



MEETING MINUTES
ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, January 27, 2026 – 6:00 PM
Ashland City Hall Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Tuesday, January 27, 2026 Ashland City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Matt Mac Kenzie at 6:01 p.m.

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

PRESENT: Kevin Seefeldt, Shawn Brede, Peter Levi, Andrew Goyke, Charlie Ortman, Nancy Sztynдор

ABSENT: Jim Gregoire (Excused)

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, and other interested citizens.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. **January 13, 2025 City Council and Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**

A motion by Ortman and seconded by Sztynдор to approve the minutes, carried unanimously by voice vote.

4. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PERIOD

There were no Citizens who requested to address the Council.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. **Announcements**

Mac Kenzie mentioned that the holiday lights will remain in Pearson Park until the Book Across the Bay event. Below-zero temperatures have caused a couple of water main breaks. The Ashland Fire Department responded to a recent house fire on Water Street. The City's administration have reached tentative union agreements with the police and fire departments' unions. Deputy Clerk Kevin Haas announced that he was leaving the City and moving to the Duluth area, and Airport Manager Derek Hall announced he would be leaving the City to pilot CG Brettings Mfg jet; the Mayor wished them both well in their new endeavors. There was a ribbon cutting for the East End skating rink warming house which is now open, and the City Treasurer will continue to take property tax payments through the end of January.

B. Appointments

A motion by Seefeldt, seconded by Szyndor to approve the reappointments, passed unanimously by voice vote. Shawna Johnson, Linda Opperman, Christine Oreskovich and Jeanne Spruell will serve on the Beautification Council through February 2029.

6. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Kucera announced the hiring of Haley Makela as Economic Development Director as a directive of the City's Strategic Plan. The City of Ashland is now a member of "America in Bloom" who will do an assessment this summer. He will be asking a couple of councilors and the Parks Director, among others, to be involved in a new committee regarding this new status.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Miscellaneous Minutes

B. Approve to Name the Former Baron Radiator Site in the City of Ashland as Miskwaa Park (*Parks & Recreation*)

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

8. OLD BUSINESS

A. Approve a Resolution to Authorize the Submission of a Community Development Investment Vibrant Spaces (CDI-VS) Grant Application to the Wisconsin Economic Development corporation (WEDC) to Support Beautification of an Alley intoe 100 Block of Main Street West, Ashland, WI (*Planning and Development*) Roll

A motion by Szyndor, seconded by Seefeldt to approve the resolution, passed unanimously by roll call vote.

File #17866

9. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Consider to Transfer Ownership of a Novae Enclosed Cargo Trailer to North Coast Cycling Association** (*Parks & Recreation*) Voice
A motion by Ortman, seconded by Levi to approve the transfer, passed unanimously by voice vote.
- B. **Consider an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 781 (1764) Unified Development Ordinance (UDO), Ashland City Ordinances Regarding Proposed Amendments to Design Standards for Parking Lots and Parking Spaces, Landscaping, Buffers, and Screening, and Signs** (*Planning & Development*) Roll
A motion by Ortman, seconded by Sztynodor to approve the ordinance passed unanimously by roll call vote.
File #2026-2028

10. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant,
City Clerk