

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

Tuesday, October 23, 2018

Ashland City Hall Council Chambers

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PRESENT: Holly George, Richard Ketrin, Sarah Jackson, Kate Ullman, Ana Tocherman, David Mettille, Charlie Ortman, Elizabeth Franek, Jackie Moore

ABSENT: Kevin Haas (excused), Dick Pufall (excused)

ALSO PRESENT: City Administrator Brant Kucera, City Clerk Denise Oliphant, Police Chief Jim Gregoire, Public Works Interim Director Sharon Campbell, Planning and Development Interim Director Megan McBride, Parks and Recreation Director Sara Hudson, and Other Concerned Citizens

Agenda Item 1: Roll Call

Roll call was taken by the Clerk.

Agenda Item 2: Council President's Report

President Mettille encouraged Council to reach out to him with any thoughts for improving the budget process and thanked them for their work during budget deliberations.

Agenda Item 3: City Administrator's Report

City Administrator Kucera spoke of his busy schedule of meetings in the past weeks and relayed a reminder of his time away from the office.

Agenda Item 4: Approval of the Agenda

George moved, Ketrin seconded a motion to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Agenda Item 5: Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Parking Time Limits and Enforcement of Parking Regulations in the Downtown Area (*Councilor George*)

In light of the recent parking study and the findings therein, Councilor George recommended reducing the downtown on-street parking time limit to 90 minutes and reinstating enforcement of downtown parking regulations.

After numerous comments for consideration, Tocherman moved, Ullman seconded a motion to direct the City Administrator to work with the appropriate departments regarding downtown parking including reducing the number of parking spaces along Main Street, and to not allow more surface lots in the Downtown District. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

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Agenda Item 6: Presentation, Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Source Water Protection Plan (Ketring)

As this is a committee that had lapsed (not met since January), Councilor Ketring believes this needed to be introduced to the new Council. Ketring spoke of the draft plan in place and invited Kevin Bruster to speak of the goals of the Source Water Protection Committee.

Ketring moved, Ortman seconded a motion to direct staff to contact the Rural Water Association to look into completing items within the present Source Water Protection Plan and to re-establish the Committee. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Ullman moved, Ketring seconded a motion to move the Plan, once finalized, to the Sustainability Committee for review and development of the Plan regarding the goals, time lines and actions to take place. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Agenda Item 7: Discussion of Fourth of July 6:00 a.m. Cannons (Ullman)

Councilors had heard concerns from a number of people about this tradition. Note, this was to be a discussion item, not an action item.

Police Chief Jim Gregoire told Council he researched this issue and found that this has been done by private citizens for the past 60+ years, and are actually fireworks and not cannons, set off at 6:00 a.m. as a “sunrise salute” at unknown locations on both the east and west ends of the City.

George moved to issue a permit to Mr. Drolson regulating the firing of the “cannons” at 7:00 a.m. being that the noise ordinance in place prohibits noise levels of this nature between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. The motion died for lack of a second.

Ketring moved, Ullman seconded a motion to direct staff to create a noise ordinance permit for allowed exceedances outside the hours listed within the City’s noise ordinance and to direct staff to enforce such permits. Moore stated a point of order, and the motion was withdrawn by Ketring.

Gregoire offered to talk directly with Mr. Drolson and Mr. Ronning regarding the time of the letting of fireworks on the Fourth of July and will report back to Council as to the outcome of this discussion.

Agenda Item 8: Adjournment

Jackson moved, Ketring seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Oliphant
City Clerk