

Regular City Council Meeting
November 7, 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 7:00 pm on November 7, 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, Jeff Guard, Melina Meyer** and **David Allison**. Council member **Ken Jones** was present via teleconference. Council members **Anne Schaefer** and **James Wiese** were absent. Also present were City Attorney **Holly Wells**, City Manager **Alan Lanning** and City Clerk **Susan Bourgeois**.

D. Approval of Regular Agenda

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

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

E. Disclosures of Conflicts of Interest - none

F. Communications by and Petitions from Visitors

1. Guest Speakers

2. Audience comments regarding agenda items

Kristin Carpenter spoke in favor of the increased line-item for support for the chamber of commerce. She also spoke about her letter in the packet concerning the Polar Bear – she didn't think that was the best place to have it located.

3. Chairpersons and Representatives of Boards and Commissions

CCMCA Board, President **Kristin Carpenter** spoke and mentioned there is still no audit completed, they keep asking for more information. The financials don't look great, they are behind in billing and volumes have just been down this year. **Mayor Koplín** asked if there were figures she could provide as far as the financials – she said looking at August financials there is about a \$1.1 million gap. **Burton** asked about the lag time in billing – **Carpenter** said it's all about the Electronic Health Records system – staff still getting up to speed on it. She said it is somewhat about our small volumes and our infrequencies of seeing the problems that lead to a longer time frame to develop the fixes required.

4. Student Council Representative Report – **Olivia Carroll** reported that: 1) there are new committees being formed on Student Council, the service committee is planning ways to give back to the community, schools and outside of Cordova as well; spirit committee is working on ideas to make events more spirited, especially homecoming, 2) Wednesday classes (3 periods of 100 minutes and an Advisory period) still receiving mixed reviews from students. Advisory is sort of about school connectivity for 7th through 11th graders and seniors are focusing that on college-prep, job-prep activities. 3) BIONIC is the school's peer helper group and they are having a kindness week at the Elementary school next week (assembly there Monday then redecorating the bathrooms with inspirational quotes, etc.). Also, BIONIC members attended Lead On conference in Anchorage and came home with the ideas of community members assisting with "getting ready for prom" activities in an effort to stem "pre-gaming" which is drinking before prom. 4) Volleyball regionals is next week Nov 15-17, very excited to be fighting for a spot at state in their own hometown, hope that lots of fans will attend and support them.

G. Approval of Consent Calendar

5. Resolution 11-18-29 A resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, re-authorizing the City Trails Committee, whose role is to advise the Parks and Recreation Commission on the development of new trails, enhancement of existing trails and the development of additional trail resources, by amending the membership to six members

6. Proclamation for 25th Annual Sobriety Celebration and Memorial Potlatch

7. Council concurrence of Mayor's appointment of Trae Lohse to the Planning Commission

8. Record excused absences of **Mayor Koplín** and Council members **Schaefer** and **Wiese** from the October 17, 2018 regular meeting

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

H. Approval of Minutes

M/Burton S/Allison to approve the minutes.

9. Minutes of October 17, 2018 Council Public Hearing

10. Minutes of October 17, 2018 Council Regular Meeting

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

I. Consideration of Bids

J. Reports of Officers

11. Mayor's Report - *Mayor Koplín* added to his written report in the packet - said he's been talking to *John Bitney* about connecting with the new administration - he's reached out a bit to *Governor Dunleavy* and we have some connections with *Lieutenant Governor Meyer* which may be a more productive path at first. He thanked *Kristin Carpenter* and a group of Cordovans working on a community foundation - great idea that can help citizens and businesses in the future with project and program funding, etc. Essentially like a permanent fund - big contributions being made across the state by Rasmussen Foundation and others - good economic driver to have in the community. Alaska Shellfish Growers Association will be meeting in Cordova in December - which is a great opportunity for the community.

12. Manager's Report - City Manager *Alan Lanning* reported 1) he will be at AML all week next week - there are AML resolutions in the packet if any of Council members want to weigh in - let him know - also let him know if there is anyone in particular you want him to see/meet with while there. *Mayor Koplín* suggested he meet with *Bitney - Lanning* said he did have appointments with the insurance broker, Bitney and Birch Horton attorneys.

13. City Clerk's Report - *Bourgeois* had no report.

14. Staff Quarterly Reports

- a. Cordova Volunteer Fire Department, *Paul Trumblee*, City Fire Marshal
- b. Cordova Police Department, *Chief of Police*, Mike Hicks
- c. Finance Department, *Jon Stavig*, Finance Director

K. Correspondence

15. 10-17-18 Email from Girdwood Board of Supervisors forwarded to City Council members

16. 10-29-18 Email from K. Carpenter re Polar Bear

17. 10-31-18 Email from Chamber Pres. L. Koker re Chamber funding request

18. 11-01-18 Letter from Mayor re Comments on Chugach Forest Plan

L. Ordinances and Resolutions

19. Ordinance 1171 An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, authorizing the transfer of \$269,000 from the General Reserve Fund (permanent fund) to the refuse enterprise fund as a loan for the purchase of a refuse truck and stating the repayment terms for the loan - 2nd reading

M/Allison S/Burton to postpone item 19 - Ordinance 1171 to the next meeting due to there are not a sufficient number of Council members present to approve it tonight.

