

**ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL CALLED BUSINESS MEETING DRAFT MINUTES  
Tuesday, January 31, 2023  
Council Chambers, 1175 E. Main Street**

**View on Channel 9 or Channels 180 and 181 (Charter Communications) or live stream via [rvtv.sou.edu](http://rvtv.sou.edu) select RVTV Prime.**

HELD HYBRID (Limited In-Person Social Distancing Seating and Zoom Meeting Access)

For written public testimony, email [public-testimony@ashland.or.us](mailto:public-testimony@ashland.or.us) using the subject line: Ashland City Council Public Testimony.

For public oral testimony, fill out a Speaker Request Form at [ashland.or.us/speakerrequest](http://ashland.or.us/speakerrequest) and return to the City Recorder.

**6:00 PM Regular Business Meeting\***

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Land Acknowledgement\*\***

Councilor Hyatt read the Land Acknowledgement.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Councilor Kaplan led the pledge.

**III. ROLL CALL**

**Councilor Chair Graham, Councilors' Hyatt, Kaplan, DuQuenne, and Hansen were present.**

Kaplan asked to add an agenda item regarding Staff to come back with an amendment to Council practices and protocols that reads that the Mondays before business meetings that land on a holiday that the Study Session is moved to Wednesday.

**Kaplan/Hyatt moved to add this item to the Agenda. Discussion: None. Roll Call Vote: Hyatt, Kaplan, Graham, DuQuenne and Hansen: YES. All Ayes. Motion passed unanimously.**

Hansen requested to add a discussion item regarding construction for mountain avenue and Ashland street regarding a project for adding a bike lane.

**Hansen/Kaplan moved to add this item to the agenda. Discussion: None. Roll Call Vote: Hansen, DuQuenne, Kaplan and Hyatt: YES. Motion passed unanimously.**

## **Public Forum**

Paul – Ashland -Spoke regarding the location of the cell tower. He spoke against the location of the tower and urged Council to not put the tower in the location.

### **IV. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **1. Chair of the City Council Election**

**Hyatt/Kaplan I move to confirm Councilor Graham as Chair of the Council for one year.**

**Discussion: None. Roll All Vote: Hyatt, Graham, Kaplan, DuQuenne and Hansen: YES. All Ayes. Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **2. City Council liaison appointments**

Graham gave a brief Staff Report.

Council discussed options.

**Hyatt/Hansen moved that the City Manager extend invitations to key stakeholders within the community to join our economic development conversation on March 6, 2023. Hansen seconded. Discussion:** Hyatt spoke that we are in a time of change and welcomes the conversation of new ideas. Hansen spoke that bringing the round table is a great step and looks forward to moving forward. **Roll Call Vote: Hyatt, Graham, Hansen, Kaplan and DuQuenne: YES. All Ayes. Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **3. Council Election or Process to fill Mayor and Councilor Vacancies**

City Attorney Doug McGeary gave a brief Staff Report.

Council discussed the appointment process.

**Hyatt/Hansen moved that Council utilize a councilor seat selection process using our precedent process for Council seat 6 back in 2018. For Council Seat #3 engage in an application process and leverage the precedent set by Council Seat in #6 in 2018 and move forward with that process. Discussion:** Hyatt spoke that the process used in the past has served the community well. Hansen spoke that he like the precedence of this process and spoke in support of the motion. **Roll Call Vote: DuQuenne, Kaplan, Hyatt, Graham and Hansen: YES. All Ayes Motion passed unanimously.**

**Hyatt/DuQuenne moved that the City of Ashland accept applications for Council Position 3 through 5PM February 14, 2023; interviews completed by February 20, 2023; appointment will occur on February 21, 2023 at the Council Business Meeting. Discussion:** Hyatt amended the motion to include appointment at the February 21<sup>st</sup> or 22<sup>nd</sup> 2023 Council Meeting. **Discussion on the amendment: None. Roll Call Vote on the amendment: Hansen, DuQuenne, Kaplan, Graham and Hyatt :YES. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Main Motion Roll Call Vote: Graham, Hansen DuQuenne, Kaplan and Hyatt: YES. Motion passed unanimously.**

Council discussed the Mayor appointment.

**Hyatt/Kaplan moved that the Council take 1 week to consider the position of mayor to appoint the next Mayor within the council body. If no Councilor accepts appointment will then apply same process for Council seat 3. Discussion:** Hyatt thanked those who served. Hansen spoke that he likes the idea of Mayor coming from this body but recognized that there are individuals in the community who could serve. **Roll Call Vote: Hyatt, Kaplan, DuQuenne, Hansen and Graham: YES. All Ayes. Motion passed unanimously.**

#### 4. Citizens Budget Committee Appointments

While Staff tallied the votes Chair Graham brought up Public Forum Mike Gardiner regarding Study Session dates.

Mike Gardiner – Ashland – Mr. Gardiner spoke regarding the Study Session suggestion and that others may need the room and to take that into consideration.

**Kaplan/Hyatt moved to direct Staff to come back at the next meeting with a recommendation of how we can schedule a study session which is bumped due to a holiday and bring this item to the next Council Meeting for more information. Discussion:** Kaplan spoke that to the importance to the meetings and work needs to get done. Hyatt spoke agreed with Kaplan and to the importance of Study Sessions. **Roll Call Vote: Hyatt, Graham, DuQuenne, Hansen and Kaplan: YES. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Hyatt/Kaplan moved to direct Staff to set up a Council Business Meeting on February 22, 2023 as a direct result of the 3 missed study sessions in 2023. Discussion:** None. **Roll Call Vote: Hyatt, Graham, DuQuenne, Hansen and Kaplan: YES. Motion passed unanimously.**

Continued with the Budget Committee Appointments.

