

Regular City Council Meeting
September 5, 2018 @ 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 7:15 pm on September 5, 2018, 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 **James Burton, Ken Jones, Jeff Guard, Melina Meyer, Anne Schaefer** and **David Allison**. Council member **James Wiese** arrived via teleconference at 7:27 pm. Also present were Student Council Representative **Olivia Carroll**, City Manager **Alan Lanning** and City Clerk **Susan Bourgeois**.

D. Approval of Regular Agenda

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

Vote on the motion: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (Wiese). 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

Kristin Carpenter of 507 Fourth Street spoke about the correspondence in the packet concerning the bear issue. She said it is a unique year with an increased bear population and a lack of food which is making them come into town more. She thinks of it as a public policy issue. She said it would be helpful to look at examples of what some other communities are doing. She opined that the first approach could be a small investment in appropriate dumpster lids and a solid public education effort concerning trash, dog food, bird seed, etc. She realizes people are concerned about safety, she just thinks we should do other things first before we just go out and shoot every bear we see. Not the best approach to the matter. She believes in preventative approaches before more extreme measures.

3. Chairpersons and Representatives of Boards and Commissions

Kristin Carpenter, CCMC Authority Board President, reported that: 1) stability takes time – 8 nurses are staffed – 2 years ago all were travelers, now only 2; 2) Sound Alternatives is seeing significant changes – it is directly under the purview of the medical center at this time; 3) they are 4 PERS payments behind and running a deficit so far this year, but a bunch of one time expenses this year (new EHR system, pharmacy buyout, UPS for CT scanner, etc.); 4) they will be receiving \$36K from Medicare, they will owe \$11K but it's a \$25K swing in the positive.

Mayor Koplín asked about PERS – was it from this year or legacy payments we owe – **Carpenter** said this year – but it is the 5% that we are behind on, not the other amounts they've tacked on. **Guard** said – so are we making any payments on the amount that is tacked on (as far as PERS). **Carpenter** said they are still in arrears on that. **Schaefer** asked about the audit – **Carpenter** said it will be ready by end of September. **Burton** asked about the size of the deficit. **Carpenter** replied that it is about \$800K.

Alex Russin, Superintendent of Schools reported that: 1) they are 2 weeks into school – new course offerings, change in schedule, Wednesdays offer three 100 minute blocks, teachers are teaching some of their passions outside of content area; 2) progress on the gym floor (will be ready for volleyball and the insurance kicked in more money) – Volleyball has begun, fast ferry tourney later this month; 3) school board has a self-evaluation and goal setting session at the Pioneer this Saturday; 4) they are looking into qualifying as a Medicare eligible billing entity, which could assist with expenses for kids requiring PT, OT, Speech Therapy, etc.; 5) he will be participating in a national delegation of superintendents heading to Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands for 10 days in a couple of weeks.

4. Student Council Representative Report – **Olivia Carroll** reported that: 1) the first cross country meet was the first weekend of school – at Bartlett; the team has been very bear aware while practicing; 2) swimming has been ongoing and they have their first meet coming next week; 3) today was the first day of Volleyball practice – more on that as the season progresses; 4) thanks to City Council for contribution to the gym floor – Cordova will represent itself well with the 3 conference championships here this school year: Volleyball in November, Wrestling in December and Basketball in March; 5) breakfast and lunch are free for every student this year – thanks to our school kitchen staff – great burden lifted for many kids to eat 2 good meals each day; 6) Wednesday classes are great – 100 minute classes such as commercial

fishing, coding, steam, ETT, yoga and mindful meditation, Japanese, outdoor skills, also on Wednesdays – 45 minutes advisory period, seniors are doing such things as: college apps, scholarship apps, job interviews skills are taught, etc. – graduates from previous years are very jealous; other age groups are doing skill-building and school strengthening activities in their advisory period.

G. Approval of Consent Calendar

~~5. Resolution 09-18-21 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 tax year 2019 assessment services in the amount of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000)~~

6. Resolution 09-18-23 A resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, approving the site plan of Nathan and Andra Doll dba Baja Taco for construction of an addition to the current building located on Lot 11-A1, Block 2, South Fill Development Park

7. Record excused absences of Council members **James Burton**, **Ken Jones** and **James Wiese** from the August 15, 2018 regular meeting

Vote on the approval of the consent calendar: 7 yeas, 0 nays. Allison-yes; Meyer-yes; Jones-yes; Guard-yes; Wiese-yes; Burton-yes and Schaefer-yes. Consent calendar was approved.

Council member **Allison** asked for item 5 to be removed from the consent calendar. **Mayor Koplín** placed it as item 17a. on the agenda.

