



## TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY Regularly Scheduled Workshop Meeting February 03, 2026, 6:00 PM Minutes

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### CALL TO ORDER

Vice Mayor Kerrigan called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

### ROLL CALL

Councilman Tim Adkins

Councilwoman Binkley

Vice Mayor Chris Kerrigan

Councilman Michael Smith

Councilman Kevin Thompson

Councilman Tony Young

**ABSENT**

Mayor Greer

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Councilman Smith, to approve the agenda with changes Announcing the new date, time, and location for the mowing bid opening and adding the VFEAT Grant under other. All approved by voice vote.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of January 6, 2026, Regularly Scheduled Workshop Minutes

A motion was made By Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Councilman Young, to approve the January 6, 2026, minutes. All approved by voice vote.

### PUBLIC FORUM

**Tammy Adcock:** a resident of S. Poole Street, requested that the Council vote **no** on the proposed speed limit change for S. Poole Street. She noted that only two residents requested the change at the previous meeting, one of whom does not live in the county. She stated that N. Poole Street, a higher-traffic cut-through between Forest Street and Bell Street, remained at 25 MPH despite speeding concerns, while S. Poole Street is a short dead-end street with limited traffic. She added that the street is approximately 1,000–1,200 feet long, has 9 out of 10 occupied homes, and based on her observations and Ring camera footage, she has not witnessed speeding or hard braking on the street.

**Courtney Drybala:** a resident of S. Poole Street, also requested that the Council vote **no** on the proposed speed limit change. She stated that the full context for the request was not presented to Council. She noted that she has lived on the street since 2017 and that her grandparents live next door. She explained that recent issues began after a new neighbor moved in and allowed children to play unsupervised in the roadway, which has led to ongoing conflict, including a reported physical assault involving a resident on the street, with a court date scheduled. She stated that she fears for her family's safety and that her home is equipped with cameras, which she is willing to make available to Council Members or law enforcement. She expressed that the issue should continue to be addressed by the Police Department rather than through a speed limit change, which she believes does not address the underlying problem.

### REPORTS

2. Attorney: Jennifer Noe  
Attorney Noe requested a 2-minute attorney client meeting at the end oof the agenda.
3. Finance Department: Will Duffel

**Will Duffel Finance Director** presented the Monthly Budget report for January through slides. He gave a packet to the council members to follow. He explained why revenue has not changed since last month. Expenses are holding steady and we are trying to make sure we are not overspending.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### 4. Ordinance 644: Budget Amendment – 2nd Reading

This item includes expense items related to the THSO Grant, a retirement line item, and donation items for the Police Department, Thrive 55, and the Finance Department, as well as the Water and Sewer Fund from Resolution 2025-36 passed in September for the SCADA Project overage.

## NEW BUSINESS

### 5. Resolution 2026-07: Amendment to the Water Bill Application

**Will Duffel** explained the current process for front office interactions with new water service customers, billing, and service cutoffs. He noted that there are currently three different water service applications and that the goal is to consolidate them into a single, streamlined form. He stated that the rules and regulations adopted in Resolution 2025-14 are only available online and not provided directly to customers and proposed including them with the application. He also noted that the online application collects unnecessary information that is not stored in the system and should be eliminated, that ServLine information should be provided to customers upfront, and that the in-office and online applications currently do not match. John

### 6. Louallen: Candidate for District 78 - Tennessee House of Representatives

**Mr. Louallen** thanked the Council for the opportunity to speak. He stated that while his original intent was to introduce himself and share his background ahead of an upcoming election, he felt compelled to commend the City following the recent storms. He noted observing City employees, elected officials, and leadership at the warming center and praised their organization, compassion, and care shown to those in need. He stated that the city has an exceptional group of employees and that their leadership and conduct were commendable.

### 7. Award of the mowing bid - Opening /delayed due to weather closure

**Mary Molepske** stated the original date for this Bid opening was 1-26-2026. We had a winter storm which caused a closure of offices that week. When we returned to offices, we set a new date and time for the bid opening on February 5, 2026, at 11 am. There was a mandatory walk through on January 12<sup>th</sup> and only the bidders that attended the walk through are able to submit a bid. I kept email contact with those bidders keeping them updated on the closure and the new date and time. I will email the council the bid tabulation form once the opening is complete, so they are able to review before the meeting on February 10, 2026.

