

Regular City Council Meeting
March 15, 2017 @ 7:00 pm
Cordova Center Community Rooms A & B
Minutes

A. Call to order

Vice Mayor Tom Bailer called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 7:00 pm on March 15, 2017 in the Cordova Center Community Rooms.

B. Invocation and pledge of allegiance

Vice Mayor Bailer led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Roll call

Present for roll call were Council members *Tom Bailer, Robert Beedle, David Allison* and *James Wiese. Mayor Clay Koplin* and Council members *James Burton* and *Tim Joyce* were present via teleconference. Council member *Josh Hallquist* was absent. Also present were City Manager *Alan Lanning* and City Clerk *Susan Bourgeois*.

D. Approval of Regular Agenda

M/Allison S/Beedle to approve the Regular Agenda.

Vote on the motion: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (Hallquist). Motion was approved.

E. Disclosures of Conflicts of Interest - none

F. Communications by and Petitions from Visitors

1. Guest Speakers - none

2. Audience comments regarding agenda items

Scot Mitchell of 5 Alpine Falls Drive and CEO of CCMC spoke in favor of passage of ordinances 1150 and 1151.

3. Chairpersons and Representatives of Boards and Commissions

Beedle reported at the Harbor Commission meeting, *Susie Herschleb*, Parks and Recreation Director came to talk to the commission about the spit on the lake by Nirvana Park. They also looked at rates and fees, rebuilding cranes and Harris Sand & Gravel is in town doing some pile driving. They are working on new ideas for south harbor improvements - prioritizing projects. Lumber is in for finger float repairs.

Joyce reported on the March 9 HSB meeting. There was a work session before the meeting and the newly elected CCMC authority board members were invited to attend. During the regular meeting the administrator reported: 1) Obamacare repeal at the federal level - still waiting to see what comes of that; 2) potential legislation in Juneau regarding Medicaid reimbursement levels and PERS liability payments - both could negatively impact CCMC; 3) employee health insurance being explored for cost savings measures; 4) *Sundby* and *Apodaca* both left this month - both are leadership roles at CCMC; 5) new EHR systems being explored - Centriq will not be supported after 2021. *Joyce* said the board adopted an updated Charity Care Policy, approved a new personnel organizational chart and chose a new audit firm for a cost savings of \$20,000.

Planning & Zoning Commission meeting was pushed back to March 28.

Beedle reported PWSRCAC had met and he had a handout for Council.

Bailer reported that he had attended PWSAC meetings - big news there is that *Reggiani* is retiring, they are optimistic about the price of fish this coming summer and

4. Student Council Representative Report - not present

G. Approval of Consent Calendar

Vice Mayor Bailer declared the consent calendar was before the City Council.

5. Record excused absences of *Mayor Koplin*, Council members *Burton* and *Beedle* from the March 1, 2017 Regular meeting

Vote on the consent calendar: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent. Allison-yes; Beedle-yes; Joyce-yes; Bailer-yes; Wiese-yes; Burton-yes and Hallquist-absent. Consent Calendar was approved.

H. Approval of Minutes

M/Allison S/Burton to approve the minutes.

6. Minutes of 03-01-17 Council public hearing

Vote on the motion: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (Hallquist). Motion was approved.

I. Consideration of Bids - none

J. Reports of Officers

7. Mayor's Report - **Mayor Koplín** had a written report in the packet. He was attending tonight via teleconference as he was on his way home from DC where he had been invited to testify at a Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee Hearing. He said there is still uncertainty in Washington as to how infrastructure funding would be rolled out and there seem to be major cuts being talked about to the USCG but then increases in military spending are also mentioned so we will have to wait and see. He did invite the Senate Energy Committee to have a field hearing in Cordova and it seems likely that they will be coming during June - maybe for Copper River Nouveau. **Mayor Koplín** thanked **Joyce** and **Bailer** for their years of service to Cordova. **Mayor Koplín** also mentioned he'd been asked to write a letter to the Navy regarding exercises this summer - his opinion was to write a short note reiterating the resolution language. **Joyce** opined that he should attach the resolution to the letter he writes to the Navy. **Mayor Koplín** agreed and said he would do so.

8. Manager's Report - **Lanning** said he is preparing a strategic planning narrative that he will present at the second April meeting. He will be away for the first April meeting. He said staff is preparing budget narratives, workflow evaluation and analysis.

