

MINUTES/NEWS

Ashley City Council Minutes

ASHLEY CITY COUNCIL
 PROCEEDINGS Board of Equalization
 Monday May 11, 2026, 6:30 P.M.
 ASHLEY CITY HALL

President Geiszler called meeting to order at 6:30 PM, Kosel, Geiszler, Kroh, Glaesmann, Dahl, Newhouse. Mayor Schock absent. Also present, Todd Dockter, Michael Gorder & Jordan Gall (Moore Engineering), newspaper absent.

After the pledge of allegiance, Newhouse moved to approve the agenda. Dahl second. Unanimous. Dahl moved to approve April 13th, 2026, minutes Glaesmann second. Unanimous.

Public Comment:
 Moore Engineers Report presented. Dahl moved to pay Burlington Electric Cap 5 in the amount of \$38,685.57. Kosel 2nd. Unanimous. Kroh moved to enact Sewer Reline Change Order 2 increase of \$65,211.60. Kosel 2nd. Unanimous. Dahl moved to enact Moore Sewer Reline Invoice SIN008841 in the amount of \$4,488.50. Newhouse 2nd. Unanimous. Glaesmann moved to enact Moore Sewer Reline Letter Agreement Amendment #2 in the amount up to \$69,500.00. Newhouse 2nd. Unanimous.

EMPLOYEE REPORTS:
 AUDITOR: Newhouse moved to accept the 2nd Reading of the Model Amendment Floorplan Management. Kosel 2nd. Unanimous. It was discussed that the city office should be open at all times that are scheduled. To accomplish this council is looking at having 3 days scheduled and 2 days flexing during the week to allow for appointments and time off. Tabled till next meeting.
 WATER/SEWER: 3 candidates for Water Position presented to council. Com-

mittee of Schock, Newhouse and Dockter will schedule interviews.
 STREET/GARBAGE: Kroh moved to accept bid from Lien Transportation for the shaping and paving of the alley east and north of the water tower to be completed at the same time as the contracted paving of the alley by the water tower in the amount of \$26,589.00. Glaesmann 2nd. Unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS:
 Kosel moved to renew Lions site authorization for The Grumpy Goose and The Wild Rose. Dahl 2nd. Unanimous.

Building Permits:
 Presented 2 approved and 2 awaiting approval. Mayor will review and approve as required.

Financials:
 1130 McIntosh County Bank.
 163e NDPERS 03/11/26 \$2,105.48 TD,TL,KF Retire
 164e NDPERS 03/11/26 \$2,920.92 2026 March Portion
 165e IRS 03/11/26 \$3,086.87
 166e Vestis 03/11/26 \$159.93 Rugs
 167e MDU 03/11/26 \$309.36 2026 January/February 167 SW Lift
 168e MDU 03/11/26 \$380.40 2026 January/February 295 WT
 169e MDU 03/11/26 \$178.14 2026 January/February 436 Shop
 170e MDU 03/11/26 \$299.02 2026 January/February 448 SE Lift
 171e MDU 03/11/26 \$228.69 2026 January/February 581 StLts
 172e MDU 03/11/26 \$1,528.86 2026 January/February 825 CH
 173e MDU 03/11/26 \$680.43 2026 January/February 867 WTP
 174e MDU 03/11/26 \$3,390.64 2026 January/February 777 StLts
 175e JOB SERVICE OF ND 03/31/26 \$125.00 fees
 176e MCINTOSH CO. BANK 03/31/26

\$32.45 03202026 ACH Fees
 177e AFLAC Traditional and Direct 03/31/26 \$33.96 2026 Feb TD
 178e AFLAC Traditional and Direct 03/31/26 \$33.96 2026 March TD
 179e CHS 04/10/26 \$1,170.42 Pay-loader Fuel
 180e MDU 04/10/26 \$155.57 2026 March Lift 167
 181e MDU 04/10/26 \$198.85 2026 March WT 295
 182e MDU 04/10/26 \$1,738.71 2026 March ST LTs 777
 183e MDU 04/10/26 \$88.55 2026 March Shop 436
 184e MDU 04/10/26 \$214.27 2026 March WTP 867
 185e MDU 04/10/26 \$146.67 2026 March SE Lift 448
 186e MDU 04/10/26 \$106.01 2026 March St Lts 581
 187e MDU 04/10/26 \$628.32 2026 March CH 825
 9914 Advance Business Methods 03/20/26 \$122.79 2026 Q2 printer lease
 9915 Ashley Airport Authority 03/20/26 \$1,348.49 2026 Feb Mills
 9916 Ashley Public Library 03/20/26 \$1,348.50 2026 Feb Mills
 9917 BUTLER MACHINERY CO. 03/20/26 \$665.00 Service Mileage for warranty repairs
 9918 G & G 03/20/26 \$388.94 Case Batteries
 9919 JDA 03/20/26 \$1,348.49 2026 Feb Mills
 9920 KEVIN FORSMAN 03/20/26 \$527.82 2026 Workshop Hotel Reimbursement
 9921 North Dakota League of Cities 03/20/26 \$200.00 2026 Spring Workshop
 9922 SCRWD 03/20/26 \$16,170.55 2026 Feb Usage 2,367,000 GAL
 9923 Wood, Kenneth 03/20/26 \$7.48 partial deposit refund
 9924 ASHLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 03/20/26 \$75.00 2026 Cham-

