

Regular City Council Meeting
August 21, 2019 @ 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 August 21, 2019, in the Cordova Center Community Rooms.

B. Invocation and pledge of allegiance

Mayor 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, Melina Meyer, Anne Schaefer, David Allison* and *David Glasen*. Council members *Ken Jones* and *Jeff Guard* were absent. Also present were City Manager *Alan Lanning* and City Clerk *Susan Bourgeois*.

D. Approval of Regular Agenda

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

Vote on the motion: 5 yeas, 0 nays, 2 absent (Jones, Guard). Motion was approved.

E. Disclosures of Conflicts of Interest and ex parte communications - none

F. Communications by and Petitions from Visitors

1. Guest speakers - none

2. Audience comments regarding agenda items - none

3. Chairpersons and Representatives of Boards and Commissions

CCMCA Board - *Greg Meyer* reported that he and *Bert Adams* have been meeting regularly and talks are going well, NVE flew down an IHS Facilities Engineer to tour the CCMC facility. *Randall Draney*, our administrator went the Ilanka and toured their facility, met with *Cindy Bradford* and they talked more about patient issues and it was a good meeting. They did meet with *Kevin Worley*, CFO at PERS and he didn't have much to say except, show up with some money and we'll talk. We don't have an exact number on PERS delinquency, we have it accurately for 2018, this year has been estimated. CCMC is switching clearinghouses which should save us quite a bit of money, the goal is to have all the billing done in house. Radiology services are changing over to Alaska Imaging - also a cost savings and an easier company to work with, just in Anchorage. *Casea Peterson* is a new front office employee and we hope to also get her to make phone calls, follow ups to billings, offer people discounts to pay immediately, we are trying to get a little more aggressive. *Barb Jewell* (manages Sound Alternatives)- on the behavioral health side, we are fully staffed for the first time in a year, client numbers are up 20% in last 2 quarters - she got an Alaska Children's Trust grant which is a parenting education support program. There have been more emergency calls in the last 2 weeks than there were in the previous nine months, which is sad but also good for business. The auditor will be here next Wednesday, August 28 @ 6pm, to present the 2018 audit to the board and he will give a specific 20-minute report on PERS.

School Board - Superintendent *Alex Russin* reported today was the first day of school and so far, so good. This year the senior class, class of 2020, is the 100th graduating class from Cordova High School. Last year we received accreditation for our 85th year - we are one of the few schools in Alaska that have been accredited for that long, since 1934. School Board is working on a resolution to send to AMHS about the need for year-round service for Cordova. School Board's sub-committees will start meeting again soon, safety & facilities, policy committee, etc. Student Council is going to focus bringing awareness and attention to the dangers of vaping by students - use by teens has increased nationally by 70% over the last 2 years. Once that initiative gets underway, any efforts that Council can take to support it would be appreciated.

4. Student Council Representative Report - was not present

G. Approval of Consent Calendar

5. Resolution 08-19-33 A resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Appraisal Company of Alaska for assessment services for tax year 2020 in the amount of Seventeen Thousand dollars (\$17,000)

6. Per Charter Section 2-8 and Cordova Municipal Code 3.12.022

Recordation of excused absences of the following:

Council member **Ken Jones** from the May 15, 2019 Regular Meeting, Council member **Anne Schaefer** from the June 5, 2019 Regular Meeting, Council members **Ken Jones** and **Jeff Guard** from the July 3, 2019 Regular Meeting, Council members **Anne Schaefer** and **David Allison** from the July 17, 2019 Regular Meeting, Council members **Ken Jones, Jeff Guard** and **Melina Meyer** from the August 7, 2019 Regular Meeting

Recordation of unexcused absences of the following:

Mayor **Clay Koplín** from the August 7, 2019 Regular Meeting

Vote on the approval of the consent calendar: 5 yeas, 0 nays, 2 absent. Glasen-yes; Jones-absent; Meyer-yes; Schaefer-yes; Allison-yes; Bailer-yes and Guard-absent. Consent calendar was approved.

