THE CITY OF ASHLAND WILL BE CONDUCTING THEIR MEETINGS IN PERSON
at
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 601 MAIN STREET WEST, ASHLAND, WI
WITH THE AVAILABLITY 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/500263957

Or dial in using your phone.

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

Access Code: 500-263-957

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, October 25, 2022 – 6:00 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
   - **A. Roll Call, Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
   - **A. October 6, 2022 Committee of the Whole Budget Work Session Meeting Minutes**
   - **B. October 11, 2022 City Council and Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**
4. **CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PERIOD**
5. **MAYOR'S REPORT**
   - **A. Announcements**
   - **B. Appointments**
   - **C. Recognition of Beautification Council and Beauty Spot Award Winners**
6. **CONSENT AGENDA**
   - **A.** Miscellaneous Meeting Minutes
7. **NEW BUSINESS**
   - **A. Presentation and Discussion of the City of Ashland 2021 Audit** *(Finance)*
   - **B. Approve a Resolution to Exempt the City of Ashland from the Ashland County Library Levy** *(Finance)* Roll

8. **CLOSED SESSION**

   A. **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."** ***(Bayview Pier)*** **City Attorney**

   B. **Return to Open Session**

   C. **Report of Action Taken During Closed Session**

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

MEETING MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The Common Council of the City of Ashland met as the Committee of the Whole on **October 6, 2022** immediately following the City Council meeting.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:

1. Roll Call

    The Thursday, October 6, 2022 City of Ashland Committee of the Whole Budget Work Session Meeting was called to order by Council President Eric Lindell at 6:00 PM.

    ROLL CALL: AnaTochterman, Eric Lindell, Charlie Ortman, Dick Pufall.

    ABSENT: Kevin Seefeldt (excused), Sarah Jackson (excused), Laura Graf (excused).

    ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Matt MacKenzie, City Administrator Brant Kucera, City Clerk Denise Oliphant, Finance Director Julie Vaillancourt, Fire Chief Stuart Matthias, Police Chief Bill Hagstrom.

    It was recognized that there was not a quorum present, although no City business would be moved on at this meeting.

2. Approval of Agenda

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

3. **Continued Presentation and Discussion Regarding the 2023 Budget**

    Vaillancourt reviewed changes in the current draft budget to update Council. Matthias presented the Ashland Fire Department budget, and Hagstrom presented the Ashland Police Department budget. Vaillancourt then discussed the budgets for JFK Memorial Airport, Ashland Marina, and various general government departments.

    During the Committee of the Whole on October 11, 2022, Kucera will review the Capital Projects and ARPA funds projections.

4. Adjournment

    Ortman moved, seconded by Pufall to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

    Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant,
City Clerk

MEETING MINUTES

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, October 11, 2022 – 6:00 PM
Ashland City Hall Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Tuesday, October 11, 2022 Ashland City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Matt Mac Kenzie 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, Sarah Jackson, Eric Lindell, Charlie Ortman, Dick Pufall

ABSENT: Ana Tochterman (excused) , Laura Graf

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Matthew MacKenzie, City Administrator Brant Kucera, City Clerk Denise Oliphant, City Attorney Tyler Wickman, Public Works Director John Butler, Parks Director Sara Hudson, Main Street Manager Jaclynn Findlay, and other concerned citizens.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. September 22, 2022 Committee of the Whole Budget Work Session

B. September 27, 2022 City Council and Committee of the Whole Budget Meetings

Lindell moved, seconded by Seefeldt to approve the minutes. 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:

John Radloff, Beaser Avenue, had concerns regarding snow removal around the hydrants during the winter, and that there are numerous valve covers in the streets that are in need of repair.

Zygmund Jablonski, 906 6th Avenue West, commented regarding the City paying excess attorney fees, and stated that he "has never been approached" for discussion by City staff.

Elise Kehle, 322 Beaser Avenue, expressed her interest in the housing development proposed for the Beaser Avenue site.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. Announcements

MacKenzie made a proclamation recognizing October 15, 2022 as White Cane Safety Day. Enbridge has invited the public to an open house at the Bohemian Hall on November 2, 2022. The Ashland Foundation has sponsored the Ashland Chamber Music Society's upcoming seasonal events.