9. City Clerk's Report - **Bourgeois** reported the results of the City Regular Election: **Ken Jones** won Seat B, **Jeff Guard** won Seat C on Council. **Sheryl Glasen** won the School Board Seat. CCMC Authority Board of Directors: 3 year term: **Kristin Carpenter**, 2 year terms: **Sally Bennett** and **April Horton**, 1 year terms: **Dorne Hawxhurst** and **John Harvill**. There will be a special meeting to certify the results tomorrow at noon and the newly elected will be sworn in then. The Clerk also reported that assessment notices have been mailed and there is one month to appeal, deadline is April 7.

K. Correspondence

10. 02-16-17 Letter from Cece Wiese re Lots 8 & 9, Odiak Park Subdivision

L. Ordinances and Resolutions

11. Ordinance 1150 An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, authorizing the transfer of \$876,000 from the general reserve fund as follows: \$860,000 to the general fund for debt service, \$16,000 to the governmental capital projects fund #401 for the purchase of hospital equipment, both which were appropriated in the adopted budget for fiscal year 2017 - 2nd reading

M/Allison S/Wiese to adopt Ordinance 1150 an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, authorizing the transfer of \$876,000 from the general reserve fund as follows: \$860,000 to the general fund for debt service, \$16,000 to the governmental capital projects fund #401 for the purchase of hospital equipment, both which were appropriated in the adopted budget for fiscal year 2017.

Allison said this has been discussed starting at during the budget, this takes seven votes and the Mayor will get a shot at voting on it tonight. He will support this.

Vote on the motion: 7 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent. Wiese-yes; Allison-yes; Hallquist-absent; Beedle-yes; Bailer-yes; Joyce-yes; Burton-yes and Mayor Koplín-yes. Motion was approved.

12. Ordinance 1151 an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, authorizing the transfer of \$252,466.96 from the general reserve fund as follows: \$117,000 to the general fund for hospital equipment and \$135,466.96 to the general fund for a grant match for the Adams St. sidewalk project - 2nd reading

M/Allison S/Wiese to adopt Ordinance 1151 an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, authorizing the transfer of \$252,466.96 from the general reserve fund as follows: \$117,000 to the general fund for hospital equipment and \$135,466.96 to the general fund for a grant match for the Adams St. sidewalk project.

Allison said he supports this - it's not favorable to take money from the permanent fund so often but the hospital does need the UPS and the Adams St. grant match appears to make sense with the batch plant that will be up and running and a 5:1 ratio of money coming into town from outside sources. He supports this.

M/Beedle S/Wiese to amend the motion to be divided and we consider each of the recommendations separately.

Beedle said he supports the UPS money but not the Adams St. sidewalk project money. If they come together in one ordinance, he will vote no. He thinks the Adams sidewalk money is a want not a need. **Wiese** said he supports both items and will vote yes on the original ordinance. **Joyce** said he wanted to clarify that there is a statement within the ordinance that says the money will be paid back by 2020. **Joyce** asked the City Clerk about whether or not that would constitute a substantial change to the ordinance. **Bourgeois** thought her way through it and believed that it would be a substantial change and would require 2 more readings if so amended tonight (ie if divided into two). **Joyce** opined it was important to pass this tonight - with both items being funded. **Burton** was also in favor of passage of the ordinance, not the amendment. **Wiese** commented that if we were going to not do this, the time to take that action would have been at the last meeting - staff has spent time on this now, directed by Council. **Bailer** said he will support the entire ordinance - his biggest reason is the cost savings based on the batch plant being here this summer. **Beedle** said the City should not be looked at as an economic engine - to employ a small segment of the work force.

Vote on the motion to amend: 1 yeas, 5 nays, 1 absent (Hallquist). Motion failed.

Bailer commented that the construction industry in this town is as important as the fishing industry. He said it is the City's responsibility to be an economic engine to stimulate the economy. **Joyce** asked the Clerk if this fails could we bring 2 ordinances at the next meeting. **Bourgeois** said yes, there could be 2 new ordinances for first reading at the next meeting. **Bailer** also wondered aloud if the new council could see this at the next meeting for second reading - if tonight it were referred. **Bourgeois** said that it could happen that way as well. **Burton** offered input into the necessity for the project - called it a great way to facilitate safe travel for children between the elementary school and the Cordova Center and it is a piece of City road that public works has spent money on over and over to fix. **Burton** opined that it would be a big mistake to let this opportunity go - not to take this project on.

