

**THE CITY OF ASHLAND WILL BE CONDUCTING THEIR MEETINGS IN PERSON
at
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 601 MAIN STREET WEST, ASHLAND, WI
WITH THE AVAILABILITY TO ATTEND VIRTUALLY**

Please contact the Clerk's office if you require accommodations to attend the meeting.

To join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/157254717>

Or dial in using your phone.

United States (Toll Free): 1-877-309-2073

Access Code: 157-254-717

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, September 14, 2021 – 5:30 PM

Ashland City Hall Council Chambers

Please silence all cell phones during the meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Tuesday, September 14, 2021 Ashland City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Debra Lewis 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: Kevin Seefeldt, Laura Graf, Sarah Jackson, Ana Tochtermann, Eric Lindell, 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, Fire Chief Stuart Mathias, Planning Director Megan McBride, Parks Director Sara Hudson, Human Resources Director Jennifer Bouley, and other concerned citizens.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. August 31, 2021 City Council and Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

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

4. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PERIOD

Nancy Brede, 800 Maple Ridge Road expressed her opposition of Council's approval of the sand pit CUP.

Matt MacKenzie, 518 9th Avenue West, urged Council to keep the City's insurance broker local.

Pat Kinney, 1119 2nd Avenue West, encouraged Council to stay with a local broker for the City's health insurance.

Pat Nemec, 109 15th Avenue East, supported using a local broker for the City's health insurance contract.

Peggy Koehler, 401 Maple Ridge Road, showed her concern of the increased traffic flow, proposed berm, and compliance with the City's comprehensive plan by approving the sand pit CUP request.

Ted Koehler, 401 Maple Ridge Road, expressed his displeasure of the sand pit decision made by Council.

Anna Stoklassa, 7001 Maple Ridge Road, stated she received information about the sand pit public hearing while out of town, and was dissatisfied with the process of the proposal.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. Announcements

Mayor Lewis noted there was an information session and public hearing for the proposed homeless shelter at the Library meeting room on Thursday, September 16, 2021 beginning at 6:30 p.m. As mentioned previously, the Mayor announced that she would not be running for re-election in the Spring of 2022, and thanked everyone for working with her and supporting her. The strategic plan goals that were identified at the retreat in late August were handed out to the Councilors, along with a reminder of the Nine Tools of Civility as a reminder since it has been so long since the Council had met in person.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Miscellaneous Meeting Minutes

Lindell moved, seconded by Ortman approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Approve to Enter into a Contract with M3 Insurance Solutions as the Broker of Record for Employee Benefits, and for the Human Resources Director to Enter into Negotiations for Employee Health Insurance Benefits (*Human Resources*) Roll

Kucera began by announcing his decision while keeping the employees and tax payers in mind, and asked Council to not approve the recommendation of proceeding with a contract with M3 Insurance Solutions as the broker of record, and to retain Great Lakes Insurance Agency, due to the concerns of the process and communication regarding this item. Haas moved, seconded by Ortman to approve. The motion failed 1-9 by roll call vote; in favor was Moore.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Approve a Resolution to Postpone Filling Ward 4 Council Vacancy until After the City of Ashland Redistricting Process due to the 2020 Census (*Clerk*) Roll

Haas moved, seconded by Moore to approve. The motion passed 9-1 by roll call vote; opposed was Franek.

B. Approve Wisconsin Main Street Communities Agreement between the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation and Ashland Main Street (*Planning*) Roll

Lindell moved, seconded by Franek to approve. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

C. Approve a Resolution Declaring Official Intent to Reimburse Expenditures from Proceeds of Borrowing through the State of Wisconsin Environmental Improvement Fund for the 2022 Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation & Replacement Project (*Public Works*) Roll

Ortman moved, seconded by Moore to approve. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

D. Approve an Authorizing Resolution for Urban Forestry Grant and Urban Forestry Catastrophic Storm Grant Programs (*Parks & Recreation*) Roll

Ortman moved, seconded by Lindell to approve. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

E. Approve Change Order No. 1 to Northern Interstate Construction for the 2021 Waterfront Access Road Project (*Public Works*) Roll

Haas moved, seconded by Graf to approve the change order for Northern Interstate Construction for the amount of \$74,753.50. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Lindell moved, seconded by Moore to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant,
City Clerk

The City of Ashland does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, age or disability in employment or provision of services, programs or activities.

NOTE: Upon reasonable notice, the City of Ashland will accommodate the needs of disabled individuals or individuals with limited English proficiency through auxiliary aids or services. For additional information or to request this service, contact Denise Oliphant at 715-682-7071 (not a TDD telephone number) or FAX: 715-682-7048