B. Appointments

Pufall moved, seconded by Seefeldt to approve the appointment of Robert Klamerous to the Public Works Committee, for a term to expire on September 30, 2027. The motion carried 4-0 by voice vote; Lindell abstained.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. Approve a Resolution to Establish Community Gardens in the City of Ashland, and Approve an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 47 (2015-1915) Parks and Recreation Committee, Ashland City Ordinances *(Parks Director)* Roll

Lindell moved, seconded by Seefeldt to approve the resolution and ordinance. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote. **File #17698**

B. Approve to Accept a Facility Condition Assessment Proposal from Kraus-Anderson Construction Company for a Building Facilities Master Plan, Phase 1 *(Public Works)* Roll

Seefeldt moved, seconded by Lindell to approve the proposal for $24,900. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

C. Approve the Implementation of a Well Operation Permit Fee *(Public Works)* Roll

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

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Approve to Accept a Proposal for Wastewater Treatment Plant Pretreatment Facilities Equipment Repair *(Public Works)* Roll

Ortman moved, seconded by Seefeldt to approve to accept the proposal for $41,342.35. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

B. Approve a Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of Up to $1,716,132 Sewerage System Revenue Bonds, Series 2022B, and Providing For Other Details and Covenants With Respect Thereto, and Approval of Related $2,466,132 Financial Assistance Agreement *(Public Works, Finance)* Roll

Jackson moved, seconded by Lindell to approve the resolution. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote. **File #17699**

C. **Approve to Waive the Advertisement Requirement Set Forth in Chapter 194.04, Procurement of Goods and services, Ashland City Ordinances, and Approve the Purchase of Cross Connection Devices** (*Public Works)* Roll

Seefeldt moved, seconded by Lindell to approve the purchase for $71,717.00. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

D. **Approve the State Municipal Agreement (SMA) Dated July 31, 2022 for the Prentice Avenue Phase 2 (USH2-6th Street East) Reconstruction Project** *(Public Works)* Roll

Seefeldt moved, seconded by Lindell to approve the agreement. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

E. **Approve Final Payment to Ritola Inc. for the 2022 Lead Service Lateral Replacement Project** (*Public Works)* Roll

Jackson moved, seconded by Lindell to approve the final payment for $13,953.32. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

F. **Approve Final Payment to Northern Interstate Construction, Inc for the Waterfront Access Road Project** *(Public Works)* Roll

Jackson moved, seconded by Seefeldt to approve the final payment for $74,616.98. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

G. **Approve a Development Agreement with Jeanne Aspensen for a Development Incentive to Support Buildout of a Wedding/Event Venue and Two Short-Term Rental Units at 100 Main Street West, Ashland** *(Planning)* Roll

Seefeldt moved, seconded by Ortman to approve the development agreement and assistance of $50,000. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

H. **Approve a Beaser Avenue Redevelopment Plan** *(Administration)* Roll

After the item was introduced by Scott Bretting, Ortman moved, seconded by Seefeldt to approve the redevelopment plan. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

8. CLOSED SESSION

A. **ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION: PURSUANT TO SEC> 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 to likely litigation.** ***(City Attorney)*** *A to Z Plumbing & Heating Inc/Z. Jablonski Notice of Claim* (Roll)

Lindell moved, seconded by Ortman to move into Closed Session. Lindell moved, seconded by Ortman to enter into Closed Session. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Council was asked and allowed for John Butler and Attorney Anthony Wachewicz to remain during Closed Session.

B. **Return to Open Session** (Voice)

Lindell moved, seconded by Ortman to return to Open Session. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

C. **Report of Action Taken during Closed Session**

MacKenzie announced there was no action taken during closed session.

Lindell moved, seconded by Jackson to approve the Resolution No. 17700. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote. **File #17700**

9. ADJOURNMENT

Ortman moved, seconded by Seefeldt to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant,
City Clerk

MEETING MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The Common Council of the City of Ashland met as the Committee of the Whole on **October 11, 2022** immediately following the City Council meeting.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:

1. Roll Call

   The Tuesday, October 11, 2022 City of Ashland Committee of the Whole Meeting was called to order by Council President Eric Lindell at 7:45 PM.

   PRESENT: Kevin Seefeldt, Sarah Jackson, Eric Lindell, Charles Ortman, Dick Pufall.

   ABSENT: Ana Tochterman (excused), Laura Graf.

   ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Matt MacKenzie, City Administrator Brant Kucera, City Clerk Denise Oliphant, Public Works Director John Butler, and other concerned citizens.

2. Approval of Agenda

   Lindell requested to remove Item 5 from the agenda. Ortman moved, seconded by Seefeldt to approve the amended agenda. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

3. Council President's Report

   Lindell recognized the importance of Indigenous People Day on October 10, 2022. The Whistlestop Festival is scheduled for the coming weekend. Lindell attended the AARP walk through Ashland's Downtown last week.

4. Administrator's Report

   Kucera announced the City has hired a Planning Director. Steven Wiley will begin on October 31, 2022, and is coming from Marshfield, WI.

5. Discussion Items

   A. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Budget Proposals and ARPA Funds** *(Council)*

      Kucera gave an update regarding the dedicated ARPA funds, and a presentation of the capital budgets.

   B. **Discussion Regarding Wisconsin Department of Transportation Preliminary Design for Ellis Avenue/State Highway 13 Reconstruction Project** *(Public*

Works)

Butler explained the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's plans for the Ellis Avenue/State Highway 13 Reconstruction.

Due to Time restraints, Seefeldt moved to extend the meeting in order to address the remaining items. The motion failed as there was no second.

