

ALTOONA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY – FEBRUARY 10, 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, February 11, 2025.

CALL TO ORDER – by Vice-Mayor Ellis 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, and Kelley  
Mayor Pacifico was absent

Vice-Mayor Ellis announced that Council held an Executive Session following the January 27<sup>th</sup> Work Session for real estate, personnel and potential litigation.

ALL PUBLIC COMMENT

Charles LeMarc of 310 Lexington Avenue praised the City’s first responders and spoke against the sale of Orchard Park for housing

Glenn Bistline of 130 Beech Avenue suggested Council look at Cricket Knoll instead of Orchard Park for housing

Timothy Smith of 524 Rosehill Drive asked Council to reconsider their previous vote and reverse their vote to sell the park

RESOLUTIONS

- a) approving the minutes of the Altoona City Council Meeting held Monday, January 13, 2025. (0017-25)
- b) authorizing an Easement Agreement between the City of Altoona and Penelec, for the purpose of the installation of new electric service at Garfield Park, and further authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0018-25)
- c) authorizing an Aerial Easement Agreement between the City of Altoona and Graystone Grande Palazzo, LLC., for the purpose of the installation of a Pedestrian Bridge over 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, as shown on the Easement Plan, and further authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0019-25)

d) awarding the Fire Station Access Project to Empire of 1215 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Altoona, PA 16601, in the amount of \$82,972.00, payable from the 2024 PA Municipal Fire Department Capital Grant, and further authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0020-25)

e) awarding a demolition contract to G&R Excavating & Demolition, Inc. of 900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Tyrone, PA 16686, for the following properties:

- 1508 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue - \$8,400.00
- 101 E. Willow Avenue - \$8,700.00
- 1304 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue - \$10,500.00
- 515 3<sup>rd</sup> Street - \$9,500.00

in the total amount of \$37,100.00, payable from the Community Development Block Grant Program Funds, and further authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0021-25)

f) awarding a demolition contract to G&R Excavating & Demolition, Inc. of 900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Tyrone, PA 16686, for the following properties:

- 902 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue - \$16,055.00
- 2019 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue - \$12,240.00

in the total amount of \$28,295.00, payable from the Community Development Block Grant Program Funds, and further authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute all documents and the City Clerk to attest to same. (0022-25)

City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer read the resolutions into the record; the consent vote was taken by the City Clerk and passed 6 to 0; Mayor Pacifico was absent

## ORDINANCES

### Adoption – Councilman Ickes

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, BLAIR COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, WHICH AUTHORIZES THE VACATION AND ABANDONMENT OF A PORTION OF A FIFTEEN (15) FOOT ALLEY SITUATE BETWEEN 18<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE AND 19<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE AND LEADING FROM 8<sup>TH</sup> STREET TO 10<sup>TH</sup> 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 BRITTANY N. PODELCO 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.

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer  
Introduction – Councilman Ickes  
Motion for Adoption – Councilman Beatty  
Second – Councilman Ickes  
The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 6 to 0;  
Mayor Pacifico was absent

CITY MANAGER UPDATES – a Technical Advisory Committee meeting will be held on February 11<sup>th</sup> for the Zoning and SALDO re-write; Matt Ingalls will be attending in person and the other czb members will be virtual; thanks to Public Works for their work clearing the streets; there was a meeting with the Mayor and the YMCA regarding Prospect Pool and their involvement; staff traveled to Pittston recently to review software

#### MAYOR & COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilman Kelley asked about the City's salt supply; ICM Nate Kissell responded that the City is in a good place and has the ability to purchase; the City underutilized the past few years but they did not reduce the quantity that was purchased; Councilman Kelley thanked Public Works/Highway for their hard work

Councilman Beatty stated the RA acquired a home to rehabilitate

Vice-Mayor Ellis stated the Mayor requested he announce the City will be once again appointing members to the Blighted Property Review Committee which consists of one Councilmember, one RA member, one Planning Commission member and two city residents; the Mayor will make the recommendations for the residents with Council's approval; if any City resident is interested the Talent Bank Application is on the City's website and the application can be completed online and submitted online; Vice-Mayor Ellis stated he received a few phone calls which were complimentary of Highway's work during the winter storms

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

ADJOURNMENT – by Vice-Mayor Ellis at 6:39 p.m.