

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
NOVEMBER 4, 2015 @ 7:00 PM  
LIBRARY MEETING ROOM  
MINUTES

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

*Mayor James Kacsh* called the Council Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 pm on November 4, 2015 in the Library Meeting Room.

**B. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

*Mayor James Kacsh* led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**C. ROLL CALL**

Present for roll call were *Mayor James Kacsh* and Council members *Kristin Carpenter*, *Tom Bailer*, *Josh Hallquist* and *James Burton*. Council member *Robert Beedle* was present via teleconference. Council members *Tim Joyce* and *David Reggiani* were absent. Also present were City Manager *Randy Robertson* and City Clerk *Susan Bourgeois*.

**D. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA**

*M/Burton S/Hallquist* to approve the Regular Agenda.

Vote on the motion: 5 yeas, 0 nays, 2 absent. Burton-yes; Joyce-absent; Beedle-yes; Hallquist-yes; Carpenter-yes; Reggiani-absent and Bailer-yes. Motion approved.

**E. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST - none**

**F. COMMUNICATIONS BY AND PETITIONS FROM VISITORS**

**1. Guest Speaker**

b. **John Bitney**, City Legislative Lobbyist gave an update concerning the AMHS and the upcoming session of the legislature.

c. **Jennifer Gibbins**, Chamber of Commerce – she mentioned that they are also working on the AMHS scheduling issue.

a. **Michelle Drew** - presentation of City FY14 financial audit – *Drew* presented the audit – overall she said the City finished the year just fine there were two material weaknesses that have to do mostly with year-end reporting and preparations. She suggests the use of a consultant possibly during that time in the future.

d. **Belen Cook**, of NVE, gave an overview of the upcoming Sobriety Celebration – November 13-15.

**2. Audience comments regarding agenda items**

*Sylvia Lange* just wanted to gush about the new building as this was the first Council meeting in the Cordova Center. She just wanted to thank Council, previous Councils, and everyone involved in this process.

**3. Chairpersons and Representatives of Boards and Commissions**

*Student Council Representative Bhren Pena* reported on a recent anti-bullying initiative called the orange campaign and they received 473 pledges from the schools and the community. *Samantha Vargas* and *Josie Moffitt* are representing Cordova this week at the AASB (AK assn. of school boards) conference. The Student Council is also currently doing a penny drive for Leukemia patients.

*Mayor Kacsh* said he had scheduled a lunch with chairs of boards and commissions last week and he was unable to attend so *Vice Mayor Burton* took his place. *Burton* reported that some topics that were discussed were swimming pool roof, bazaar, Eyak Lake rec area – Jet Ski conflict. Library – book brigade. A possible grant writer for all departments to be shared was a topic brought up as well. School Board reported that the student count was about 40 above what had been predicted. *Botz* spoke for the Fisheries Advisory Committee – they had sent a request to the Board of Fish about a PWS Tanner Crab Fishery. *Bailer* reported that P&Z met and made a recommendation to tear down the old City Hall – he said that would be coming forward to Council.

*Carpenter* said that *Ron Vigus* of QHR was here tonight and would be talking to Council later in the evening.

*Alex Russin*, Superintendent, reported that the first quarter has ended, they are in the second nine weeks, all is going well. The Board is beginning discussions about the FY17 budget, they will be prepared when the City Council needs them to report. He said that the student count was about 360 which comes in at 35 – 40 more than what was predicted at about this time last year. He mentioned that UAS will be visiting next week for interested students. *Russin* said this Saturday there will be SAT exam at the High School and the PTA Carnival at the Elementary School. Next School Board meeting is Wed Nov 11 @ 7pm in the High School Media Center (former Library). Also parent/teacher

conferences next Wed, Thurs, Fri. He expressed a safety concern about where South Second Street comes into Fisherman's Ave.

#### G. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

*Mayor James Kacsh* informed Council that the Consent Calendar was before them – *Bailer* called out item 5.

~~5. Ordinance 1138 an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, amending section 6.12.040 of the Cordova Municipal Code regarding issuance of use permits for alcoholic beverages—consumption in public places—~~  
1<sup>st</sup> reading

6. Proclamation for Sobriety Celebration

7. Record unexcused absence of Council member Hallquist from the October 7, 2015 Regular Council meeting

Vote on the consent calendar: 5 yeas, 0 nays, 2 absent. Beedle-yes; Joyce-absent; Hallquist-yes; Bailer-yes; Carpenter-yes; Burton-yes and Reggiani-absent. Consent calendar was approved.

*Mayor Kacsh* placed item 5 after item 24.

#### H. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*M/Bailer S/Burton* to approve the minutes.

8. 10-07-15 Public Hearing Minutes

9. 10-07-15 Regular Meeting Minutes

Vote on the motion: 5 yeas, 0 nays, 2 absent. Joyce-absent; Bailer-yes; Burton-yes; Beedle-yes; Reggiani-absent; Hallquist-yes and Carpenter-yes. Motion approved.