Ortman moved, seconded by Jackson to table Item 6C in order to discuss the last item. The motion carried 4-1 by voice vote; Seefeldt opposed.

C. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Long Term Projection of Water & Wastewater Utility Rates** *(Public Works)*

Butler made a short presentation and explanation of the item.

6. Items for Future Discussion

There was no discussion of this item.

7. Adjournment

Ortman moved, seconded by Jackson to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant,
City Clerk

SUBJECT: Appointments

RECOMMENDATION: Approval

DEPARTMENT OF ORIGIN: Administrator

CLEARANCES: Mayor

EXHIBITS:

1.	A. Peterman Volunteer Form - redacted

EXPENDITURES REQUIRED: NA

AMOUNT BUDGETED:

APPROPRIATION REQUIRED:

TREASURER'S CERTIFICATE: NA

COMPLIANCE WITH ORD. 51:

STATEMENT OF CONFORMANCE WITH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

The Mayor is requesting Council's approval of the following appointment:

<u>Parks and Recreation Committee:</u>
Axel Peterman-Spreen, term to expire May 1, 2023 (appointed annually per Ch. 47.02(a)(3)

Find yourself next to the water.

ASHLAND

City of Ashland, Wisconsin
601 Main Street West — Ashland, WI 54806 — www.coawi.org

OFFER TO VOLUNTEER FORM

I would like to be considered a nominee for the following committee or committees:

City of Ashland Parks and Recreation Committee

Write a brief statement of education and training:

I graduated from Northland College in 2018 with a BS in outdoor education.

Biography: *(Need a sense of who you are as an individual. For example, general background, work history, life experiences, volunteer activities, special interested, special skills, hobbies, personality, people skills, etc.)*

I have never owned a car or had a drivers license, choosing instead to walk, ride my bicycle, or take public transportation. I currently work as a co-manager of the Beaser Community Garden, manager of the Ashland-Area Farmers Market, and director of Wild Bay Foraging, a local organization offering free educational foraging/mushroom-hunting walks for residents of the Chequamegon Bay area.

Individual references/referred by (please include phone #):

Sara Hudson (715 685 1644)

Contact information: Axel Peterman-Spreen [redacted]

Name (Please print) Phone #

315 6th Avenue W, Ashland, WI. 54806

Address

[redacted] 10/18/2022

Email Date

SUBJECT: **Presentation and Discussion of the City of Ashland 2021 Audit *(Finance)***

RECOMMENDATION: Presentation and Discussion

DEPARTMENT OF ORIGIN: Finance

CLEARANCES: Administrator

EXHIBITS:

1.	2021 Audit Summary Presentation by Baker Tilly US, LLP

EXPENDITURES REQUIRED: NA

AMOUNT BUDGETED:

APPROPRIATION REQUIRED: NA

TREASURER'S CERTIFICATE: NA

COMPLIANCE WITH ORD. 51:

STATEMENT OF CONFORMANCE WITH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

The financial statement auditor for the City of Ashland, Kimberly Shult, C.P.A., who is a partner with Baker Tilly US LLP, will be joining the meeting virtually to present the 2021 audit summary and answer questions from City Councilors.

