

December 8, 2020 City Council and Committee of the Whole Meeting

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ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 8, 2020 – 5:30 PM

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, December 8, 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. Liz Franek dedicated the Moment of Silence to Dick Pufall and his family. Also to Jim Miller's family, who lost his life in a recent fire.

PRESENT: Holly George (5:31), Matthew MacKenzie, Sarah Jackson, Kate Ullman (5:31), Ana Tochtermann, Wahsayah Whitebird, Kevin Haas, Charles Ortman, Liz Franek, and Jackie Moore.

ABSENT: Dick Pufall (excused)

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Deb Lewis, City Administrator Brant Kucera, City Clerk Denise Oliphant, City Attorney Max Lindsey, Planning Director Megan McBride, Parks Director Sara Hudson, Deputy Clerk Sarah Szymaniak, and other concerned citizens.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. October 22, 2020 Committee of the Whole Budget Work Session Minutes

B. November 17, 2020 City Council Meeting Minutes

Haas moved, seconded by Moore to approve the minutes. The motion carried 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:

Jeanna Olbekson 808 1/2 Chapple Ave spoke about homelessness in Ashland and shared about her outreach. She supports starting a warming house in Ashland.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. Recognition of Service to Ernie and Myra Bliss

The Mayor recognized Myra and Ernie Bliss to Council and thanked them for their years of service and dedication as Election Officials.

B. Announcements

The Mayor extended her sympathies to Dick Pufall for a recent loss in his family. She congratulated Public Works employee Jim Watson on his retirement. She shared that she attended the Northwest Regional Planning meeting and commented that the region is ending the year with a resilient economy. Mayor Lewis reminded current Council members of even-numbered wards to complete paperwork for the Spring Election on April 6, 2021. December 28 is the deadline to return papers or file a Declaration of Noncandidacy. She stated that area COVID numbers continue to go up and our medical services are keeping up. Vaccines are coming, but in the meantime citizens must remain vigilant. Mayor Lewis thanked the Council for their time and commitment in 2020 and wished everyone happy holidays and a Merry Christmas.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approve a Resolution to Designate the Official City Newspaper (Clerk)

B. Approve a Resolution to Combine Wards and Establish the Polling Places for the February 9, 2021 Primary Election, and the April 6, 2021 Spring Elections (Clerk)

C. Approve the 2021 Ashland City Council and Committee of the Whole Meeting Calendar (Clerk)

D. Approve a Resolution to Designate Public Depositories (Clerk)

- E. Approve to Waive the Requirement Set Forth in Chapter 923.10, Ashland City Ordinances, and Approve the Mandatory Joint Powers Agreement between Ashland County and the City of Ashland for the Ashland County 911 Emergency System (*Police & Fire Departments*)**
- F. Approve an Agreement between the City of Ashland and the University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension, and Sign the Interagency Agreement for the SNAP-ED Programming for the Fiscal Year 2021 (*Parks and Recreation*)**
- G. Approval to Apply for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Urban Wildlife Abatement and Control Grant for Goose Management on City Property (*Parks and Recreation*)**
- H. Miscellaneous Minutes**
- I. November, 2020 Permit and Property Maintenance Report**

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

7. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approve a Contract with GRAEF for Professional Services for City of Ashland Waterfront Zoning and Unified Development Ordinance Updates (*Planning*) Roll**

Moore moved, seconded by Franek to approve the contract with GRAEF for \$24,491. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.
- B. Approve a Resolution to Issue a Conditional Use Permit for up to Fifteen (15) Additional Multi-Family Residential Units at 522 Chapple Avenue, Zoned: Mixed Residential/Commercial (MRC). Applicant: Impact 7 (*Planning*) Voice**

Kate Sullivan from Impact Seven gave a brief overview of the proposed project. Sullivan and Planning Director McBride answered questions from Council. Tochtermann moved, seconded by George to approve the resolution. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.
- C. Approve 2021 Property Insurance Carrier and Renewal Quote, and 2021 General Liability, Linebacker, Law Enforcement Liability, Data Compromise and Cyber Security, Government Crime/Fidelity ISO, Business Auto, Workers Compensation, and Commercial Umbrella Insurance Carrier and Renewal Quote (*Clerk*) Roll**

City Clerk Denise Oliphant introduced the item and answered questions from Council. George moved, seconded by Haas to approve the 2021 proposed renewal quotes from EMC Insurance Company and MPIC. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

D. Approve a Resolution to Accept the Workmanship of Custofam Corporation and Approve the Final Payment for the 2019 Utility Roof Improvements Project (*Public Works*) Roll

Whitebird moved, seconded by Moore to approve the resolution and final payment to Custofam Corporation of \$19,782.77. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

E. Approve to Purchase a John Deere 310 SL Backhoe from McCoy Construction Forestry for the Water Utility (*Public Works*) Roll

Haas moved, seconded by Moore to approve the purchase for \$103,016.90 from McCoy Construction and Forestry, with the understanding that Kucera will follow up with Council about the bidding process. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

F. Approve the 2021-2023 Agreement between the City of Ashland and Wisconsin Professional Police Association (WPPA) Local 209, Ashland Police Department (*Administration*) Roll

City Administrator Brant Kucera introduced the agreement and answered questions from Council. Tochtermann moved, seconded by George to approve the agreement. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

G. Approve the 2021-2023 Agreement between the City of Ashland and the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Local 875, Ashland Fire Department (*Administration*) Roll

City Administrator Kucera asked to have the item be postponed until the next Council meeting. Ortman moved, seconded by Haas to postpone the agreement until the first Council meeting in 2021. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

H. Approval of Parks and Recreation Policy 608: Conducting Business in Parks (*Parks and Recreation*) Voice

Parks and Rec Director Sara Hudson gave background on the policy, and answered questions brought forth by Council. Haas moved, seconded by Jackson to approve. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

8. ADJOURNMENT

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

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