

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
November 12, 2020

Regular Meeting

A regular council meeting of the City of Ashby, MN was held at Ashby City Hall with the following members present: Jeremy Obright, Carrie Obright, Tom Grover, and Wayne Stierlen. Absent: Heather Rossum Also present: Clerk Schmitz, Superintendent Johnson, Deputy Clerk Helle and Attorney Anderson. Absent: None. Visitor's Present: Scott Ellingson, Sheriff Haberer and Robby Risbrudt. Mayor Grover called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Agenda Approval

Upon motion from J. Obright, seconded by Stierlen, and unanimously carried, the agenda was approved as presented.

Visitors:

**Scott Ellingson –
New Shed**

Ellingson was present to inquire as to why he was being required to apply for a variance for the land use permit request to build within a shore land district that is in the city limits. Attorney Anderson will contact the DNR and MNDOT to gather information regarding the regulations set by those entities. Ellingson will be required to request a variance and a meeting of the Planning Commission will be scheduled once information has been gathered by Attorney Anderson. There was no action taken.

**Troy Mickelson
(Ashby Axe) –
Water/Sewer
Waiver Request**

Upon motion by Stierlen, seconded by C. Obright and unanimously carried, council approved the request from Troy Mickelson to waive water and sewer fees up to \$200 per month for 12 months for Ashby Axe as has been historically done in the past for new businesses in Ashby.

**Sheriff
Haberer/Attorney
Anderson –
Nuisance Ordinance**

Attorney Anderson discussed the Nuisance Ordinance that the Sheriff's Department is looking at changing to give the city's more control over nuisances within their jurisdiction. It follows the current abatement process with citations being issued and property tax assessments allowed for nuisances that are not taken care of. The ordinance is designed to control nuisances before they become unmanageable. Council will review the new ordinance and make any changes that they so choose prior to official approval in December or January.

**305 Melby Avenue
Nuisance Update**

Sheriff Haberer will begin another conversation with the property owner at 305 Melby Ave. to get the property cleaned up around the exterior of the building. Councilmember J. Obright and Sheriff Haberer will do outside observation to determine what items the city wants addressed.

**Robby Risbrudt –
Increase to FD
Retirement Plan**

Robby Risbrudt was present to request an increase to the retirement fund for the Ashby Fire Department members. The increase would go from \$1,100 per year of service after 5 years up to \$1,300 per year of service after 5 years of service. There is no additional cost to the City. The monies to fund the plan come primarily from State Aid.

**Resolution 2020-22
AFD PERA Benefit
Increase**

Upon motion by C. Obright, seconded by Stierlen, **Resolution 2020-22 – Increase Benefit Level for Volunteer Firefighter Retirement Plan** . Roll Call Vote, those voting for: J. Obright, C. Obright, Grover, Stierlen. Those voting against: None. MCU

**Approval: Purchase
a Stair Chair/
Ambulance**

Upon motion by J. Obright, seconded by C. Obright and unanimously carried, council approved the purchase of a stair chair for the Ambulance Department for \$7,500 - \$8,000 to be purchased from the Ambulance Fund with potential FEMA reimbursement.

**Mayor's Report:
Approve: Updated
2020 Commissions**

Upon motion from J. Obright, seconded by C. Obright and unanimously carried, council approved the updates to the 2020 Commissions as presented to include changes to the Planning Commission Community Members.

**Minutes/Claims/
Consent Agenda**

Upon motion from C. Obright, seconded by J. Obright and unanimously carried, council approved the consent agenda which includes minutes of the regular council meeting of October 8th, 2020 and the claims and prepaid disbursements of November 12th, 2020 as presented and reviewed by Council Member Stierlen.

Clerk's Report

The clerk's report was reviewed.

