

MEETING MINUTES COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The Common Council of the City of Ashland met as the Committee of the Whole on **October 25, 2022** immediately following the City Council meeting.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:

The Tuesday, October 25, 2022 City of Ashland Committee of the Whole Meeting was called to order by Council President Eric Lindell at 7:20 PM

1. Roll Call

PRESENT: Kevin Seefeldt, Sarah Jackson, Ana Tochterman, Eric Lindell, Laura Graf, Charlie Ortman, and Dick Pufall.

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Matt MacKenzie, City Administrator Brant Kucera, City Clerk Denise Oliphant, Parks Director Sara Hudson, Fire Chief Stuart Matthias, Finance Director Julie Vaillancourt, Police Lieutenant Brandon Marten, and other concerned citizens.

2. Approval of Agenda

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

3. Council President's Report

Lindell offered congratulations to the Mayor for completing the Whistlestop race. He also shared a statement regarding the controversy over placing an American Flag on the ore dock.

4. Administrator's Report

Kucera forwent an update to preserve time.

5. Committee Updates

Oredock Trust - MacKenzie: passed a motion to open a separate bank account for the Rock the Dock funds.

DPAEC - Graf: no report.

Harbor Commission - Pufall: no report.

Historic Preservation - Lindell: no report.

Housing Authority - Seefeldt: no report.

Library Board - Jackson: discussed renovation plans, capital projects, Baron site, and 2023 budget.

Parks Committee - Seefeldt: discussed flag proposal stating that City is to send out a citizen survey, discussed disc golf proposal.

Plan Commission - Tochterman: reviewed Lakeview Dental landscaping site

plan.

Public works - Lindell: discussed Stuntz Avenue connection to the ore dock.

Sustainability - Graf: The new chairman is Alex Peterman, discussed Dark Skies, the 25x25 Plan is at only 3% completed, and requested that the City use recycled paper for interoffice use.

Board of Appeals - Ortman: no report.

6. Discussion Items

A. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Snow Removal around Fire Hydrants** (*Councilor Seefeldt*)

Councilor Seefeldt stated he had discussed with Public Works Director John Butler and determined that the public works staff will do what they are able this winter and see how it goes from here. Seefeldt asked to table this item for the winter with the potential to readdress in the spring or later.

B. **Discussion and Possible Action on Applying for a Wisconsin Coastal Management Program Grant to Create a City of Ashland Parks Master Plan** (*Parks and Recreation*)

Seefeldt moved, seconded by Jackson to approve. This item would come back to Council should the Parks and Recreation Department receive this financial support. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Discussed out of sequence

C. **Update Regarding Splash Pad Concept Plan** (*Parks and Recreation*)

Hudson introduced Blake Theisen of the Ashland Rotary to explain the Splash Pad Concept Plan. After discussion, Council determined to bring this back to the next Committee of the Whole for approval.

Discussed out of sequence.

D. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Proposed 2023 Ashland Common Council Meeting Calendar** (*Clerk*)

Ortman moved, seconded by Seefeldt to approve and forward this item to the next Council meeting for formal approval. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

E. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Proposed 2023 Comprehensive Fee Schedule** (*Clerk*)

Seefeldt moved, seconded by Ortman to approve and forward this item to the next Council meeting for formal approval. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

F. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Increasing the Membership of the Beautification Council from Nine Members to Up to Twelve** (*Clerk*)

Seefeldt moved, seconded by Graf to approve and forward this item to the next Council meeting for formal approval. The motion carried unanimously by voice

vote.

G. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Applying to the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) for Financial Support Subgrant by the Ashland Police Department *(Police Chief)*

Seefeldt moved, seconded by Ortman to approve. This item would come back to Council should the Police Department receive financial support. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

H. Possible Continued Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Proposed 2023 City of Ashland Budget and Approve a Recommended 2023 Budget for Council Approval and Public Budget Hearing at the November 15, 2022 Council Meeting *(Administration)*

Vaillancourt offered updates to changes to the proposed 2023 City of Ashland budget. Seefeldt moved, seconded by Ortman to approve the changes and move this item forward to the November 15, 2022 Public Hearing for Council approval. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

7. Items for Future Discussion

Jackson requested that the Main Street Board be added to the Committee Updates in the Committee of the Whole agenda.

8. Adjournment

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant,
City Clerk