H. Approval of Minutes

M/Bailer S/Schaefer to approve the minutes.

7. Minutes of the 07-31-19 Special Council Meeting

8. Minutes of the 08-07-19 Regular Council Meeting

Vote on the motion: 5 yeas, 0 nays, 2 absent (Jones, Guard). Motion was approved.

I. Consideration of Bids - none

J. Reports of Officers

9. Mayor's Report - **Mayor Koplín** reported 1) these last few days he has been keeping up on AMHS - the supplemental \$5 million was vetoed by the Governor. He's been in touch with **Bitney**, AMHS staff, IBU members and there may be potential cost savings they are trying to get creative to assist the schedulers (maybe in keeping the Aurora in service). 2) CEC will have a Crater Lake Water and Power Project presentation on Wednesday August 28 at the regular board meeting - the water part of that is obviously the City's interest.

10. Manager's Report - City Manager **Alan Lanning** reported: 1) he's been starting work on the budget - trying to make sense of the vetoes, etc. he'd like to have a budget work session on the 2nd September meeting, the first September meeting, UBS will be here, they have a change in methodology they want to present. 2) he's been busy dealing with some personnel issues.

a. Public Works Director **Samantha Greenwood** updates on City water and Second Street Upgrades grant

1) **Greenwood** wanted to let Council know the stress, time, effort and energy the water crew has been putting into managing the water shortage these past three weeks; she said they have been putting in a lot of hours working and wracking their brains to come up with solutions; she emphasized that if there are people who think we can't run out of water, that isn't a good thing to be thinking; it is important for citizens, residential customers, everyone should be conserving water not just the fish processors; she asked Council to be advocates for the City, to help get the message out - the Schools and NVE have put the message up on their reader boards which has helped spread the word; she gave some statistics about the current situation: Morpac tank is at 3 feet - which is very low, the seiners are catching a lot of fish today, there might not be a break at all, we've been talking to the engineers they've given some advice to tweak valves, etc. in order to assist with conservation; we feel confident, we are still evaluating alternatives; she just wants people to take this seriously; GV Jones has given us a proposal to give us an evaluation of what we have and what they could do to enhance what we have or look at new sources or other options. **Greenwood** said she would like the water situation, a water project of some kind to be considered on Council's next CIP list if possible - **Bourgeois** said the CIP list would come before them at the September 4 meeting. 2) 2nd street grant - **Greenwood** has still been working on this in between water updates, she will have a resolution before them next meeting for the match amount, she's been in contact with CEC, CTC and NVE and there may be assistance from them for the match amount.

11. City Clerk's Report - **Bourgeois** reported: 1) she had a question for Council to consider on her written report, the City Manager Assessment Committee meets Friday August 23 at noon, she wonders if council wants to discuss at Pending Agenda what the next step will be after that meeting; 2) she also reported about a possibility of entering into a contract with the local veterinarian for times when he is not in town, he'd be able to have a trained employee who would be able to euthanize pets, this could only work if the contract exists with a City government - she wonders if Council wants to pursue this as a service to citizens - she believes the cost would be a few hours of attorney time. There was Council discussion and there was interest expressed in pursuing this from **Meyer, Schaefer, Glasen** and other Council members asked **Bourgeois** to discuss this with maybe another municipality that has done something similar.

K. Correspondence - none

L. Ordinances and Resolutions

12. Resolution 08-19-32 A resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska supporting naming a bridge on the CRH in memory of irene Webber

M/Meyer S/Schaefer to approve Resolution 08-19-32 a resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska supporting naming a bridge on the CRH in memory of irene Webber

Meyer said she thinks it is a great thing to name a bridge for *irene Webber*, she did a lot, started the salmon runs, etc.

Vote on the motion: 5 yeas, 0 nays, 2 absent (Jones, Guard). Motion was approved.