### 8. Contract: Laser Light Contract for Summerfest

**Anthony Clark** stated that we have done this Laser Light show for the last 2 years and it has been a big hit. He would like to do it again this year if the council approves the contract in the amount of \$ 9,000.00 (nine thousand dollars).

### 9. Resolution 2026-08: Grant Amendment #5: Contract number 77833-26 - Police Department

**Mary Molepske** stated the amendment on the agenda from us deals with section changes with added verbiage concerning the responsibilities of the Grantee when reporting to the state and how to do so.

### 10. Resolution 2026-09: Department of Disability and aging Grant # 34401-99566-116 - Thrive 55+ Center

**Tammany Carter** stated that we received an additional \$ 8,857.00 (eight thousand eight hundred fifty-seven dollars) to our grant in addition to the \$ 30,000.00 (thirty thousand dollars) we were originally awarded. This is the amendment, so we are able to move forward with spending any of the money.

### 11. Discussion: Estimates for work at Thrive 55+ Center

**Tammany Carter** stated that a grant awarded in August 2024 must be expended by March 31, 2026, and that a portion was allocated for entry doors. She reported receiving two estimates and has not received a third. She explained that the interior entry doors are ineffective, create safety concerns due to limited space, and may be eliminated from the project. One estimate is approximately \$30,000 for both sets of doors, while the other is approximately \$17,000 for one set of exterior doors only, with \$29,000 remaining in the grant allocation.

**Councilman Thompson** asked whether the project could proceed without a third estimate, and it was advised that an explanation letter would be required documenting the inability to obtain a third quote.

**Vice Mayor Kerrigan** asked about use of remaining funds if the lower bid is selected, and Ms. Carter stated she is considering replacing chair rails. She also noted that a separate estimate under a newly awarded grant includes replacing ballast lighting with LED fixtures, and that the estimate will be sent to Mary to begin that work.

12. Resolution 2026-10: Adopt and recognize City Streets

**Attorney Noe** stated that this came out at a meeting that we have not formerly adopted our city streets. This is a list of the current streets the city has and speaking with Allen we determined moving forward when we accept a new subdivision we need to formally adopt any streets that we will be accepting the maintenance for them. This ensures we have an official list of city streets.

13. Resolution 2026-11: Adopt a speed limit on S. Poole Street

Clint Biggers stated that as of right now there is no speed limit posted on that street and the speed falls under Ordinance 637 which city streets are 25 MPH unless otherwise marked. The highest speed on that street would be 25 MPH, but he is waiting for the council to decide if they want to lower the speed limit to 15 MPH on that street before they place a sign up.

## **SURPLUS PROPERTY NOMINATIONS**

14. None

## **EXPENDITURE REQUESTS**

15. None

## **OTHER**

16. VFEAT Grant award - \$ 35,130.00 - No Match

**Chief Walker** stated that they received notification last week that we are awarded this bid with no match. This grant is through the State of Tennessee through the Fire Marshal's office. They will send the contract by the end of this week. Jennifer can review it before Tuesday meeting and we can start getting prices on items to buy through the grant. We are looking to get some needed equipment when it is determined the amount they award us. We had the same contract last year. We do not have to spend and get reimbursed they send us a check up front.

**\*\* Meeting paused for the Attorney Client Privilege meeting at 6:36 PM\*\***

**\*\*Meeting restarted after the Attorney Client Privilege meeting at 6:40 PM\*\***

**Allen Nicholson** stated that he and AC met with the grant writing firm and identified four additional no-match grant opportunities to be added to the agenda for the February 10, 2026, meeting. He noted the grants include T-Mobile (up to \$50,000), AARP (up to \$25,000), a Tennessee Department of Health Built Environment Grant (up to \$50,000), and a downtown grant, all requiring no local match.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Councilman Thompson, seconded by Councilwoman Binkley, to adjourn the meeting. All approved by voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 6:41 PM.

MAYOR GERALD GREER

CITY RECORDER MARY MOLEPSKE

DRAFT