

MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, December 10, 2025

6:00 p.m.

714 Main Street

*The purpose of the Agenda is to assist the Council and interested citizens in the conduct of the public meeting. Careful review of the Agenda is encouraged. Testimony from the public will be solicited for any item or issue listed under the category of **Public Hearings**. The Mayor will not normally allow audience participation at any other time. Idaho Law prohibits council action on items brought under this section except in an emergency circumstance. Questions concerning items appearing on this Agenda or requests for accommodation of special needs to participate in the meetings should be addressed to the Office of the City Clerk or call 208-652-3987.*

PRAYER OFFERED BY: John Kaelberer
CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME
PLEDGE LED BY: Nate Finley

In Attendance: Tom Mattingly, Teresa Hansen, John Kaelberer, John Scafe, Councilman Finley.

Also in attendance: City Clerk Stegelmeier, Chief Griffel, City Attorney Angell, Taci Kyle Jones, and Terry Thames.

Mayor Mattingly welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.

1. CONSENT AGENDA: ACTION ITEM

Being considered routine by the City Council, these items will be enacted by one motion unless requested by a Councilman or a citizen that one or more items be removed for later discussion.

- A. **Minutes** – Approval of Meeting Minutes 11-12-2025, Special Meeting 11-17-2025
- B. **Treasurer’s Report** - As Submitted
- C. **Payables** – Bills for Council approval as a result of City expenditures
- D. **Employee Expenses** – As submitted.

Councilwoman Hansen made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilman Finley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Regular Business:

Each speaker will be allowed a maximum of 5 minutes unless repeat testimony is requested by the Mayor/Council.

1. Canvas of the Election – City Clerk Stegelmeier ACTION ITEM

City Clerk Stegelmeier reported that the County had not sent an original of the election in time for the packet but did send an email. City Clerk Stegelmeier had put a copy at each councilor’s desk. She then showed them that the County had fixed the typos and everything is now correct and approved by the County Commissioners.

Councilwoman Hansen made a motion to accept the canvas of the November 2025 election as presented with the corrections noted. Councilman Kaelberer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. American Dog Derby Discussion – Dog Derby Representative, City Clerk Stegelmeier, Chief Griffel ACTION ITEM

John Scafe explained that the Dog Derby Committee has had many discussions and spoken with the business that was affected by the road closure for the race the prior year. The problems have been resolved and the race will go down Main Street again on the same trail as last year. There is going to be an opening on Seventh Street for deliveries if needed. Also – for emergency vehicles. All of the businesses will be notified. John said now all that is needed is the snow.

3. Parks Grant Discussion – City Clerk Stegelmeier, Rick Miller, Taci Stoddard ACTION ITEM

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Taci Stoddard is here to discuss the grant administration services. There is a contract and after it is signed, she will start on the environmental reporting that is required. In the new year, the City will put out for bids in two phases. One for the pool and one for parking. Hopefully, the City will be able to get the work done that is needed.

Councilman Hansen made a motion to approve the contract with the park grant administration as presented. Councilman Kaelberer seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Water Study Update – City Clerk Stegelmeier, Kyle Jones *ACTION ITEM*

Kyle Jones is here to speak to the council about the water study. Kyle explained that he had brought a copy for each council member. He has also provided an electronic copy via flash drive to City Clerk Stegelmeier. There may be some changes after the comments come back from the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. The section that he is expecting to comment on is the environment. He will then co-ordinate with the DEQ to complete what is required. Following the completion and acceptance of the study the City will need to review the recommendations of the study. Then the City can submit letters of intent and continue on to do the project that they believe will benefit the City. The Council will review the study and make some decisions following the completion of the DEQ requirements.

5. Main Street Sidewalk Project Discussion – City Clerk Stegelmeier *ACTION ITEM*

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that the agreement in the packet from the ITD is the next step in the Sidewalk Improvement Project.

Councilman Scafe made a motion to that the City enter into the Sidewalk Improvement Project Agreement as presented. Councilman Finley seconded the motion. Roll call. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Street Light Discussion – Mayor Mattingly, City Clerk Stegelmeier *ACTION ITEM*

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that the street light agreement with Rocky Mountain Power is getting into the final stages. Rocky Mountain Power will not be replacing the sodium lights as they continue to complete the life of the light. City Clerk Stegelmeier discussed this with the Mayor and they are asking the Council to start looking around and getting ideas on what kind of lights the City would like to replace them. There will be more discussion throughout the year.

7. City Discussion – Councilman Kaelberer *ACTION ITEM*

Councilman Kaelberer said he has been honored to serve the citizens of Ashton as a City Councilman. He has appreciated working with the other City Councilmembers, Mayor, City Attorney and other employees. He explained that the employees do such a good job on the City's roads and service to the citizens. Everyone pulls together to really make this city work. He thinks that a lot of people don't realize how good these people are because things run so smoothly. He is just really impressed with everybody he has worked with and he wanted to thank them all. Councilman Kaelberer explained that he was hoping the new councilman would be here because he is hoping to encourage the City Council to continue to work well under the Mayor's leadership. Liability is a big issue and he feels that the Council needs to heed the City Attorney's recommendations to make sure that the City does not fall into some of the liability issues that other small cities in Idaho have faced. He also wants to encourage them to take care of the employees and keep the benefits that are offered now. Many of the employees could go elsewhere but the benefits keep them here. He hopes that the Council continues to take care of the water and sewer by being proactive and looking ahead. Councilman Kaelberer shared a concern he has had because of a Thanksgiving donation that was approved at the last meeting. The City provided a turkey and a ham for a community Thanksgiving dinner which was a fantastic cause, absolutely fantastic. But he is concerned that the City should not be giving out citizen's taxpayer money as a donation. He is sure that the individuals on the Council would donate. That would be a better way of supporting such wonderful causes without setting a precedent or using taxpayer money. Councilman Kaelberer then thanked everyone again and said it has been a great six years. A great experience thanks to everyone because they are just such a wonderful group. The council members thanked Councilman Kaelberer.

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8. Council Schedule – City Clerk Stegelmeier **ACTION ITEM**

City Clerk Stegelmeier went over the schedule with the Mayor and Council.

9. Executive Session – City Attorney Angell **ACTION ITEM**

I.C. 74-206 Certain City-related matters may need to be discussed confidentially as a matter of law (Acquisition of real property, personnel matters, attorney-client communications) subject to applicable legal requirements, the Council may enter executive session by roll call vote to discuss such matters.

(f) To communicate with legal counsel for the City of Ashton to discuss legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation.

Councilman Kaelberer made a motion to enter an executive session. Councilwoman Hansen seconded the motion. Mayor Mattingly called for a roll call vote. Councilman Finley, aye; Councilman Scafe, aye; Councilwoman Hansen, aye; and Councilman Kaelberer, aye. The motion was passed by a unanimous vote.

The Council entered an executive session at 6:29 pm.

Councilwoman Hansen made a motion to exit an executive session. Councilman Kaelberer seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

The Council exited an Executive session at 6:42 pm.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Hansen made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Finley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting ended at 6:44 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Cathy Stegelmeier, City Clerk.

Attest

Cathy Stegelmeier

City Clerk

Tom Mattingly

Mayor