#### I. CONSIDERATION OF BIDS - none

#### J. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

10. Mayor's Report – *Mayor Kacsh* said he's been busy: he met with the chamber, testified at Senator *Micciche's* meeting, letter on BoF for Tanner Crab – he heard this was denied. He is thinking about starting a conversation above the BoF level regarding a Tanner Crab Fishery in PWS. He thanked Dawson to work with us and get this place done timely.

11. Manager's Report – *Robertson* said there would be a City auction this Saturday – 2 fire engines and other items – noon at old City Hall. He mentioned the upcoming grand opening – Friday 5:30 – 8:00, some of the dignitaries: *Pete Dawson, Diane Kaplan* of Rasmuson Foundation, *Representative Louise Stutes*. *Robertson* thanked and recognized *Jon Stavig* and his team. He said as far as Municipal audits go, 2 findings is tremendously superb. He said that \$17 million came through the City and we didn't lose a dollar of it – that's a great job. Over 21,000 books were moved today – what a great event. Valdez – City donated \$5,000 to the Cordova Center today. *Robertson* thanked the fire department and chiefly *Paul Trumblee* for the work they have done to lower the ISO rating of the previously annexed area from 9 to 4. *Robertson* then introduced *Malvin Fajardo* and *Joel Felix* and *Rich Rogers*. At a recent meeting of the Alaska Rural Water Association, Cordova was recognized with the best rural water system in Alaska. *Robertson* introduced some new members of the team. *Casey Wright* – public works department, *Charity Wheeler* – parks and rec department, *Debbie Carlson* of the library, *Jason Whetsell* of the police department.

a. Finance Director *Jon Stavig*, City financials

12. City Clerk's Report – *Bourgeois* said that she'd like to try to set a date for a joint special meeting with NVE's tribal council. *Bourgeois* reiterated that at the Nov 18 meeting *Mayor Kacsh* would be making appointments to boards and commissions. Last day for anyone interested in those seats to submit a letter of interest is Nov 10. She mentioned that due to the new location, she had new bulletin boards where Council and board and commission agendas would be hung up. She just wanted to state it aloud so people listening could hear. She would do everything possible to ensure the transition went well and no one ever felt as though they couldn't find publicly noticed meetings/materials, etc.

#### K. CORRESPONDENCE

13. 09-30-15 email from Reynolds opposing Ordinance 1135

14. 09-30-15 letter from US Senator *Lisa Murkowski* welcoming attendees to the AK Historical Society Conference in Cordova

15. 10-01-15 Resolution thanking Cordova Historical Society for the 2015 Conference

16. 10-01-15 Letter from State Assessor regarding Full Value Determination for 2015

17. 10-10-15 email from Janka in re alcohol policy for the Cordova Center

18. 10-12-15 email from Reynolds in re plastic bags and Styrofoam

19. 10-19-15 letter from Morgan Stanley in re City Investments

20. 10-20-15 letter from Mayor Kacsh to Board of Fish

21. 10-28-15 letter from Mayor Kacsh to AMHS re proposed summer schedule

#### L. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

22. Substitute Ordinance 1137 an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, adopting Cordova Municipal Code Chapter 8.37 governing the use of non-biodegradable plastic carry-out bags and polystyrene foam disposable food service ware in the City of Cordova – 1<sup>st</sup> reading

**(may be discussed in executive session)**

*M/Carpenter S/Hallquist* to adopt Substitute Ordinance 1137 an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, adopting Cordova Municipal Code Chapter 8.37 governing the use of non-biodegradable plastic carry-out bags and polystyrene foam disposable food service ware in the City of Cordova.

*Carpenter* said she has been in support of this and continues to be in support if this. She thinks people will adjust and can get into the habit of carrying in their own grocery bags. *Mayor Kacsh* said he was tasked with talking to the retail community and he said he was met with mixed reviews. He thinks change is difficult always. *Carpenter* thanked the Mayor for doing that and said that if they were concerned she would have thought they would be here tonight and no one is here and none of those concerned with the idea wrote letters. *Burton* generally agrees with this he wished there was an incentive approach to this, and he struggles with that a bit. He goes back to the diversity in the petition that was in the last packet. *Hallquist* said he supports it. *Beedle* said he supports the idea. He'd like it worded with a phase-in instead. *Carpenter* said it is on us to educate the people.

Vote on the motion: 5 yeas, 0 nays, 2 absent. Carpenter-yes; Hallquist-yes; Bailer-yes; Beedle-yes; Burton-yes; Reggiani-absent and Joyce-absent. Motion approved.

*Mayor Kacsh* asked whether Council wanted to hear from the attorney regarding the enforcement side of this. Council opted to hear from *Holly Wells* later tonight in executive session.

23. Resolution 11-15-45 a resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, supporting the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Cordova Airport fence installation project

*M/Burton S/Bailer* to approve Resolution 11-15-45 a resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, supporting the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Cordova Airport fence installation project.