Canvass Election Results	The Canvassing Board reviewed the Election Abstract as received from Grant County Auditor, Chad Van Santen.
Resolution 2020-21 Certify Election Results	Upon motion by C. Obright, seconded by Stierlen, Resolution 2020-21 – Resolution to Certify Results of the Tuesday, November 3rd, 2020 General Election. Roll Call Vote, those voting for: J. Obright, C. Obright, Grover, Stierlen. Those voting against: None. MCU Results were as follows: City Council (Elect 2): Four Year Terms Ronnie C Jaenisch – 168 Wayne Stierlen - 161 Write-ins - 28
Pay Equity Compliance Review	Clerk Schmitz reported that the Pay Equity Compliance Review was received and the City of Ashby is in Compliance with Pay Equity requirements for the next three years.
Approval: Adjust Beginning Balances for Cancelled Checks	Upon motion from J. Obright, seconded by C. Obright and unanimously carried, council approved to adjust the beginning year fund balances for the following funds: Ambulance Fund-\$34.26, Water Fund-\$26.13, Sewer Fund-\$26.14, General Fund-\$69.54 due to uncashed checks that have been reissued.
Office Closure – December 24th	Council agreed to have City Offices closed the entire day of December 24 th . Employees are paid for a half a day holiday per the personnel policy. The remaining half day will be taken from vacation time earned.
Public Safety: Grant County Sheriff’s Office	Council reviewed the October report from the Grant County Sheriff’s Office.
Public Works –	Superintendent Johnson reported that there is a flushing hydrant in Birch Circle that is leaking. The hydrant should be replaced with a regular fire hydrant now that there are developed homes in that area. Replacement will not be done until next spring. Johnson also reported that the second round of fall discharge will be starting on November 13 th , 2020.
Old Business – Ordinance #2 Fee Schedule Changes for 2021	Council reviewed the presented changes to the Ordinance #2 Fee Schedule for Commercial Dumpster fees. The changes being proposed will affect rate changes for those Commercial Users that produce high amounts of refuse and will be based on average weight that is produced. The official change to the ordinance will be approved at the December 10 th , 2020 Regular Council meeting and will go into effect beginning January 1, 2021.
Ashby School Voting Change Request	Council discussed the request that was made by the Ashby School at the October 8 th , 2020 Council Meeting to change the Voting Process in Ashby to a Combined Polling Place for the 2021 Calendar year. Upon motion from Grover, seconded by C. Obright and unanimously carried, council approved to keep the Mail-in Voting process the same and to make no changes to the existing voting process.
New Business - Approval: CVE Lot Offer	Upon motion from J. Obright, seconded by Stierlen and unanimously carried, council approved the offer for Lot 11, Block 2 in Ashby Country View Estates presented by Century 21 Atwood.
Resolution 2020-17 CARES Money Expenditures – Oct.	Upon motion from C. Obright, seconded by J. Obright - Resolution 2020-17 Resolution to Approve the October CARES Act Expenditures Roll Call Vote, those voting for: J. Obright, C. Obright, Grover, Stierlen. Those voting against: None. Carried
Resolution 2020-18 Unpaid Utility Assessments	Upon motion from J.Obright, seconded by C. Obright - Resolution 2020-18 Resolution to Certify Delinquent Utilities Roll Call Vote, those voting for: J. Obright, C. Obright, Grover, Stierlen. Those voting against: None. Carried

**Resolution 2020-19
2021 Liquor
Licenses**

Upon motion from C. Obright, seconded by J. Obright - **Resolution 2020-19 Resolution Approving 2021 Liquor Licenses**. Roll Call Vote, those voting for: J. Obright, C. Obright, Grover, Stierlen. Those voting against: None. Carried

**Resolution 2020-20
CARES Money
Expenditures - Final**

Upon motion from C. Obright, seconded by J. Obright - **Resolution 2020-20 Resolution to Approve the FINAL CARES Act Expenditures** Roll Call Vote, those voting for: J. Obright, C. Obright, Grover, Stierlen. Those voting against: None. Carried

**3rd Quarter
Financial
Statements**

The 3rd Quarter Financial Statements were reviewed as presented.

Adjourn

Upon motion by Stierlen, seconded by C. Obright and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST: _____
Jackie Schmitz, City Clerk

Tom Grover, Mayor