

MEETING MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
Tuesday, October 10, 2023 – 6:00 PM
Ashland City Hall Council Chambers

1. Roll Call

The Tuesday, October 10, 2023 City of Ashland Committee of the Whole Meeting was called to order by Council President Charlie Ortman at 7:35 pm.

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

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

2. Approval of Agenda

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

3. Council President's Report

Ortman recognized the situation in Israel and asked that we all keep them in our thoughts.

4. Administrator's Report

Kucera reported that he sent a letter to the WI Department of Administration, rescinding the City's request for the additional \$400,000 CDBG CV grant to be used for the transitional housing project. NWCSA Executive Director Millie Rounselle informed the City that she was pursuing WHEDA funding instead as a simpler option. The solid waste RFP was ready to go out as the City's contract with Republic was expiring at the end of 2023. He and the Mayor met with the fire department union to begin collective bargaining agreement discussions. Conversation with the police department's union would begin in the near future. Budgeting for 2024 has been challenging and moving slower than in previous years. The City-sponsored city-wide clean up was scheduled for October 21, 2023, 8:00 am to 1:00 pm.

5. Discussion Items

A. Continued Presentation and Discussion of the 2024 City of Ashland Budget, and Confirmation of Date and time of Future Budget Work Sessions

Kucera offered a Power Point presentation to introduce the budget to Council. Vaillancourt discussed the debt levy and answered questions for Council. Future meeting dates are as scheduled with the exception of moving the Public Hearing and request for final approval of the 2024 budget to November 28, 2023.

6. Items for Future Discussion

Pufall requested a development update regarding former the Baron Radiator site.

7. Adjournment

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant,
City Clerk