

MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, May 13, 2026

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: James Allen

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

PLEDGE LED BY: Teresa Hansen

In Attendance: Tom Mattingly, Teresa Hansen, John Scafe, Nate Finley and James Allen.

Also in attendance: City Clerk Stegelmeier, Chief Griffel, City Attorney Angell, Officer Vega, Deputy Clerk Vega, Kim Haskins, Andy Haskins, Sheryl Hill, Rachel Hatton, Andrea Simpson, Michele Smith, Kyle Jones, Jaden Jackson, Dallas Hill, Terry Thames and Kathy Scafe.

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 4-8-2026, Special Meeting Minutes 4-15-2026
- 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 accept the consent agenda. Councilman Finley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Regular Business:

Each speaker will be allowed a maximum of 3 minutes unless repeat testimony is requested by the Mayor/Council.

1. Public Hearing – P&Z Update ACTION ITEM

Mayor Mattingly opened the public hearing at 6:02 pm.

Mayor Mattingly asked City Clerk Stegelmeier if the proper notice had been given. She replied that it had and the council has a copy of the affidavit of publication in the meeting packet. Mayor Mattingly then asked if City Clerk Stegelmeier would give an overview of the change. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that the City Council had been considering a change to the code for a while as many in the impact area had already served. Also, the impact area has changed in the last year due to changes in policy through the Idaho Legislature.

Mayor Mattingly then explained that he will read the name from the list and the speaker should come forward and state their name and address for the record prior to giving their comments.

Dallas Hill, 841 Maple Street, Ashton. Dallas is in favor of making this change. He thinks with the changes in the area of impact and it becoming smaller there are less people to serve. He recommends that the changes be made.

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Sheryl Hill, 308 Highland Street, Ashton. Sheryl is opposed to these changes. She thinks that the City is locking the City into something that is too restrictive. She recommends that the code be changed to read 'the commission shall consist of five members appointed by the mayor and council, one of whom may reside in the city of Ashton's area of impact'. Sheryl reminded the Council that this is a code change that will be forever until it is changed again, which could be for a very long time. She went on to say that although the area of impact has been changed to a smaller area, some of that area may end up with apartment buildings and there may be many more residents to serve on the commission. She thanked the Council for their attention.

There were no other members of the public who signed up to speak. Mayor Mattingly asked if anyone in the audience would like to give public comments. There was no other public comment. Mayor Mattingly closed the public hearing at 6:06 pm.

Mayor Mattingly opened up a discussion by the Council on the proposed ordinance. Councilman Allen said that he thought Sheryl's suggestion was a good suggestion. Councilman Scafe agreed. He feels it is a good solution making it so that those in the impact area could still serve. Councilman Finley thinks it is a great idea. City Attorney Angell explained that whoever made the motion would need to add the language they would like to the ordinance. City Clerk Stegelmeier reminded them that they would need to use the formal ordinance procedure when passing the ordinance.

Councilman Allen made a motion to read the City of Ashton Ordinance 515-26 by title only and dispense with the second and third readings. Councilwoman Hansen seconded the motion. Roll call vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Allen read the ordinance into the record by title.

Councilman Allen made a motion to that Ashton City Ordinance 515-26 be approved and published with the body amended to read 'the commission shall consist of five members appointed by the mayor and council, one of whom may reside in the city of Ashton's area of impact'. Councilman Scafe seconded the motion. Roll call vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Public Hearing – Park Fee Update *ACTION ITEM*

Mayor Mattingly opened the public hearing at 6:16 pm. Mayor Mattingly asked City Clerk Stegelmeier if the proper notice had been given. She replied that it had and the council has a copy of the affidavit of publication in the meeting packet. Mayor Mattingly then asked if City Clerk Stegelmeier would give an overview of the change. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that the City's auditors have been discussing the implications of the General Fund subsidizing the Parks Fund for several years. The City Council has been discussing ways to help the Park Fund pay for itself. Councilman Allen added that what the auditor is saying is that it is for sustainability reasons. The council wants to keep things affordable, but more importantly, they want to keep things open and maintained.