**Hansen/Graham moved to appoint the following individuals Andy Card, Jeff Dahle, Eric Navickas, Mike Gardiner and Linda Peterson Adams to the Budget Committee. Discussion:** Hansen and Graham thanked all. DuQuenne that the State of Revenue has training for Budget Committees and would be a good idea to look into this. **Roll Call Vote: DuQuenne, Hansen, Kaplan, Graham and Hyatt: YES. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Hyatt/Kaplan moved to appoint the following individuals for the term ending June 30, 2025, Andy Card and Jeff Dahle. Discussion:** None. **Roll Call Vote: Hansen, Graham, Kaplan and Hyatt: YES. DuQuenne: NO. Motion passed 3-1.**

**Hyatt/Kaplan moved to appoint the following individuals for the term ending June 30, 2024 Eric Navickas and Linda Peterson Adams. Discussion:** Kaplan explained the logic of the terms. DuQuenne spoke that she voted wrong and would like to correct her vote regarding the previous . McGeary explained the process.

**Graham/Hyatt moved to allow Councilor DuQuenne to correct her vote regarding the previous budget committee appointment. Discussion: None. Roll Call Vote: Hansen, Graham, DuQuenne, Hyatt and Kaplan: YES. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Hyatt withdrew her motion regarding the term ending in 2024.**

**Hyatt/Kaplan moved to appoint the following individuals for the term ending June 30, 2025, Andy Card and Jeff Dahle. Discussion: None. Roll Call Vote: Hansen, Graham, Kaplan, DuQuenne and Hyatt: YES. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Hyatt/Kaplan moved to appoint the following individuals for the term ending June 30, 2024 Eric Navickas and Linda Peterson Adams. Discussion: None. Roll Call Vote: Hansen, DuQuenne, Kaplan, Graham and Hyatt: YES. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Hyatt/Kaplan moved to appoint the following individual for the term ending June 30, 2023, Mike Gardiner. Discussion: None. Roll Call Vote: Graham, Hansen, DuQuenne, Kaplan and Hyatt: YES. Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **5. 2023-2025 Biennial Budget Calendar & Protocols**

Sabrina gave a Staff report.

**Kaplan/DuQuenne moved to accept the budget calendar for the BN2023-2025 Budget process. Discussion: None. Roll Call Vote: Hansen, DuQuenne, Kaplan, Graham and Hyatt: YES. Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **6. City Communication Planning Status and Next Steps**

Lessard gave a Staff report.

**Hyatt/Kaplan moved to move the communications position to the city including the funding to support the position and to ensure that the parks have the funds necessary to contract and maintain their marketing communications. Discussion: Hyatt spoke in support of the motion and that the community is in need for this conversation. Kaplan spoke in agreement with Hyatt and spoke to the importance of communication and engagement. DuQuenne spoke clarifying the motion. Lessard and Graham clarified the motion. Roll Call Vote: Hansen, DuQuenne, Hyatt, Kaplan and Graham: YES. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Added Item to the Agenda – Bike Lanes for Highway 66 Ashland Street Project.**

Hansen gave a Staff Report.

**DuQuenne/Hyatt moved to suspend the rules to allow the Transportation Commission Chair to speak. Discussion: None. Roll Call Vote: Hansen, DuQuenne, Kaplan, Graham and Hyatt: YES. Motion passed unanimously.**

Linda Peterson-Adams – Ashland – Spoke that the Transportation Commission discussed changing the design phase on Ashland Street. She explained that they are working with ODOT.

Council discussed options and thanked the Commission.

**Hyatt/DuQuenne moved that Council provide Staff direction to bring to the Transportation Commission information for a recommendation regarding protective bike lanes and cross walks on Ashland Street with specific attention to YMCA Way and Washington Street. Discussion:** Kaplan thanked the Transportation Committee. Graham spoke in agreement with Kaplan and the importance of moving forward and in support of the motion. **Roll Call Vote: Hansen, DuQuenne, Graham, Hyatt and Kaplan: YES. Motion passed unanimously.**

Lessard spoke regarding the success of the townhall and thanked Staff.

#### V. ADJOURNMENT OF BUSINESS MEETING

**Kaplan/DuQuenne moved to adjourn the Council Meeting. Voice Vote: All Ayes. The Council meeting was Adjourned at 8:02 PM**

Respectfully submitted by:

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**City Recorder Melissa Huhtala**

Attest:

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**Councilor Chair Graham**

\* Items on the Agenda not considered due to time constraints are automatically continued to the next regularly scheduled Council meeting [AMC 2.04.030.(D)(3)]

**\*\* LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

We acknowledge and honor the aboriginal people on whose ancestral homelands we work—the Ikirakutsum Band of the Shasta Nation, as well as the diverse and vibrant Native communities who make their home here today. We honor the first stewards in the Rogue Valley and the lands we love and depend on: Tribes with ancestral lands in and surrounding the geography of the Ashland Watershed include the original past, present and future indigenous inhabitants of the Shasta, Takelma, and Athabaskan people. We also recognize and acknowledge the Shasta village of K'wakhakha - "Where the Crow Lights" - that is now the Ashland City Plaza.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Manager's office at (541) 488-6002 (TTY phone number 1-800-735-2900). Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City

to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the meeting (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title I).