



TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY

Regularly Scheduled City Council Meeting

July 08, 2025 6:00 PM

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Greer called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Gerald Greer
Councilman Tim Adkins
Councilwoman: Nicole Binkley
Councilman Michael Smith
Councilman Kevin Thompson
Councilman Tony Young

ABSENT

Vice Mayor Chris Kerrigan

PLEDGE AND PRAYER

1. Pastor JON FERREST - BETHEL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

We would like to Thank our Special guest Jon Ferrest for attending and giving the 1st Prayer in our New City Hall Building.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Councilman Smith, to approve the agenda. All approved by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Approval of the June 10, 2025, Regularly Scheduled City Council Meeting

A motion was made by Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Councilman Smith, to approve the June 10, 2025, Regularly Scheduled City Council Meeting Minutes. All approved by voice vote.

PUBLIC FORUM

Valerie Kemp – She stated that it is a beautiful building and thanked everyone for the hard work. She spoke to the City Council during the budget process last year and said the Sales Tax Revenues and other parts of the budget were over inflated and the budget was passed anyway. She has not seen the specifics of the budget to know exactly what you have left in and left out. The council members may be just thinking that they are only affecting the people who own their homes. What you are going to do when you raise property taxes like that in conjunction with the County raising their taxes as well, you are going to drive up the cost of living here because landlords will have to increase their rents to support the already rising cost that we have in property taxes and insurance has increased quite a bit for landlords. Commercial leases are already locked in for a period of time for most businesses. So, you have cut the income of those landlords. I would ask that you do not raise property taxes, I do think there are things in the budget from what I have heard over the last several budget meetings that could be cut. I would like to see the city do a bare bones budget that would not add any potential employees to the roster. It is my understanding that there are between 150 and 160 employees, 77 to 80 of which are part-time, and the other half are full-time. I don't know what the part-time positions are, so I don't know if those are auxiliary positions that could be cut. I realize that you all have been left in a bad position and backed into a corner because you were given financial data over the last several years that was probably not accurate and I appreciate the Mayor for having the state step in to do an audit and for all you contracting with the CPA firm that would have another set of eyes to look over it. The citizens should not have to pay for the prior financial data being incorrect. I ask that you all do everything possible to not increase the property taxes for the

residents in Ashland City. We are in a time where groceries are expensive and the cost of living here is very expensive and everyone is having to make cuts as a community, and I hope that the department heads have made every single cut they could make. One thing I hope you all keep in mind is that we have a failing antiquated water system that we have patch worked over the years and we need instead of spending capital money on things that we don't need, we need to keep that money there so, when the time comes that we need improvements that are needed we can make them. I want to thank you all for the diligent work on the budget but we still need to cut, cut, cut.

REPORTS

3. ATTORNEY: Jennifer Noe – Stated that she did not have anything to add that was not on the agenda.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS NONE

