

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, July 30, 2019 – 5:30 PM

Ashland City Hall Council Chambers

Please silence all cell phones during the meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Tuesday, July 30, 2019 Ashland City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Debra Lewis, in the Ashland City Hall Council Chambers at 5:30 p.m.

A. Roll Call

Roll call was taken by the Clerk, a Moment of Silence was held, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PRESENT: Holly George, Matthew MacKenzie, Sarah Jackson, Kate Ullman, Wahsayah Whitebird, Kevin Haas, Jackie Moore, Dick Pufall, Liz Franek, Charlie Ortman

ABSENT: Ana Tochtermann (excused)

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Deb Lewis, Administrator Brant Kucera, Clerk Denise Oliphant, Police Chief James Gregoire, Planning Director Megan McBride, Planning Intern Lucas Phillips, Human Resources Director Jennifer Boulley.

B. Moment of Silence

C. Pledge of Allegiance

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Haas moved, seconded by Whitebird to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. July 9, 2019 City Council and Committee of the Whole Minutes

Franek moved, seconded by Pufall to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2019 Council and Committee of the Whole meeting minutes. Franek mentioned Ms. Kebec's comments should reflect that she did not support the new police facility. Whitebird corrected the address of Mr. Lindell who spoke, to be 204 1/2 Main Street West. The motion to approve the amended minutes passed unanimously by voice vote.

4. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PERIOD (Clerk reads rules prior to public comments)

There were no Citizens present wishing to address the Council.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. Announcements

Lewis mentioned that she is currently posting available committee opportunities on her Facebook page and has received very positive feedback. Work on Sanborn Avenue/State Highway 118 has begun on the west side of Ashland. The City was recognized recently for its growth and vital downtown. A dedication of the Xcel solar garden south of town on was on Tuesday, August 13 at 1 p.m.

B. Appointments

Moore moved, seconded by Ortman to approve the Mayor's appointments. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Beautification Council

Layne Richardson, replacing Cynthia Meyer
2020

Expires: February 15,

Housing Committee

Eric Lindell, Plan Commission Rep., replacing Betty Harnisch
2021

Expires: October 1,

Historic Preservation Committee

Elizabeth Madsen-Genzler, Citizen Rep., replacing Rich Peterson
2021

Expires: April 1,

Harbor Commission

Paul Gilbertson (reappointment)

Expires: July 31, 2022

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Franek moved, seconded by Haas to approve. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

A. **Approve a Resolution in Support of HR 763: The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act** *(Approved unanimously by the Committee of the Whole)*

Summary Statement: Representatives of our local chapter of the Citizens Climate Lobby will present on a current policy proposal in front of the United States House of Representatives: HR 763: The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act. This legislation would create a carbon tax (sometimes called a carbon fee) in order to increase the price of goods that contribute to climate change. All of the revenue from the tax would be returned to US citizens in the form of the Carbon Dividend, which meant that the tax would be revenue neutral.

At the July 9, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting, Ullman introduced members of the Citizens' Climate Lobby Bill Bussey and Matt Horning who offered a presentation regarding the initiative and resolution. Ortman moved, seconded by Whitebird to approve the resolution in support of hr 763: the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote. **File #17519**

B. Operators' Licenses

Summary Statement: The following individuals applied for an operator's license:

Jacob B. Anderson
Laurel A. Dewey
Tamey M. Hmielewski
Natasha M. Holly
Mary K. Larson
Pamela J. Lightner
Arnold D. Moody
Kyle C. Rafert
Isabella S. Stone-Dahl
Wendy L. Anderson
Debbra Anne Ohlsson
Nancy M. Koval
Brenda L. Herlevi
Kolene J. Arvidson
Sarah M. Westlund
Sari M. Halbe
Kenya M. McAuliffe
Melody L. Hoglund
Daniel J. Sterling
Garrett C. Soufflet
Denise L. Shannon
Joselyn E. Olson
Kathleen A. Zar
Gaige P. Grosskreutz
Kaitlyn J. St. Germain
Joseph F. Schultz
Andrew J. Galligan

C. Miscellaneous Meeting Minutes

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Approve a Resolution by the Common Council for the City of Ashland, Wisconsin Authorizing the Renewal of the Annual School Resource Officer (SRO) Agreement with the School District of Ashland *(Voice)* Mayor

Summary Statement: Annually, the City of Ashland and the School District of Ashland renewed an agreement to provide an officer to be accessible to staff and students of the school system. The School Resource Officer worked within the facilities of the School District during the school year and was available for scheduling on traditional patrol duties when school was not in session. The School District reimburses the City for the personnel costs of this position for those periods of time in which the Officer was available to the District. The Agreement for 2019-2020 was unchanged from previous years except for the dates.

Ortman moved, seconded by Moore to approve the resolution by the Common Council for the City of Ashland, Wisconsin authorizing the renewal of the annual School Resource Officer (SRO) agreement with the School District of Ashland. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote. **File #17520**

B. Approve a Resolution for Inclusion under the Income Continuation Insurance Plan with Wisconsin Department of Employee Trust Funds (Voice) Human Resources

Summary Statement: The Income Continuation Insurance (ICI) benefit is a voluntary “income replacement” benefit payable if you become disabled. This insurance is available to all local government employees whose employers have elected to participate. The ICI program is authorized by Wisconsin Statute § 40.62 and is funded by premium contributions. ETF contracts with an external company (the plan administrator) to issue eligibility determinations and process individual claims.

ICI benefits provide up to 75% of your average monthly earnings based on your previous calendar year earnings rounded to the next highest \$1,000 and divided by 12. For newly hired employees, your estimated annual earnings are rounded to the next highest \$1,000 and divided by 12.

Standard Coverage covers up to \$64,000 of annual earnings.

- The maximum benefit is \$4,000 per month.
- The premiums are paid by the employer and employee.

Supplemental Coverage is available to employees whose annual earnings exceed \$64,000 (between \$64,000 and \$120,000 of annual earnings).

- The maximum combined benefit is \$7,500 per month.
- You must have standard coverage to apply for supplemental coverage.
- You must insure your entire earnings are above \$64,000. There is no partial coverage.
- The premiums are paid entirely by the employee.
- Each January, your employer will review your prior year’s earnings to determine if you are eligible to enroll in supplemental coverage. If your earnings drop below the \$64,000 limit, the supplemental coverage will cease.

ICI provides replacement income for short- and long-term disabilities. The benefit usually lasts until you are no longer disabled or you reach age 65 (with some exceptions), whichever is sooner.

Before the benefit started, you must have served an elimination period (also called a waiting period). You may select an elimination period of up to 180 days. You must be completely off work during this time.

ICI benefits would not duplicate benefits available from other WRS programs, the Social Security Administration, workers’ compensation, unemployment compensation or certain other sources. You would be required to repay duplicate benefits back to the ICI program.

Ortman moved, seconded by Whitebird to approve the resolution for inclusion under the Income Continuation Insurance Plan with Wisconsin department of Employee Trust Funds. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote. **File #17521**

8. ADJOURNMENT

George moved, seconded by Moore to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant,
City Clerk

The City of Ashland does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, age or disability in employment or provision of services, programs or activities.

NOTE: Upon reasonable notice, the City of Ashland will accommodate the needs of disabled individuals or individuals with limited English proficiency through auxiliary aids or services. For additional information or to request this service, contact Denise Oliphant at 715-682-7071 (not a TDD telephone number) or FAX: 715-682-7048