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ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 12, 2021 – 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, January 12, 2021 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: Holly George (5:31 pm), Matt Mackenzie, Sarah Jackson, Kate Ullman, Ana Tochtermann, Wahsayah Whitebird, Kevin Haas, Charlie Ortman, Elizabeth Franek, Dick Pufall, Jackie Moore

ABSENT: (None)

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

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Kucera requested that Agenda Item 7F be removed from the agenda as the agreement has not been finalized. Haas moved, seconded by Moore to strike 7F from the agenda and approve the amended agenda. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

Ortman moved, seconded by Moore 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:

Jeanna Olbekson, 808 1/2 Chapple Ave, requested that Council fund and build a warming shelter in Ashland to support the homeless community.

Parker from Ashland, expressed concern about a lack of support for the homeless community in Ashland.

Kimberly from Ashland, asked how to get involved with local environmental committees and asked for contact information.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. Announcements

The Mayor acknowledged the momentous events of the last week (the storming of the US Capitol). She encouraged community members to reach out to each other for support. She shared that there is an election for Ward 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 Council positions on April 6, 2021. Councilors Mackenzie, Ullman, and Whitebird declared that they were seeking for re-election. The candidates running include: Laura Graf (Ward 2), Anne Whiting (Ward 4), Eric Lindell (Ward 6), Elise Kehle (Ward 6), Charlie Ortman (Ward 8), Richard Pufall (Ward 10), Emerson Ziehr (Ward 10). Mayor Lewis shared updates about the COVID-19 vaccine in the state of Wisconsin.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approve to Apply for Otto Bremer Trust Grant for a First Responder and Recovery Coach Partnership Program (*Police Department*)

B. Approve a Resolution to Apply for a Historic Preservation Fund Subgrant through the Wisconsin State Historic Preservation Office to Fund nomination of Fifield Row for the State and National Historic Registers (*Planning*)

FILE #17608

C. Approve to Reverse Emergency Declaration for the Purpose of Permitting the Timely Repairs of a Portion of the City's Sanitary Sewer between Mac Arthur Avenue and 9th Avenue West per Wisconsin State Statute 62.15(1b) (*Public Works*)

- D. Approve to Accept an Urban Forestry Grant from Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) (*Parks*)**
- E. Approve to Apply for an SC Johnson Grant for New Playground Equipment (*Parks*)**
- F. Approve Staff to Reapply for the City of Ashland to be Listed as a Bird City Wisconsin, to Apply for a Bird City Wisconsin Small Grant, and Approve a Resolution to Proclaim the Third Weekend in May as the Observed International Migratory Bird Day in Ashland, Wisconsin (*Parks*)**
FILE #17609
- G. Approve Barbara J Allison as New Agent for the Alcohol License Application for The 5th Quarter LLC at 301 Main St E, Ashland (*Clerk*)**

H. Miscellaneous Minutes

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

7. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Public Hearing Regarding City of Ashland 2021 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) CLOSE and Public Facilities Applications to Fund 6th Street East Reconstruction Project and CDBG-CLOSE Application to Demolish the Blighted Structure at 501 3rd Street West (*Planning*) Roll**

Haas moved, seconded by George to enter into Public Hearing. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Planning Director Megan McBride confirmed the Public Hearing notice was published as a Class II notice in the Daily Press, posted in three public places, as well as sent letters to the effected property owners. McBride provided to Council information regarding the proposed projects. No public comments were made. Haas moved, seconded by George to close the Public Hearing. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

- B. Approve a Resolution for the Submission of 2021 Community Development Block Grant CLOSE (CDBG CLOSE) and Community Development Block Grant Public Facilities (CDBG PF) Applications and Commitment of Matching Funds for the Reconstruction of 6th Street East from 13th Avenue East to 19th Avenue East (*Planning*) Voice**

Jackson moved, seconded by Haas to approve the resolution. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote. **FILE #17606**

- C. Approve a Resolution for the Submission of a 2021 Community Development Block Grant CLOSE (CDBG CLOSE) Application for the Acquisition of 501 3rd Street West and Demolition of the Blighted Structure thereon (*Planning*) Voice**

Pufall moved, seconded by Whitebird to approve the resolution. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote. **FILE #17607**

D. Approve a Resolution to Authorize a Representative of the City of Ashland to File Applications for Financial Assistance from the State of Wisconsin Environmental Improvement Fund for the Lead Service Lateral Replacement Program (*Public Works*) Voice

Haas moved, seconded by Moore to approve the resolution. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote. **FILE #17605**

E. Approve a Resolution to Accept the Workmanship of Nasi Construction, LLC, and Approve Final Payment for the 2020 Building and Pearson Plaza Improvements Project (*Public Works*) Roll

Pufall moved, seconded by Franek to approve the resolution to make payment of \$35,821.93 to Nasi Construction, LLC. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote. **FILE #17604**

F. Approve for the Police Department and Fire Department to Enter into Contracts for Online Training Programs (*Police & Fire Departments*) Roll

Police Chief Bill Hagstrom answered questions from Council. Franek moved, seconded by Whitebird to approve the contracts for the Police and Fire Departments. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

G. Approve the Agreement by and between the City of Ashland and Town of White River for Emergency Medical Services (*Fire Department*) Roll

Fire Chief David Wagener introduced the agreement to Council. Haas moved, seconded by Ortman to approve. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

8. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah Szymaniak
Deputy Clerk

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