

Regular City Council Meeting
April 6, 2016 @ 7:00 pm
Cordova Center Community Rooms A & B
Minutes

A. Call to order

Mayor Clay Koplín called the Council Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 pm on April 6, 2016 in the Cordova Center Community Rooms.

B. Invocation and pledge of allegiance

Mayor Clay Koplín led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Roll call

Present for roll call were *Mayor Clay Koplín* and Council members *Tom Bailer, Robert Beedle, Josh Hallquist, David Allison* and *James Wiese*. Council members *James Burton* and *Tim Joyce* were present via teleconference. Also present were City Manager *Randy Robertson* and City Clerk *Susan Bourgeois*.

D. Approval of Regular Agenda

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

Vote on the motion: 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion approved.

E. Disclosures of Conflicts of Interest - none

F. Communications by and Petitions from Visitors

1. Guest Speakers - *Chris Fejes*, the City's insurance broker had been in town for a health insurance questions and answer session with staff so he also spoke briefly to Council and gave an update on how the self-insurance plan has been going for the City. He said over the first 9 months of the plan, there has been a savings of about \$160,000. *Fejes* said about a month ago he began the renewal process; he hopes to have a push in rates with an eighteen month extension. He introduces the others in attendance with him as *Garth Ross* and *Greg Jones* from PBS and *Pierre Nicolet* of Fejes and Associates. PBS is the City's third party administrator.

2. Audience comments regarding agenda items - none

3. Chairpersons and Representatives of Boards and Commissions

Harbor Commission - *Beedle* had nothing to report.

Allison said that the HSB has a regular meeting next Thursday; at PA he hopes to discuss interview schedule for CEO candidates.

Bailer said that P&Z had nothing to report and the April meeting has been canceled.

4. Student Council Representative Report - not present

G. Approval of Consent Calendar

Mayor Koplín declared the consent calendar before Council.

5. Resolution 04-16-17 A resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, authorizing: Cathy Sherman, museum director; Susan Bourgeois, city clerk; Clay Koplín, mayor; Tom Bailer, vice-mayor; and Samantha Greenwood, city planner, to sign checks, vouchers, notes, other documents and have access to the safe deposit box as authorized by the city council

6. Record the unexcused absence of Council member *Reggiani* from the March 2, 2016 Regular meeting.

7. Record the excused absence of Council member *Burton* from the March 23, 2016 Regular Meeting.

Vote on the consent calendar: 7 yeas, 0 nays. Beedle-yes; Hallquist-yes; Wiese-yes; Joyce-yes; Allison-yes; Bailer-yes and Burton-yes. Consent Calendar was approved.

H. Approval of Minutes

M/Bailer S/Hallquist to approve the minutes.

8. Minutes of the 02-17-16 Regular Council Meeting

9. Minutes of the 03-02-16 Regular Council Meeting

10. Minutes of the 03-23-16 Council Public Hearing

11. Minutes of the 03-23-16 Regular Council Meeting

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

I. Consideration of Bids

J. Reports of Officers

12. Mayor's Report - **Mayor Koplín** asked if there were questions on his written report in the packet - **Allison** said he was glad to see the Mayor would be heading to Juneau. **Mayor Koplín** said he will meet with the Governor and others there - **Bitney** will catch him up on harbor project so he can push that as our capital need in Juneau. He will also carry down a letter from the School Board regarding PERS and TRS liabilities and he'll get with ADF&G regarding the Tanner Crab Fishery. **Mayor Koplín** extended his appreciation to police dispatch, EMTs, CCMC staff - he had a house guest with an incident and all of those agencies worked together well for a great outcome.

13. Manager's Report - **Robertson** said LT2 is finishing up, **Susan Start**, inspector from State, is here now. Paving and drainage down on Harbor Loop is gearing up to start next week. The cistern has been filled half way several times and it is holding well, it will need recertification then. Kudos to **Joanie** and the entire crew, Alaska Shield went very well. **Robertson** mentioned that during the active shooter drill, there was an actual drug bust going on and the police department handled it all well. **Bitney** has reported that there is no doubt that the session will be extended. Lastly, **Robertson** said he met with the Parks and Rec Commission very briefly to tell them that there is a personnel action that they cannot know the details of that could limit the pool scheduling. **Bailer** asked **Robertson** about the pet policy - he was expecting to see something this time. **Robertson** said he owes them that, signage has been ordered and the policy is forthcoming. The policy will be issued to the staff. **Hallquist** asked about an update on the elementary school windows. **Robertson** said he and superintendent are working with **Rich** and **Weston** on the scheduling for that, hasn't gone out to bid yet.