Dallas Hill, 841 Maple, Ashton, Idaho. Dallas said that the amount of change is pretty miniscule, \$10 a use, or \$5 or even a couple bucks if it is just night swim. Dallas is concerned that this change may not offset the auditor's findings. He thinks that before the City makes the change, we need to know if it is going to be effective. Is it going to be worth it or is it going to be a drop in the bucket, and it really is not going to make that much difference. He does not want to see the City raising the rates this year, then having the same hearing again next year, and then the year after that, because of only incrementing it \$1 instead of the appropriate amount to cover the cost. He thinks that usage of the pavilion, if it is not being used, what is wrong with someone showing up with balloons and a cake and eating it there at the park? Do they have to have a permit? Most of the time when Dallas drives by the pavilions are vacant. Dallas did not even know that you needed to come to the city and get a permit,

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but if he had a kid having a birthday party and he saw that the park was empty he would not think about getting a permit first. He is not really for doing the permits for the pavilion.

Rachel Hatton, 969 Cherry, Ashton, Idaho. Rachel feels like pavilion rent is too much because as taxpayers and those that helped build them, they should not have to pay. She sees that they are used frequently on the weekends, it is very busy over there, and she is pretty sure that most of them have not paid anything, so if the City is going to charge, there needs to be accountability, or just do not do it. It is one or the other. For accountability, an idea might be to have it posted reserved for the Stronks or another family or whatever. Otherwise, I do not see how you can regulate and keep it fair across the board. When she goes by the park on the weekend, it is busy over there. She is pretty sure most of them have not come to the city to pay or are even aware that there is a fee. Rachel then said there was a party at the park in the pavilion just last week. She was disappointed to hear that while the family was setting up for the party, there were kids skateboarding on the picnic tables. There was a sign in the pavilion that said no skateboarding so the family called the police and said, please come, these kids will not leave. This caused a problem and the sign is now gone. Rachel explained that her opinion is that paying for the pavilion is too much. Taxpayers have already paid their taxes and should get to use the pavilions. If a fee is decided on, she feels like there needs to be accountability or do not do it at all. Keep it fair and across the board.

Mayor Mattingly asked if anyone in the audience would like to give public comments. There was no additional public comment.

Mayor Mattingly closed the public hearing at 6:25 pm.

Mayor Mattingly then opened up a discussion by the Council on the proposed Resolution. Councilman Allen explained that people can use the pavilion at any time you want for free but if you want to guarantee your spot, then that is when you pay a fee to reserve it. It also helps pay for the garbage and then extra cleanup that the City does for groups coming to an event. City Clerk Stegelmeier said that the Council can wait on the pool fees or pavilion fees. Councilwoman Hansen explained she likes paying the fee to reserve the pavilion to know that it will be there for use for a family event, etc. She also knows that the pool fees will need to raise – they are lower than other pool fees in the area. Councilwoman Hansen does think that the Council should wait to decide on the fees. Councilman Scafe would like to see if other cities in the area charge for the use of their city's pavilions.

Councilwoman Hansen made a motion to table Resolution 26-1 until next month. Councilman Finley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. 4th of July Discussion – City Clerk Stegelmeier, Terry Thames, Suzelle Burch, Rachel Hatton, Brad Rankin *ACTION ITEM*

Terry Thames, Suzelle Burch, Rachel Hatton and Brad Rankin came to City Council to discuss the 4th of July Celebration. He explained that last year, after the parade, there was the regular flag-raising, food, etc. in the park and then a music, etc. uptown South 5th Street. This year the Chamber has put together a 4th of July committee and they have been thinking about having everything uptown in the Main Business area of Ashton. There are thousands of people who are coming to the parade and they can just keep them there are celebrate together. Suzelle Burch put together a survey and the results show that people would be interested in having the celebrations up town. Mayor Mattingly asked if they had any information on where the people who responded to the survey (79 in total) were located or whether they have ties to Ashton. Suzelle explained that there is no way to track where the answers come from. Mayor Mattingly expressed his opinion that the City Park is the place to have events like these – that is why the City has a park. Mayor Mattingly then asked how long they were talking about shutting down Main Street. Terry replied that three additional hours is all they are considering. They are thinking of

