

**ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
August 1, 2024**

A regular meeting of the Ashland City Council was held at the Ashland City Hall Council Chambers on the 1st day of August, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor James Anderson  
City Council President Chuck Niemeyer  
City Council Member Jerry Lofberg  
City Administrator Jessica Quady  
City Clerk Kathleen Sliva

Absent: City Council Member Jake Crnkovich  
City Council Member Michelle Libal  
City Attorney Mark Fahleson

Others: Bob Fricke Jr., Carol Clough, Jim Pinkman, Reaz Bidaisee, Danielle Knisley, Caleb Fjone and others

Notice of meeting was advertised in the Ashland Gazette on July 26, 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 hereafter shown 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 Lofberg to adopt the regular agenda.

Roll Call: Ayes: All Motion Carried

Mayor Anderson opened a Public Hearing on a new Class C Liquor License for Salt Creek Farmhouse LLC dba Salt Creek Mercantile at 1502 Silver Street at 7:03 p.m. Ashley Welch spoke stating this will allow for drinks to be served in the upstairs event space and to sell wine in the market section of the store. She said the upstairs' remodel is complete with a kitchen and a working elevator. With no further comment, Mayor Anderson closed the Public Hearing at 7:07 p.m.

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Lofberg to approve Resolution 2024-4 – Signing of the Municipal Annual Certification of Program Compliance 2024.

City Administrator Quady said this is a routine action every year for Highway Allocation funds from the Nebraska Department of Transportation.

Roll Call:                   Ayes: All                   Motion Carried

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Lofberg to approve Resolution 2024-5 – Setting Date for the Council to sit as the Board of Equalization.

City Administrator Quady said the hearing date in the resolution is September 19<sup>th</sup> and it is for setting the assessments for Blue Jay Way.

Roll Call:                   Ayes: All                   Motion Carried

Motion by Lofberg, second by Niemeyer to recommend approval to the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission for a new Class C Liquor License for Salt Creek Farmhouse LLC dba Salt Creek Mercantile at 1502 Silver Street.

Roll Call:                   Ayes: All                   Motion Carried

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Lofberg to remove Item I5 from the consent agenda.

Roll Call:                   Ayes: All                   Motion Carried

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Lofberg to approve consent agenda which included approval of the July 18, 2024 City Council meeting minutes; approval of the July 23, 2024 Budget Workshop; and approval of pay requests from JEO Consulting Group Inc. for General Engineering in the amount \$1,032.50, for Dennis Dean Road Improvements in the amount of \$2,687.50, for Water Main Furnas & 30<sup>th</sup> Streets in the amount of \$5,875.00, and for Public Works in the amount of \$35,056.00.

Roll Call:                   Ayes: All                   Motion Carried

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Lofberg to approve Item I5 approving Carol Clough as a member of the Creative District Committee.

Bob Fricke gave a brief history of the Creative District Committee and recommended approval of Clough as a new member.

Roll Call:                   Ayes: All                   Motion Carried

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Lofberg to approve the second half of July 2024 Claims.

Roll Call:                   Ayes: All                   Motion Carried

City Administrator Quady administered the Oath of Office to Police Officer Reaz Bidaisee.

Mayor Anderson reported the swimming pool is closed for the season. He noted it is closing earlier

than planned due to the storm and lack of power.

City Administrator Quady said that City Hall and all the City’s wells are out of power. She added there is a portable generator on Well 3. She said the City is requesting that water customers conserve water and turn off automatic sprinkler systems until all wells are operating. She added that OPPD sent out a robo call that some customers may be without electrical service for eight days. She said that the company that grinds the tree pile had begun working on Tuesday and Wednesday but had stopped due to the storm. She said they have begun to allow people to dump branches on the ball field parking lot. She added the tub grinding company will be back next week. She said at this time the Governor will not be making a disaster declaration as this was not a statewide event.

Motion by Niemeyer, second by Lofberg to adjourn at 7:28 p.m.

Roll Call:                      Ayes: All                      Motion Carried

  
James Anderson, Mayor

  
Kathleen Sliva, City Clerk



I, the above signed Deputy 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 August 1, 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.