

## L. Ordinances and Resolutions

14. Ordinance 1192 An ordinance of the Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, repealing and reenacting Cordova Municipal Code Title 2 “Elections” to update and clarify the City election process, add authority to modify voting requirements during an emergency, adopt an early voting process and expand the vote by-mail process to promote and support remote voting – 1<sup>st</sup> reading

*M/Bailer S/Schaefer* to adopt Ordinance 1192 An ordinance of the Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, repealing and reenacting Cordova Municipal Code Title 2 “Elections” to update and clarify the City election process, add authority to modify voting requirements during an emergency, adopt an early voting process and expand the vote by-mail process to promote and support remote voting.

City Attorney *Holly Wells* said there have been a lot of court cases coming down lately about rigid rules on the books that don’t necessarily allow voters to protect themselves from Covid. The code re-write creates emergency plan options because your administration wanted to ensure voters rights and safety would be as protected as possible. *Schaefer* asked about the need for a witness signature in casting an absentee ballot. *Wells* said the state supreme court has ruled that for this Nov 3, 2020 election the witness signature may be waived. *Wells* said that as far as policy, she is not 100% sure if we could do away with it, because there are cases on both sides, also those who believe the integrity of the election is threatened if witness signatures for absentee ballots are not required. She said currently all jurisdictions she is aware of in Alaska have the requirement in Code. We did work into this code the ability to pass an ordinance making exceptions to the code provisions such as the ability to waive the signature. You may see an ordinance forthcoming making use of that flexibility. *Guard* asked when such an ordinance might be before them concerning signature waiver for the March 2, 2021 Election. *Bourgeois* said probably right away as she will be planning for advertising and supplies orders for that election in December, so possibly as early as the second regular meeting in November. *Meyer* asked about early voting ballots that are voted either in-person or mailed to voters and dropped in the drop box; when would those ballots be counted – *Wells* confirmed that per this code, those will be counted on Election Day.

Vote on the motion: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent. Allison-yes; Meyer-yes; Bailer-yes; Schaefer-yes; Guard-yes; Glasen-yes and Sherman-absent. Motion was approved.

15. Resolution 10-20-37 A resolution of the Council of the Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, authorizing the City of Cordova to issue general obligation debt, consisting of a loan from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, in the principal amount of not to exceed \$1,120,000 to finance the purchase of landfill heavy equipment, and to submit the question of the issuance of such debt to the qualified voters of the City at the March 2, 2021 Regular City Election

*M/Bailer S/Schaefer* to approve Resolution 10-20-37 A resolution of the Council of the Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, authorizing the City of Cordova to issue general obligation debt, consisting of a loan from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, in the principal amount of not to exceed \$1,120,000 to finance the purchase of landfill heavy equipment, and to submit the question of the issuance of such debt to the qualified voters of the City at the March 2, 2021 Regular City Election

*Bailer* asked for the amount that we would actually be borrowing, if it is the \$1.2 million less \$500,000, then he wishes we could say that. *Greenwood* said the ballot language must say the actual amount of the loan, not including the subsidy. *Bailer* said he just thinks that it will be important during the education piece of this to make that very clear to the voters.

*M/Schaefer S/Bailer* to amend the resolution by replacing all the places in the resolution where the amount referenced is \$1,120,000 with \$1,210,000.

Vote on the motion to amend: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent. Allison-yes; Schaefer-yes; Glasen-yes; Sherman-absent; Meyer-yes; Bailer-yes and Guard-yes. Motion was approved.

*Schaefer* said she appreciated the presentation by *Aaron Muma* and *Sam Greenwood*, and she is in support. Council members *Allison*, *Guard* and *Glasen* were also in support and had no further comment. *Meyer* and *Bailer* contemplated another amendment to the proposition language, but *Mayor Koplín* reiterated that staff would be doing an extensive public education campaign around this. *Mayor Koplín* reiterated that it would be good for the record to show that even though the loan will be for \$1,210,000 if we receive the full subsidy (which we anticipate happening) the actual fiscal note to the City will be only \$710,000.

Vote on the main motion: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent. Guard-yes; Schaefer-yes; Meyer-yes; Allison-yes; Sherman-absent; Glasen-yes and Bailer-yes. Motion was approved.

16. Resolution 10-20-38 A resolution of the Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, approving the final plat for Yarbrough Subdivision

*M/Bailer S/Schaefer* to approve Resolution 10-20-38 A resolution of the Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, approving the final plat for Yarbrough Subdivision.

Council members each spoke in support.

Vote on the motion: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent. Glasen-yes; Meyer-yes; Sherman-absent; Schaefer-yes; Bailer-yes; Allison-yes and Guard-yes. Motion was approved.

**M. Unfinished Business - none**

**N. New & Miscellaneous Business**

**17. Discussion of Covid-19 Emergency Response**

**Schaefer** asked **Howarth** if we were in line with State mandates, so that the new changes to their travel mandates, do affect us the same way. **Howarth** said yes, that is correct and IMT is currently preparing new signage/posters to clarify for people/businesses.

**18. Pending Agenda, Calendar and Elected & Appointed Officials lists**

**Bailer** brought up that we'd like to see an update or more information on E-911 next time. **Howarth** said **Paul Trumblee** would bring that information to the next Council meeting. Next meeting there will also be a resolution extending the local emergency. Council also asked again if NVE or **Bert Adams** could report at the next Council meeting.

**O. Audience Participation - none**

**P. Council Comments**

**Schaefer** thanked staff for quarterlies, and she said it was good to see all their faces.

**Glasen** said same, thanks staff, especially **Sam** and **Aaron**.

**Meyer** echoed the thanks and to the DHSS officials. She said sometimes we focus on the number of cases and it is so nice to see that we have so many recovered now. She only wishes the best to anyone who tests positive that they get better quickly. She wanted to acknowledge the human aspect to the virus.

**Bailer** said thanks to PW department for finding that great opportunity, we do need that equipment, and this will save the City money. He also gave kudos to the City water department who opened up a big hole in front of Ace to replace old pipe and did a great job - no damage, very professional and well done - used that new machine, which sometimes citizens wonder why we buy things like that. On prop 1 - he asked the Clerk to resend that to him with the changed language.

**Guard** also thanked staff and asked the **Mayor** to clarify as to whether we got a letter to the state or not about the liquidating the ferries. **Mayor Koplín** said he will go back and look and get one together if it hasn't been done.

**Q. Executive Session**

**19. Case update and settlement discussion for Beecher litigation in executive session because it is a matter 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 to receive a case update and settlement discussion for Beecher litigation in executive session because it is a matter the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the government.

Vote on the motion: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent. Guard-yes; Meyer-yes; Glasen-yes; Sherman-absent; Allison-yes; Schaefer-yes and Bailer-yes. Motion was approved.

**Mayor Koplín** recessed the meeting at 9:34 pm to clear the room.

Council entered the executive session at 9:38 pm and came back not open session at 9:52 pm.

**Mayor Koplín** stated that the item discussed was Beecher litigation with the City Attorney.

**R. Adjournment**

**M/Bailer S/Schaefer** to adjourn the meeting.

Hearing no objection **Mayor Koplín** adjourned the meeting at 9:53 pm.

Approved: November 4, 2020

Attest:   
Susan Bourgeois, CMC, City Clerk