Mayor Koplín said he had left something out of his report. There have been questions from the public regarding council residency and attendance. He wanted to report that Council passed an ordinance not long ago allowing attendance via teleconference and that is where that stands as of now.

14. City Clerk's Report, **Bourgeois** said she submitted a written report and could answer questions.

K. Correspondence - none

L. Ordinances and Resolutions

15. Resolution 04-16-16 A resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, supporting negotiations between the Great Land Trust, Lorna Stern, and the City of Cordova regarding property donation to the City of Cordova subject to a conservation easement held by the Great Land Trust, as well as permitting the City to conduct due diligence regarding the property transfer

M/Bailer S/Hallquist to approve Resolution 04-16-16 a resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, supporting negotiations between the Great Land Trust, Lorna Stern, and the City of Cordova regarding property donation to the City of Cordova subject to a conservation easement held by the Great Land Trust, as well as permitting the City to conduct due diligence regarding the property transfer.

Ms. Stern was available via teleconference and willing to answer any questions for Council. She asked some questions as well and it was clarified that this was the initial step and now the negotiations/discussions would ensue between her attorney and **David Mitchell** from Great land Trust and the City in order to work out the details of the donation to everyone's satisfaction.

Council member **Joyce** said that this was such a great opportunity for Cordova and it will be a long term benefit to the City and her citizens.

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

M. Unfinished Business - none

N. New & Miscellaneous Business

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

Allison said that the HSB has been meeting on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7pm. HSB also set the times for the upcoming CEO candidate interviews on Monday April 11 at 7pm and 830pm. **Joyce** clarified and the rest of the board members concurred that they would call these meet and greets instead of interviews as they already conducted interviews with these two candidates.

Mayor Koplin mentioned that AIGCO and AECOM had contacted him and they want to have a noon work session with the City Council – the date that was chosen was May 10.

Council talked about the **City Attorney, Holly Wells**, who would be present for the May 4 meeting – **Bourgeois** was directed to try to arrange for the marijuana regulations community forum at that same time as **Wells** had mentioned she could present that for the community.

O. Audience Participation

Greg Manz resides in the harbor and he said he’s excited to see the new council members, new mayor, he said that’s exciting. He mentioned that the City Manager and the City Clerk are the doers, they hold this place up; they do an incredible job. He said what the **Stern’s** are doing is awesome. He thought that we should get a postcard or a painting or something by a local artist and all sign it and send it to her as a thank you.

Patricia Kallander of 302 Orca Inlet Drive said that she was confused about the tax assessment process she wondered if there would be a public meeting explaining that. She opined that we should revisit the sales tax rate – using a differential like we used to do, for the summer months. **Kallander** also said that she was really let down by the vote against the property on the North Fill. She said when that happened it appears as though Cordova is shut down for business, not open for business. She said she has even heard people speak of it in Anchorage. She said why elect a council if you aren’t going to trust them. Now, it appears as though the same thing might happen again. She hoped Council could relook at that. Lastly she commented on how wonderful this land donation is for the City – she hopes that the trail which exists over there can be part of the process too.

P. Council Comments

Joyce thanked **Ms. Stern** and **Great Land Trust** for that land donation item. Also he commented how when the public is giving comments, it isn’t appropriate for Council members to respond to questions, it is a time for public comment not back and forth discussion.

Burton echoed the thanks to Ms. Stern.

Beedle thanked the public works crew for filling pot holes. He mentioned exemptions for property taxes that we could put into code. He said essentially people are penalized for upgrading their buildings or yards. He hoped there was something we could do to promote things looking better.

Allison said he would save most of his comments for when we set the mill rate. He stated that property value increases do not always equate to tax increases. Council gets to set a mill rate still, they can control the taxes. He will be sticking close to what the target level revenue was set at during budget approval.

Bailer thanked **Greg** – he thought that was a great idea of sending something to the **Stern** family. As far as taxes going up, he thinks the community has spoken and said they are ok with it because they are against selling land, they keep overturning land sales. He said we just lost a \$4.5 million building that would have offset property taxes. If we are open for business. He also thanked the Clerk for the reminder text on meeting day.

Hallquist echoed the thanks to **Lorna Stern**. He praised the Parks and Rec Department and **Susie** for hard work as well as the Police Department.

Wiese thanked **Greg** for his comments as well.

Q. Executive Session

R. Adjournment

M/Bailer S/Joyce to adjourn

Hearing no objections the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm.

Approved: April 20, 2016

Attest: 
Susan Bourgeois, CMC, City Clerk

