

**ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
December 19, 2024**

A regular meeting of the Ashland City Council was held at the Ashland City Hall Council Chambers on the 19th day of December, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor James Anderson  
City Council President Chuck Niemeyer  
City Council Member Michelle Libal  
City Council Member Jim Pinkman  
City Administrator Jessica Quady  
City Clerk Kathleen Sliva  
City Attorney Mark Fahleson

Absent: City Council Member Jerry Lofberg

Others: Heather Kennedy, Tim Adams, Merrett Lane, Caleb Fjone, Bill Krejci,  
and others

Notice of meeting was advertised in the Ashland Gazette on December 13, 2024. The Mayor and all Council Members received advance notice of the meeting and a copy of the agenda as shown by the Acknowledgment of Receipt of Notice. All proceedings shown hereafter were taken while the convened meeting was open to the public.

Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was declared. Anderson noted the Open Meetings Act located on the south wall of the room.

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Libal to adopt the regular agenda.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Mayor Anderson opened a Public Hearing on the Creation of Street Improvement District No. 2024-1 at 7:05 p.m. City Administrator Quady said this district is essentially Silver Street from 9<sup>th</sup> Street to U.S. Highway 6. She said the City is the abutting owner. With no further comment, Mayor Anderson closed the public hearing at 7:06 p.m.

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Libal approving Resolution 2024-16 – Creating Street Improvement District No. 2024-1.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Motion by Libal, second by Pinkman to approve the Certificate of Substantial Completion for the 2022 Dennis Dean Road Improvements.

City Administrator Quady said this is for the paving and storm sewer portion of the project only. She said the walk through had been done and the punch list will be worked on.

Roll Call:                      Ayes: All                      Motion Carried

Caleb Fjone, AAEDC Executive Director appeared before the Council to give a report on Retail Leakage. He reviewed data showing money spent outside of town because the community doesn't have enough service or supply to meet demand or lack the supply completely. He said it also includes a market outlook and an unmet need analysis. He added that they are working on starting a tourism bureau as the community has about 1.1 million visits each year.

Caleb Fjone, AAEDC Executive Director, and City Administrator Quady gave the Council an update on the status of the Monument Sign Project. Fjone showed an updated rendering of the sign. Quady said a request has been made to the Saunders County Board of Supervisors to allow a sign larger than is allowed. She said there will be three signs one from Lincoln, one from Omaha and one coming into town from the north.

Mayor Anderson said the administrative reports for November 2024 are available for council review and comment. Reports included the Keno, Public Works Director's, Utility Superintendent's, Police Chief's, Building Official's, Library and AAEDC Reports. Under the Utility Superintendent's Report Tim Adams, JEO Consulting Group, reported on the well project at 24<sup>th</sup> and Clay. He said there are a couple of possible additions to the project including the addition of a standby generator and a well house building. City Administrator Quady said this would be on the next agenda for consideration.

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Pinkman to approve the consent agenda which included the approval of the December 5, 2024 Council meeting minutes, approval of the November 2024 Treasurer's Report; and approval of Macee Cerveny as a member of the Rescue Department.

Roll Call:                      Ayes: All                      Motion Carried

Motion by Libal, second by Pinkman to approve the first half of December 2024 Claims.

Roll Call:                      Ayes: All                      Motion Carried

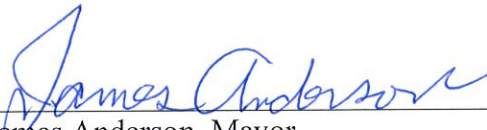
Mayor Anderson recognized the Public Works Department for all their work in preparation for the Hometown Christmas parade spreading salt and sand and noted they and the Utility Department had a couple of entries in the parade. He mentioned that he attended a celebration for the 170<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Nebraska National Guard and the 388<sup>th</sup> birthday of the National Guard.

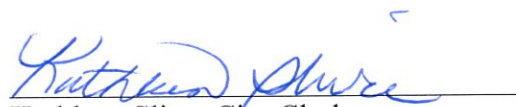
City Administrator Quady introduced Kristina Stoki who is to be appointed City Clerk/Treasurer in January.

Council Member Niemeyer commented on the recent performance by the new Community Band. He said the new group had 26 members.

Motion by Libal, second by Niemeyer to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

  
James Anderson, Mayor

  
Kathleen Sliva, City Clerk



I, the above signed City Clerk of Ashland, Saunders County, Nebraska hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of the proceedings had and done by the Council on December 19, 2024; that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and readily available for public inspection at the office of the City Clerk; that such subjects were contained in said agenda for at least twenty four hours prior to said meeting; that said minutes from which the foregoing proceedings have been extracted were in written form and available for public inspection within ten business days or prior to the next convened meeting of said body.