

MEETING MINUTES
ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, February 11, 2025 – 6:00 PM
Ashland City Hall Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Tuesday, February 11, 2025 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**

PRESENT: Kevin Seefeldt, Sarah Jackson, Ana Tochterman, Andrew Goyke, James Gregoire, Charlie Ortman, Nancy Sztynodor

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

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mac Kenzie requested to remove Item 6A from the agenda. A motion by Goyke and second by Ortman to approve the amended agenda passed unanimously by voice vote.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. **January 28, 2025 City Council and Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**

A motion by Seefeldt and seconded by Ortman to approve the minutes, 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:

Erin Cutler, 816 Water Street, commented on the Homeless Encampment Clean-Up Policy offering suggestions to include in the policy.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. **Announcements**

The Mayor announced that the City Parks Director Sara Hudson received an award from the Wisconsin Parks and Recreational Association for design and reutilization of the ore dock. The Primary Election will be held on February 18, 2025, and early voting is available at City Hall. The Book Across the Bay and Winter Carnival is scheduled for February 13 and 14, 2025. Mac Kenzie received feedback regarding the JFK Airport regarding the cost to release the airport from the City, which was in the range of \$3M and not feasible to do. There are plans to resurface the runways during Summer 2025. The litigation process regarding the Bay View Pier has ended and the structure is in the process of being removed. Research continues on the splash pad project. The Park Master Plan will not be final until May 2025 and the City has until then to make any changes within that.

B. Appointments

A motion by Tochtermann and seconded by Seefeldt to approve the Mayor's appointment recommendations, passed unanimously by voice vote. Appointments are as follows: for the Municipal Library Board, Lynn Garrington is filling a vacancy/retirement position, term to expire October 31, 2028; to the Ashland Beautification Council, Nikki Sitzmann, Kay Saari, and Susan Spangle are each reappointed and terms to expire February 15, 2028; and to the Parks & Recreation Committee, Anastassia Tapsieva is filling a vacancy, term to expire April 30, 2027.

6. CONSENT AGENDA (Voice)

A. Approve the Homeless Encampment Clean-Up Policy (Administration)

This item was removed from the agenda.

B. Miscellaneous Minutes

C. Property Maintenance Report

D. Building Permit Report

A motion by Seefeldt and seconded by Ortman to approve the amended Consent Agenda, passed unanimously by voice vote.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Approve a Resolution for Outdoor Recreation Grant Applications (Parks) Roll

A motion by Ortman and seconded by Goyke to approve the resolution passed unanimously by roll call vote.

File #17814

B. Approve an Animal Care Agreement between the Chequamegon Humane Association (CHA) and Ashland County, the Ashland Police Department, and Bayfield County for Animal Control (Police Department) Roll

Ortman moved, seconded by Tochtermann to approve the agreement. After discussion, Ortman and Tochtermann withdrew their motions. Ortman then moved to postpone the item to the next Council agenda; Gregoire seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Consideration to Waive the Advertisement Requirement Set Forth in Chapter 194.04, Procurement of Goods and Services, Ashland City Ordinances, and Approve the Purchase of Replacement Water Filtration Modules** (*Public Works*) Roll

A motion by Tochtermann and seconded by Goyke to approve the purchase for \$178,644.50, passed unanimously by roll call vote.

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Goyke and seconded by Gregoire to adjourn was passed unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant,
City Clerk