



MEETING MINUTES
ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, January 13, 2026 – 6:00 PM
Ashland City Hall Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Tuesday, January 13, 2026 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, 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 Tyler Wickman, Public Works Director John Butler, Planning Director Steven Wiley, Police Chief Willis Hagstrom, Fire Chief Stuart Matthias, Parks Director Catlyn Nowicki, Engineer Niles Fetter, and other concerned citizens.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion by Sztynдор, seconded by Seefeldt to approve the agenda as presented, carried unanimously by voice vote.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. **December 9, 2025 City Council and Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**

A motion by Goyke and seconded by Sztynдор 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:

Cory Sutarik, resident, spoke via AI regarding a property which was seized and demolished by the City.

Zygmund Jablonski, 916 6th Avenue West, spoke to the City's use of Hydrocorp for the installation of water meters.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. **Announcements**

Mac Kenzie wished all a happy new year. Work has begun at the NWSA emergency shelter to renovate the two-story building into apartments. Vision Inc has also begun groundwork at the former Roffers Construction site. City staff attended a ribbon cutting ceremony on January 13, 2026 for Main Street Eatery's grand opening at 514 Main Street East, and an open house is planned for the new warming shack at the East End Staking Rink to take place on Friday, January 16, 2026. Taxes are continuing to be taken on the 3rd floor of City Hall until January 31, 2026. There will not be a February Primary Election, though the City's contests for the April Spring Election each have an uncontested candidate.

6. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Kucera stated the ribbon cutting at the Main Street Eatery was well attended, and wished everyone a happy new year.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

A. **Miscellaneous Minutes**

B. **Permitting and Property Maintenance Reports for September - December 2025**

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

8. OLD BUSINESS

A. **Accept Bid and Award a Contract to Wren Works, LLC for the 2026 Kreher Park Boat Launch Project** (*Public Works*) Roll

A motion by Ortman, seconded by Goyke to approve the contract for \$2,098,775.00, passed unanimously by roll call vote.

B. **Approve to Waive Advertising Bids as Directed in Chapter 194 (1848) Procurement of Goods and Services and Approval of Change Orders for Public Construction Projects, and Approve the Purchase of a Used One-Ton Truck from Economy Auto Sales** (*Public Works*) Roll

A motion by Ortman, seconded by Seefeldt to approve the bid of \$32,065, passed unanimously by roll call vote.

C. **Approve Proposal from Midwest Fire Apparatus for the Purchase of a New Brush Truck** (*Fire & EMS Department*) Roll

A motion by Ortman, seconded by Seefeldt to approve the purchase of \$243,652.00, passed unanimously by roll call vote.

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

A motion by Sztynдор and seconded by Goyke to enter into Closed Session, passed unanimously by roll call vote.

- 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 25SC201)**

B. **Retrun to Open Session**

Ortman moved, seconded by Sztynдор 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 during closed session. A motion by Ortman, seconded by Sztynдор to approve the settlement agreement, passed 6-0-1 by roll call vote; Seefeldt abstained.

10. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant,
City Clerk