ber Dues
 9925 Ashley Park District 03/20/26 \$2,948.50 2026 February 20% State Aid
 9926 JDA 03/20/26 \$2,094.87 2026 February 25% of 1% Sales Tax
 9927 Hagel, Daniel 03/23/26 \$75.00 00000048400
 9928 BADGER METER INC 03/31/26 \$34.51 2026 March Meter Reads
 9929 G & G 03/31/26 \$166.00 Case Filters
 9930 ND Sewage Pump & Lift 03/31/26 \$675.00 2026 Service Agreement
 9931 RITEWAY BUSINESS FORMS 03/31/26 \$192.29 Blue Checks
 9932 SCRWD 03/31/26 \$16,172.55 2026 Feb Water Debt
 9933 Triple J Auto Body & Repair 03/31/26 \$1,765.00 Replace Seat Air Bag
 9934 Visa 03/31/26 \$199.49 2026 March Visa PMT
 9935 Ashley Super Valu 04/08/26 \$9.57 Ice
 9936 BROWN COUNTY LAND-FILL 04/08/26 \$1,601.81 918115,918785,919273,919922
 9937 Links Do It Best 04/08/26 \$61.96 Crescent Wrench
 9938 MOORE ENGINEERING, INC. 04/08/26 \$9,023.51 Contract Invoice
 9939 ND Dept of Health 04/08/26 \$27.00 E26000310-001
 9940 PITNEY BOWES INC 04/08/26 \$451.80 2026 Q1 Lease
 9941 Sanitation Products 04/08/26 \$117.34 Sweeper parts
 9942 TEAM LAB INNOVATIONS 04/08/26 \$2,109.00 Road Patch
 9943 Valley Plains Equipment 04/08/26 \$53.46 Oil Filter
 9944 April Nies 04/10/26 \$60.00 Govt Week Lunch Reimburse
 9945 KEVIN FORSMAN 04/10/26 \$67.24 Water Training 240 miles/174-106.76 Personal hotel
 9946 TODD DOCKTER 04/10/26

\$174.00 2026 April 6 Sample deliver 240 miles = 174
 17730 Doane, Christopher J 03/13/26 \$109.20
 17731 Forsman, Kevin 03/13/26 \$1,862.98
 17732 Dickson, Alexander 03/23/26 \$183.72
 17733 Dockter, Todd 03/23/26 \$1,792.54
 17734 Lippert, Todd 03/23/26 \$1,497.80
 17735 Nies, April 03/23/26 \$392.95
 17736 Willis, Isaac 03/23/26 ... \$305.44
 17737 Doane, Christopher J 03/31/26 . \$109.20
 17738 Forsman, Kevin 03/31/26 \$1,862.98
 17739 Nitschke, Barbara A 03/31/26 ... \$387.87
 17740 Dickson, Alexander 04/06/26 \$275.36
 17741 Dockter, Todd 04/06/26 \$1,871.67
 17742 Lippert, Todd 04/06/26 \$1,653.40
 17743 Nies, April 04/06/26 \$879.22
 17744 Willis, Isaac 04/06/26.... \$300.36
 Total Checks \$93,709.13

Dahl moved to approve the financials and claim vouchers. Glaesmann 2nd. Unanimous.

With nothing further to discuss Geiszler adjourned meeting at 7:55 pm. June 8th, 2026, regular meeting at 6:30 pm.

