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**City Council and Committee of the Whole Meetings
Tue, Sep 29, 2020 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM**

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ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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Ashland City Hall Council Chambers

Please silence all cell phones during the meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. Roll Call, Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance

The Tuesday, September 29, 2020 Ashland City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Debra Lewis, virtually via GoTo Meetings at 5:30 p.m.

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

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

ABSENT: (None)

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Deb Lewis, City Administrator Brant Kucera , Planning Director Megan McBride, City Clerk Denise Oliphant, Interim Police Chief Bill Hagstrom, Fire Chief Dave Wegener, Parks Director Sara Hudson , City Attorney Tyler Wickman, Deputy Clerk Sarah Szymaniak, and other concerned citizens.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. September 8, 2020 City Council and Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Pufall moved, seconded by Whitebird to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

4. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PERIOD

The Clerk read the Rules for Citizen Participation, and the following offered their comments to the Council:

Zymund Jabalonski, 916 6th Ave W, requested that the Mayor read complete pledge and expressed concerns regarding the Vaughn Ave construction and sidewalks. Also spoke about parking on 6th St W.

Cheyenne Otto-Defoe, current resident of Superior. spoke in favor of the Council approving the resolution to approve a contract for a School Resource Officer working in the School District of Ashland this year, and spoke about ceasing contracts for a School Resource Officer position in the future.

Emerson Ziehr, 2101 Lakeshore Dr E, spoke in opposition to a resolution to approve a contract for a School Resource Officer working in the School District of Ashland and asked Council to continue to consider the issue.

Dani O'Brien, Vaughn Ave, asked Council to delay a vote regarding a resolution to approve a contract for a School Resource Officer working in the School District of Ashland until further research can be done.

Elise Kehle, 218 MacArthur Ave, thanked the Mayor for saying the Pledge. Kehle also spoke in opposition to a resolution to approve a contract for a School Resource Officer working in the School District of Ashland. Kehle also read a statement from a current Ashland High School student that spoke against the resolution and asked Council to delay the vote until the public sees more information on past SRO actions and duties.

Eric Lindel, 204 1/2 W Main St, spoke about lack of public input and research by Council members in regards to a resolution to approve a contract for a School Resource Officer working in the School District of Ashland. He encouraged Council to pass the resolution this year.

Brian Tochtermann, 818 Vaughn Ave, expressed concern about sidewalks on Vaughn Ave, stating that sidewalks are cracked, tilted, and damaged.

Steven Stuart, 906 Vaughn Ave, expressed concerns about the cracked and severely damaged sidewalks on Vaughn Ave.

Soren Buenneke, future resident of Ashland, urged Council to delay the vote in regards to a resolution to approve a contract for a School Resource Officer working in the School District of Ashland.

Kathy Tuttle, 715 4th Ave W, expressed thanks for the Vaughn Avenue construction. She requested Council look into 4th Ave W as she states it has been in disrepair and has taken significant hit by the heavy construction equipment.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. Announcements

Mayor Deb Lewis shared information about the rising cases of COVID-19 in the City of Ashland. Halloween on Chapple Ave will be different than in years past.

B. Appointments

The Mayor requested Council's approval of the following committee appointment(s):

Disabled Parking Enforcement Assistance Council

Waysayah Whitebird (Council Rep.), Expires: April 16, 2021

Mary Jane Grande, Reappointment; Expires: August 11, 2023

Donna Griffiths, Reappointment, Expires: August 13, 2022

Cheryl Wiezorek, Reappointment, Expires: August 11, 2023

Economic Development-Revolving Loan Fund Advisory Board

Daryl Jolma, Reappointment, Expires: April 15, 2023

Housing Committee

Kaas Baichtal, City Landlord Representative, reappointment, expires: October 1, 2022

Kathy Beeksma, City Housing Authority Representative, reappointment, expires: October 1, 2022

Liz Franek, Renter Representative, reappointment, expires: October 1, 2022

Megan McBride, City Staff Representative, reappointment, expires: October 1, 2022

