

Regular City Council Meeting
November 6, 2019 @ 7:00 pm
Cordova Center Community Rooms A & B
Minutes

A. Call to order

Vice Mayor Melina Meyer called the Council Regular Meeting to order at 7:03 pm on November 6, 2019, in the Cordova Center Community Rooms.

B. Invocation and pledge of allegiance

Vice Mayor Meyer led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Roll call

Present for roll call were Council members *Tom Bailer, Jeff Guard* and *Melina Meyer*. *Mayor Clay Koplin* and Council members *Ken Jones, David Allison* and *David Glasen* were present via teleconference. Council member *Anne Schaefer* was absent. Also present were Student Council Representative *William Deaton*, City Manager *Helen Howarth* and City Clerk *Susan Bourgeois*.

D. Approval of Regular Agenda

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

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

3. Chairpersons and Representatives of Boards and Commissions

CCMCA Board - Chairman *Greg Meyer* reported: 1) he thanked the 60+ CCMC employees for doing a great job under somewhat stressful circumstances; 2) thanked Council for the support concerning PERS - they are now just about caught up, CCMC sent \$508K and then the City sent another \$964K and they might need about another \$100K, PERS will let us know when they've calculated the rest of the interest; 3) they have about \$900K in the bank which is about 30 days cash on hand, he had hoped they'd get through the year ok, it looks like they will, they picked up a couple of swing beds which has helped the cash flow; 4) *Randall* has been renegotiating some contracts and changing vendors to cut costs; 5) the health needs assessment is out to stakeholders; 6) NVE has done an assessment of the building, facility assessment - will be complete in about 2 months - they have said they will share that with us - and they are about \$50K into a financial analysis of the hospital - those reports will also be shared; 7) thanked Council for the budgeted amount in 2020, he continues to ask CEO if they can cut, personnel are so hard to cut - he said they tried previously and got themselves into a bind because office staff were missing and needed.

Melina Meyer had a question about the \$964K used for the PERS debt - Council had approved \$1.3M. *Greg Meyer* said they will probably need about \$100K more once PERS gives the final interest tally to CCMC.

4. Student Council Representative Report - *William Deaton* reported that they have officially launched the anti-vaping campaign at the high school. So far Alaska is the only state that hasn't had a teenage hospitalization resulting from vaping.

G. Approval of Consent Calendar

5. Proclamation for Native Village of Eyak's 26th Annual Sobriety Celebration and Memorial Potlatch

6. Council action to waive right to protest renewal of liquor license 2587 (beverage dispensary-seasonal) for CR&NW Ltd., Becky Chapek, dba Moose Caboose

7. Council action to waive right to protest renewal of liquor license 5653 (restaurant/eating place) for Baja Taco, LLC, Andra Doll, dba Baja Taco

8. Per Charter Section 2-8 and Cordova Municipal Code 3.12.022, recordation of excused absence of *Mayor Clay Koplin* from the Oct 16, 2019 Regular Meeting

Vote on the approval of the consent calendar: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent. Allison-yes; Meyer-yes; Jones-yes; Guard-yes; Glasen-yes; Bailer-yes and Schaefer-absent. Consent calendar was approved.

H. Approval of Minutes

M/Bailer S/Guard to approve the minutes.

9. Minutes of the 10-16-19 Council Regular Meeting

Vote on the motion: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (Schaefer). Motion was approved.

I. Consideration of Bids - none

J. Reports of Officers

10. Mayor's Report – **Mayor Koplín** is in Juneau, met with **Forrest Bowers**, Deputy Commissioner of ADFG along with **Ron Blake** and **Makena O'Toole** and on the phone were 2 other CFDC members (**Bob Smith** and **Andy Craig**) and it was a productive meeting – he thinks it could evolve into a sea cucumber fishery in Cordova. Less productive was a meeting with Deputy Commissioner of the ADoT, **Mary Siroky** – news was worse than expected – no service until May 15 and Aurora is in yard now, possibility of getting the Hubbard built and, in the water, to start in PWS. He also asked for one week a month Tustumena service. There were follow up meetings and there is the ability for the legislature to use reserve funding that the Marine Highway has put away that can be used for O&M and every maintenance project that is occurring right now is going dramatically overbudget. He hopes to meet with the **Commissioner (Captain Falvey)** in the next couple of days in Anchorage and make it clear to him that this isn't acceptable to our community. Sounds like the union is about to ratify a contract which may be helpful as far as winter service.

11. Manager's Report - City Manager **Helen Howarth** had no report to give.

12. City Clerk's Report – **Bourgeois** reported on the new executive session language she has put on the agenda to make it easier to enter e.s. for good reason on any item already on the regular agenda. Also, she emailed council with instructions on how to obtain a City ID if they were interested in doing so. **Meyer** asked about the class action material that is in the packet. **Bourgeois** said the notice was sent to give City's the 'opt out' opportunity. City Attorney **Holly Wells** has advised to do nothing at this time – Cities who are opting out might have their own litigation going against prescription drug companies. City Manager **Howarth** concurred with the Attorney opinion.

a. Email from AML re Res' and position statement to be considered on November 22 at AML Annual Meeting

b. Class Action notice and FAQ's regarding in re: National Prescription Opiate Litigation

13. Lobbyist Report, 10-21-19 **John Bitney** memo regarding Oil Tax Initiative

K. Correspondence

14. 10-14-19 Email from D. Collins requesting a City letter commenting on the Whitshed Rd rockslide mitigation grant

15. 10-15-19 Notice from ADEC re public scoping on oil discharge prevention and contingency plan requirements

16. 10-15-19 Letter from Percy Frisby, Friends of the AMHS

17. 10-23-19 Mayor letter supporting ADOT Whitshed rockslide mitigation

18. 10-28-19 City-NVE Joint Request to MacKinnon re AMHS Service

19. 10-28-19 Mayor Koplín request for meeting with Governor

Council member **Bailer** thanked **Mayor Koplín** for getting the letter out to the State about Whitshed Road.