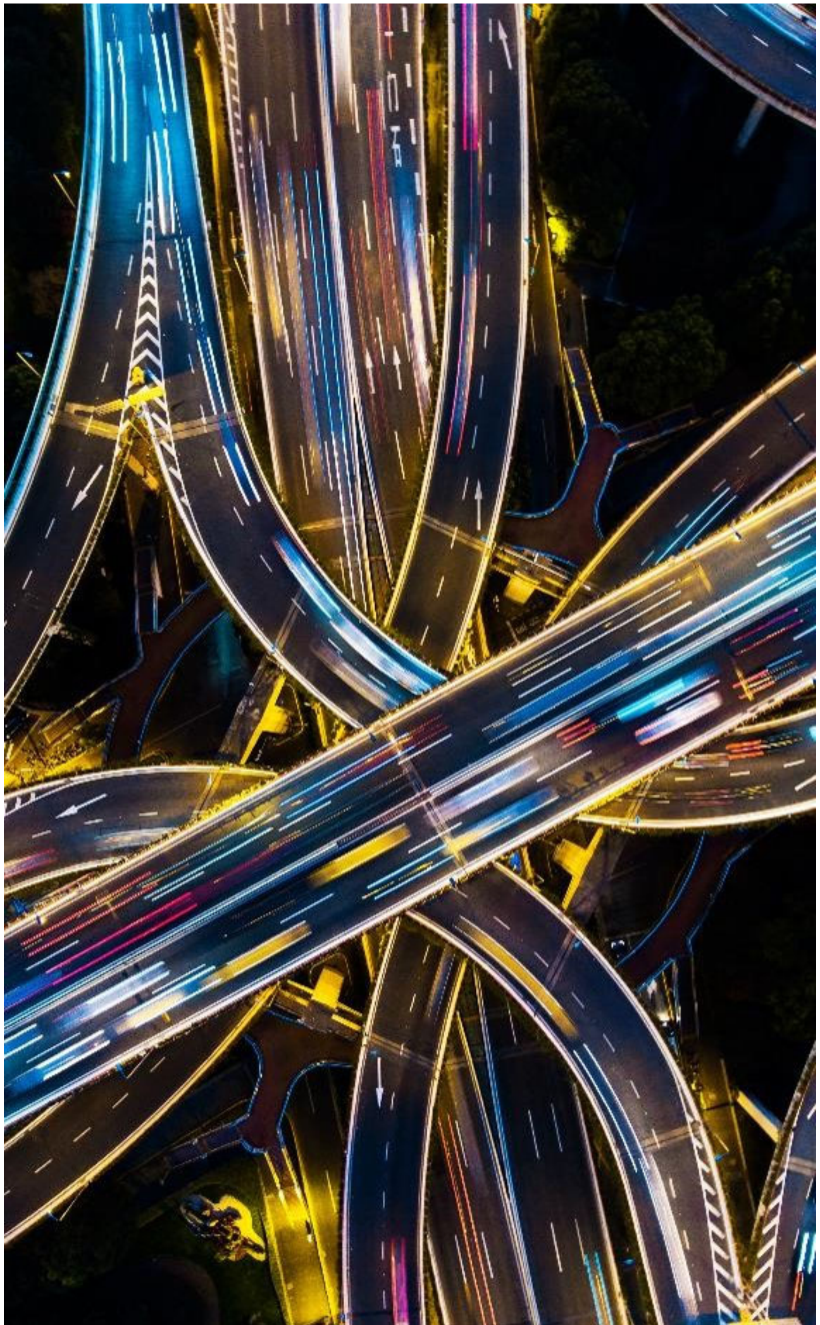
City of Ashland

Report to the City Council

2021 Audit Summary

bakertilly
now, for tomorrow.

This report is intended solely for the use of management and the City Council.



Overview

Independent auditors' report

This report is intended solely for the use of management and the City Council.

Pages 1 – 3

Opinions

- Unmodified: Financial statements are presented fairly, in all material aspects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S.

Management's responsibility

- Preparation and fair presentation of financial statements
- Design, implementation and maintenance of internal controls
- Evaluating whether there are conditions or events that raise substantial doubt about the ability to continue as a going concern

Auditors' responsibility

- Objective is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.
- Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the financial statements.
- Performing the audit includes:
  - Exercising professional judgment and maintaining professional skepticism
  - Identifying and assessing risk of material misstatement and design and perform procedures responsive to risks
  - Obtain an understanding of internal controls, but not for purpose of expressing an opinion on them
  - Evaluate accounting policies and estimates used by management
  - Conclude whether there are conditions or events that raise substantial doubt as to ability to continue as a going concern

Financial highlights

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Analysis of General Fund Balance