MINUTES SUBJECT TO COUNCIL REVIEW AND REVISION
 Kevin Forsman, City Auditor
 Erich Schock, Mayor
 (May 20, 2026)

County commissioners navigate road, legal, and staffing concerns

by Paula Patterson

With a long list of residents and department heads on the agenda, Wednesday’s McIntosh County Commission meeting moved steadily through a mix of road concerns, legal guidance, staffing matters and program updates. Road Superintendent Chris Opsdahl opened the morning with a discussion on blading priorities, prompting commissioners to consider contracted blading services to keep up with demand. Commissioner Jim Heinrich voiced the frustration many landowners have expressed about road conditions, saying, “I’d sure like to see those blades run continuously.” Many road and equipment items were discussed with each commissioner providing advice for Opsdahl. They also heard from residents including Marlow Werth, who sought reimbursement for past trucking work on his private road and Bruce Kuszler of Roloff Township regarding their blading and snow-removal contract.

Assistant State’s Attorney Alisha Ankers guided commissioners through several legal issues, including the Knoll road matter, the proposed joint zoning agreement with Wishek, and a petition to close a section line that did not meet Century Code requirements. She also reminded commissioners of their responsibilities under open-

records laws, emphasizing proper handling of emails and text messages related to county business. To improve efficiency, Ankers proposed adopting a portfolio system in which each commissioner would oversee specific areas of responsibility. The board agreed, assigning Commissioner Goettle to roads, the highway department and human services; Commissioner Heinrich to law enforcement, zoning and building maintenance; and Commissioner Meidinger to the Historical Society along with energy and technology development.

Good news came from NDSU Extension Agent Maddie Schauer, who introduced her new administrative assistant, Kenady Gross, and outlined plans for weekly crop-progress drives. Schauer also updated commissioners on preparations for the county fair, livestock show coordination with Crystal Schaunaman, and increased water testing and weed monitoring as the growing season advances. Commissioners then received an update on the state’s Prairie Dog infrastructure program, which allocates oil-tax revenue into designated “buckets” for local projects. Two major buckets are nearing capacity, with projections showing they will fill by November, triggering direct distributions to counties and

municipalities and releasing funding for the north half of Highway 9.

The board also heard from Haylee Viger of the North Dakota Department of Agriculture, who presented the Regional Livestock Development and Planning Grant. The program provides \$12,000 per county and \$500 per township with no local match required, identifying suitable livestock development areas based on zoning, infrastructure, water access and road networks. Commissioners expressed support for participating in the program.

A few housekeeping items rounded out the meeting. Commissioners accepted the resignation of county custodian Mike Martel, noting his strong performance, and agreed to advertise for the position. They appointed Nathan Rath to the McIntosh County Planning and Zoning Committee. The resignation of Deputy Dosan, resulting in a breach-of-contract repayment requirement, added to the list of personnel matters needing attention. Lastly, was the recommendation of hiring Barry Mueller for deputy sheriff. The next meeting, on June 3, will begin with the Annual Tax Equalization session and once completed will move into the regular commission agenda.

Note: To clarify previous

reporting, a petition was discussed at both the zoning committee meeting and the commissioners’ meeting last month. Mike Meier gathered 394 names on an unofficial petition;

Ashley pool to open June 1; 2026 lessons, activities set

by Paula Patterson

With summer around the corner, the Ashley City Pool is preparing for a hopeful June 1 opening, according to Park Board President Brenda Meyer. She said crews are working through final preparations and, if all goes smoothly, the pool will be ready to welcome swimmers right as the season begins.

Meyer noted that pool prices will remain the same as last year, a welcome bit of consistency for families planning their summer schedules. The pool will again offer a full slate of activities, including swim lessons, water aerobics, noon lap swim, open swim, and several night swims throughout the season.

One unexpected advantage this year is staffing. With the Wishek pool under construction, many trained lifeguards were available and eager to work in Ashley. In fact, the lifeguard team asked whether the pool could expand hours

the names come from across the region and are not necessarily registered voters within the county. The document is now on file in the County Auditor’s office.

to include Saturday afternoons in addition to the traditional Monday–Friday schedule — a request Meyer described as a definite plus for the community.

2026 Swim Lesson Schedule
 The Ashley Swimming Pool will again host two sessions of lessons this summer:

First Session
 June 8–12
 June 16–17
 June 22 & 24
Second Session
 July 6–9
 July 13–17
 Cost:
 \$20 to hold a spot
 \$30 due first day of lessons
 \$50 total
 To register, contact Amanda Nitschke at 701-535-1182.
 With strong staffing, steady pricing, and a full lineup of programs, Meyer said the Park Board is optimistic about a smooth start to the 2026 season — and eager to see families back at the pool.