Public Works Committee

Edward Calahan, Reappointment, Expires: September 30, 2025

George moved, seconded by Jackson to approve the Mayor's appointments. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approve to Apply to the Xcel Partners in Energy Program (*Mayor*)

B. Approval to Apply for Chequama-Care COVID-19 Response Fund (*Parks*)

- C. Approve a Resolution to Submit an Application to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Urban Forestry Grant and Urban Forestry Catastrophic Storm Grant Programs (*Parks*)**
- D. Approve to Accept Assistance to Firefighters Grant and Required Matching Funds (*Fire*) Roll**
- E. Approve a Class B Combination Alcohol Beverage License Application for BPOE No. 137(Ashland Elks Lodge), 3000 Golf Course Road, Ashland, WI, and Agent Jeff Muse (*Clerk*)**
- F. Miscellaneous Meeting Minutes**

Whitebird moved, seconded by Franek to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

7. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Approve Resolution to Approve the School District of Ashland Resource Officer (SRO) Contract for Working Agreement-2020-2021 School Year (*Police Chief*) Roll**

Eric Olson, Ashland School District Administrator, Brian Trettin, Ashland High School Principle, and Jake Levings, Ashland Middle School Principle, spoke on the role and impact of a School Resource Officer in Ashland Schools. Olson, Trettin, and Levings answered questions from Council members.

Interim Police Chief introduced Officer Bybee to Council as the intended SRO for the School District. Officer Bybee introduced himself and his perspective on the SRO position and answered questions from Council members.

George moved, seconded by Moore to approve the resolution to contract with the School District of Ashland. Ulman offered an amendment the resolution to include: "And be it further resolved that the City of Ashland will ask the School District of Ashland to collaboratively develop an MOU, including data gathering, based on WI DPI best practices;" Whitebird seconded the addition of this amendment. The motion passed 10-1 by roll call vote; Pufall objected.

Pufall called the question, seconded by Haas, which passed by a 8-3 voice vote; objecting were MacKenzie, Ullman, and Whitebird.

The motion to approve the resolution to include the aforementioned amendment, and contract for an SRO with the School District of Ashland passed 11-0 by roll call vote.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Approve to Waive the Advertisement Requirement Set Forth in Chapter 194.04, Ashland City Ordinance, and Award a Contract to Energenecs, Inc for Supervisory Data and Acquisition Control (SCADA) Upgrades at the 6th Avenue West Lift Station (*Public Works*) Roll

Pufall moved, seconded by Moore to approve to waive the requirement and award the contract to Energenecs Inc for the amount of \$189,278.00, plus a contingency of \$18,927.50 for a project total of \$208,202.50. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

B. Approve a Resolution to Approve an Offer to Purchase Two (2) Parcels of City-Owned Land, Parcels #201-01061-0000 and #201-01406-0000, Located on the Southeastern Corner of US Highway 2 and Stuntz Avenue, Applicant: Lucy Koivisto and Michael Tuttle on behalf of MI Copper Cup LLC (DBA Copper Cup) (*Planning*) Voice

Franek moved, seconded by Moore to approve the resolution. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

C. Approve a Resolution to Approve a Conditional Use Permit to Allow a Veterinary Clinic for Small and Large Animals on Parcel #201-04896-0000, Zoned: Future Development (FD), Applicant: Trevor Provost and Tim Dykstra on Behalf of FMK Properties, LLC (*Planning*) Voice

Whitebird moved, seconded by Moore to approve the resolution. Motion passed by voice vote 10-0, Franek abstained.

D. Approve a Resolution to Issue a Conditional Use Permit to Allow a Clinic Use for an Ultrasound Machine and Associated Services at 522 Chapple Avenue, Zoned Mixed Residential/Commercial (MRC). Applicant: Eva Thewis on Behalf of Chequamegon Pregnancy Center (*Planning*) Voice

Whitebird moved, seconded by George to approve the resolution. The motion passed by voice vote 8-3, Moore; Ulman, and Tochtermann dissenting.

9. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant,
City Clerk

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