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ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 8, 2021 – 5:30 PM

Ashland City Hall Council Chambers

Please silence all cell phones during the meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Tuesday, June 8, 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: Laura Graf, Sarah Jackson, Anne Whiting, Ana Tochtermann, Eric Lindell, Kevin Haas, Charlie Ortman, Liz Franek, Dick Pufall, Jackie Moore

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Deb Lewis, City Clerk Denise Oliphant, City Attorney Tyler Wickman, Public Works Director John Butler, Planning Director Megan McBride, Finance Director Julie Vaillancourt, Utility Supervisor Chanz Green, Planning Assistant Jaclynn Findlay, and other concerned citizens.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Pufall moved, seconded by Haas to approve the minutes of the May 25, 2021 City Council meeting. 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:

Carver Harries, 910 Ellis Avenue, (formerly Betsey Harries), announced that Ashland Area Development is partnering with Northland College for internship training on June 21, 22, and 23, 2021.

Kate Ullman, 1222 9th Avenue W, encouraged Council to revisit the SRO contract with the Ashland School District that was approved in September 2020.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. Announcements

Mayor Lewis noted that Ashland is hosting the Region 18 USPC K9 trials, organized by the Ashland Police Department, and welcoming nearly seventy K9 participating teams. The presentation by Dylan Jennings has been postponed per his request, to allow for more time. As Brant is away from the office this week, she announced on his behalf that staff is moving forward with the next step of the strategic planning process. Councils will be called to arrange for interviews with Managing Results staff. Focus groups and a resident survey will be organized in the very near future. As the emergency order for the City of Ashland has been lifted, she asked that Council have discussion in the near future to plan to return to in-person meetings.

B. Appointments

Lindell moved, seconded by Moore to approve reappointments of David Mettill to the Board of Review, term expiring June 10, 2026, and Christine Leubben as Weed commissioner, term expiring April 18, 2022. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

6. Interview, Nomination and Approval of Filling Ward 1 Council Member Vacancy

A. Interview, Nomination and Approval of Filling Ward 1 Council Member Vacancy

(Mayor) Roll

Lewis introduced Kevin Seefelt who submitted a letter of application for Ward 1 Council person. Seefelt explained his background, and took comments and questions from Councilors. Haas moved, seconded by Moore to approve to appoint Seefelt to the Ward 1 Councilperson position. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote. Seefelt was then sworn in by Oliphant.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Miscellaneous Meeting Minutes

Pufall moved, seconded by Haas to approve the miscellaneous meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Approve a Resolution by the Common Council for the City of Ashland, Wisconsin to Amend the 2021 Amended General Fund Budget to Meet the State of Wisconsin Expenditure Restraint Payment Program Guidelines in Order to Receive the 2022 Expenditure Restraint Revenue (*Finance*) Roll

Vaillancourt explained to Council the reason for bringing this resolution forward. Moore moved, seconded by Lindell to approve the resolution. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

B. Approve License Applications for Alcohol Beverages, Including New Officers/Agents, Arcade, Recycling Facility/Salvage Operation, Pawn Broker, Taxicab, and Mobile Home Parks (*Clerk*) Voice

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

C. Approval of Four Grant Agreements for Downtown Building Improvement Grant Program (*Planning*) Roll

Franek moved, seconded by Lindell to approve the Downtown Building Improvement Grant agreements for a total of \$53,300. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

D. Approve a Resolution to Acknowledge Review of the 2020 Compliance Maintenance Annual Report (CMAR) of the Ashland Wastewater Utility Pursuant to the Requirements of NR 208, Wisconsin Administrative Code (*Public Works*) Roll

Pufall moved, seconded by Lindell to approve the resolution as presented. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

E. Approve to Award Contract for 2021 Private Lead Service Lateral Replacement Project (*Public Works*) Roll

Moore moved, seconded by Lindell to approve to award the contract to Ritola, Inc. for \$286,160.60. The motion carried 10-1 by roll call vote; Franek opposed.

9. ADJOURNMENT

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

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