

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Tuesday, March 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, James Gregoire, Charlie Ortman, Nancy Sztynдор

ABSENT: Andrew Goyke (excused)

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Matthew Mac Kenzie, City Clerk Denise Oliphant, City Attorney Tyler Wickman, Public Works Director John Butler, Planning Director Steven Wiley, Parks Director Sara Hudson, Engineers Niles Fetter and Madison Krcziok, and other interested citizens.

Mac Kenzie noted that a quorum of the Council was present.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

A motion by Ortman and seconded by Seefeldt to approve the minutes passed unanimously by voice vote.

4. INTRODUCTION, INTERVIEW, NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT OF DISTRICT 3 ALDERPERSON

A motion by Seefeldt and second by Ortman to nominate and approve Peter Levi as District 3 Alderperson. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote. Levi accepted the appointment and was sworn in by the Clerk.

5. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PERIOD

The Clerk read the Rules for Citizen Participation, and the following spoke in opposition to the special assessment proposals:

David Siegler, 700 Chapple Avenue
Deb Lewis, 722 Chapple Avenue
Kate Siegler, 700 Chapple Avenue
Jake Levings, 712 Chapple Avenue
Pat Kinney, 1119 2nd Avenue West
Clarence Campbell, 1014 Chapple Avenue
Sue Mackenzie Smith, 713 Chapple Avenue
Matt Hudson, 801 Chapple Avenue
Jeanette Kelly, 900 Chapple Avenue
Priscilla Nieman, 807 Chapple Avenue
Bill Reardon, 1011 Chapple Avenue
David Hart, 704 Chapple Avenue
Madison Stevens, 1000 Chapple Avenue
Murry Riddell, 923 Chapple Avenue
Luke Schraufnagel, 723 Chapple Avenue

6. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. Announcements

Mac Kenzie noted that in-person absentee voting continues in the Clerk's office through March 28, 2025, and the Spring Election is on Tuesday, April 1, 2025. The Bay View Dock demolition is complete as of now, although more material below water level will be removed next winter. A recent arrest on the east end of town seized approximately 15 grams of fentanyl. Public Works planned a presentation of how roads in the city are rated for potential work during the Committee of the Whole meeting, and he invited all who spoke to stay for this.

B. Appointments

A motion by Seefeldt and seconded by Szyndor to approve the appointments passed unanimously by voice vote. Sharon Campbell was approved to serve on the Joint Board of Review, and Kristen Huset was reappointed to the Historic Preservation Commission, term to expire in April 2028.

7. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Kucera was not present for the meeting.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Miscellaneous Minutes

B. Approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the US Forest Service to Participate with the Northwoods Cooperative Weed Management Area (NCWMA) (Parks)

C. **Approve the State Municipal Agreement (SMA) for the US 2 East Reconstruction Project** (*Public Works*)

Wickman noted that language was added to the MOU in Item 8B to include the City of Ashland. A motion by Jackson and seconded by Seefeldt to approve the consent agenda with amended MOU, passed unanimously by voice vote.

9. OLD BUSINESS

A. **Approve to Accept Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Forest Fire Protection (WDNR FFP) Grant Award** (*Fire Department*) Roll

A motion by Jackson and seconded by Seefeldt to accept the grant award for half of \$5,504.50, passed unanimously by roll call vote.

B. **Approve an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 840 (2025-2008) Short-Term Rentals, Ashland City Ordinances** (*Planning*) Roll

A motion by Ortman and seconded by Seefeldt to approve the ordinance was passed 5-0 by roll call vote; Levi abstained.

File #2025-2014

C. **Approve to Accept Bid from Jake's Excavating & Landscaping, LLC and Award a Contract for the 2025 Chapple Ave Reconstruction Project** (*Public Works*) Roll

A motion by Ortman and seconded by Gregoire to accept the bid for \$1,259,278.05, passed unanimously by roll call vote.

D. **Consider to Accept a Bid Proposal from Ritola, Inc and Award a Contract for the 2025/2026 Private Lead Service Lateral Replacement Project** (*Public Works*) Roll

A motion by Seefeldt and seconded by Ortman to accept the bid for \$493,117.32, passed unanimously by roll call vote.

E. **Approve a Resolution Contemplating Special Assessments under Municipal Police Power Pursuant to Sec. 66.0703, WI State Statute for the 2025 Chapple Avenue Reconstruction Project by the Common Council of the City of Ashland, Ashland County, WI** (*Public Works*) Roll

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Jackson. There was no second.

F. **Approve a Resolution Contemplating Special Assessments under Municipal Police Power Pursuant to Sec. 66.0703, WI State Statute for the 2025 Ellis Ave Pavement Replacement Project by Common Council of the City of Ashland, Ashland County, Wisconsin** (*Public Works*) Roll

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Jackson. There was no second.

G. **Approve a Resolution Contemplating Special Assessments under Municipal Police Power Pursuant to Sec. 66.0703, WI State Statute for the 2025 Lower Willis Avenue Reconstruction Project by Common Council of the City of Ashland, Ashland County, Wisconsin** (*Public Works*) Roll

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Jackson. There was no second.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Consider a Resolution to Issue a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to Allow a Two-Family Residential (Duplex) Land Use at 709 17th Avenue West, Ashland, Parcel # 201-00592-0000, Zoned Single-Family Residential (R-1), Applicant: Debra Eichman** (*Planning*) Roll

A motion by Ortman and seconded by Seefeldt to approve the resolution passed 5-0 by roll call vote; Levi abstained.

File #17821

- B. **Discussion and Action on Property Owner's Appeal of Raze Order for 118 10th Avenue East, Ashland** (*Planning & Property Maintenance*) Roll

A motion by Seefeldt and seconded by Gregoire to deny the appeal of the raze order, passed 5-0 by roll call vote; Levi abstained.

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant,
City Clerk