Vote on the main motion: 5 yeas, 1 nay, 1 absent. Burton-yes; Joyce-yes; Bailer-yes; Beedle-no; Hallquist-absent; Allison-yes; Wiese-yes. Motion failed. Bourgeois said there was no reason to get the Mayor's vote as there were not already six yes votes.

Council member **Bailer** asked **Mayor Koplin** to comment on how he would have voted if he were allowed to vote, for the record. **Mayor Koplin** said he would have voted yes, he was like minded with the majority of the Council, would have liked to see us take advantage of this.

M/Allison S/Wiese to reconsider the motion on approval of Ordinance 1151.

He hoped to refer this to staff instead of fail it, so that's why he moved to reconsider.

Vote on the motion to reconsider: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (Hallquist). Motion was approved.

The motion to adopt ordinance 1151 was now back on the table.

M/Allison S/Wiese to refer ordinance 1151 to staff.

Vote on the motion to refer: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (Hallquist). Motion was approved.

The direction given with the motion to refer was to bring the ordinance back for 2nd reading at the April 5, 2017 regular meeting to see what the new Council would do with it.

M. Unfinished Business

N. New & Miscellaneous Business

13. Council right to protest renewal of a liquor license

M/Joyce S/Allison to waive Council's right to protest the renewal of the liquor license for Cordova Hotel and Bar.

After some discussion and input from the City Clerk and after reading the letter Finance Director **Jon Stavig** wrote for the packet, Council realized that there is some concern with this business owner being delinquent to the City on taxes owing.

Bourgeois mentioned that an option would be refer to staff and to be brought back before Council's deadline to protest to see if the business has made progress toward the delinquencies.

M/Allison S/Burton to refer to staff.

Council was of the opinion that they would like this back after some contact with the business regarding the debt. **Lanning** said he would do that.

Vote on the motion: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (Hallquist). Motion was approved.

14. Pending Agenda, Calendar and Elected & Appointed Officials lists

Clerk mentioned the tomorrow, noon special meeting.

O. Audience Participation

Leo Americus 1709 Whiteshed Rd. said Council would be discussing his performance deed of trust later and he said he would like an extension, he has plans to get started this spring and to make some changes to the project plans.

P. Council Comments

Joyce thanked Council for putting up with him over the years. He said he is very, very disappointed that we did not pass the Adams St. ordinance. He hopes the future Council will look at it, understand it and pass it next time. He also hopes Cordova's voters remember the ordinance vote tonight at the next City election.

Burton said he agrees with **Tim** on all of those points and he thanked **Tim** and **Tom** for their service, he knows what a time demand it is - it is great that the community has the people willing to step up.

Wiese also thanked them for their time. Especially thanked **Tim** for his service on HSB - as president. He also asked Council members to refrain from using profanity at the table while we are deliberating heated topics.

Allison also thanked **Tim** and **Tom** for many years of services, various boards, as Mayor Vice Mayor and chairing such committees but he also thanked the families because there is a commitment level and a sacrifice made by family members as well. He also thanked those still on council and he would like to thank those who ran as well as the ones who are newly coming on to service - he appreciates their willingness to serve their community and he looks forward to another good year.

Beedle also thanked Council and explained that his vote tonight wasn't taken lightly; wasn't easy. He said he thought long and hard about it and he made the decision that was asked of him.

Bailer also thanked **Tim** and said it has been great working with Council and on Planning and Zoning - he said there has to be a little passion when dealing with issues and sometimes you get impatient and lose your temper, which comes with the passion. He said you can't take it personally though. It's been a learning experience.

At 8:04 pm **Vice Mayor Bailer** recessed the meeting with no objection from Council in order to clear the room before the executive session.

The regular session was called back to order at 8:13 pm.

Q. Executive Session

15. City land disposal performance deed of trust negotiations

16. Personnel code legal issue

M/Wiese S/Allison to enter an executive session to discuss matters the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the government, specifically, City land disposal performance deed of trust negotiations and a personnel code legal issue.

Vote on the motion: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (Hallquist). Motion was approved.

Council entered the executive session at 8:13 pm.

The regular meeting was reconvened at 8:50 pm.

M/Allison S/Beedle to direct the Mayor to work with the manager on extending his moving expenses.

Vote on the motion: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (Hallquist). Motion was approved.

R. Adjournment

M/Allison S/Wiese to adjourn the meeting.

Hearing no objection the meeting was adjourned at 8:51pm.

Approved: April 5, 2017

Attest: 
Susan Bourgeois, CMC, City Clerk

