

MEETING MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
Tuesday, January 30, 2024 – 6:00 PM
Ashland City Hall Council Chambers

The Tuesday, January 30, 2024 City of Ashland Committee of the Whole Meeting was called to order by Council President Charlie Ortman at 7:40 p.m.

1. Roll Call

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

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Matthew MacKenzie, City Administrator Brant Kucera, City Clerk Denise Oliphant, Public Works Director John Butler, Utility Supervisor Brian Ledin, Planning Director Steven Wiley, Parks Director Sara Hudson, and other interested citizens.

2. Approval of the Agenda

In light of time, Ortman requested that Item 5 be removed from the agenda. A motion by Goyke, seconded by Tochtermann to approve the agenda as amended, was approved unanimously by voice vote.

3. Council President's Report

Ortman asked that the issue of the area homeless be brought back to a future Committee of the Whole meeting for further discussion.

4. Administrator's Report

Kucera reported that the Thrive Grant was submitted to potentially benefit the former Baron Radiator site renovations. During the recent Book Across the Bay meeting, the group determined that the race may need to be altered but the event would not be canceled, despite the unusually warm weather.

5. Committee Updates

Removed from the agenda.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding a Resolution to Submit an Application to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for State and Federal Aid for Recreation and Natural Resource Management Purposes *(Parks and Recreation)*

Hudson attended virtually to present the item and answer questions for Council. A motion by Pufall, and seconded by Seefeldt to move this item forward for formal approval, was approved unanimously by voice vote.

B. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding a Contract for Garbage and Recycling Service Provider *(Administration)*

Kucera offered a presentation and answered questions for Council. A motion by Seefeldt, seconded by Tochtermann to allow Tyler Jacobson of Republic Services to address Council; this was approved unanimously by voice vote. Seefeldt moved, seconded by Goyke to allow Randy Ott of Waste Management to address Council; this was approved unanimously by voice vote. A motion made by Pufall, seconded by Seefeldt to move this item forward for formal approval, was approved unanimously by voice vote.

C. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve to Hire a Part Time Laborer for the Water/Wastewater Utility (Public Works)

Butler presented the item and answered questions from the Council. A motion by Pufall and seconded by Tochtermann to move this item forward for formal approval, was approved unanimously by voice vote.

D. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding a Contract between the City of Ashland and Short Elliot Hendrickson for the Development of a Drinking Water System Model (Public Works)

Butler presented the item and answered questions from the Council. A motion by Pufall and seconded by Seefeldt to move this item forward for formal approval, was approved unanimously by voice vote.

E. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding a Future Professional Services Agreement for Development of a Street Reconstruction Project for Community Development Block Grant Funding (Public Works)

Butler presented the item and answered questions from the Council. A motion by Pufall and seconded by Seefeldt to move this item forward for formal approval, was approved unanimously by voice vote.

F. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding an Amendment to Chapter 279 (1838) Citations for Violation of City Ordinances, Ashland City Ordinances (Administration)

Kucera presented the item and answered questions from the Council. A motion by Pufall, and seconded by Seefeldt to move this item forward for formal approval, was approved unanimously by voice vote.

G. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Amending Chapter 544 (1026) Vehicular Stopping and Parking, Ashland City Ordinances (Administration)

Kucera presented the item and answered questions from the Council. A motion by Pufall and seconded by Gregoire to move this item forward for formal approval, was approved unanimously by voice vote.

H. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding an Amendment to Chapter 51 (1814) City Council Procedure, Ashland City Ordinances (Clerk)

Oliiphant presented the item and answered questions from the Council. A motion by Gregoire and seconded by Pufall to move this item forward for formal approval, was approved unanimously by voice vote.

I. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve a Resolution to Apply for a Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) Community Development Investment (CDI) Grant for 514 Main Street West Adaptive Reuse Project (Planning)

Wiley presented the item and answered questions from the Council. A motion by Pufall and seconded by Seefeldt to move this item forward for formal approval, was approved unanimously by voice vote.

J. **Discussion and Possible Action to Submit an Application for a Rural Energy Startup Grant through the Public Service Commission's Office of Energy Innovation** (*Planning & Parks Departments*)

Wiley presented the item and answered questions from the Council. A motion by Pufall and seconded by Seefeldt to move this item forward for formal approval, was approved unanimously by voice vote.

7. **Items for Future Discussion**

Seefeldt requested to begin planning for a spring retreat.
MacKenzie asked to address the homeless issue in the near future.
Gregoire requested a report of the savings the solar panels have made at the police facility.
Ortman noted to address potential solar lots in the city.
MacKenzie added that zoning for solar lots needed to be researched.

8. **Adjournment**

A motion by Pufall and seconded by Goyke to adjourn, was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant,
City Clerk