department Annual Report was presented by Department Director Rebecca Brown and was posted on the City's website following this meeting.

ALL PUBLIC COMMENT – 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.

Steve Morrissey of 1301 N 7th Ave has a shaved ice truck; Mr. Morrissey expressed his concerns regarding the enactment of an ordinance regulating food trucks

Vice-Mayor Butterbaugh stated he doesn't know if the amendment to the food truck ordinance will be a discussion item again and if it is, snow cone and ice cream trucks would be exempt; Councilman Ickes stated the 50 foot rule was not something Council would agree to; Councilman Carper stated the ordinance that was proposed at a recent worksession was a draft and that everyone on Council

expressed concerns over; Vice-Mayor Butterbaugh stated he received a number of calls, especially ice cream and snow cones, and he appreciated Mr. Morrissey sharing and also bringing graphics with him

Dustin Rhodes of 509 N 5th Ave of Rhodes Curbside Creamery stated he needs to know if there will be changes to the ordinance regulating food trucks because he does not plan on operating his business until he knows; Vice-Mayor Butterbaugh reassured Mr. Rhodes that any change would not apply to snow cone or ice cream trucks and if they ever decided to make changes it would be in regard to prepared foods

Judith Weinstein of 2807 Elm St. spoke on behalf of her daughter Krystle Cruthers of 1113 W. 11th Avenue regarding 1111 W. 11th Avenue which she states they have not received any response on from Codes since May regarding mice, the roof, grass measuring 4 feet in height, dead trees in the backyard, the ceilings and walls caving in; Codes Director Rebecca Brown stated citations were filed with the MDJ the first week of June and they do not have a hearing date yet

RESOLUTIONS

- a) approving the minutes of the Altoona City Council Meeting held Monday, July 12, 2021. (0091-21)
- b) amending the 2020 Community Development Block Grant Program transferring \$160,540.76 from the completed Washington Avenue Storm Drainage Installation Project with \$130,160.00 allocated to the 2020 Blighted Property Program and \$30,380.76 allocated to the 2020 Single Family Rehabilitation Program. Also, canceling the 2020 Catholic Charities Emergency Financial Assistance Project, at their request, transferring \$10,000 to the Single-Family Rehabilitation Program. (0092-21)
- c) approving a Repository Bid in the amount of \$250.00, submitted by Jacob Friedenberger of 1101 4th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602, for property located at 410 11th Street, Altoona, PA 16602, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0093-21)
- d) approving a Repository Bid in the amount of \$250.00, submitted by Dawna Backmeier of 414 Lotz Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602, for property located at 911 1st Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0094-21)
- e) approving a Repository Bid in the amount of \$200.00, submitted by Bobbi Fleck of 1607 17th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601, for property located at 1609 17th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0095-21)

- f) awarding the 2021 Asphalt Joint & Crack Seal Project to Russell Standard Corporation of 1514 Black Gap Road, Fayetteville, PA 17222, in the amount of \$48,180.00 payable from Highway Aid and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk or Deputy City Clerk to attest to same. (0096-21)
- g) awarding the Curb and Sidewalk Revitalization Project – Broadway – E Fairview Avenue to W 14th Avenue project to Mid-State Construction, Inc., of 260 Brush Mountain Road, Altoona, PA 16601, in the amount of \$218,996.00, payable from Capital Funds, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk or Deputy City Clerk to attest to same. (0097-21)

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 - Introduction

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, BLAIR COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, WHICH AMENDS CHAPTER 800-42 OF THE ALTOONA CITY CODE AS IT PERTAINS TO SMALL WIRELESS FACILITIES AND CREATES NEW CHAPTER 595 OF THE ALTOONA CITY CODE TITLED "SMALL WIRELESS FACILITIES" RELATING TO PERMITTING, PLACEMENT, INSTALLATION AND STANDARDS FOR SMALL CELL WIRELESS COMMUNICATION FACILITIES IN THE PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY.

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

Adoption – Councilman Ickes

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, BLAIR COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, CREATING CHAPTER 289 "DEMOLITION OR PARTIAL DEMOLITION OF BUILDINGS AND OTHER STRUCTURES", PROVIDING DEFINITIONS, ADMINISTRATION, PROCEDURES AND REGULATIONS, ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES WITH RESPECT TO DEMOLITION OF BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES IN THE CITY OF ALTOONA; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (ORD. NO 5780)

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer
Introduction – Councilman Ickes
Motion for Adoption – Councilman Carper
Second – Mayor Pacifico

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

CITY MANAGER UPDATES

City Manager Omar Strohm reported as follows:

- there is a letter enroute to AASD requesting payment of ½ of the cost of school guards
- the process for disposition of City owned property is currently taking place as there is currently no process in place
- the City is currently updating their property list to know what is eligible and available through the Redevelopment Authority

MAYOR & COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilman Kelley thanked APD for their National Night Out event and for participation by all City departments and local agencies

Mayor Pacifico reminded the public of the Altoona Community Clean Up on Saturday, August 28th from 9am to 12 noon; registration is at info@unitedwayblairco.org

MEDIA – media attendance included Bill Kibler, *Altoona Mirror* who asked questions of the Mayor and Council and City staff.

ADJOURNMENT – by Mayor Pacifico at 7:20 p.m.