H. Approval of Minutes

M/Schaefer S/Meyer to approve the minutes.

8. Minutes of August 15, 2018 Council Public Hearing

9. Minutes of August 15, 2018 Council Regular Meeting

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

I. Consideration of Bids

J. Reports of Officers

10. Mayor's Report – **Mayor Koplín** reported that 1) as far as bears he has heard from a few members of the public, he has spoken with **Manager Lanning** and **Charlotte Westing** from ADF&G; there are community efforts that can be made – he's read some of what exists in other communities; 2) as far as the sidewalk and paving project, he thanked the Planner and Assistant Planner for doing the grant and thanked Council for taking the big step in committing to the project with a match – it is great to see those sidewalks going in on the heavily trafficked main street to elementary school route; 3) there is a handout of a letter he wrote to commissioner re 2016 salmon disaster, Councilman **Jones** asked him to see about a red salmon disaster declaration for this 2018 year and he contacted **Representative Stutes** and she said that is under discussion; 4) he has heard inklings of the seine fleet manager from ADF&G moving out of Cordova, his intention is to write a letter about our displeasure with that idea; 5) toured some City facilities this week and Council should really do some of that too, harbor, shop, landfill – great opportunity to see the great work City staff is doing.

11. Manager's Report – City Manager **Alan Lanning** reported 1) September 12 is the scheduled date for the asphalt barge for the paving project, we will be keeping citizens informed if this changes; 2) there was a waterline break on First Street – we will cut that out and repave with the asphalt coming as well; 3) high school gym floor looking on schedule, 90% done; 4) he'll have his first draft budget to them for the work session on 9/19; 5) build grant contract is signed, comprehensive plan is coming. **Allison** asked if he is working on the list of funds within the Permanent Fund. **Lanning** said yes, we will get that on the first budget work session. **Lanning** mentioned bears, we shut down fish cleaning station – the group met to discuss relocating that in the future, maybe there are USFS funds for that, working on the bear proof lids in certain places, ultimately, it's a council decision because it is contingent on funding and/or Council could adopt an ordinance requiring it everywhere in town. We are encouraging people to be responsible with their trash and we are monitoring where the bears are being reported continually and we will then increase enforcement accordingly.

12. City Clerk's Report – **Bourgeois** reported that the Trails Committee needs two members – she hopes to bring that next Council meeting for appointment. **Mayor Koplín** asked about the March 2019 election, there are 3 council seats and the Mayor's position that will be available. The Clerk said she will begin advertising for that election in late December early January.

Manager **Lanning** said he forgot to mention, **Rich Rogers** has given notice of resignation, his last day with the City will be October 5. **Lanning** said he has been thinking about reorganization, which will be discussed with next year's budget.

K. Correspondence

13. Email from **D. Riedel** re bears in Cordova, 08-08-18

14. Email from **R. Madison** re bears in Cordova, 08-08-18

15. Letter from **R. Kallander** re bears in Cordova, 08-08-18

L. Ordinances and Resolutions

16. Resolution 08-18-19 A resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, amending the 2018 budget by appropriating \$20,000 from the City of Cordova general fund reserve and transferring it into the #401 fund in order to contribute funds for an economic analysis of a Prince William Sound borough

M/Schaefer S/Meyer to approve Resolution 08-18-19 A resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, amending the 2018 budget by appropriating \$20,000 from the City of Cordova general fund reserve and transferring it into the #401 fund in order to contribute funds for an economic analysis of a Prince William Sound borough.

Schaefer said we had some good conversation earlier in the work session – she said that we don’t have enough information to make a yes or no decision on borough formation so that is what the economic feasibility study will give us. She also opined that there is value in having a seat at the table. **Burton** said the resolution states \$20,000 but the ask seems to be \$25,000. **Bourgeois** said it was in the packet in the original form because it had been in a previous council packet in that form, her memo suggested Council could amend to \$25,000.

M/Allison S/Schaefer to amend the resolution to a \$25,000 appropriation and contribution instead of \$20,000.

Vote on the motion to amend: 5 yeas, 1 nay. Meyer-yes; Schaefer-yes; Wiese-absent; Jones-no; Allison-yes; Guard-yes and Burton-yes. Amendment was approved. **Wiese** was still on the line but he was unable to be heard and therefore, unable to vote.

Vote on the main motion as amended: 4 yeas, 2 nays. Jones-no; Guard-yes; Wiese-absent; Meyer-yes; Burton-no; Schaefer-yes and Allison-yes. Motion was approved. **Wiese** was still on the line but he was unable to be heard and therefore, unable to vote.

