

ALTOONA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY – SEPTEMBER 8, 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, September 9, 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 (via phone) and Mayor Pacifico

City Manager Chris McGuire reviewed the park vacation for Fairview Park and the lot lines map prior to the meeting, stating, the City is not taking the park away. The City is merging the lots in order to streamline the grant process for future funding for the park.

ALL PUBLIC COMMENT

Bonita Shreve of 1413 Ivyside Drive stated she is against the expenditure of taxpayer money on the Pride Parade that is scheduled in downtown Altoona in October and that she is against police presence and the parade should move back to Penn State Altoona.

Tom Meyers of 1115 27th Avenue stated the gas company made street cuts that are not done properly in his neighborhood and asked why they are breaking OSHA rules; Mr. Meyers also stated there was no shoring; the hole was 3 feet deep; Council stated they will ask staff to look into his concerns

PRESENTATIONS

2026 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) Certification–Jim Gehret, Finance Director stated the MMO is due by September 30th and is determined by the actuarial numbers based on 2025 information for Police, Fire and Non-Uniformed

RESOLUTIONS

- a) approving the minutes of the Altoona City Council Meeting held Monday, August 11, 2025. (0132-25)
- b) approving the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Altoona and the IAFF Local 299 Altoona Firefighters, for the period from January 1, 2026

through December 31, 2030, and authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0133-25)

- c) awarding the Replacement of the Steam Boiler at the Central Blair Recreation 6th Ward Building & Rooftop Cooling Units at the Booker T. Washington Building, to Clark Contractors, Inc., 145 Clark Building Road, Bedford, PA 15522, in the amount of \$180,978.06, payable from EECBG Grant Funds (Energy Efficient and Conservation Block Grant) and 2025 Capital Budget Funds, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0134-25)
- d) authorizing the Vacation of Existing Easement between PC3-DG Altoona, LLC and the City of Altoona, for the purpose of moving the current utility easement during development of the Dollar General located at 404 East 25th Avenue, Altoona, PA, and further authorizing the Mayor to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0135-25)
- e) authorizing a Pedestrian Access Easement Agreement between PC3-DG Altoona, LLC and the City of Altoona, for the purpose of installing sidewalks outside of the public right-of-way during development of the Dollar General located at 404 East 25th Avenue, Altoona, PA, and further authorizing the Mayor to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0136-25)
- f) authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents in reference to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's West Chestnut Avenue Bridge over Mill Run Project, and for the City Clerk to attest to same, with 5% of the project funding (approximately \$120,000.00) from the City's Highway Aid Account. (0137-25)
- g) approving a Payroll and Human Capital Management Services Agreement between Paycom Payroll, LLC, and the City of Altoona in the amount of \$ 57,551.06, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0138-25)
- h) awarding a Demolition Bid for 309 14th Street, Altoona, PA 16602, to Leckey's Demolition Service of 440 Donruth Lane, Johnstown, PA 15909, in the amount of \$16,500.00, 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. (0139-25)
- i) awarding a Demolition Bid for 2617 6th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602, to G&R Excavating & Demolition of 900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Tyrone, PA 16686, in the amount of \$12,210.40, 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. (0140-25)

- j) approving a Repository Bid, in the amount of \$808.00, submitted by Yamel Quintana of 411 Orange Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90802, for property located at 1508-10 13th Avenue, Altoona, PA, 16601, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute the Taxing District Form. (0141-25)(VOTE DID NOT PASS)

City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer read the resolutions into the record; Councilman Butterbaugh asked to have item J pulled for separate vote which did not pass 0-7; the consent vote was taken on items a through i and passed 7 to 0 with all present for the vote

ORDINANCES

Introduction

- 1) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, BLAIR COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, WHICH ADOPTS CERTAIN PORTIONS OF THE 2021 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE AND THEREBY AMENDS CHAPTER 358 OF THE ALTOONA CITY CODE "FIRE PREVENTION."