M. Unfinished Business - none

N. New & Miscellaneous Business

13. Council discussion and possible staff direction regarding Council membership on City Boards and Commissions
After discussion, council concurred that there was no interest in changing the code that is currently in place which allows Council members an option of being members on City Boards and Commissions. The Clerk was directed to take this item off of the pending agenda list.

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

Glaser said he would like to schedule meetings every Wednesday until the PERS issue is worked out. Alternating special meetings between the Regular meetings until we approve the money transfer. After some discussion, Council scheduled the first reading of an ordinance moving money from the permanent fund for the PERS debt at CCMC for Wednesday August 28 at noon. *Bourgeois* said then the second reading could be on the next regular meeting date, September 4. *Bourgeois* said at each Regular meeting, we can then consider dates for other special meetings. *Meyer* said this could be a pending agenda item or maybe just something the Mayor could do - she'd like to see us take the *First Alaskans Institute* up on their offer of a Tribal Government Training, at least get us on their radar and they can see when they might be able to come back down here. *Mayor Koplín* asked to put the clerk's evaluation on the pending agenda too.

O. Audience Participation - none

P. Council Comments

Allison congratulated the school district for making it to another school year, he thinks everyone survived the first day and he's looking forward to another great year.

Glaser thanked *Greg Meyer* for all he is doing at Hospital. He also appreciated *Sam Greenwood* for everything she's doing with the water situation. He also thanked his fellow Council members for being here tonight.

Schaefer also thanked Sam and the water crew.

Bailer thanked staff and especially Barb Webber for taking on the finances which is a really big job. He also reiterated *Allison's* comments from earlier on the dog euthanasia topic - if there are other communities doing this, we can mimic theirs instead of paying lawyers. Also thanked *Greg Meyer* as well as *Alex Russin*, superintendent, for reporting tonight.

Q. Executive Session

15. Council discussion and review of CCMCA outstanding liabilities and the potential consequences arising from granting or denying financial assistance to CCMC to satisfy such liabilities, a subject which is a matter the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon City finances

M/Bailer S/Glaser to go into an executive session for Council discussion and review of CCMCA outstanding liabilities and the potential consequences arising from granting or denying financial assistance to CCMC to satisfy such liabilities, a subject which is a matter the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon City finances.

Vote on the motion: 5 yeas, 0 nays, 2 absent (Jones, Guard). Motion was approved.

Mayor Koplín recessed the meeting to clear the room at 7:51 pm and Council entered the executive session at 7:55 pm. Council came back into regular session at 7:59 pm.

16. Council discussion about the terms of the City Manager's contract - in executive session because the subjects which may be considered are matters the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the government

M/Schaefer S/Bailer to go into executive session for a Council discussion about the terms of the City Manager's contract - in executive session because the subjects which may be considered are matters the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the government.

Vote on the motion: 5 yeas, 0 nays, 2 absent (Jones, Guard). Motion was approved.

At 8:01 pm, *Mayor Koplín* called for a recess to clear the room and he said that City Attorney *Jennifer Alexander* would be available if Council needed Human Resources attorney advice. Council entered executive session at 8:02 pm and came back into regular session at 8:37 pm.

Mayor Koplin said that in the executive session council discussed the terms of the City Manager's contract with him and then only among Council and by mutual agreement between the Council and **City Manager Lanning** that contract will be executed through it's October 17, 2019 completion.

~~17. Recommendations from City Attorney regarding Beecher v. City of Cordova – in executive session because the subjects which may be considered are matters the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the government~~

this executive session was pulled from the regular agenda as there was no update at this time

R. Adjournment

M/Allison S/Schaefer to adjourn the meeting.

Hearing no objection Mayor Koplin adjourned the meeting at 8:39 pm.

Approved: September 4, 2019

Attest: _____
Susan Bourgeois, CMC, City Clerk