17. Resolution 09-18-22 a resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, designating capital improvement projects

M/Jones S/Burton to approve resolution 09-18-22 a resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, designating capital improvement projects

Allison said this doesn’t match up with the Planning Commission’s resolution. **Bourgeois** clarified that Planning commission’s list is intended to be more of an internal list of within budget capital improvements. Council’s CIP resolution is more the prioritized list brought to state and federal delegations for funding. After some discussion, **Jones** opted to add an item to the list.

M/Jones S/Burton to amend the resolution by adding a number 7. road improvements/ADA sidewalk improvements.

Vote on the motion to amend: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 unable to be heard (Wiese). Amendment was approved.

Vote on the main motion as amended: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 unable to be heard (Wiese). Motion was approved.

17a. 5. Resolution 09-18-21 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 tax year 2019 assessment services in the amount of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000)

Allison said he pulled this because the memo mentions that this will be an adjustment to the 2018 budget and he asked if that is accurate. **Bourgeois** said, no that is a typo, it should be 2019 budget. The resolution had it accurately. **Jones** asked for the code that requires this to be emailed to him. **Lanning** said he asked that question of the **State Assessor Marty McGee**, and the answer is that we are required to have an assessor and it’s about ensuring equity.

Mayor Koplín left the table and handed the gavel to **Vice Mayor Allison** as he had forgotten to declare the conflict earlier, his wife is employed by Appraisal Company of Alaska.

M/Allison S/Burton to approve Resolution 09-18-21 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 tax year 2019 assessment services in the amount of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000)

Vote on the motion: 5 yeas, 1 nay (Jones). Motion was approved.

M. Unfinished Business - none

N. New & Miscellaneous Business

18. Planning Commission Resolution re recommended capital improvements (informational)

Allison asked if the E-911 funds that we still have in an account could be used to do the addressing. **Lanning** said it won’t be enough to complete the job, so we’d have to re-institute the E-911 surcharge again. **Allison** said his opinion is, we must start somewhere. He thinks people would be ok paying the surcharge if they see that it is accomplishing something, i.e. addressing and a bonified E-911 system.

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

September 20 will be the kick-off meeting of the economic study for PWS borough – to be held in Cordova by Information Insights, the firm conducting the study, more details will follow. **Jones** asked that the resolution of support

for hatcheries gets done at the next meeting, so it is timely for the Board of Fish mid-October meeting. **Jones** asked the **Mayor** to write a letter formally asking for the disaster declaration for red salmon. **Mayor Koplín** asked that the data be sent to him on that. **Jones** and **Schaefer** asked that the bear issue be placed on the Pending Agenda - maybe for a future work session so people could come and voice their opinions on the matter. **Mayor Koplín** suggested that the Manager and staff are working on this directly with the enforcement people, he asked Council to maybe pause and let staff make some suggestions. **Allison** said his intent was to consider some options that might cost money, during budget discussions. **Jones** and **Schaefer** agreed to allow staff to work through it and bring suggestions back to Council. **Meyer** suggested an ad hoc Borough Committee be put together soon.

O. Audience Participation

Kristin Carpenter of 507 Fourth Street opined that retrofitting the dumpsters, if that becomes a decision, can be done over time, phased it as a cost-saving measure. Also, as far as the Capital Improvements list - she still really wishes that the outside steps on the Cordova Center had been completed with construction. Her opinion is maybe remove Sawmill Ave extension and add the Cordova Center steps instead, as they accomplish similar things.

P. Council Comments

Jones thanked everyone for their participation tonight. He said Valdez is having the bear issue too. Escapement looked good preliminarily, but possibly upriver is taking more than their allotment which could be a battle down the road at the Board of Fish level.

Schaefer thanked **Rich Rogers** for his service to the City; thanked everyone who dealt with the First Street water issue, traffic flowed well, not a lot of disruption. Asked citizens listening to consider Trails committee and other City posts that will be advertised and to spread the word to their friends - volunteering is fun.

Allison thanked **Kristin** from Girdwood who attended for the work session, thanked staff and **Leif Stavig** for work on borough stuff. He thanked the newspaper and radio for their reporting on Council activities.

Meyer echoed the thanks.

Burton had no comment.

Guard ditto to **Meyer's** comments.

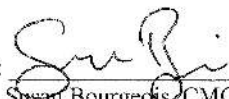
Q. Adjournment

M/Allison S/Jones to adjourn the meeting.

Hearing no objection Mayor Koplín adjourned the meeting at 8:41 pm.

Approved: September 19, 2018

Attest:



Susan Bourgeois, CMC, City Clerk

