

MEETING MINUTES
ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, June 24, 2025 – 6:00 PM
Ashland City Hall Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Tuesday, June 24, 2025 Ashland City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Matt MacKenzie at 6:00 p.m.

A. **Roll Call, Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance**

PRESENT: Kevin Seefeldt, Shawn Brede, Peter Levi, 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, Police Chief Willis Hagstrom, and other interested citizens.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion by Ortman, seconded by Goyke to approve the agenda passed unanimously by voice vote.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. **June 10, 2025 City Council and Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**

A motion by Seefeldt and seconded by Levi 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:

Joel Glickman, 622 Ellis Avenue, commented about the environmental impact of the construction and resulting changes on Ellis Avenue.

Sara Adams, 916 Chapple Avenue, spoke regarding the special assessments on Chapple Avenue and had questions regarding the letter she received.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. **Announcements**

Mac Kenzie asked staff and Council to remain focused while complaints come in. He complimented on the planters and flower baskets along Main Street. City staff participated in a clean up along the waterfront trail, US 2 and Stuntz Avenue.

6. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Kucera was attending a conference in Sturgeon Bay for the remainder of the week hosted by the Wisconsin City Management Association. He thanked staff from public works, planning and the police department for their input while cleaning up properties in the City, and for helping enforce the encampment policy. There are plans for adding plantings in the downtown area in the near future.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. **Approve the Contract between the City of Ashland and Wisconsin Hazardous Materials Response System Services from the Northwest Wisconsin Hazardous Materials Taskforce** (*Fire Department*)

- B. **Approve the City of Ashland Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2025-2030** (*Public Works*)

- C. **Approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Ashland and the School District of Ashland Regarding Shared Facility Use** (*Parks & Recreation*)

Goyke moved, seconded by Seefeldt to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Public Hearing Regarding Sidewalk Special Assessments for the 2025 Ellis Avenue Pavement Replacement Project** (*Public Works*) Roll

A motion by Ortman and seconded by Sztynodor to enter into Public Hearing was approved unanimously by roll call vote. Butler discussed the resolution and special assessments as they apply to the Ellis Avenue Pavement Replacement Project. It was made known that the appropriate notice was posted in the City's official newspaper, posted at the Vaughn Public Library, Ashland County Court House, and at City Hall, as well as noticed by mail to affected homeowners. There were no comments received prior to the meeting.

Joel Glickman spoke about the cost of the project assessments.

Seeing no further citizens wishing to speak, a motion by Ortman and seconded by Sztynodor to move out of Public Hearing, was passed unanimously by voice vote.

- B. **Approve a Final Resolution Authorizing Public Improvement and Levying Sidewalk Special Assessments against Benefited Property in the City of Ashland, Ashland**

County, Wisconsin for the 2025 Ellis Avenue Pavement Replacement Project (*Public Works*) Roll

A motion by Goyke, seconded by Sztynдор to approve the resolution passed 6-1 by roll call vote; Ortman opposed.

File #17840

C. Public Hearing Regarding Sidewalk Special Assessments for the 2025 Chapple Avenue Reconstruction Project (*Public Works*) Roll

A motion by Ortman and seconded by Seefeldt to enter into Public Hearing was approved unanimously by roll call vote. Butler introduced the item and spoke to the special assessments as they apply to the Chapple Avenue Reconstruction Project. There were no citizen comments submitted prior to the meeting. It was made known that appropriate notice was posted in the City's official newspaper, posted at the Vaughn Public Library, Ashland County Court House, and at City Hall, as well as noticed by mail to affected homeowners.

Sara Adams spoke against paying assessments on a vacant lot, and had questions regarding the lead service line. Murray Riddell talked about the share of the assessment cost to be paid by the property owner.

Seeing no further citizens wishing to comment, a motion by Ortman and seconded by Seefeldt to move out of Public Hearing, was passed unanimously by voice vote.

D. Approve a Final Resolution Authorizing Public Improvement and Levying Sidewalk Special Assessments against Benefited Property in the City of Ashland, Ashland County, Wisconsin for the 2025 Chapple Avenue Reconstruction Project (*Public Works*) Roll

A motion by Sztynдор, seconded by Goyke to approve the resolution passed 6-1 by roll call vote; Ortman opposed.

File #17841

E. Consider a Resolution to Acknowledge Review of the 2024 Compliance Maintenance Annual Report (CMAR) for the Ashland Wastewater Utility Pursuant to the Requirements of NR 208, Wisconsin Administrative Code (*Public Works*) Roll

The final report was distributed to Council. A motion by Sztynдор, seconded by Seefeldt to approve the resolution passed unanimously by roll call vote.

File #17839

F. Consider an Application for Alcohol Beverage License Class C Wine from Gabriele's German Cookies, Chocolates & Gifts, Agent Gabrielle Block (*Clerk*) Voice

A motion by Ortman, seconded by Sztynдор to approve the license application, passed unanimously by voice vote.

G. Consider an Alcohol Beverage License Application for Class B Fermented Malt Beverage and Class C Wine License for Frankie's Family Pizza LLC, and Agent Mike Welty (*Clerk*) Voice

A motion by Ortman, seconded by Gregoire to approve the license application, passed unanimously by voice vote.

9. CLOSED SESSION - Council may reconvene to Open Session and take action on any Closed Session item.

A motion by Ortman and seconded by Sztynдор to enter into Closed Session, passed unanimously by roll call vote. Kucera was excused from the Closed Session.

Tuesday, June 24, 2025



- A. **Pursuant WI Statute 19.85(1)(c): "Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility." (City Administrator Evaluation)**
- B. **Return to Open Session**
Ortman moved, seconded by Goyke to return to Open Session. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.
- C. **Report of Action Taken during Closed Session**
Mac Kenzie reported that no action was taken by Council during Closed Session.

10. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant,
City Clerk