

ALTOONA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY – OCTOBER 15, 2024 - 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 Wednesday, October 16, 2024.

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)
Absent: Mayor Pacifico

Vice-Mayor Ellis announced that Council held Executive Sessions on September 23rd and 25th for personnel matters

ALL PUBLIC COMMENT
Mike Servello of 3021 Spruce Avenue asked when Council was going to re-instate the engine brake retarder ordinance

Mike Melhorn of 2626 8th Avenue stated the neighbor’s sidewalk is in disrepair and he did not receive a response from Codes; stated he sent an email to Councilman Beatty through the City’s website and was asked by the City Clerk to complete a right to know request form and he still was unable to speak to a code officer; stated the letter from Linda Rickens said there were no records

RESOLUTIONS

- a) approving the minutes of the Altoona City Council Meeting held Monday, September 9, 2024. (0176-24)
- b) approving the request of DURGA ALTOONA, LLC for an Inter-Municipal Transfer of Pennsylvania Liquor License No. R-15895 from Sam’s East Inc., Allegheny Township, Blair County, Altoona, PA, for use within the City of Altoona at 1800 Pleasant Valley Boulevard, Altoona, PA. (0177-24)
- c) approving the request of SR BEV, LLC for an Inter-Municipal Transfer of Pennsylvania Liquor License No. D-3077 (distributor) from the former Bopin’s Brew, 809 E. Main Street, Blair County, Bellwood, PA, for use within the City of Altoona at 3003 Walnut Avenue, Altoona, PA. (0178-24)
- d) approving the request of The BRIXBY, LLC for an Inter-Municipal Transfer of Pennsylvania Liquor License No. E-2112 (Eating Place Retail Dispenser), from

the Gourmet Buffet, 520 West Plank Road, Logan Township, Blair County, Altoona, PA, for use within the City of Altoona at 1809 Union Avenue, Altoona, PA. (0179-24)

e) authorizing an amendment to the Lease Agreement with Waste Management of Pennsylvania, for continued use of the land currently containing an operating transfer station, and further authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0180-24)

f) awarding Various Pavilion Roof-Foundation Repairs to Clark Contractors, Inc., 145 Clark Building Road, Bedford, PA 15522, in the amount of \$64,887.61, payable from ARPA Funds, and further authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0181-24)

g) awarding the Garfield Park Improvements Project to John Claar Excavating, Inc., of 1142 Pine Creek Road, Woodward PA 16882, in the total amount of \$619,327.88, with \$309,663.94 payable from ARPA Funds and \$309,663.94 payable from a DCNR Grant, and further authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to the same. (0182-24)

h) authorizing the Public Works Director to execute Permanent Street Restoration Agreements with People's Natural Gas Company, for individual street restoration projects, in an effort to reduce future street openings on newly paved streets. (0183-24)

i) authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Federal Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Funds with Blair County and for the City Clerk to attest to same, and further authorizing the Mayor to execute the necessary certifications required to submit the application. (0184-24)

j) approving Repository Bids submitted by Kinsey Sheppard of 923 Newton Avenue, Baldwin, NY 11510, each property listed in the amount of \$250.00 and located at 1313 17th Avenue, 819 6th Avenue, 1518 18th Street, 1521 20th Avenue, and 1926 12th Avenue, Altoona, PA, and further authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute the Taxing District Forms. (0185-24)

k) approving Repository Bids submitted by Shamika Smith of 2700 Double Churches Road, Columbus, GA 31909, each property listed in the amount of \$600.00 and located at 208 E. Cherry Avenue, 1109 17th Avenue, and 1926 12th Avenue, and in the amount of \$450.00 for property located at 1808 12th Avenue, and in the amount of \$500.00 for property located at 1810 12th Avenue, Altoona, PA, and further authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute the Taxing District Forms. (0186-24)

City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer read the resolutions into the record; the

consent vote was taken by the City Clerk on items a-b and d-i and passed 6 to 0 Mayor Pacifico was absent; Councilman Butterbaugh requested to have items c and j and k pulled for separate votes; the votes were taken individually by the City Clerk and each item did not pass 0-6; Mayor Pacifico was absent

CITY MANAGER UPDATES – Glow-up (tree lighting and fireworks) will be held Friday, December 6th from 5-7 in Heritage Plaza; the Christmas Parade, sponsored by 7 Mountains Media, will be held on Saturday, December 7th beginning at 1 pm.

MAYOR & COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS –

Councilman Beatty stated he attended a meeting of the county realtors and blight in the City was discussed; there is interest for redevelopment which is a benefit to the area and the tax base; as the land bank moves forward the City should have the best interest of the tax payer at heart in regards to saving properties and letting realtors look at them as opposed to tearing them down, and also, try to make it easier for redevelopment; this would be a plus to the area

Vice-Mayor Ellis thanked the Freet family, whose son was an Eagle Scout who did a project at Gospel Hill about 12 years ago; the Freet family recently replaced some of the wood on the tables and repaired the sign and completed other woodwork; thanks to Public Works for their work at Gospel Hill on the trees and stumps and removal of an old fence; this improved the aesthetics and the view; there is more to come at Gospel Hill as someone is donating new benches

MEDIA – media attendance included Bill Kibler, *Altoona Mirror* and a videographer from WJAC

ADJOURNMENT – by Mayor Pacifico at 6:23 p.m.