Call to order

Mayor Clay Koplin called the Council regular meeting to order at 7:00 pm on April 4, 2018, in the Cordova Center Community Rooms.

Invocation and pledge of allegiance

Mayor Koplin led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call

Present for roll call were Mayor Clay Koplin and Council members Ken Jones, Melina Meyer, Anne Schaefer, David Allison and James Wiese. Council member James Burton was present via teleconference. Council member Jeff Guard was absent. Also present were City Manager Alan Lanning and Assistant City Planner Leif Stavig.

Approval of Regular Agenda

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

Disclosures of Conflicts of Interest

Schaefer said she has a conflict of interest with agenda tem 14 because she is employed by the Prince William Sound Science Center. Jones declared a conflict on the same item, said he has a contract with PWSSC. Mayor Koplin agreed with both conflicts.

Communications by and Petitions from Visitors

1. Guest Speakers - none
2. Audience comments regarding agenda items
Katrina Hoffman 301 South Second Street spoke in support of the passage of item 14.
3. Chairpersons and Representatives of Boards and Commissions - none were present to report
4. Student Council Representative Report - Oliva Carroll reported that the kids returned from Close Up in Washington DC, were unable to make it to NY due to weather. In Washington they saw Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos and they went to the Alaska Congressional delegation offices. Tomorrow the music program goes to Hawaii to compete, then to the Aurora musical festival in Anchorage at Grace Christian. Future Problem Solvers head to Fairbanks to compete and try to earn a spot at internationals later in the year. Each of these programs thanks the community for its support to make these trips possible.

Approval of Consent Calendar

Mayor Koplin declared the consent calendar was before the City Council.

5. Record excused absence of Council member Ken Jones from the March 21, 2018 regular meeting

Approval of Minutes

M/Allison S/Wiese to approve the minutes.

Reports of Officers

9. Mayor’s Report – Mayor Koplin reported that Wiese had asked him about a sea otter initiative that other communities are supporting, an overpopulation issue - he said he’d look into that and get back to Council. Chamber of Commerce is hosting an economic summit here on April 19, he hopes there will be a lot of business to business connections at that event. Schaefer asked about a waterfront development town hall that he has mentioned. Mayor Koplin said we should discuss that at the Pending Agenda - we should get the public on board in that planning.
10. Manager’s Report – City Manager Alan Lanning addressed the Science Center ordinance, he called this engaging in a partnership for the long-term benefit to the community, there is so much more than just a land sale here. He said this is one of the partnerships that we talk about at strategic planning. He thinks the development agreement is a good example of what we are aiming at achieving. He said we put a date on the right of first refusal for the $50k and then after that its market value to include improvements.

11. City Clerk’s Report – no report, Clerk unavailable due to a recent injury.

K. Correspondence
12. 03-14-18 Letter from Trident Seafoods re support for land sale to PWSSC
13. 03-14-18 Letter from NVE re support for land sale to PWSSC

L. Ordinances and Resolutions
14. Ordinance 1168 An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, authorizing the sale and conveyance of A.S.L.S. 2001-5 according to the Plat number 2006-9 to the Prince William Sound Science and Technology Institute, for $50,000 – 2nd reading

M/Allison S/Meyer to adopt Ordinance 1168 an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, authorizing the sale and conveyance of A.S.L.S. 2001-5 according to the Plat number 2006-9 to the Prince William Sound Science and Technology Institute, for $50,000, $50,000.

Allison supports the ordinance, he also appreciates the comments from the public, he agrees it’s worth a whole lot more than $50,000 and he hopes the Science Center can leverage the full value in their quest for funding for the entire project. The buyback was a concern of his, even though he feels strongly that they will build the project, he feels better now that that has been adjusted. Meyer said she echoes those comments and said she agrees the Science Center has been a great partnership for the community and the City. They have been great tenants, to have fixed up the building they rented and leave it in better shape than when they got it. Burton said he understands the public comment concerning the “below market value” sale price but believes the deed restrictions make this the perfect property for the Science Center, he offered a possible amendment that would recognize the below market value sale price as an in-kind contribution from the City. Wiese asked if there was a performance deed at all that spoke to their projected time-line. Lanning said that if we get far enough along, say to 2020 or so and they haven’t raised their money yet, maybe that would be a time to start thinking about right of first refusal.

M/Burton S/Allison to amend the ordinance by adding to the fourth whereas, after property: “which serves as an in-kind contribution from the City of Cordova”

Vote on the motion to amend: 4 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (Guard), 2 conflicts of interest (Schaefer and Jones). Motion was approved.

Vote on the main motion: 4 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent, 2 conflicts of interest, Allison-yes; Schaefer-coi; Guard-absent; Meyer-yes; Wiese-yes; Burton-yes and Jones-coi. Motion was approved.

M. Unfinished Business

N. New & Miscellaneous Business
15. Council election of Vice mayor

Burton nominated Council member David Allison

Vote on David Allison for Vice Mayor: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (Guard). Vote approved.

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

Strategic planning work session added on April 17 at 6 pm. There is a training session on April 18 from 5 – 7 pm, before the regular meeting. April 16 is BOE – if necessary.

Jones mentioned that BoF was in Valdez last winter and normally they like to keep it in region, he’s heard that there may be a push to have the next one in Anchorage and he’d like to have us fight for it to be here – this is in 2 and a half years but we should keep it on our radar. Mayor Koplin said he’d like to see Bitney working on that for us. Jones also asked that we start thinking about the secure rural schools retro for 2017 and the payment for 2018, maybe place that on Pending Agenda so we can at some point decide how to budget that. Schaefer mentioned that Mayor Koplin had talked about a Town Hall for harbor expansion – Lanning said he would come up with some dates. Jones mentioned summer use of the ski hill.

O. Audience Participation

Alex Russin Superintendent of Schools, said he appreciates the conversation about school needs while talking about the secure rural schools retro funding coming through. He said the gym floor is nearing the end of its life, he is monitoring it daily for the safety of students and the community members that use it. The school has $75,000 from an insurance claim
ear-marked for that. His interpretation of the bond debt discussion is that that is a community contribution to the schools, not necessarily part of the City's contribution, maybe its semantics.

P. Council Comments
Wiese said he knows some are still concerned about the sale price, but he is very excited to give this to the Science Center. Jones thanked everyone for their attendance and input. Strategic work plan is important and we are on track. Allison thanked Council member Burton for attending, he knows the phone isn't easy sometimes. He opined that any debt of the general fund is at the full faith and credit of the community. He thanked council for their confidence in electing him as Vice Mayor and thanked Leif for stepping up and assisting, his efforts don’t go unnoticed by this Council. Meyer also said thanks for attending. She is glad that the Science Center has a home in Cordova and hopefully a long term partnership with this community.

Mayor Koplin thanked Council for their attendance, six present really matters he knows that it is a big commitment and there is a lot of preparation involved meeting 2 times a month. Thanks to Allison for sitting in as Vice Mayor, your experience is invaluable. He thanked Superintendent Russin for attending the event with Representative Stutes on Saturday, Cordova was extremely well represented there – 30 plus community members representing lots of groups.

Q. Adjournment
M/Allison S/Wiese to adjourn the meeting.
Hearing no objection Mayor Koplin adjourned the meeting at 7:55 pm.

Approved: May 2, 2018

Attest: Susan Bourgeois, CMC, City Clerk

CITY OF CORDOVA
CORPORATE SEAL
ALASKA