

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES

The Common Council of the City of Ashland will meet as the Committee of the Whole on December 3, 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, December 3, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting was called to order by Council President Kate Ullman, in the Ashland City Hall Council Chambers at 7:25 p.m.

1. Roll Call

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

ABSENT: Holly George (excused)

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

2. Council President's Report

President Ullman offered her gratitude to the Public Works crew for their long hours after the recent snowfall. She also acknowledged the success of the Tree Lighting Ceremony to Mayor Lewis, Planning Director McBride, and all other staff involved. Ullman noted the good report of the 2019 audit.

3. Administrator's Report

Kucera noted that he was asked by the Daily Press of his opinion of the recent snow clean-up process and he acknowledged the good work being done by Public Works. He also noted a recent positive article of the City's Property Maintenance department's success.

4. Approval of Agenda

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

5. Committee Updates

Council representatives were asked for updates of their respective committees.

Harbor Commission: Dick Pufall - Meet rarely through the winter months, no update to report.

Plan Commission: Matt MacKenzie - Going well, reported by McBride

Police & Fire: There is no Council representative for this group per State Statute. Reports may be limited as discussion is generally Closed Session.

Library Board: Sarah Jackson - Upcoming Board Holiday party; talking about "big changes" for the Library regarding renovations; working on internet connection/disruption.

Housing Authority: Liz Franek - Discussing their role regarding the area homeless; policy changes need to comply with Federal guidelines.

Housing Committee: Ana Tochtermann - Refer to item on agenda

Parks and Rec Committee: Kevin Haas - Waterfront Development Plan update; researched the purchase and naming of parks; looking for reinstatement as a Tree City USA.

Public Works Committee: Jackie Moore - Reviewed the recent visit by Finnish engineers regarding I&I

Sustainability Committee: Kate Ullman - Refer to item on agenda; will continue to work on the 25x25 Plan.

Historic Preservation Committee: Liz Franek - hoping to move forward with designation of Fifield Row

Disabled Parking Committee: Wahsayah Whitebird - Meets on an as-needed basis; has no report to offer.

Source Water Protection Committee: (Starting in 2020) - no current representation to date.

6. Discussion Items

A. Discussion of Resolution to Ban Use of Coal Tar Sealants in the City of Ashland

Whitebird moved, Ortman seconded to approve to move the resolution to Council to approve the ordinance.

After multiple suggestions through discussion, MacKenzie moved to table the item until the next Committee of the Whole meeting; seconded by Haas. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

B. Discussion of Housing Committee Recommendations on City's Role in Addressing Homelessness

McBride introduced the memo from the Housing Committee, offering suggestions and comments for Council.

Whitebird moved to recognize Donna Blazek to speak to Council; seconded by Ortman.

Outside discussion, no other action was taken on this item.

7. Adjournment

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant,
City Clerk

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