

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**February 9th, 2023**

**Regular Meeting**

A regular council meeting of the City of Ashby, MN was held at Ashby City Hall with the following members present: Amy Johnson, Ronnie Jaenisch, Wayne Stierlen, Heather Rossum and Scott Ellingson Absent: None. Also present: Clerk Thormodson, Superintendent Johnson, and Deputy Clerk Helle. Visitor's Present: Ashby FFA Officers, Neil Lewis with Trade-Talents, Donna Grover with Century 21 Atwood, Mark Zlotnick with the Fire Department and Heather Thormodson with the North Star Retreat Center. Mayor Amy Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

**Agenda Approval**

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

**Public Hearing:  
New Fire Truck  
Purchase w/ Mark  
Zlotnick**

The truck being replaced is a 1979. There is a truck replacement plan. Cost of a new truck is \$400,000 approximately. Prices have increased a lot over the last few years. The fire department would like to purchase this within the next 2 years. It can take a year to get the truck after you purchase it. There is about \$150,000 in the fire truck replacement fund currently. 196 square miles are covered by the Ashby Fire Department.

**Visitors:  
Ashby FFA Officers**

Ms. Johnson (Ashby FFA President) and Mr. Anderson (Ashby FFA Treasurer) requested to have 2 FFA signs posted under the City signs located on the outskirts of town. Upon motion by Jaenisch, seconded by Rossum and unanimously carried, council approved to have the signs posted. Superintendent Johnson will put them up.

**Donna Grover with  
Century 21 Atwood**

Donna gave a synopsis of Country View Estates Development. There is a buyer interested in 12 lots, 4 of them being Contract for Deed. She is looking for city council to approve an extension on the sales agreement through the end of February and the signing of the purchase agreements. Financing is set up for the 8 lots.

**Neil Lewis with  
Trade-Talents**

Neil's intention for purchasing these 12 lots is to help develop the community. He is looking at pre-selling homes initially. Neil has a builder and designer lined up once the paperwork clears and the ground thaws.

Discussion: The Contract for Deed will be for 5 years at 6% interest and \$300/month. After every house Trade-Talents sells, they will cash out to pay off 1 of the 4 Contract for Deed lots.

**Request Approval  
-Extension**

Upon motion from Ellingson, seconded by Jaenisch and unanimously carried, council approved the extension for the sale of the Country View Estate lots to February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**Request Approval  
-Contract for Deed  
Lots**

Upon motion from Jaenisch, seconded by Stierlen the motion to sell the 4 lots Contract for Deed to Trade-Talents carried with the condition that each time Trade-Talents sells a lot they pay off one of the Contract for Deed lots until they are all paid for. Council members Ellingson, Jaenisch and Stierlen voting in favor, Rossum opposed.

**Heather  
Thormodson with  
the North Star  
Retreat Center**

Heather voiced her concern about a public safety hazard concerning the semi-trucks in town: they are blocking businesses, blocking local traffic, and creating hazards for pedestrian traffic. She has witnessed pedestrians almost getting hit and asks that Public Safety Commission looks into it.

**Minutes/Claims**

Upon motion from Jaenisch, seconded by Rossum and unanimously carried, council approved the consent agenda which includes minutes of the regular council meeting of January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 and the claims and prepaid disbursements of February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 as presented and reviewed by Council Member Jaenisch.

**Request Approval:  
2023 City  
Commission/Comm  
tees**

Upon motion from Jaenisch, seconded by Ellingson and unanimously carried, council approved the Mayor's Commission/Committee Appointments including adding Lynn Jensen to the Planning Commission.

**Clerk's Report**

The clerk's report was reviewed. Clerk Thormodson reported that there will be a Fire Contract signing night on February 28<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:00 pm. Board of Appeals is scheduled for April 3<sup>rd</sup> starting at 5:30 pm.

**Public Safety**

The Grant County Law Enforcement, Ambulance and Fire Report were reviewed.

**Public Works**

The Public Works report was given by Superintendent Johnson. A summary of the Public Works meetings on February 2<sup>nd</sup> was presented.

**Old Business:**

- **Excess snow  
dump  
location**

With more lots being sold, Council discussed planning for next year's snow disposal.

- **Fire  
Department  
Liaison**

Clerk Thormodson was chosen to be the City Council's liaison to the Fire Department.

**New Business**

**Request Approvals:**

**-Land Use Permit for  
Ashby School Solar**

Upon motion from Jaenisch, seconded by Rossum and unanimously carried, council approved the land use permit for Blue Horizon Energy to install a Solar Electric System on top of the Ashby School.

**-Resolution 2023-01  
Joint Powers  
Agreement**

Upon motion from Jaenisch, seconded by Rossum and unanimously carried, council approved the Resolution. Roll Call Vote, those voting for: Rossum, Jaenisch, Johnson, Stierlen and Ellingson. Those voting against: None. Carried

**March City Council  
Meeting**

The next City Council Meeting will be on March 9th, 2023 starting at 5:30 pm at Ashby City Hall.

**Adjourn**

Upon motion by Jaenisch, seconded by Rossum and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Thormodson, City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Amy Johnson, Mayor