L. Ordinances and Resolutions

20. Resolution 11-19-46 A resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, authorizing amendment to the FY19 budget in the amount of \$18,000 for the EMPG-GY19 grant and the \$18,000 City match

M/Guard S/Meyer to approve Resolution 11-19-46 a resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, authorizing amendment to the FY19 budget in the amount of \$18k for the EMPG-GY19 grant and the \$18k City match **Guard** said he thinks this is bookkeeping we need to do to save our grant money. **Howarth** said she can speak to all of these budget amending resolutions and say just that, these are housekeeping resolutions being brought forward by Finance Director **Dean Baugh** – they are to move the funds into the appropriate line-items. None of these change any Council action as far as allocating resources or agreeing to spending the money. **Glaser** asked if there was any new money being spent and the response was, no, these are moving funds into different line-items. **Allison** said he will support this, but he doesn't agree with passing budget amendments just to make the budget look right. He asked for consistency also in these items as one of the memos mentions permanent fund when actually, this is all general fund money we are talking about. Vote on the motion: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent. Meyer-yes; Schaefer-absent; Glaser-yes; Jones-yes; Allison-yes; Guard-yes and Bailer-yes. Motion was approved.

21. Resolution 11-19-47 A resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, authorizing amendment to the FY19 budget in the amount of \$32,082 for the 2019 DPS grant for the purchase of a K-9 officer and various public safety equipment and a \$10,000 NVE grant for the K-9 officer

M/Bailer S/Guard to approve Resolution 11-19-47 a resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, authorizing amendment to the FY19 budget in the amount of \$32,082 for the 2019 DPS grant for the purchase of a K-9 officer and various public safety equipment and a \$10,000 NVE grant for the K-9 officer

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

22. Resolution 11-19-48 A resolution of the Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, authorizing amendment to the FY19 budget in the amount of \$32,723 for insurance reimbursement for the damage at Bob Korn Pool

M/Guard S/Bailer to approve Resolution 11-19-48 a resolution of the Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, authorizing amendment to the FY19 budget in the amount of \$32,723 for insurance reimburse for the damage at Bob Korn Pool

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

23. Resolution 11-19-49 A resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, authorizing amendment to the FY19 budget in the amount of \$9k for the City match to the EMPG-GY18 grant

M/Bailer S/Guard to approve Resolution 11-19-49 a resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, authorizing amendment to the FY19 budget in the amount of \$9k for the City match to the EMPG-GY18 grant

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

M. Unfinished Business - none

N. New & Miscellaneous Business

24. City Council role in negotiations and approval of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City and IBEW Local Union 1547 - discussion

Jones asked for this to be put on he would like to see a council role in approving the IBEW contract. He believes that it is a big part of our budget dilemma this year and as such an expensive drain on our resources, Council should be more involved. *Howarth* said she has been involved in collective bargaining agreements in the past as executive director with oversight by a board of directors and what she has seen work well is when the Council/Board sets parameters with the executive director, before the negotiations and then a fiscal note is made clear as to exactly how the contract hits the budget. She believes that conversations could be had between herself and council through the process, so she and the negotiating team are made well aware of limitations, in advance of negotiations. *Jones* said he completely agrees. Other Council members commented and there was a consensus that this should be addressed before the next negotiation.

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

Glasen said he's been hearing from citizens about the smells that came off of Ocean Beauty's fish oil plant this summer. Council concurred to allow staff to get in touch with the processor and address this directly with them. *Bailer* suggested there may be language when that was permitted about smell, etc. Planner might be able to assist. *Bourgeois* said she would add to pending agenda an ord change in the new year on Council role in collective bargaining negotiations/approval of contract. *Meyer* asked the Mayor if there was a First Alaskans update - had they responded to the Mayor's request yet. *Mayor Koplín* said not yet. *Bourgeois* asked *Mayor Koplín* if he would be at Sobriety to present the proclamation approved tonight and he said yes, he did plan to attend and read the proclamation. *Mayor Koplín* said *Representative Stutes* would also be in for Sobriety and intended to have a public meeting on November 14 as well. *Bourgeois* reminded everyone that next week Nov 13 - 6pm joint work session with School Board at HS, then back ere for Council budget work session (likely) - to be determined after the conclusion of tonight's budget work session after this regular meeting.

O. Audience Participation - none

P. Council Comments

Jones apologized for not being in person and thanked everyone for their attendance tonight.

Bailer said his phone keeps ringing on this issue - staff parking up in front, taking public spots, he doesn't know if it's a policy or an issue - he just asked the Manager to have that discussion maybe with her staff. *Bailer* also asked the Manager to shoot them emails on her comings and goings, he wanted to make the public aware that Council had an agreement with you that you would be coming and going a bit until after the first of the year.

Guard would like to revisit the *Beecher* case at some point.

Q. Executive Session - none

R. Adjournment

M/Bailer S/Guard to adjourn the meeting.

Hearing no objection Vice Mayor Meyer adjourned the meeting at 7:49 pm.

Approved: November 20, 2019

Attest: 
Susan Bourgeois, CMC, City Clerk

