

MEETING MINUTES
ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, February 27, 2024 – 6:00 PM
Ashland City Hall Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER

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, Andy Goyke, Jim Gregoire, Charlie Ortman, Dick Pufall

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: City Attorney Tyler Wickman, Mayor Matt Mackenzie, City Administrator Brant Kucera, Police Chief Bill Hagstrom, Public Works Director John Butler, City Clerk Denise Oliphant, Deputy Clerk Kevin Haas, Planning Director Steven Wiley, and other interested citizens

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Goyke moved, seconded by Ortman to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed 7-0 by voice vote.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. February 13, 2024 City Council and Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Motion by Ortman, seconded by Jackson to approve the minutes. The motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.

4. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PERIOD

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

Bill Sann, 521 Willis Avenue, spoke regarding his experience with the City's Property Maintenance Staff. Detailed the history of his experiences.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. **Announcements**

Mackenzie announced that an unusual bird has been spotted around town, specifically on the west end, called the "Field Fare" and that it is bringing many bird watchers to the city. He also announced that he attended a meeting in his role with the Ashland County Board with the Bad River Tribe, meeting the new Chairman, and discussing ways for the City and the Tribe to partner with a housing project on the east end of the city on the border with the Tribe.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. **Approve an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 479 (2023-1988) Annexation of the North Right of Way of County Highway K, Town of Gingles, Ashland County, Ashland City Ordinances, to Accept the Corrected Plat of Survey** *(Roll)* Clerk

Motion by Seefeldt, Seconded by Tochtermann, to approve to Amend Chapter 479 (2023-1988) and to accept the corrected Plat of Survey. The motion passed 7-0 by roll call vote.

File #: 1998

B. **Approve to Allow the City of Ashland Public Works Department to Perform Public Construction without Advertising for Competitive Bids** *(Public Works)* Roll

Motion by Seefeldt, Second by Jackson, to authorize the work at the Bretting Community Center. The motion passed 7-0 by roll call vote.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. **Consider a Resolution to Declare Condition of Elevator Shaft on the South Building Wall at 514 Main Street West an Emergency per Wisconsin State Statute 62.15(1b)** *(Public Works)* Roll

Motion by Ortman, Seconded by Tochtermann, to approve the Resolution. Motion passed in a 6-1 roll call vote, Pufall opposed.

File #: 17769

8. CLOSED SESSION

A. **Pursuant to WI Stat. 19.85(1)(g): "Conferring with legal counsel who either orally or in writing will advise governmental body on strategy to be adopted with respect to current or likely litigation."** *(6th Street West - Coleman Engineering)* *(City Attorney)*

Motion by Seefeldt, Seconded by Goyke, to enter closed session and allow John Butler to remain. Motion passed 7-0 by roll call vote.

B. **Return to Open Session**

Motion by Ortman, Seconded by Goyke, to return to open session. Motion passed 7-0 by voice vote.

- C. **Report of Action Taken During Closed Session** *Council may return to Open Session and take action on any item discussed in Closed Session.*

Mackenzie reported a Motion by Ortman, Seconded by Tochtermann: The Council approves the attorneys to settle the case as discussed in closed session. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote in closed session.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ortman, Seconded by Seefeldt to adjourn. Motion passed 7-0, by voice vote.

Submitted by Kevin Haas, Deputy Clerk