

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Tuesday, April 21, 2026 Ashland City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Matt Mac Kenzie at 6:00 p.m.

2. OATH OF OFFICE FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS

The Clerk gave the oath of office to newly elected and re-elected officers.

3. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Kevin Seefeldt, Shawn Brede, Andrew Goyke, Paul Vig, Charlie Ortman, Nancy Szyndor

ABSENT: Peter Levi (Excused)

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Matthew MacKenzie, City Administrator Brant Kucera, City Clerk Denise Oliphant, City Attorney Tyler Wickman, Public Works Director John Butler, Police Chief Willis Hagstrom, Finance Director Julie Vaillancourt, Parks Director Catlyn Cornelius, and other interested citizens.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mac Kenzie requested to amend the agenda by moving Item 12H to New Business. A motion by Szyndor, seconded by Seefeldt to approve the amended agenda, passed unanimously by voice vote.

5. APPROVE MOMENT OF SILENCE OR INVOCATION AS REQUIRED BY CHAPTER 51.06 CITY COUNCIL PROCEDURE, ASHLAND CITY ORDINANCES (voice vote)

A motion by Seefeldt, seconded by Goyke to approve the moment of silence, passed unanimously by voice vote.

- A. **If Approved, Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance**

6. ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT

- A. **Accept Nominations from the Floor**
Sztynдор nominated Ortman as Council President; he accepted the nomination.
- B. **Close Nominations**
With no further nominations, Mac Kenzie closed nominations.
- C. **Vote by Secret Ballot**
Council determined a secret ballot was unnecessary as only one nomination was made. Goyke moved, seconded by Sztynдор to appoint Ortman as Council President. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. **March 31, 2026 City Council and Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**
A motion by Seefeldt, seconded by Sztynдор to approve, passed unanimously by voice vote.

8. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PERIOD

There were no Citizens who requested to address the Council.

9. MAYOR'S REPORT

- A. **Announcements**
The Spring Election went well on April 7 2026. Thank you to those who worked to make this run smoothly. The Vaughn Public Library held their Grand Opening at their Main Street location recently and was well attended. A handout was given to Councilors regarding allowing emotional support animals to accompany those who need them during meetings.
- B. **Appointments**
A motion by Goyke, seconded by Ortman to approve the Mayor's appointments, passed unanimously by voice vote. These appointments include each Councilor to the various committees, and the below:
Plan Commission: David Eades: Jeff Beirl, and Erin Cutler.
Parks & Recreation Committee: David Ullman, Ana Tapsieva, and Nancy Forester
Police & Fire Commission: Melissa O'Connor

10. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Kucera congratulated those who were elected or re-elected to Council. The City is currently down twelve personnel due to retirements, relocating, or other job opportunities, including Public Works Director John Butler. Butler will be moving to Michigan to work at the Technical University at the end of June 2026. The City has been diligent already this spring with the removal of homeless encampments. As a reminder, the City does not destroy belongings removed, and allows the opportunity to collect the belongings once the encampment is cleaned up. The automated

restroom for Miskwaa Park (formerly Baron Radiator) has been ordered and is expected to be installed in late summer or early fall of this year.

11. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. **Miscellaneous Minutes**
- B. **Reaffirm the Tools and Accept the Nine Tools of Civility**
- C. **Property Maintenance and Permitting Reports** *(Planning)*
A motion by Goyke, seconded by Vig to approve the Consent Agenda, passed unanimously by voice vote.

12. OLD BUSINESS

- A. **Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of \$3,040,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2026B** *(Finance)* Roll
Sean Lentz of Ehlers offered a short presentation regarding the item. A motion by Ortman, seconded by Seefeldt to approve the resolution, passed unanimously by roll call vote.
File #17873
- B. **Resolution to Designate Public Depositories** *(Clerk)* Roll
A motion by Ortman, seconded by Szyndor to approve the resolution, passed unanimously by roll call vote.
File #17874
- C. **Resolution to Designate the Official City Newspaper** *(Clerk)* Roll
A motion by Seefeldt, seconded by Goyke to approve the resolution, passed unanimously by roll call vote.
File #17875
- D. **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 Seefeldt, seconded by Brede to approve the ordinance, passed unanimously by roll call vote.
File #2026-2033
- E. **Ordinance to Amend Chapter 889 (2022-1963) Mobile Food Establishments, Concessions and Food Vendors, Ashland City Ordinances** *(Clerk)* Roll
A motion by Szyndor, seconded by Seefeldt to approve the ordinance, passed unanimously by roll call vote.
File #2026-2034
- F. **Accept a Community Development Investment Vibrant Spaces Grant Agreement between the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) and the City of Ashland for up to \$50,000 for a Downtown Alley Beautification Project at 112 Main Street West** *(Planning and Development)* Roll

A motion by Ortman, seconded by Goyke to accept the grant, passed unanimously by roll call vote.

G. **Professional Services Agreement between 106 Group, Ltd. and the City of Ashland for the Ashland Interpretive Signage Program** (*Parks*) Roll

A motion by Seefeldt, seconded by Sztynдор to approve the agreement for \$50,000, passed 5-1 by roll call vote; Brede opposed.

H. **Lease Agreement between the City of Ashland and Ashland Youth Baseball for Recreation Use of the City's Parks** (*Parks*) Voice

A motion by Seefeldt, seconded by Sztynдор to approve the agreement, passed unanimously by voice vote.

I. **Amendment to a Professional Services Contract with Northwoods Vac & Cleaning Supplies LLC for Cleaning Services for City of Ashland Facilities** (*Public Works*) Roll

A motion by Ortman, seconded by Sztynдор to approve the bid and award the annual adjusted contract for \$90,705.80, passed unanimously by roll call vote.

13. NEW BUSINESS

A. **Accept Bid from Struck & Irwin Paving, Inc and Award a Contract for the 2026 Main Street West Microsurfacing Project** (*Public Works*) Roll

A motion by Ortman, seconded by Seefeldt to approve the bid and award a contract for \$50,040.10, passed unanimously by roll call vote.

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

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

A. **Pursuant to WI Stat. 19.85(1)((e): Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session** (*APPA APD Union Agreement*)

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 there was no action taken during closed session.

A motion by Ortman, seconded by Seefeldt to approve the agreement, passed unanimously by roll call vote.

15. ADJOURNMENT



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

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant,
City Clerk