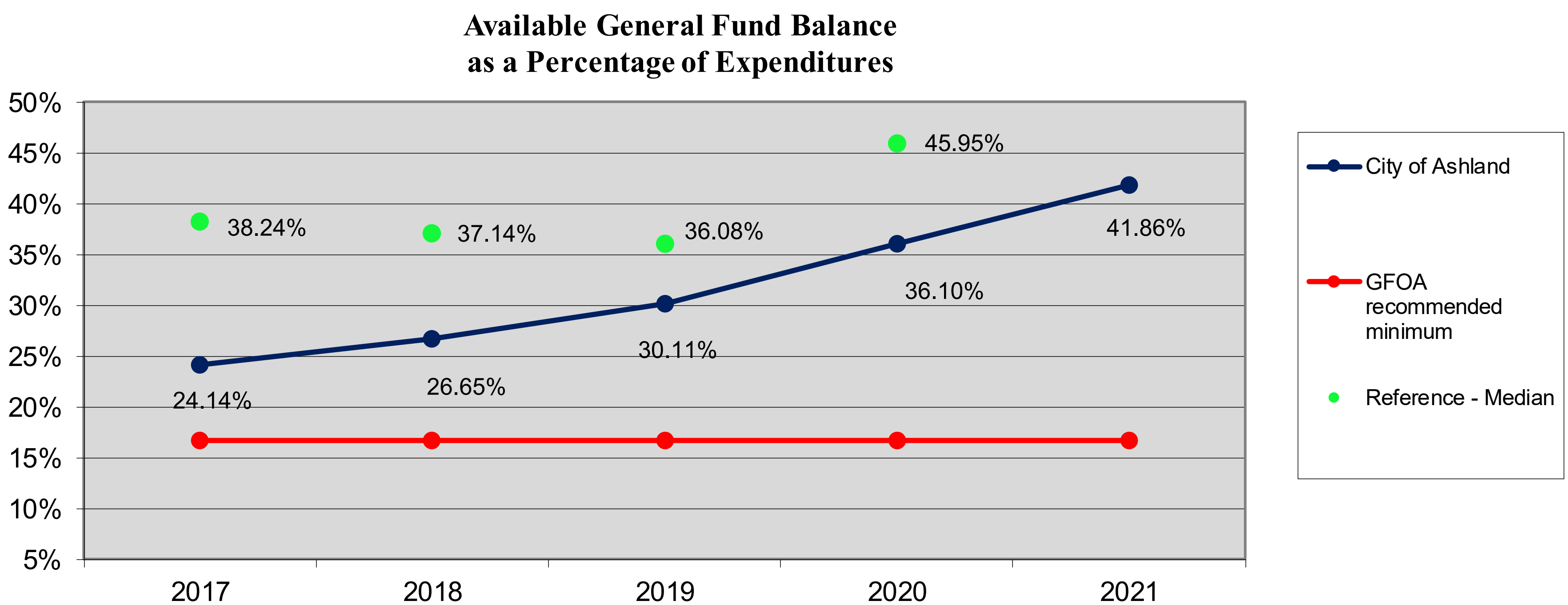
DETAILS OF GENERAL FUND BALANCE

		2021
Nonspendable *includes fund balance amounts that cannot be spent either because they are not in spendable form or because legal or contractual requirements require them to be maintained intact.*	$	777,189
Assigned *includes spendable fund balance amounts that are intended to be used for specific purposes that are not considered restricted or committed.*		132,284
Unassigned *includes residual positive fund balance within the general fund which has not been classified within the other above mentioned categories.*		3,974,551
Total General Fund Balance	$	4,884,024

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Analysis of General Fund Balance (cont.)

		2017		2018		2019		2020		2021
Available Fund Balance	$	2,317,574	$	2,572,304	$	2,969,704	$	3,406,382	$	4,106,835
Expenditures		9,600,224		9,653,498		9,862,424		9,435,987		9,811,003
% of expenditures		24.14%		26.65%		30.11%		36.10%		41.86%

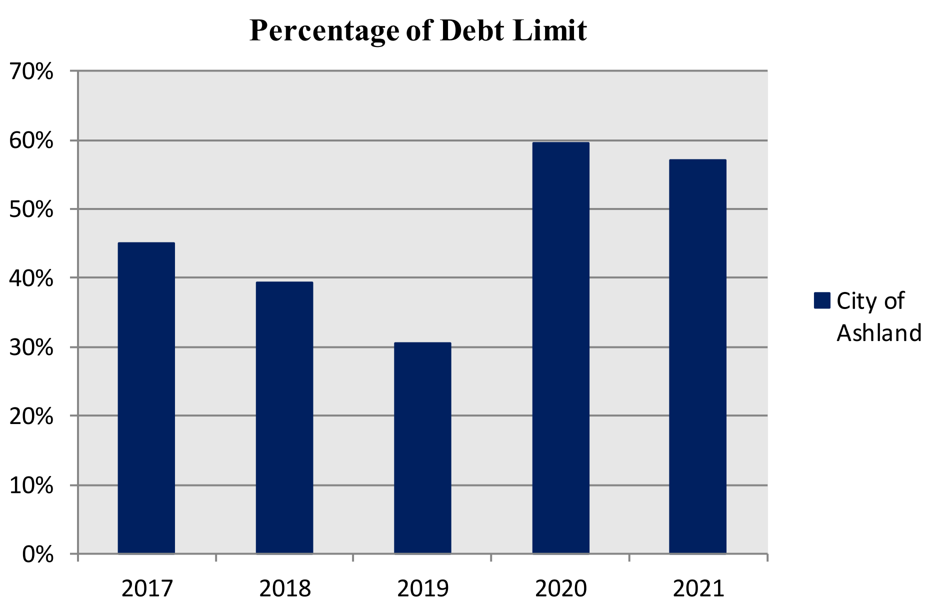


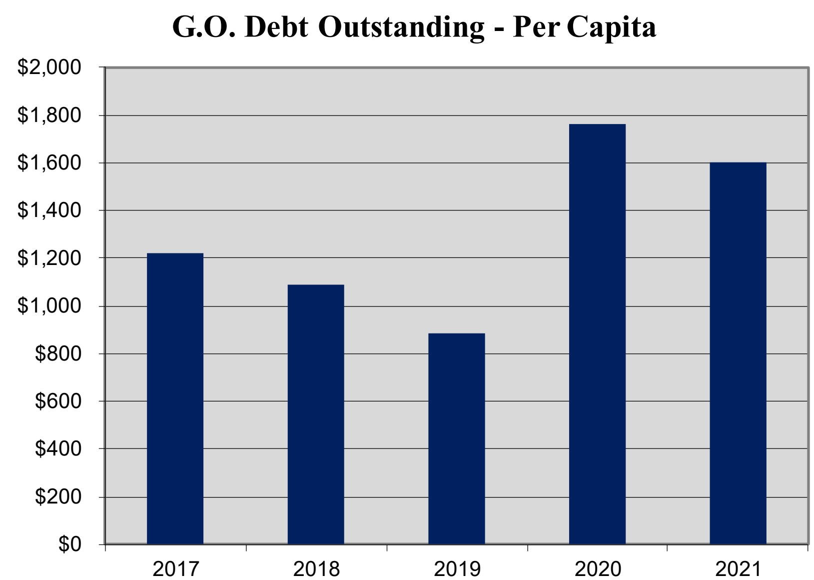
Reference values for the population range: less than 10,000 generated from 2017 - 2020 Baker Tilly municipal client data for Wisconsin.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