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Main Street between 5th and 6th and both sides of 5th Street off of Main to Fremont on the South and Pine on the North. Mayor Mattingly said that this will mean closing down a State Hiway for 5 hours. He thinks that parking will be a problem. The discussion continued as they discussed shade, events in the pocket park and businesses being open or closed. City Clerk Stegelmeier asked if they had check with the Idaho Transportation Department to see if they would allow their permit to be extended for that long. Rachel Hatton explained that she spoke to them and they would not close the highway for longer than the parade time. Councilwoman Hansen explained that she likes the events to be in the two locations. Councilman Allen likes the playground equipment at the park. Kids have a lot of fun during the 4th of July at the City Park. Chief Griffel explained that the traffic is a problem. Everyone is trying to get out of town after the parade. Brad Rankin said he understands the traffic problem. It is true that there are thousands of people are here. He thinks, however, that if it were marked out correctly it could work. For the 250th Celebration, the most iconic spot he thinks would be on Main Street to have something different and celebrate all together. There is the pocket park for grass and all that. He thinks that if the City intervenes, the ITD will allow the highway to be closed. Councilwoman Hansen said that the ITD does not have a good record of listening to the City's suggestions. Discussion turned again to using two locations. Councilman Finley explained that people will go back and forth. They are not that far apart. Brad Rankin asked if the City Council would be willing to allow the Fireworks Fundraiser to use the park with no fees. Rachel Hatton asked if the Chamber could also use the park with no fees for the 4th of July. City Clerk Stegelmeier reminded Rachel that the City has never charged them to use the park. Rachel said she just thought she should make sure. They then talked about closing 5th Street from Main to Fremont and Fremont Street from 5th to 6th Street for the uptown celebration.

Councilman Scafe made a motion to allow the use of the park and pavilions at no charge for both the 4th of July Fireworks Fundraiser and the 4th of July activities. Councilman Finley seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Councilman Allen made a motion to close Fremont Street from 5th Street to 6th Street and 5th Street from Main to Fremont Street. Councilwoman Hansen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that she just wanted to pass on the map received from the engineers and ask if the Council has any questions or concerns about it. There is a photo of what the curbs will look like and they will have the ADA markings. Councilman Scafe asked if they are going to put in bricks for the utilities to run in. City Clerk Stegelmeier replied that the City is not planning to replace the sprinkler system and the street light electricity is already in conduit. They discussed the trees and planters. Councilman Scafe reiterated that the tree discussion is important. He is hoping to have the public meetings about the trees soon. The Council will let Cathy know if they see any other issues with the map.

5. Parks Project Discussion – City Clerk Stegelmeier *ACTION ITEM*

The City is out to bid on the street portion of the Parks project. The bids will be open on May 20th and so the Council will need to have a special meeting at that time to accept it so that the pool bids can go out. The pool closure was discussed and City Clerk Stegelmeier explained the considerations that went into closing it for the summer. One of the biggest considerations was that the tile replacement would have to be done before opening and would have cost \$11,000. This would have had to be out of pocket and it would need to be redone as part of the project. Councilman Scafe said losing more money was not a good idea. The pool will be done and great for 2027!

6. P&Z Discussion – P&Z Administrator Denney *ACTION ITEM*

Administrator Denney was not available. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that the P&Z is scheduled to have a public hearing at their meeting on a zone change. It will be a public hearing at the City Council next month. It is site specific so there will be information in their packet for them to consider.

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

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that she put a letter in the packet so that the Council could give their congratulations to the American Dog Derby committee. They were selected for the Idaho State Historical Society 2026 Esto Perpetua Award. The Council congratulated Councilman Scafe who is the chairman of the committee. Councilman Scafe explained that it is pretty exciting to get the award especially because they are representing all of District. The award ceremony is June 7th in Boise and anyone who wants to go is invited. City Clerk Stegelmeier then went over the rest of the Council Schedule with the Council.

8. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting ended at 7:22 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Cathy Stegelmeier, City Clerk.

Attest

Cathy Stegelmeier
City Clerk

Tom Mattingly
Mayor