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

Adoption – Councilman Butterbaugh

- 2) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA AMENDING CHAPTER 640 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA ENTITLED "SUBDIVISION OF LAND AND LAND DEVELOPMENT" TO REPEAL THE CURRENT TEXT AND REPLACE IT IN ITS ENTIRETY; PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS; REPEAL INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES; REAFFIRMING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA AS AMENDED AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (ORD NO 5832)

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer

Introduction – Councilman Butterbaugh

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

- 3) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA AMENDING CHAPTER 800 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA ENTITLED "ZONING" TO REPEAL THE CURRENT TEXT AND REPLACE IT IN ITS ENTIRETY; PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS; REPEAL INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES; REAFFIRMING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA AS AMENDED AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (ORD NO 5833)

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

Adoption-Councilman Butterbaugh

- 4) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA AS FOLLOWS: 1) AMENDING CHAPTER 270 ENTITLED "CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS," BY ADDING ARTICLE IV THEREOF ENTITLED "CONTRACTOR LICENSING" TO REQUIRE THE LICENSING OF CONTRACTORS WORKING IN THE CITY OF ALTOONA; 2) AMENDING CHAPTER 314 ENTITLED "ELECTRICIANS" TO REQUIRE THE LICENSING OF ELECTRICIANS WORKING IN THE CITY OF ALTOONA AND SET THE REQUIREMENTS THEREOF; 3) AMENDING CHAPTER 542 ENTITLED "PLUMBERS" TO REQUIRE THE LICENSING OF PLUMBERS WORKING IN THE CITY OF ALTOONA AND SET THE REQUIREMENTS THEREOF; 4) PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY AND REPEALER; AND 5) ESTABLISH AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (ORD NO 5834)

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer
Introduction – Councilman Butterbaugh
Motion for Adoption – Councilman Butterbaugh
Second – Councilman Ickes
The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 6 to 1 with all present; Councilman Kelley voted no stating he appreciates the efforts but is concerned about safety, quality of work and the ability of completing all of the inspections; also the age of the housing stock and style of the housing stock and its proximity to the houses on a street; this ordinance could also have an impact on revenues for the City; the license holders are City businesses and this could negatively impact them and their bottom line as well

Adoption-Councilman Ickes

- 5) AN ORDINANCE IN THE CITY OF ALTOONA, BLAIR COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA WHICH AUTHORIZES THE VACATION AND ABANDONMENT OF THE ALLEY SITUATE BEHIND 615 N. 2nd STREET BETWEEN N. 6th AVENUE AND N. 7th 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 LORRIE STIRLING, AND ANY ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION TO RELINQUISH ANY RIGHT, TITLE AND/OR INTEREST THE CITY OF ALTOONA HAS OR MAY HAVE IN SAID PORTION; PROVIDE SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS, REPEALER; AND PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (ORD NO 5835)

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

Adoption-Councilwoman Clinich

- 6) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, BLAIR COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, WHICH AUTHORIZES THE VACATION AND ABANDONMENT OF TWO SEPARATE LOTS OF FAIRVIEW PARK AS DEPICTED IN THE VACATION PLAN BY THE EADS GROUP ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT "A" PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 295-8 OF THE ALTOONA CITY CODE AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTATION TO RELINQUISH ANY RIGHT, TITLE AND/OR INTEREST THE CITY OF ALTOONA HAS OR MAY HAVE IN SAID LOTS; PROVIDE SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS, REPEALER; AND PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (ORD NO 5836)

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

Adoption-Councilman Beatty

- 7) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, BLAIR COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, WHICH AUTHORIZES THE VACATION AND ABANDONMENT OF SIX SEPARATE LOTS OF GARFIELD PARK AS DEPICTED IN THE VACATION PLAN BY THE EADS GROUP ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT "A" PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 295-8 OF THE ALTOONA CITY CODE AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTATION TO RELINQUISH ANY RIGHT, TITLE AND/OR INTEREST THE CITY OF ALTOONA HAS OR MAY HAVE IN SAID LOTS; PROVIDE SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS, REPEALER; AND PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (ORD NO 5837)

