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ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021 – 5:30 PM

Ashland City Hall Council Chambers

Please silence all cell phones during the meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Tuesday, February 23, 2021 Ashland City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Debra Lewis, virtually via GoTo Meetings at 5:30 p.m.

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

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

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

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Deb Lewis, City Administrator Brant Kucera, City Clerk Denise Oliphant, City Attorney Tyler Wickman, Public Works Director John Butler, Planning Director Megan McBride, Retiring Fire Chief Dave Wegener, Interim Fire Chief Stuart Matthias, Public Works Administrative Manager Sharon Campbell, Police Chief Willis Hagstrom, and other concerned citizens.

Franek requested to dedicate the Moment of Silence to Rachel Deragon, and Ortman asked to dedicate the Moment of Silence to Joseph Rose who recently passed.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. February 9, 2021 City Council and Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

These minutes were not available for approval and will be brought to Council on March 9, 2021.

4. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PERIOD

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

Elise Kehle, 218 MacArthur Avenue, has been working together with Parker Sterling regarding area homeless and asked for information regarding EMS responses to those who are homeless. She also noted that there has been review of available buildings as shelters.

Ruth Ritter Wilson, 115 8th Street East, offered a recommendation and reasons for the City to not get involved in sheltering homeless beyond a XXX position.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. Recognition of the Retirement of Ashland Fire Chief David Wegener

The Mayor offered her thanks and appreciation to retiring Fire Chief Dave Wegener for his many years of service. She also introduced Captain Stuart Matthias as Interim Chief as appointed by the Police and Fire Commission.

B. Announcements

The Mayor had no announcements at this time.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Approve a Professional Construction Engineering Services Proposal Submitted by Cedar Corporation for the 2021 Waterfront Access Road Reconstruction Project (*Public Works*) Roll

Moore moved, seconded by George to approve the Cedar Corporation proposal for the amount of \$107,500. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

B. Approval to Accept the Bid from MTI Distributing, Inc. for the Purchase of Two Toro Groundmaster 3200 Mowers (*Public Works*) Roll

Franek moved, seconded by Pufall to approve the purchase from MTI Distributing, Inc. for the amount of \$37,213.70. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

C. Approve a Resolution to Accept the Workmanship of Hydro Clean, LLC, and Approve Final Payment for the 2020 Sewer Cleaning and Televising Project (*Public Works*) Roll

Pufall moved, seconded by Whitebird to approve the resolution and final payment to Hydro Klean, LLC for the amount of \$7,200. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote. **FILE #17616**

7. CLOSED SESSION

A. Enter into Closed Session (Roll)

Haas moved, seconded by George to enter into Closed Session, and allow Attorney Tyler Wickman, Attorney Mike Nemo, and Police Chief Bill Hagstrom to remain during Closed Session. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

B. CLOSED SESSION Pursuant to WI Stat. 19.85 (1)(g): "Conferring with legal counsel who either orally or in writing will advise governmental body on strategy to be adopted with respect to current or likely litigation." (Rodriguez Claim) (Mayor)

C. Return to Open Session (Voice)

Haas moved, seconded by Moore to return to Open Session. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

The Mayor reported on action taken during Closed Session. The Settlement Agreement proposed to Council was approved 9-1-1; MacKenzie opposed, Franek abstained.

8. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant,
City Clerk

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