General Obligation Debt Outstanding

	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021
Total General Obligation (G.O.) Debt (net)									
Governmental Funds	$9,647,978	$	8,828,234	$	7,475,997	$	13,030,097	$	11,877,948
Enterprise Funds	631,020		305,761		-		1,110,000		1,009,000
Subtotal	10,278,998		9,133,995		7,475,997		14,140,097		12,886,948
Less: Fund equity available for debt	(239,698)		(206,084)		(210,713)		(222,178)		(234,339)
TOTAL	$ 10,039,300	$	8,927,911	$	7,265,284	$	13,917,919	$	12,652,609
Population (per 2010 and 2020 census)	8,216		8,216		8,216		7,908		7,908
G.O. Debt Capacity	$22,074,695	$	22,748,660	$	23,800,940	$	23,352,600	$	22,193,780
G.O. debt per capita	$1,222	$	1,087	$	884	$	1,760	$	1,600
% of debt limit	45%		39%		31%		60%		57%

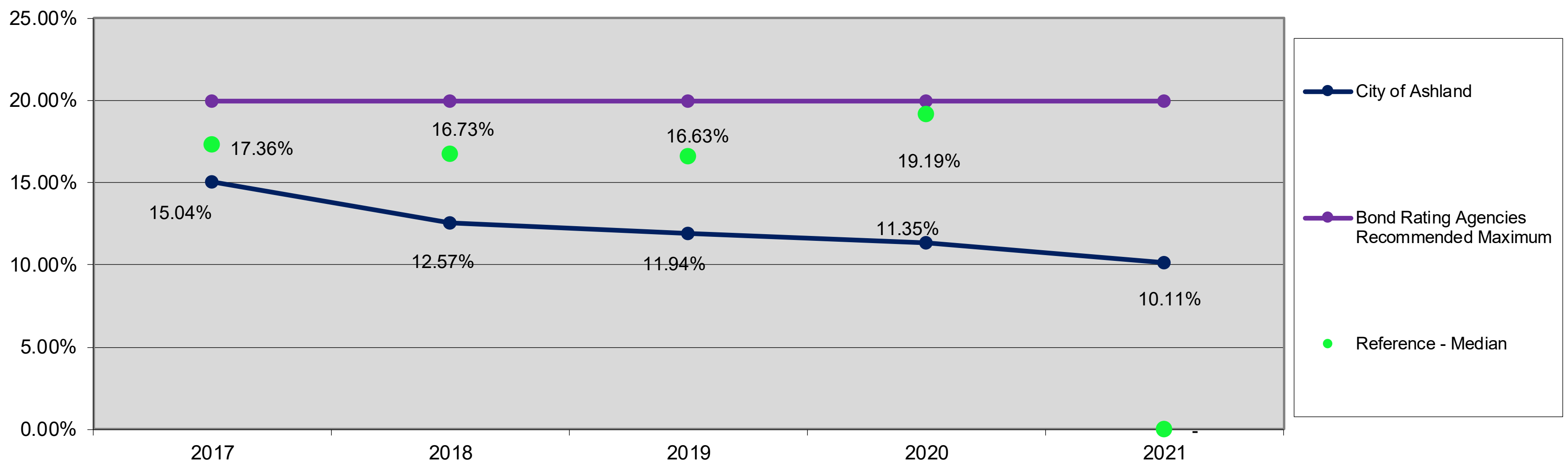




Analysis of Debt Service – Governmental Funds

		2017		2018		2019		2020		2021
Total Debt Service										
Principal	$	1,631,942	$	1,369,744	$	1,352,237	$	1,105,270	$	1,152,149
Interest		359,584		282,218		222,686		274,231		305,300
TOTAL	$	1,991,526	$	1,651,962	$	1,574,923	$	1,379,501	$	1,457,449
Total Non-Capital Expenditures										
Total governmental funds expenditures	$	15,839,513	$	15,947,107	$	14,659,430	$	16,433,944	$	18,734,688
Less: capital outlay		(2,602,233)		(2,801,327)		(1,471,074)		(4,280,627)		(4,319,062)
TOTAL NON-CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	$	13,237,280	$	13,145,780	$	13,188,356	$	12,153,317	$	14,415,626
% of debt service to non-capital expenditures		15.04%		12.57%		11.94%		11.35%		10.11%

