

MINUTES
February Regular Council Meeting
Thursday, February 12th, 2026

Regular Meeting

A regular council meeting of the City of Ashby, MN was held at Ashby City Hall with the following members present: Mayor Scott Ellingson, Jake Dahle, Amy Johnson, Ryan Kari and Wayne Stierlen. Absent: None. Also present: Clerk Mike Thormodson, Deputy Clerk Robin Klinkner and Public Works Superintendent Troy Johnson and agenda visitors: Widseth engineer Jeff Kuhn and Fire Chief Robby Risbrudt. Mayor Ellingson called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Agenda Approval

Upon motion from Dahle, seconded by Kari, and unanimously carried, the agenda was approved.

Visitors:

**Jeff Kuhn with
Widseth**

Mr. Kuhn spoke about the upcoming street repairs scheduled for 2026. A section of Norge (between Cedar and Larson) needs to be a full reconstruct. Per city policy, a percentage of street reconstructs is assessed to property owners on that street. The estimated cost for this reconstruct is approximately \$250,000. Possible percentages vs. a per foot cost were discussed, keeping in mind that any assessment to property owners should not be more than the increase to their property values. Councilmember Dahle stated that the affected property owners should be spoken to about the possible assessment. Mr. Kuhn didn't need a decision on the assessment at this council meeting but would need one soon if the road repairs are going to happen in 2026.

**Fire Chief Robby
Risbrudt**

Fire Chief Risbrudt discussed the need for a new emergency generator for the Fire Hall and Ambulance Department. The current one is old and unreliable. He asked for permission to seek quotes for a replacement. Superintendent Johnson asked if the new solar installation with battery backup could serve as the backup. Clerk Thormodson said he would reach out to Holsen Solar to see if the solar battery backup could handle the load. Chief Risbrudt was given authority to seek quotes for a new backup generator.

Public Comment:

None given.

**Consent Agenda
Minutes/Claims**

Upon motion from Kari, seconded by Stierlen and unanimously carried, council approved the consent agenda which includes minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of January 9th, 2026 and the claims and prepaid disbursements of February 12th, 2026 as presented and reviewed by Dahle.

Mayor's Report

Nothing to report

Council Reports

None given

Administration

The Board of Appeals meeting will be held on April 9th starting at 5:00 pm. TFC offered to purchase the Nursing home property from the city last year. TFC Poultry requested that the city conduct a survey of the land that the old Nursing Home sits on to make sure the entire building is on that parcel. This has been completed and it shows that the entire building is on the parcel.

**Public Safety
-Grant County Law
Enforcement reports**

The Grant County Law Enforcement Report and Grant County Law Enforcement 2025 Year-End Contracted Hours reports were reviewed.

**-Fire/Ambulance
Report**

The Fire/Ambulance report was reviewed. There were 43 Ambulance Calls (18 in the City) and 6 Fire Calls (0 in the City) in January.

Public Works

Public Works Superintendent Johnson has been working on yearly reports, taking water tests in Evansville and Ashby, replaced the PTO shaft on the snow broom and had snow hauled out to the compost site.

**Old Business
-TFC Pretreatment Agreement**

Council reviewed the revised Pretreatment Agreement between TFC Poultry and the city of Ashby. Based on the input of the Public Works Committee, they agreed to some of the ideas proposed by TFC Poultry including the following: allowing a higher daily maximum discharge, fewer testing requirements and a tiered fine structure.

**New Business
-Request Approvals**

***Resolution 2026-02
Accepting Donation to
Fire Department**

Lake Region Electric Company made a donation to the Ashby Fire Department in the amount of \$750. Kari moved to approve Resolution 2026-02: Accepting Donation to Fire Department and it was seconded by Johnson. Roll Call Vote conducted, those voting for: Dahle, Johnson, Ellingson, Kari and Stierlen. Those voting against: None. Resolution 2026-02 passed.

***Resolution 2026-03 City
Council Expressing
Support of Ashby EMS**

The Ashby Ambulance Department was awarded a grant in the amount of \$6,450.43 from the Minnesota Office of Emergency Services for submitting a Cost Collection report. In order to receive this grant, City Council must provide a letter of support for the Emergency Medical Services department. Johnson moved to approve Resolution 2026-03: Council Expressing Support of Ashby EMS and it was seconded by Kari. Roll Call Vote conducted, those voting for: Dahle, Johnson, Ellingson, Kari and Stierlen. Those voting against: None. Resolution 2026-03 passed.

***Resolution 2026-04
Application to Public
Facilities Authority**

The City of Ashby is planning on improving our municipal wastewater treatment system in the upcoming years. This will allow for future city wastewater treatment capacity. A resolution from the city is required when applying to the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority for a loan from the Clean Water Revolving Fund. Stierlen moved to approve Resolution 2026-04: Application to Public Facilities Authority and it was seconded by Dahle. Roll Call Vote conducted, those voting for: Dahle, Johnson, Ellingson, Kari and Stierlen. Those voting against: None. Resolution 2026-04 passed.

**March Council
Meeting**

The next regular City Council Meeting will be on March 12th, 2026 starting at 5:30 pm at Ashby City Hall.

Adjourn

Upon motion by Kari, seconded by Stierlen and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 pm.

ATTEST: _____
Mike Thormodson, City Clerk

Scott Ellingson, Mayor