

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL**  
**Tuesday, September 12, 2023 – 6:00 PM**  
**Ashland City Hall Council Chambers**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Tuesday, September 12, 2023 Ashland City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Matt Mac Kenzie at 6:00 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:** Sarah Jackson, Ana Tochtermann, Andrew Goyke, Charlie Ortman, Dick Pufall

**ABSENT:** Kevin Seefeldt (Excused)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mayor Matthew MacKenzie, City Administrator Brant Kucera, City Clerk Denise Oliphant, City Attorney Tyler Wickman, Public Works Director John Butler, Planning Director Steven Wiley, Library Director Sarah Adams, Deputy Clerk Chelsea List, and other interested citizens.

Mackenzie noted that a quorum was present.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Goyke moved, seconded by Jackson to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

**3. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PERIOD**

The Clerk read the Rules for Citizen Participation, and the following offered their comments to the Council:

*Zygmund Jablonski, 916 6th Avenue West*, spoke of the City Attorney fees, the inability for him to get right-of-way permits, and noted to Council that there would be further legal action.

**4. MAYOR'S REPORT**

**A. Announcements**

Mackenzie offered to anyone who was having difficulty hearing the conversation during the meetings, an amplifier was available for use. Labor Day weekend was fairly uneventful for the community. The City hosted a volunteer picnic for those who were on the various committees and boards. It was mentioned that the District 5 was vacant and needed applicants from that area. He received notice from the Chamber of Commerce about the recent vandalism of a mural along Main Street, and thanked the volunteers who helped to clean this mural. Sixth Street was repaved

recently, and 17th Avenue West had recent work done, both of which were completed. Governor Evers visited the area in support of the tourism industry. A compromise was reached regarding the use of vacant houses on Water Street and owned by the City to be used for fire training. MacKenzie attended a ribbon cutting at Laura's Sewing Shop, and a 70th Anniversary celebration for the KA Group, formerly Ashland industries. The renovated Howitzer cannon was re-dedicated at Memorial Park, and the City received notice that Fifield Row was recently inducted as a National Historic District.

**B. Appointments**

Tochterman moved, seconded by Jackson to approve the appointment of Kelly Westlund to the Sustainability Committee for a term to expire September 12, 2025, and the reappointment of Phil Sorenson to the Public Works Committee for a term to expire September 30, 2028. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. Miscellaneous Minutes**

Goyke moved, seconded by Jackson approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

**6. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Consideration of an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 504 Vehicular Traffic Regulation, Ashland City Ordinances (Public Works) Roll**

Ortman moved, seconded by Goyke to approve the ordinance. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Approve the Wisconsin Main Street Communities Agreement between the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation and Ashland Main Street (Main Street) Roll**

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

**B. Approve Amendment No. 2 to Agreement for Professional Engineering Services between the City of Ashland and Greeley and Hansen, LLC for the New Lake Superior Water Intake Project (Public Works) Roll**

Ortman moved, seconded by Goyke to approve the amendment. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

**8. CLOSED SESSION - Council may return to Open Session and take action on any item discussed during Closed Session.**

Tochterman moved, seconded by Goyke to enter into Closed Session. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

**A. Pursuant to WI Stat. 19.85(1)(g): "Conferring with legal counsel who either orally or in writing will advise governmental body of strategy to be adopted with the respect to current or likely litigation." (Jablonski notice of claim dated on page 1 of August 27, 2023)**

**B. Return to Open Session**

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

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

Ortman moved, seconded by Goyke to approve to deny the claim by Mr. Jablonski dated on page 1 of August 27, 2023. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant,  
City Clerk