Debt Service to Non-Capital Expenditures



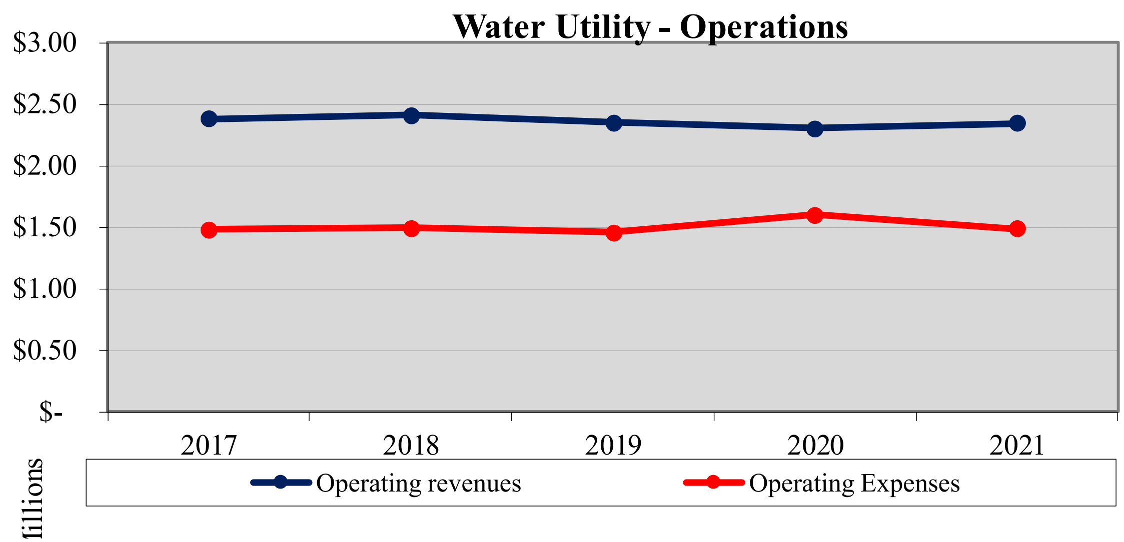
Reference values for the population range: less than 10,000 generated from 2017 - 2020 Baker Tilly municipal client data for Wisconsin.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Water Utility

ANALYSIS OF INCOME STATEMENT

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Operating Revenues	$ 2,382,891	$ 2,409,326	$ 2,348,567	$ 2,305,271	$ 2,343,756
Operating Expenses	1,479,140	1,495,899	1,455,933	1,599,151	1,489,625
Operating income	$ 903,751	$ 913,427	$ 892,634	$ 706,120	$ 854,131



Other Benchmarks

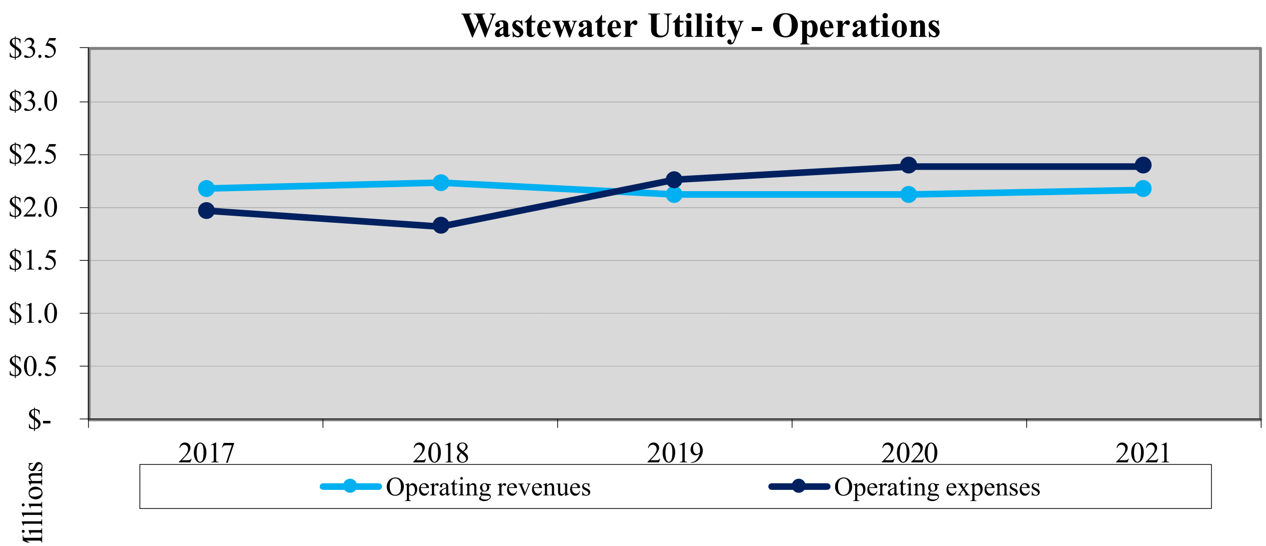
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Rate of Return (PSC)					
Actual rate	5.97%	5.82%	5.11%	4.72%	4.23%
Authorized rate	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%
Ability to meet current obligations					
Unrestricted cash & investments (deficit)	$ (270,733)	$ (453,441)	$ 230,728	$ 768,503	$ 743,061
Months of unrestricted cash	n/a	n/a	1.18	4.00	3.80

