

MINUTES
February Regular Council Meeting
Thursday, February 13th, 2025

Regular Meeting

A regular council meeting of the City of Ashby, MN was held at Ashby City Hall with the following members present: Wayne Stierlen, Jake Dahle and Ron Jaenisch. Absent: Mayor Ellingson. Also present: Clerk Thormodson, Deputy Clerk Klinkner and Public Works Superintendent Johnson. Agenda visitors: Griffin Peck, Robby Risbrudt, Sheriff Jon Combs and Deputy Sheriff Jen Vipond. Also in attendance: Tim Amundson, Cedar Walters, Ryan Kari and Dwight Walvatne. Acting Mayor Jaenisch called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Agenda Approval

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

**Visitors:
Griffin Peck with
WCI**

Mr. Peck spoke about the possibility of installing solar panels on the Fire Hall/City Hall building. He mentioned that there are many incentives available that would make the project affordable. Mr. Peck asked council if Ashby would like to further pursue installing solar panels at the Fire Hall/City Hall building. Upon motion from Stierlen, seconded by Dahle and unanimously carried, council decided to further pursue solar panel installation. There is no financial commitment at this stage of the process.

Robby Risbrudt

Mr. Risbrudt spoke about his clearing of snow around the Legion. A resident had complained about him piling some of the snow from around the Legion on her property.

**Sheriff Jon Combs
and Deputy Jennifer
Vipond**

Sheriff Combs discussed the 2025 Law Enforcement Contract, new Law Enforcement Building and the 2024 enforcement hours worked in Ashby. He also mentioned they are fully staffed.

**Public Comment:
-Tim Amundson**

Tim Amundson expressed his concern about restrictive parking signs being placed on his property. Council decided that if the residents don't want the signs then council would support their wishes.

**Consent Agenda
Minutes/Claims**

Upon motion from Dahle, seconded by Stierlen and unanimously carried, council approved the consent agenda which includes minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of January 9th, 2024 and the claims and prepaid disbursements of February 13th, 2025 as presented and reviewed by Dahle.

Mayor's Report

None given.

Council Report

None given.

**Administration
-Clerk's Report**

The clerk's report was reviewed. Clerk Thormodson brought up the Community & Senior Center restroom remodel. Dwight Walvatne mentioned that the Ashby Legacy Fund is interested in assisting with the remodel. Dwight received approval from council to speak with Lakeside Lumber for construction quotes.

**-Request Approval
to add Mayor
Ellingson to heck
signing**

Upon motion from Dahle, seconded by Stierlen and unanimously carried, council approved to add Mayor Ellingson to check signing at Viking Bank and to remove former Mayor Johnson.

**-Board of Appeals
Meeting Date**

The Board of Appeals meeting will be held on April 10th, 2025 at City Hall prior to the regular city council meeting. The Board of Appeals meeting will start at 5:00 p.m.

**Public Safety
-Law Enforcement**

The Grant County Law Enforcement Report was reviewed.

**-Fire/Ambulance
Department Report**

Fire Chief Risbrudt updated council that the Ambulance expansion project should be completed by Mid-March. Dalton Fire might want our old Jaws of Life.

**-Request Approval
to sell old fire truck**

Upon motion from Dahle, seconded by Jaenisch and unanimously carried, council approved to sell the old fire truck using sealed bids.

Public Works

Superintendent Johnson has been busy doing yearly mandatory reports and snow removal.

Old Business:

-Purchase Updates

Clerk Thormodson informed council that the city now owns the Nursing Home and the Hotchkiss acres. An inspector visited the Nursing Home to look for signs of asbestos. They will let us know what they find out. A Public Hearing will be held to inform residents about the proposed future of the two purchases.

-Vacant Council Position

A committee of 2 Councilmembers and the City Clerk will conduct interviews with the interested candidates prior to the March Council meeting. One of them will be chosen to fill this vacancy at the March Council meeting when all four council members are present to vote. A special election was considered to fill the vacancy. Council decided against this course due to the expense of having a special election and the delay it would cause in filling the vacancy.

New Business:

-TFC sign placement proposal

TFC Poultry would like to install signs along the south side of Nelson St (at their expense) that say "5-Minute Truck Parking Only". TFC believes this will help with the issue of semis parking along the south side of the road disturbing residents and traffic flow. Council decided they want TFC to work out an agreement with the homeowners whose properties would be affected.

-Request Approval: Resolution 2025-03 Accepting Donation

Upon motion from Stierlen, seconded by Stierlen - **Resolution 2025-03 Accepting Donation.** Roll Call Vote, those voting for: Dahle, Jaenisch and Stierlen. Those voting against: None. Carried. The City of Ashby appreciates and accepts the donation from Perry Kugler for the amount of \$500 to the Ashby Ambulance.

March Council Meeting

The next regular City Council Meeting will be on March 13th, 2025 starting at 5:30 pm at Ashby City Hall.

Adjourn

Upon motion by Dahle, seconded by Stierlen and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 pm.

ATTEST: _____
Mike Thormodson, City Clerk Ron Jaenisch, Acting Mayor