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

Adoption-Councilwoman Clinich

- 8) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, BLAIR COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, WHICH AUTHORIZES THE VACATION AND ABANDONMENT OF A TWENTY-FIVE (25) FOOT PORTION OF UNOPENED TYLER AVENUE BETWEEN SOUTH TWELFTH STREET AND SOUTH THIRTEENTH 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 ROBERT B. DIEHL AND ANY ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION TO RELINQUISH ANY RIGHT, TITLE AND/OR INTEREST THE CITY OF ALTOONA HAS OR MAY HAVE IN SAID UNOPENED AVENUE; PROVIDE SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS, REPEALER; AND PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (ORD NO 5838)

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer
Introduction – Councilwoman Clinich

Motion for Adoption – Councilwoman Clinich

Second – Councilman Beatty

The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 7 to 0 with all present

Adoption-Councilman Ickes

- 9) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, BLAIR COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, WHICH AUTHORIZES THE VACATION AND ABANDONMENT OF A SEVEN AND ONE HALF (7.5) FOOT PORTION OF AN UNOPENED ALLEY BETWEEN SOUTH TWELFTH STREET AND SOUTH THIRTEENTH 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 ROBERT B. DIEHL AND ANY ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION TO RELINQUISH ANY RIGHT, TITLE AND/OR INTEREST THE CITY OF ALTOONA HAS OR MAY HAVE IN SAID UNOPENED ALLEY; PROVIDE SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS, REPEALER; AND PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (ORD NO 5839)

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer
Introduction – Councilman Ickes

Motion for Adoption – Councilman Beatty

Second – Mayor Pacifico

The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 7 to 0 with all present

Adoption-Councilman Beatty

- 10) AN ORDINANCE IN THE CITY OF ALTOONA INCURRING "LEASE RENTAL DEBT," AS DEFINED IN THE PENNSYLVANIA LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT DEBT ACT, IN A PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$9,750,000, 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 WATER SYSTEM OPERATED BY THE AUTHORITY, AND PAY RELATED EXPENSES; AUTHORIZING A GUARANTY AGREEMENT, BY AND AMONG THE CITY OF ALTOONA, AS GUARANTOR, THE ALTOONA WATER AUTHORITY, AND PENNVEST, AS LENDER, SECURING THE DEBT OBLIGATION; PLEDGING (1) CERTAIN WATER SYSTEM LEASE REVENUES OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, AND (2) THE FULL FAITH, CREDIT, AND TAXING POWER OF THE CITY, IN SUPPORT OF ITS GUARANTY; APPOINTING A SINKING FUND DEPOSITORY IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH GUARANTY; AND AUTHORIZING RELATED ACTIONS AND DOCUMENTS. (ORD NO 5840)

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

CITY MANAGER UPDATES – the IAFF Contract was recently completed and thanks goes out to City staff members Christina Notarfrancesco, Human Resource Director and Holly Buchanan, Deputy Directory; also to IAFF Local 299 President and Altoona Firefighter, Patrick Miller, in attendance at this meeting this evening, and to all on the negotiating committee on both sides of the table for a very good faith negotiation and for reaching a very fair settlement moving forward

MAYOR AND COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – Council congratulated Chris and the City employees and the IAFF Local 299 for working together and for completing their contract and for keeping the City safe; Councilman Butterbaugh thanked the Public Works Department as well as everyone involved in the Garfield Park project; the trails are nice and there are several improvements for the public to enjoy

QUESTIONS FROM THE MEDIA - Bill Kibler of the *Altoona Mirror*; Jordan Mansberger, WTAJ TV-10

ADJOURNMENT – by Mayor Pacifico at 6:45 p.m.