

MEETING MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
Tuesday, March 12, 2024 – 6:00 PM
Ashland City Hall Council Chambers

1. Roll Call

The Tuesday, March 12, 2024, City of Ashland Committee of the Whole Meeting was called to order by Council President Charlie Ortman at 7:15 p.m.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Matt MacKenzie, City Administrator Brant Kucera, City Clerk Denise Oliphant, City Attorney Tyler Wickman, Public Works Director John Butler, Parks Director Sara Hudson, Planning Director Steven Wiley, Police Chief Bill Hagstrom, and other interested citizens.

2. Approval of Agenda

A motion by Seefeldt and seconded by Goyke to approve the agenda passed unanimously by voice vote.

3. Council President's Report

Ortman reported on a recent Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association conference that he attended.

4. Administrator's Report

Kucera noted that the contract for the garbage and recycling agreement had been competed, and the subsequent rate increase would be coming back to Council. He acknowledged the announcement by Northland College that came as a surprise to the community, and had been getting a lot of calls about its effect on the City. A development agreement involving the 514 Main Street West property will be brought before Council at the next meeting. The Council Spring Retreat has been rescheduled for April 30, 2024 at the BART facility. Food will be served at 5:30 p.m. with conversation starting at 6:00 p.m.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Recurring Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Homelessness and Current Ordinances Regarding Use of Public Spaces in the City of Ashland *(Councilor Ortman)*

Chief Hagstrom offered a report on various accumulated citations. No action was taken, and it was determined to take a break from this topic at this time.

B. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Property Maintenance Process and Procedures *(Councilor Seefeldt)*

Councilor Seefeldt asked for the process the property maintenance department follows. Wiley discussed what is expected of the property maintenance personnel, and the steps spelled out in Chapter 750, Ashland City Ordinances.

Seefeldt moved, seconded by Jackson to allow Scott Putney speak to Council. This motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

C. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Recent Change in Legislative District Maps in Wisconsin (Mayor)

Mackenzie talked of the new Senate and Assembly maps of Wisconsin, and what that means for the City's representation.

D. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Contract with Hydro Corp for Cross Connection Services (Public Works/Utility)

Butler introduced the item and answered questions from Council. A motion by Seefeldt, seconded by Goyke to forward this item to Council for formal approval carried unanimously by voice vote.

E. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding a the 2024 Crushed Aggregate Contract (Public Works/Utility) Roll

Butler spoke of the item and answered questions from Council. A motion by Seefeldt, seconded by Goyke to forward the item to Council for formal approval carried unanimously by voice vote.

F. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Applying for and Accepting Grants (Mayor)

Mackenzie asked Council to consider the continued grant offers from Enbridge to support specific projects. Councilors asked to have representatives of both Enbridge and the Bad River Tribe come to a Council meeting for conversation. There was no action taken on this item.

6. Future Items for Discussion

There were no items noted by Council.

7. Adjournment

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant,
City Clerk