

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES

The Common Council of the City of Ashland will meet as the Committee of the Whole on September 10, 2019 immediately following the City Council meeting which begins at 5:30 PM in the Ashland City Hall Council Chambers.

The following items will be considered:

The Tuesday, September 10, 2019 Ashland Committee of the Whole meeting was called to order by Council President Kate Ullman in the Ashland City Hall Council Chambers at 6:30 p.m.

1. Roll Call

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

ABSENT: Jackie Moore (excused)

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Deb Lewis, City Administrator Brant Kucera, City Clerk Denise Oliphant, Public Works Director John Butler, and other concerned citizens.

2. Council President's Report

A moment of silence was recognized in honor of 9-11 per Councilor Franek's request. Ullman congratulated all for a successful start of the 2019-2020 school year and acknowledged the high enrollment number at Northland College this year. Ullman offered to reach out to Presley Nuutinen regarding the climate strike and resolution that was brought forward during the Council Citizen Comment Period.

3. Administrator's Report

Kucera commented about the rescheduling of the September 5, 2019 Budget Work Session, and asked for Council's preference in a date for rescheduling. It was determined by Council to reschedule to September 24, 2019 to be part of the regular Committee of the Whole meeting. Kucera also commented on the rumor of a tanking housing sales trend.

4. Approval of Agenda

Whitebird moved, seconded by George to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

5. New Business

A. Presentation from Betsey Harries, Executive Director, Ashland Area Development Corporation

Betsey Harries was present to discuss the objectives and benefits of the Ashland Area Development Corporation and its need for the City's financial support.

B. I & I Update *Public Works*

Public Works Director John Butler was present for questions and discussion regarding his memo updating Council regarding I&I.

C. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Snow Removal Recommendations *Public Works*

Public Works Director John Butler was present for discussion and questions from Council. After multiple suggestions were offered by Councilors, George moved to consider reviewing the ordinance pertinent to clearing snow from sidewalks, to allow for increased enforcement and penalty for noncompliance; Haas seconded. In light of further discussion, George rescinded her motion. MacKenzie suggested to have the Public Works Committee review the snow clearing ordinance for possible revisions.

D. Strategic Priorities Follow-Up *Councilor Ullman*

Whitebird motioned to postpone Agenda Item 5D to the next Committee of the Whole meeting due to time constraints; Ortman seconded. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

6. Adjournment

Ortman moved, seconded by Haas to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant,
City Clerk

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