

MEETING MINUTES
ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, February 25, 2025 – 6:00 PM
Ashland City Hall Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Tuesday, February 25, 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 Tochtermann, Andrew Goyke, James Gregoire, Charlie Ortman, Nancy Sztynдор

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Matthew MacKenzie, City Administrator Brant Kucera, City Clerk Denise Oliphant, City Attorney Max Lindsey, Public Works Director John Butler, Planning Director Steven Wiley, Airport Manager Derek Hall, Utility Billing Specialist Megan Erickson, and other interested citizens.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mac Kenzie noted that he intends to remove Items 5H and 5I from the Committee of the Whole meeting agenda. A motion by Goyke and second by Seefeldt to approve the Council agenda passed 6-1 by voice vote; Tochtermann opposed.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. **February 11, 2025 City Council and Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**

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

Pat Kinney, 1118 2nd Avenue West, spoke against the proposed special assessments noted on the Committee of the Whole agenda.

Clarence Campbell, 1014 Chapple Avenue, was also opposed to the proposed special assessments for the upcoming Chapple Avenue road construction.

5. PRESENTATION BY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF ASHLAND SUPERINTENDENT ROBERT PRATER

Rob Prater, Superintendent for the Ashland School District spoke about the referendum on the upcoming Spring Election ballot, answered questions from Council and handed out informational fliers.

6. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. Announcements

Mac Kenzie felt the Winter Carnival was well attended, despite having the Book Across the Bay race being canceled. He also noted the announcement of Northland College closing after the current school year has ended, and offered the City's support during this time.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Approve a Resolution to Allow the Council President to Represent the City of Ashland at Ashland County Comprehensive Plan Meetings *(Mayor)* Roll

A motion by Goyke and seconded by Seefeldt to approve the resolution passed 6-0 by roll call vote; Ortman abstained.

File #17815

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

A motion by Tochtermann and seconded by Seefeldt to approve the agreement passed unanimously by roll call vote.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consider a Resolution to Approve a Request to Sell City-Owned Property at 821 Water Street, Portion of Parcel # 201-01063-0000, Zoned Waterfront City Center (W-CC) with a Waterfront Overlay (W-O). Applicant: KBC Properties, LLC. *(Planning Department)* Roll

A motion by Ortman and seconded by Goyke to approve the resolution passed unanimously by roll call vote. **File #17817**

B. Consider a Resolution for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to Allow a Wireless Telecommunications Facility on City-Owned Property on Rail Drive, Parcel # 201-05120-0210, Zoned Heavy Industrial (HI). Applicant: The Towers, LLC. *(Planning Department)* Roll

A motion by Ortman and seconded by Szyndor to approve the resolution passed unanimously by roll call vote. **File #17818**

9. CLOSED SESSION - Council may return to Open Session and take action on any item discussed during 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 of strategy to be adopted with the respect to current or likely litigation." (Ashland County Case No. 2023CV000142)**

Mac Kenzie announced that this matter had been resolved during a hearing yesterday and there was no need for a closed session as it is now public knowledge. No action was requested from Council at this time.

10. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant,
City Clerk