

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES

The Common Council of the City of Ashland will meet as the Committee of the Whole on **February 22, 2022** immediately following the City Council meeting which begins at **5:30 PM** in the Ashland City Hall Council Chambers.

The following items will be considered:

The Tuesday, February 22, 2022 City of Ashland Committee of the Whole Meeting was called to order by Council President Kevin Haas at 5:55 PM.

1. Roll Call

PRESENT: Sarah Jackson, Ana Tochtermann, Eric Lindell, Kevin Haas, Charles Ortman, Liz Franek, Dick Pufall, Jackie Moore

ABSENT: Kevin Seefeldt (Excused)

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Deb Lewis, City Administrator Brant Kucera, City Clerk Denise Oliphant, City Attorney Tyler Wickman, Planning Director Megan McBride, and other concerned citizens.

2. Council President's Report

Haas offered his appreciation to Lewis for her years of service as Mayor and wished her well as she would not be seeking another term in office.

3. Administrator's Report

Kucera thanked McBride for her time with the City as Planning Director, and wished her well as she took a new position in Beloit. There are job openings currently posted for a new planning director and an IT/GIS position. The City also welcomed the new utility billing specialist, Megan Erickson. Lastly, he thanked the public works crew for their quick response and clean up after the recent snowfall event.

4. Approval of Agenda

Jackson moved, seconded by Lindell to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

5. Committee Updates

Library Board - Jackson: The architect's renovation plans are available for public viewing at the library; library use has been up in recent months.

Housing Committee - Tochtermann: Discussed updates to the Timeless Timber site; the new property maintenance personnel, Ray Kallio, has been keeping busy; discussed alternate types of potential housing within the City.

Plan Commission - Lindell: Reviewed the various City-owned properties as potential housing sites; reviewed the housing plan as proposed for the Timeless

Timber site.

Parks & Rec - Haas: Discussed urban forestry grants and finalized the Emerald Ash Borer plan; updated the tree planting list; discussed the potential Splash Pad plans as sponsored by the Rotary group; discussed future community events and working to establish MOUs with various organizations for these events.

Sourcewater Plan Commission - Ortman: This committee no longer meets as they have completed their plan.

Housing Authority - Franek: Seeking options for a new plow truck.

Harbor Commission - Pufall: Not meeting during winter months.

Public Works Committee - Moore: Commended the PW Director for doing a good job filtering projects through the committee.

Tochterman requested to offer an update for the Sustainability Committee on behalf of Kate Ullman, a member of the committee, and shared her report.

6. Discussion Items

A. **Review Committee Recommendations Regarding Residential Redevelopment Strategies and Goals for City-owned Parcels** *(Planning)*

After discussion of marketing options for each of the City-owned properties, McBride offered to make updates to the implementation plan and to bring back for Council's review.

B. **Discussion Only to Update Council Regarding the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds** *(Administration)*

Kucera reviewed the possible uses of ARPA funds and updated Council on the potential uses and priorities for these funds.

7. Adjournment

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant,
City Clerk

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