

MEETING MINUTES
ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, August 29, 2023 – 6:00 PM
Ashland City Hall Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Tuesday, August 29, 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: Kevin Seefeldt, Sarah Jackson, Ana Tochtermann, Andrew Goyke, Charlie Ortman, Dick Pufall

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Matthew MacKenzie, City Clerk Denise Oliphant, City Attorney Tyler Wickman, Public Works Director John Butler, Planning Director Steven Wiley, Finance Director Julie Vaillancourt, Fire Chief Stuart Matthias, Deputy Clerk Kevin Haas, and other interested citizens.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. August 8, 2023 City Council and Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Pufall moved, seconded by Jackson 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:

Megan Perrine, 701 Water street, spoke of her opposition of potentially burning the city-owned home on Water Street.

Brian Kerr, 805 Mac Arthur Avenue, noted his concern of the lack of communication regarding plastic particles in his drinking water.

Don Jaskowski, 121 Willis Avenue N, voiced concerns about burning houses on Water Street.

Deb Joanis, 816 Water Street, also voiced concerns about burning houses on Water Street.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. **Announcements**

Mackenzie mentioned the visit from the OpenAir Car Club over the past weekend. Laura Graf submitted her resignation from Council as her family relocated to the Milwaukee area. A reminder was made of the volunteer picnic on September 7, 2023 at the Pearson Plaza for those who participate on the City's boards and committees. The new water meter installation is in process for all properties connected to the City's water system. A thank you was offered to those who worked as limited-term help over the summer. City offices will be observing the Labor Day holiday, and schools will be in session soon after. A memo of recent residential and commercial planning permits was handed out to Councilors for review.

B. **Appointments**

Goyke moved, seconded by Seefeldt to approve the appointment of Kelly Westlund to the Sustainability Committee, term to expire September 12, 2025, and the reappointment of Phil Sorensen to the Public Works committee, term to expire September 30, 2028. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. **Approve a Resolution of Intent Not to Renew 2023-2024 Alcohol Beverage License for Elite Four, LLC dba Anchor Island, 315 Turner Road, Ashland, and Agent Ahron McCauliffe** (*Clerk*) Roll

Seefeldt moved, seconded by Jackson to approve. A motion was made by Seefeldt, seconded by Goyke to enter a hearing as recommended by Wickman. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote. The motion to move out of the hearing carried unanimously by voice vote. After much discussion, the motion to approve the resolution carried 5-1 by roll call vote; opposed was Pufall.
File #17736

B. **Approve a Resolution to Declare the City of Ashland, Wisconsin as a Monarch City USA** (*Parks Director*) Roll

Seefeldt moved, seconded by Ortman to approve the resolution. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.
File #17734

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. **Presentation and Approval of a Resolution to Amend the 2022 General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Debt Service Funds, Capital Project Funds, and Internal Service Funds Per Wis. State Statute 65.90(5)(a)** (*Finance*) Roll

Vaillancourt offered a presentation and answered questions from Council. Seefeldt moved, seconded by Ortman to approve the resolution. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.
File #17737

B. **Approve a Resolution Declaring Official Intent to Reimburse Expenditures from Proceeds of Borrowing through the State of Wisconsin Environmental Improvement Fund for the 2023 Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation and Replacement Projects** (*Public Works*) Roll

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

File #17735

- C. **Approve to Accept a Bid from Jake's Excavating & Landscaping, LLC and Award a Contract for the 2023 Sewer Replacement Project** (*Public Works*) Roll

Seefeldt moved, seconded by Tochterman to approve the base bid for the amount of \$539,217.50. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

- D. **Approve to Accept Bid from Visu Sewer and Award a Contract for the 2023 Sanitary Sewer Collection System Repair Project** (*Public Works*) Roll

Tochterman moved, seconded by Seefeldt to approve to accept the base bid for \$1,101,445.65 and award the contract to Visu Sewer. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

- E. **Approve a Resolution to Issue a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) a Restaurant with a Drive-Through at 2419 Lake Shore Drive East, Ashland, Parcel No. 201-03307-0000, Zoned Waterfront Mixed Residential/Commercial (W-MRC) with Waterfront Overlay and Gateway Overlay, Applicant: Hudson Square LLC** (*Planning & Development*) Roll

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

File #17739

- F. **Approve Payment Request No. 1 from Right of Way Professionals, Inc. for Temporary Land Easements for the 2024 Prentice Avenue Phase 1 Reconstruction Project** (*Public Works*) Roll

Seefeldt moved, seconded by Jackson to approve the payment for \$13,500. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

- G. **Consider a Resolution to Allow the City Clerk to Advertise for Candidates to Fill City Council Member Vacancy** (*Clerk*) Roll

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

File #17738

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

Jackson 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." (*Craig Notice of Claim*) City Attorney

- B. **Return to Open Session**

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

- C. **Report of Action Taken during Open Session**

Mackenzie reported that Council voted unanimously to deny the claim from the Craig family.

9. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant,
City Clerk