

MEETING MINUTES

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING **Tuesday, July 11, 2023 – 6:00 PM** Ashland City Hall Council Chambers

The Tuesday, July 11, 2023 City of Ashland Committee of the Whole Meeting was called to order by Council President Charlie Ortman at 7:10 PM.

1. **Roll Call**

PRESENT: Kevin Seefeldt, Sarah Jackson, Laura Graf, Charlie Ortman, Dick Pufall

ABSENT: Ana Tochtermann (Excused), Andrew Goyke (Excused)

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

2. **Approval of Agenda**

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

3. **Council President's Report**

Ortman deferred a report.

4. **Administrator's Report**

Kucera noted that the electric vehicle (EV) charging station has had more than expected usage already.

A. **Presentation of Concept Plans for Ore Dock Upland and Former Baron Radiator Sites**

Kucera offered the concept designs of the Baron Radiator site and the Ore Dock Uplands site.

5. **Discussion Items**

A. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Sidewalk Special Assessment Policy and Hardship Policy for the Levy of Assessments** (*Public Works*)

Butler reviewed the policies and proposed to the Council minimal changes to each policy. Jackson moved, seconded by Graf to forward this item to Council for formal approval with the recommended changes. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

B. **Discussion and Possible Recommendation on Changes to Ordinances 711 & 705 to Prohibit Construction of Shared Utility Laterals** (*Public Works*)

Butler reviewed the current Chapters with Council and explained his proposed changes. Seefeldt moved, seconded by Pufall to forward this item to Council for formal approval with the recommended changes. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

6. **CLOSED SESSION**

Council may return to Open Session and take action on any item discussed during Closed Session.
Seefeldt moved, seconded by Jackson to enter Closed Session. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

- A. **Pursuant WI Statute 19.85(1)(c): "Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility." (City Administrator Evaluation) Roll**

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

Sefeldt moved, seconded by Jackson to return to Open Session. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

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

Ortman reported that there was no action taken during Closed Session.

7. **Items for Future Discussion**

Mackenzie: update penalties for utility/work in the right of way without approval.

Pufall: pursue restructuring of the Airport Commission; research improvements to the media system in the Chambers; requested to have property maintenance check on a home on 32nd Avenue East.

Seefledt: better define "natural" landscaping.

Oliphant: Building inspector is ready to bring an update of the mobile home parks violations and progress.

Ortman: Address management of gravel roads, i.e. dust control, grading; project litigation prevention strategies; audit of sidewalk construction, i.e. cracks, replacement; library funding options.

8. **Adjournment**

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant,
City Clerk