Vote on the motion: 4 yeas, 1 nay (Jones), 2 absent (Schaefer, Wiese). Motion was approved.

20. Ordinance 1172 An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, (I) declaring that tax-foreclosed property commonly known as the Cordova Hotel, located at 604 1st St, Cordova, AK 99574 and legally described as Lots three (3) and four (4), Block six (6), Original Townsite of Cordova, Alaska, records of the Cordova recording district, third judicial district, State of Alaska (parcel no. 02-173-503), formerly owned by Dorene Wickham and deeded to the City by clerk's deed, is not required for a public purpose and (II) authorizing and directing its sale - 1st reading

M/Allison S/Guard to adopt Ordinance 1172 an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, (I) declaring that tax-foreclosed property commonly known as the Cordova Hotel, located at 604 1st St, Cordova, AK 99574 and legally described as Lots Three (3) and Four (4), Block Six (6), Original Townsite of Cordova, Alaska, records of the Cordova recording district, third judicial district, State of Alaska (parcel no. 02-173-503), formerly owned by Dorene Wickham and deeded to the City by Clerk's Deed, is not required for a public purpose and (II) authorizing and directing its sale.

Allison said he doesn't see a public need for this building and hopes there are interested parties. *Burton* said, sell it.

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

M. Unfinished Business

21. Council direction to staff regarding AK DoT&PF Tier I Harbor Grant bond & repayment options

- a. Cordova Harbor Commission Resolution 10-18-01

M/Jones S/Allison to direct staff to provide the necessary documents to place 2 items on the ballot for the upcoming Cordova Regular Election of March 5, 2019: 1) a bond proposition for \$5M for South Harbor renovations and 2) a

proposition to adopt an ordinance enacting a **0.5%** (one half percent) local raw fish tax; and to direct staff to provide a resolution enacting the harbor and port fee increases as recommended by the Harbor Commission in its Resolution 10-18-01.

Jones said he has been pushing for replacing that harbor for a while, he thinks it is very important for the community. He also thinks with the budget constraints, it is important that the harbor users come up with a plan to pay for it themselves and this is what the Commission came up with. **Allison** said he thinks it will be very important for us to educate the public on this, so they are very clear on what they are voting on. He said if we vote yes on this then we need to make the effort to educate the people. **Guard** asked if there is a sunset on this for after bond is paid off. **Jones** opined that by the time this bond is paid off there will be another project needed – he thinks this is a case of increased taxes/rates being appropriate, especially for the actual user group that will benefit.

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

N. New & Miscellaneous Business

22. Discussion item about the Bears in Cordova summer/fall 2018

M/Allison S/Guard to refer this until the next meeting when all the parties can be invited, and the writer of the memo is here (James Wiese).

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

23. Status report from PBS re City and CCMC self-funded Health Insurance Plan – Council did opt to discuss this in executive session to be held after Council comments.

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

November 21 – work session, public hearing and regular meeting. Boards and Commissions coming vacant – deadline for letters of interest November 13.

O. Audience Participation

Katrina Hoffman of 301 South Second Street – she thanked council for taking the chamber’s needs into account during budget discussions. Comparatively Sitka gives 92% of bed tax to chamber. Seward gives a percentage of bed tax and car rental tax. She hopes we can get to a place that we give a sustainable amount annually to our chamber.

Wendy Ranney of 2500 Orca Road and Orca Adventure Lodge also spoke in favor of the chamber and would like to see more of the bed tax given to the chamber.

Cathy Rehnfeldt thanked Council for their consideration of Chamber funding during budget.

P. Council Comments

Burton thanked people for attending – he is interested in hearing more about the community foundation.

Meyer thanked people for giving council an audience, working on the budget is difficult – there seems to be a lot of chamber support. She is also interested to hear more about the community foundation.

Allison appreciated all the people who volunteer in the community. He also expressed appreciation and best wishes to **Jon Stavig** who has now retired.

Jones echoed the thanks. He appreciates the votes on the Harbor topic. He is glad to support the chamber. His vote on the garbage truck was because he’d prefer to see that be a budgeted item, not out of the permanent fund.

Q. Executive Session

25. see item 23.

M/Allison S/Meyer to go into an executive session to discuss matters the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect on the finances of the government, specifically a status report about self-funded health insurance, and to invite **Kristin Carpenter** from CCMCA Board to participate.

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

Mayor Koplín recessed the meeting with no objection at 7:57 pm. Council entered the executive session at 7:59 pm.

Council re-entered open session at 8:16 pm. **Mayor Koplín** stated that no action was taken in the executive session.

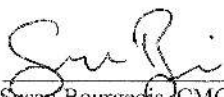
R. Adjournment

M/Guard S/Allison to adjourn the meeting.

Hearing no objection Mayor Koplín adjourned the meeting at 8:17 pm.

Approved: December 5, 2018

Attest:



Susan Bourgeois, CMC, City Clerk