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Wastewater Utility

ANALYSIS OF INCOME STATEMENT

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Operating Revenues	$ 2,174,013	$ 2,233,804	$ 2,119,397	$ 2,121,016	$ 2,170,438
Operating Expenses	1,968,483	1,821,223	2,257,194	2,390,488	2,392,923
Operating income (loss)	$ 205,530	$ 412,581	$ (137,797)	$ (269,472)	$ (222,485)



Other Benchmarks

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Ability to meet current obligations					
Unrestricted cash & investments	$ 903,608	$ 1,773,795	$ 2,166,274	$ 1,923,338	$ 470,108
Months of unrestricted cash	4.99	9.53	12.27	10.88	2.60

A utility should have enough funds on hand to cover its operations in a normal billing cycle plus a contingency. In addition, a utility should have available an amount equal to one year's routine capital improvements. Minimum target of unrestricted cash is three months.

Report on Federal and State Awards

Report on federal and state awards

- Total federal awards expended – $1,307,799
- Total state awards subject to state single audit guidelines – $474,964
- Major programs tested –
  - Community Development Block Grant
  - Recreational Boating Facilities Grant

Report on federal and state awards (cont.)

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Governmental Auditing Standards*

- Material weaknesses in internal control reported
  - Internal control over financial reporting
  - Internal control environment (lack of segregation of duties)
- No instances of noncompliance reported

Report on federal and state awards (cont.)

Report on Compliance for the Major Federal and Major State Programs, Report on Internal Control over Compliance; and Report on the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards Required by the Uniform Guidance and the *State Single Audit Guidelines*

- Unmodified opinion on compliance
- No material weaknesses over compliance with federal or state programs noted.
- No compliance findings

Reporting and insights letter

REQUIRED COMMUNICATION

Reporting and Insights Letter

Internal control matters reported

- Lack of segregation of duties (details on pages 6 - 7)
- Financial reporting (details on pages 7 - 8)

Two-way communication regarding 2022 audit (pages 29-30)

2021 audit communications (pages 9-12)

- Significant estimates included in financial statements – Pension and OPEB calculations, allowance for doubtful accounts, landfill obligations and depreciation
- No difficulties, disagreements or consultations occurred

Uncorrected and corrected misstatements (pages 27 - 28)

Informational points relevant to local governments

- GASB No. 87 Leases implementation - 2022

QUESTIONS?

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www.bakertilly.com/industries/state-and-local-government

SUBJECT: **Approve a Resolution to Exempt the City of Ashland from the Ashland County Library Levy *(Finance)* Roll**

RECOMMENDATION: Approval

DEPARTMENT OF ORIGIN: Finance

CLEARANCES: Administrator

EXHIBITS:

1.	Proposed Resolution

EXPENDITURES REQUIRED: NA

AMOUNT BUDGETED: NA

APPROPRIATION REQUIRED: NA

TREASURER'S CERTIFICATE: NA

COMPLIANCE WITH ORD. 51: NA

STATEMENT OF CONFORMANCE WITH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: NA

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

Each year, Ashland County adopts a library levy which is used to offset a portion of the costs that each library in the County incurs for serving non-municipal patrons. The idea is to have those County residents that do not support a local library through their municipal property tax help fund the libraries in their County. Wisconsin State Statute 43.64(2) allows the City to exempt itself (City residents) from the County's Library Levy.

To qualify for the exemption, the City's budget for library services must be greater than the amount that the City's share of the County library levy would be, and the City Council must annually adopt a resolution declaring the exemption.

The City's proposed budget for 2023 includes a transfer of $316,000 to the Library fund. Staff recommends that Council adopt the attached resolution to exempt City residents from being taxed twice for library services.

RESOLUTION No. 17701

RESOLUTION TO EXEMPT THE CITY OF ASHLAND FROM THE ASHLAND COUNTY LIBRARY LEVY

WHEREAS, Wisconsin State Statute 43.64 (2) provides for the exemption from the County Library Levy for any municipality which has higher municipal library expenditures than the municipality's share of the County Library Levy; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Ashland has appropriated and will expend $316,000 on local library service in 2023, which is higher than the City of Ashland's share of the Ashland County library levy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Common Council of the City of Ashland hereby designates this resolution as its applications for exemption from the Ashland County Library Levy for the 2023 budget, pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute 43.64 (2)(b), and instructs the City Clerk to convey this resolution to the Ashland County Board.

____
Alderperson

PASSED: October 25, 2022

ATTEST: __________________________
Denise Oliphant, City Clerk

____
Matt MacKenzie, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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Tyler W. Wickman, City Attorney