Vote on the motion: 5 yeas, 0 nays, 2 absent. Hallquist-yes; Reggiani-absent; Bailer-yes; Beedle-yes; Carpenter-yes; Joyce-absent and Burton-yes. Motion approved.

24. Resolution 11-15-46 a resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, authorizing the renewal of the line of credit with UBS bank USA in a principal amount of not to exceed \$2,793,918.60 for the purpose of borrowing in anticipation of the receipt of revenues of the City to finance City capital projects, and providing for related matters.

*M/Burton S/Hallquist* to approve resolution 11-15-46 a resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, authorizing the renewal of the line of credit with UBS bank USA in a principal amount of not to exceed \$2,793,918.60 for the purpose of borrowing in anticipation of the receipt of revenues of the City to finance City capital projects, and providing for related matters.

*Burton* said this has been a useful tool for the City to solve cash flow issues. He is ok with continuing that.

Vote on the motion: 4 yeas, 1 nay, 2 absent. Beedle-yes; Carpenter-yes; Burton-yes; Hallquist-yes; Bailer-no; Reggiani-absent and Joyce-absent. Motion approved.

24a. 5. Ordinance 1138 an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, amending section 6.12.040 of the Cordova Municipal Code regarding issuance of use permits for alcoholic beverages – consumption in public places – 1<sup>st</sup> reading

*M/Bailer S/Burton* to adopt Ordinance 1138 an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, amending section 6.12.040 of the Cordova Municipal Code regarding issuance of use permits for alcoholic beverages – consumption in public places.

*Bailer* thought this was too broad. He thought that when this came back it was going to reference the Cordova Center only not all City buildings, etc. *Burton* said he does not see this as a free for all, he believes that good judgment has been exercised and will continue to be by the City Manager and his staff. Council discussion continued and those opposed never offered an amendment so *Burton* opted to do so.

*M/Burton S/Bailer* to amend the ordinance as follows under 6.12.040:

A. The city council is authorized by use permit to except any public street, alley, highway, city building or city property from Section 6.12.030.

**B. The city manager or his designee is authorized by use permit to except special events at the Cordova Center from Section 6.12.030.**

Vote on the motion to amend: 5 yeas, 0 nays, 2 absent. Hallquist-yes; Reggiani-absent; Beedle-yes; Carpenter-yes; Joyce-absent; Bailer-yes and Burton-yes. Motion to amend was approved.

Vote on the main motion as amended: 5 yeas, 0 nays, 2 absent. Joyce-absent; Burton-yes; Beedle-yes; Reggiani-absent; Carpenter-yes; Hallquist-yes and Bailer-yes. Main motion was approved.

**M. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - none**

**N. NEW & MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

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

*Mayor Kacsh* mentioned budget work sessions and Council scheduled one for Monday **November 23** at 6pm – dinner to be served. Council also scheduled the date for the joint NVE meeting – **November 9**.

**O. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION - none**

**P. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

26. Council Comments

*Beedle* thanked *Trumblee* and *Hicks* and the volunteers for the ISO rating work that was done.

*Carpenter* said it was great to be in the new building; also thanks for the ISO rating.

*Bailer* welcomed *Whetsell*.

*Hallquist* said it was nice to meet *Ron (Vigus)* from QHR, he thanked *Hicks* and the fire department for the Halloween event, he thanked staff for all their hard work.

*Burton* echoed the thanks and welcomes and was thinking about Homer as far as its connection with Cordova in re commerce and the AMHS.

With no objection, *Mayor Kacsh* called for a 5 minute recess at 9:08 pm. Council was back in open session at 9:13 pm.

**Q. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

27. see item 22 above

*M/Bailer S/Burton* to enter executive session to discuss Substitute Ordinance 1137 a matter which by law, municipal charter or code is required to be confidential.

Vote on the motion: 5 yeas, 0 nays, 2 absent. Beedle-yes; Joyce-absent; Hallquist-yes; Burton-yes; Carpenter-yes; Bailer-yes and Reggiani-absent. Motion approved.

Council entered executive session at 9:13 pm and was out at 9:26 pm.

28. CCMC finances and attorney update regarding legal matter

*M/Carpenter S/Bailer* to enter executive session to discuss CCMC finances and attorney update regarding legal matter matters which would clearly have an adverse effect on the finances of the government.

Vote on the motion: 5 yeas, 0 nays, 2 absent. Carpenter-yes; Beedle-yes; Joyce-absent; Bailer-yes; Burton-yes; Reggiani-absent and Hallquist-yes. Motion approved.

Council entered executive session at 9:28 pm and was out at 10:51 pm.

**R. ADJOURNMENT**

*M/Bailer S/Hallquist* to adjourn.

Hearing no objections the meeting was adjourned at 10:52 pm.

Approved: December 16, 2015

Attest:   
Susan Bourgeois, CMC, City Clerk

