

MEETING MINUTES COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The Common Council of the City of Ashland met as the Committee of the Whole on **May 9, 2023** immediately following the City Council meeting.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:

1. Roll Call

The Tuesday, May 9, 2023 City of Ashland Committee of the Whole Meeting was called to order by Council President Charlie Ortman at 7:05 PM.

PRESENT: Kevin Seefeldt, Sarah Jackson, Ana Tochtermann, Andrew Goyke, Laura Graf, Charlie Ortman, Dick Pufall.

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Matt MacKenzie, City Administrator Brant Kucera, City Clerk Denise Oliphant, Planning Director Steven Wiley, Main Street Manager Jaclynn Findlay, Parks Director Sara Hudson, Public Works Director John Butler, and other interested citizens.

2. Approval of Agenda

Tochtermann moved, seconded by Seefeldt to approve the agenda. The motion was passed unanimously by voice vote.

3. Council President's Report

Ortman asked about possible LGBTQ pushback in the schools, although no discussion was held.

4. Administrator's Report

Kucera commented on the progress of the housing development at the former Timeless Timber site. He offered his apologies for delaying the employee handbook, and plans to bring this to Council for final approval at the next available meeting. The electronic vehicle charging station construction has begun and should be completed within a day or two, and Xcel Energy is asking to hold a ribbon cutting on May 15, 2023 after its completion. Planning has been working with El Tarrasco so that they can start construction, and work should begin at the future Copper Cup site within a couple of weeks.

5. Discussion Items

A. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Ashland Rotary for Maintenance of a Splash Pad *(Parks Director)*

The item was introduced by Parks Director Sara Hudson. Seefeldt moved, seconded by Pufall to accept the MOU and forward this item to Council for formal approval.

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

B. **Presentation from Public Works and Water/Wastewater Utilities Regarding Recent Overflow Event** (*Public Works*)

Public Works Director John Butler introduced the item and answered questions from Council. No action was taken at this time.

C. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Proposed Amendments to the City of Ashland Utility Service Disconnection Policy** (*Public Works*)

Butler introduced the item. Jackson moved, seconded by Seefeldt to approve the proposed amendments and forward the item to Council for formal approval. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

D. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Definition of "Groceries" within Chapter 922 Alcohol Beverages Regulations, Ashland City Ordinances** (*Clerk*)

The item was introduced by City Clerk Denise Oliphant. Tochtermann moved, seconded by Pufall to amend Chapter 922 and forward the item to Council for formal approval. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

E. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding City of Ashland Room Tax Distribution** (*Administration*)

City Administrator Brant Kucera offered a presentation and answered questions from Council. No action was taken at this time.

F. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Pedestrian Safety Crosswalk in the City of Ashland** (*Councilor Ortman*)

The item was introduced by Ortman. Area of discussion were the 5th Street/Ellis Avenue crossing, USH 2 near Wal-Mart, and on Sanborn Avenue along USH 2. Butler answered questions from Council, and no action was taken at this time.

6. Items for Future Discussion

Pufall requested a review of the JFK Airport Ordinance.

Tochtermann asked to address the large and recreational vehicles parked along residential streets.

Seefeldt asked to get an update regarding the proposed science center.

7. Adjournment

Pufall moved, seconded by Graf to adjourn. This motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully,

Denise Oliphant,
City Clerk