

Town of Ashland City  
Board of Mayor and Council  
September 8, 2015

The Board of Mayor and Council met in a regular session on September 8, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building.

Present and presiding: Mayor Rick Johnson.

Council present: Vice-Mayor Steve Allen, Alwilda Binkley, Lisa Walker, Jimmy Gill, Roger Jackson and Chris LaCrosse.

Others present: Raymond Barnes, Marc Coulon, Regina Hollingsworth, Anita Justice, Chris Cherry, Billy Harris, Michael Armstrong, Tim Adkins, Melissa Womack, Tony Young, Ronnie Barnes, Chuck walker, Jennifer Noe, Kelli Reed, and Phyllis Schaeffer.

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and declared a quorum. Mayor Johnson began the meeting with the public hearings on two ordinances.

After ordinance #434 – water rates was read Mayor Johnson asked if anyone would like to address the Council on this ordinance. There were not any comments. Mayor Johnson went on to Ordinance #436 – reduction in tap fees. Mayor asked if anyone would like to address Council on this ordinance. There were no comments. Mayor Johnson closed the public hearing and commenced with the regular meeting.

A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Jackson to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Public Forum:

Ms. Regina Hollingsworth approached about her water bill. Mayor Johnson said her bill was \$1,596.19 and she had a receipt from a plumber who repaired the water line. An average bill is \$60.37. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Allen to reduce Ms. Hollingsworth's bill to an average. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Gill-yes, Allen-yes, Binkley-yes, Walker-yes, Jackson-yes, LaCrosse-yes, and Mayor-yes.

City Attorney:

Ms. Noe advised at some point they needed to have an attorney/client meeting.

Old Business:

A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Binkley to approve Ordinance #434 – water rates on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Gill-yes, Binkley-yes, Walker-yes, Allen-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Jackson-yes, and Mayor-yes.

A motion was made by Gill, seconded by LaCrosse, to approve Ordinance #436 – reduction in tap fees on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Gill-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Jackson-yes, Walker-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, and Mayor-yes. Mr. Allen asked when this would be effective. Mayor replied September 29<sup>th</sup>. Mayor advised tap fees will be cut in half when he was at the county meeting.

New Business:

A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Allen, to approve Ordinance #435 – Port Authority per diem for those appointed by the city on 1<sup>st</sup> reading. Mr. Allen withdrew his second. Motion failed due to lack of a second.

A motion was made by LaCrosse, seconded by Allen, to pay city appointed Port Authority board members contingent upon city attorney finding it legal to do so. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: LaCrosse-yes, Allen-yes, Binkley-yes, Walker-yes, Gill-yes, Jackson-yes, and Mayor-yes.

A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Allen to approve Ordinance #437 – rezoning a portion of Elizabeth St. on 1<sup>st</sup> reading. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Gill-yes, Allen-yes, Binkley-yes, Walker-yes, Jackson-yes, LaCrosse-yes, and Mayor-yes.

A motion was made by LaCrosse, seconded by Binkley to approve Ordinance #438 – new position of employment and budget amendment for position with attached pay scale on 1<sup>st</sup> reading. Mr. Allen said he needed time to study it before voting. Mayor said this was just the first reading it would have to pass through a second reading. Ms. Binkley said she did not want it to affect Mr. Harris. Mayor said it wouldn't monetarily. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: LaCrosse-yes, Binkley-yes, Gill-yes, Jackson-yes, Walker-yes, Allen-abstain, and Mayor-yes.

A motion was made by LaCrosse, seconded by Binkley to approve the job description for a Public Utilities/Public Maintenance Director. Mr. Allen recused himself from the discussion saying he wanted time to study it. Mr. LaCrosse said the budget amendment in this is based on getting the qualifications needed – the way it was before the split. After much discussion on getting someone with the entire skill set and being fair to other department heads, and addressing the current pay scale Mayor said the pay scale would be addressed in budget meetings for next budget year. Ms. Walker said she had concerns over the need for a maintenance worker and after it being approved now we don't need another person. Mr. LaCrosse said he couldn't speak for previous Mayor Norwood but when Mr. Cherry left Tomas McCormick was hired he came with skills in water but not streets we couldn't find anyone with entire skill set so the position was split. It is hard to get the expertise for the whole skill set. Mayor Johnson said that takes money. After more discussion on addressing the pay scale and voicing concerns with this position a roll call was taken. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: LaCrosse-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-abstain, Walker-yes, Jackson-yes, Gill-yes, and Mayor-yes.

Ms. Noe said regarding the alley behind Bank of America we are not quite ready to go forward tonight. She has received the letter from Valerie Dreier, but she is waiting on the legal description of property and the adjacent property owners have to be notified. This will be ready next month.

A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Jackson to approve change order#3. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Gill-yes, Jackson-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Allen-yes, Binkley-yes, Walker-yes, and Mayor-yes.

A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Walker to award the chemical bids to the lowest bidders. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Gill-yes, Walker-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Jackson-yes, and Mayor-yes.

At this time Council took recess to have attorney/client meeting.  
Council meeting reconvened at 6:59 p.m.

Other:

Mayor asked if anyone had any other business to bring before Council or discuss.

Mr. Gill asked if the stop lights could be fixed on Main St. at 5:00 p.m. to get the traffic moving to clear up some of the congestion.

Mr. Gill also asked if we could enforce the noise ordinance. The boom boxes are so loud it rattles his windows. Chief Coulon said it could also be the air boats on the river with straight pipes.

Mayor advised they had tried to adjust the timing on the lights. He would have Dwayne call and see if they can reset.

A motion was made by LaCrosse, seconded by Gill to pay the bills. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: LaCrosse-yes, Gill-yes, Jackson-yes, Walker-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, and Mayor-yes.

A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Walker to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

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Rick Johnson, Mayor

Phyllis Schaeffer, City Recorder