



MEETING MINUTES
ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, February 24, 2026 – 6:00 PM
Ashland City Hall Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Tuesday, February 24, 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, Peter Levi, Andrew Goyke, James Gregoire, Charlie Ortman, Nancy Sztynдор

ABSENT: Shawn Brede (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, Finance Director Julie Vaillancourt, Treasurer Jacey Dean, Parks Director Catlyn Nowicki, Economic Development Director Haley Makela, Fire Captain Matt Spangler, and other interested citizens.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion by Goyke, seconded by Sztynдор to approve, passed unanimously by voice vote.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. **February 10, 2026 City Council and Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**

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

4. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PERIOD (Each Speaker is limited to 3 minutes/30 minute limit total)

The Clerk read the Rules for Citizen Participation, and the following offered their comments to the Council:

Those who spoke against the sale of City water to Enbridge included Elise Kehle, Dillon Defoe, Soren Benecke, Bailey Kroll, Em Cardens, Shae Schachmeyer, Denise Bosak, and Joe Nathan Kingfisher. Other comments included the following:

Soren Benecke spoke to the federal immigration agents in the area.

Erin Cutler voiced support of the water intake completion, sale of City water to Enbridge, and local

law enforcement support of legal warrant executions by ICE.

Bailey Kroll spoke against sidewalk special assessments and against ICE support by law enforcement.

Em Cardens included a comment regarding poor snow clearing and inquired of the Ashland Police Department's policy regarding working with ICE officials.

Liz Arbuckle invited conversation regarding the rumors of the City selling water to Enbridge, and spoke of a forum held in Bad River regarding ICE.

Tony Justich spoke to the proposed food truck ordinance amendments.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. Announcements

Mac Kenzie offered no announcements at this time.

6. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Kucera introduced Haley Makela as the City's new Economic Development Director. He also spoke in support of the proposed sidewalk special assessments.

A. Event Director Report

This item was postponed to the next Council agenda as final numbers were not available.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Miscellaneous Minutes

A motion by Ortman, seconded by Sztynodor to approve the Consent Agenda, passed unanimously by voice vote.

8. PRESENTATION by Josh Low of Ehlers Regarding Financial Debt Issuance Plan for 2026 through 2039

A. Presentation and Discussion by Ehlers Regarding the City's 2026 and Future Debt Issuance Financial Plan

Josh Low of Ehlers Inc offered a presentation to Council. No formal action was taken at this time.

Mac Kenzie recommended a short break at 7:11 p.m.

Council reconvened at 7:18 p.m.

9. OLD BUSINESS

- A. **Approve a Preliminary Resolution Declaring Intent to Levy Special Assessments under Municipal Police Power Pursuant to Sec. 66.0703, WI State Statute for the 2026 Prentice Avenue Phase 2 Reconstruction Project** (*Public Works*) Roll
A motion by Ortman and seconded by Gregoire to approve the preliminary resolution was passed 5-1 by roll call vote; Seefeldt opposed.
File #17867
- B. **Approve a Preliminary Resolution Declaring Intent to Levy Special Assessments under Municipal Police Power Pursuant to Sec. 66.0703, WI State Statute for the 2026 13th Avenue East Reconstruction Project** (*Public Works*) Roll
A motion by Ortman, seconded by Gregoire to approve the preliminary resolution, passed 5-1 by roll call vote; Seefeldt opposed.
File #17868
- C. **Approve to Accept a Professional Services Proposal from Cloudpoint Geospatial to Provide Geographic Information Systems Services** (*Public Works*) Roll
A motion by Ortman, seconded by Gregoire to approve passed unanimously by roll call vote.
- D. **Approve an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 463 (1819) Policies and Procedures for Parks, Facilities and Recreation Areas, Ashland City Ordinances to Update Reservation Policy for RV & Tent Camping** (*Parks & Recreation*) Roll
A motion by Szyndor, seconded by Goyke to approve the ordinance passed unanimously by roll call vote.
File #2026-2029
- E. **Approve an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 544 (1026) Vehicular Stopping and Parking, Ashland City Ordinances, to Add Designated Parking Spaces for Applicants Northlakes Community Clinic and Ashland United Methodist Church** (*Clerk*) Roll
A motion by Szyndor, seconded by Gregoire to approve the ordinance passed unanimously by roll call vote.
File #2026-2030
- F. **Approve an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 888 (2022-1962) Transient Vendors, Transient And Permanent Merchants And Door To Door Solicitors, Ashland City Ordinances** (*Clerk*) Roll
A motion by Ortman, seconded by Gregoire to approve the ordinance. After discussion, Szyndor moved, seconded by Goyke to postpone the item to the next Committee of the Whole meeting. This motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
- G. **Approve to Amend Chapter 889 (2022-1963) Mobile Food Establishments, Concessions and Food Vendors, Ashland City Ordinances** (*City Clerk*) Roll
Goyke moved, seconded by Szyndor to postpone the item to the next Committee of the Whole meeting. This motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
- H. **Accept the Quote from DSC Communications for the Purchase and Installation of Base Radio Equipment for the Ashland Fire Department** (*Fire & EMS Department*) Roll
A motion by Ortman, seconded by Goyke to approve the purchase for \$28,767.01, passed unanimously by roll call vote.
- I. **Approve to Accept a Community Development Block Grant for Planning Project (CDBG-PLNG) Award to Update the City of Ashland's Comprehensive Plan** (*Planning & Development*) Roll
A motion by Ortman, seconded by Szyndor to approve passed unanimously by roll call vote.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Consider to Accept Master Agreement for Professional Services for Technical Design Services from CBS Squared, Inc. for the 2027 11th Avenue East Reconstruction Project** (*Public Works*) Roll
A motion by Ortman, seconded by Sztynodor to approve the agreements for \$109,700, passed unanimously by roll call vote.
- B. **Approve to Appropriate Funds from Tax Incremental District (TID) 11, and Approve a Resolution to Approve the Purchase of Property, Parcel No. 201-01538-0000, Consisting of Lots 1 and 2 Less Right-of-Way and Lots 3 through 8 East of Right-of-Way, Block 100 Ellis Division, Section 33, Township 44N Range 4 West, in the City of Ashland, Ashland County, Wisconsin, Zoned City Center (CC) from Joshua James Clark** (*Public Works, Planning and Development*) Roll
A motion by Ortman, seconded by Sztynodor to approve appropriate \$14,000 from TID 11 and approve the resolution, passed unanimously by roll call vote.
File #17869

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant,
City Clerk