NEW BUSINESS

4. TCRS - Buy Back Discussion
A motion was made by Councilman Smith, Seconded by Councilman Thompson, to Deny the TCRS buy back program. Voting Yea: Councilman Smith, Councilman Thompson, Councilman Adkins, Mayor Greer. Voting Nay: Councilwoman Binkley, Councilman Young Absent: Vice Mayor Kerrigan
5. PEP - Liability Insurance - Property Renewal
A motion was made by Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Councilman Smith, to approve the Liability Insurance – Property Renewal. Voting Yea: Councilman Thompson, Councilman Smith, Councilman Young, Councilwoman Binkley, Councilman Adkins, Mayor Greer. Voting Nay: 0 Absent: Vice Mayor Kerrigan
6. IROL AGREEMENT: Service Level Agreement - Fire Department
A motion was made by Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Councilman Smith, to approve the IROL Agreement. Voting Yea: Councilman Thompson, Councilman Smith, Councilman Young, Councilwoman Binkley, Councilman Adkins, Mayor Greer. Voting Nay: 0 Absent: Vice Mayor Kerrigan
7. Tornado Siren's Power Source
A motion was made by Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Councilwoman Binkley, to approve the Tornado Siren Power Source. Voting Yea: Councilman Thompson, Councilwoman Binkley, Councilman Smith, Councilman Young, Councilman Adkins, Mayor Greer. Voting Nay: 0 Absent: Vice Mayor Kerrigan
8. Office Machine Service Agreement -Justin Wheeler
A motion was made by Councilwoman Binkley, Seconded by Councilman Thompson, to approve the Tornado AZOR – office machine service agreement with spelling correction. Voting Yea: Councilwoman Binkley, Councilman Thompson, Councilman Smith, Councilman Young, Councilman Adkins, Mayor Greer. Voting Nay: 0 Absent: Vice Mayor Kerrigan
9. Permission to apply for Senior Center Grant
A motion was made by Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Councilman Smith, to approve the application for the senior grant. Voting Yea: Councilman Thompson, Councilman Smith, Councilman Young, Councilwoman Binkley, Councilman Adkins, Mayor Greer. Voting Nay: 0 Absent: Vice Mayor Kerrigan
10. National Guard Armory Contract - Thrive 55 Center - Health and Wellness Expo
A motion was made by Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Councilwoman Binkley, to approve the National Guard Armory Contract. Voting Yea: Councilman Thompson, Councilwoman Binkley, Councilman Smith, Councilman Young, Councilman Adkins, Mayor Greer. Voting Nay: 0 Absent: Vice Mayor Kerrigan

11. RESOLUTION 2025-24: Budget Statement - CDBG Sewer Pump Installation Project

A motion was made by Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Councilman Smith, to approve CDBG Sewer Pump Installation Project. Voting Yea: Councilman Thompson, Councilman Smith, Councilman Young, Councilwoman Binkley, Councilman Adkins, Mayor Greer. Voting Nay: 0 Absent: Vice Mayor Kerrigan

12. Change Order #5 – WWTP

A motion was made by Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Councilwoman Binkley, to approve WWTP Change order # 5. Voting Yea: Councilman Thompson, Councilwoman Binkley, Councilman Smith, Councilman Young, Councilman Adkins, Mayor Greer. Voting Nay: 0 Absent: Vice Mayor Kerrigan

13. RESOLUTION 2025-25 - Court Costs

A motion was made by Councilwoman Binkley, Seconded by Councilman Thompson, to approve the Resolution to raise Court Costs by \$1.00. Voting Yea: Councilwoman Binkley, Councilman Thompson, Councilman Smith, Councilman Young, Councilman Adkins, Mayor Greer. Voting Nay: 0 Absent: Vice Mayor Kerrigan

14. Permission to apply for the BlueCross/BlueShield Playground Grant

A motion was made by Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Councilman Smith, to apply for the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Playground Grant. Voting Yea: Councilman Thompson, Councilman Smith, Councilman Young, Councilwoman Binkley, Councilman Adkins, Mayor Greer. Voting Nay: 0 Absent: Vice Mayor Kerrigan

SURPLUS PROPERTY NOMINATIONS

NONE

EXPENDITURE REQUESTS

NONE

OTHER

Mayor Greer- We do not have anything else, but I would like to welcome everyone to our very first meeting in our new city hall. I would like to give out some information on the live stream. There has been a little confusion when customers come to pay their water bills. If you are coming into the building, you will pass the building on your left and about halfway down you will see an alcove and that is the front of the building and the entrance. If you continue to the back parking lot and walk down the sidewalk about halfway down the building that will be where you enter to make payments. You may also use the drive through window and Margie Jarrell will be more than happy to greet you with a smile. She is wonderful to have as one of our employees.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Councilman Adkins, to adjourn the meeting. All approved by voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

MAYOR GERALD GREER

CITY RECORDER MARY MOLEPSKE