

**Regular City Council Meeting**  
**November 21, 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 21, 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 *Ken Jones, Jeff Guard, Melina Meyer, Anne Schaefer, David Allison* and *James Wiese*. Council member *James Burton* was present via teleconference. Also present were City Manager *Alan Lanning* and City Clerk *Susan Bourgeois*.

**D. Approval of Regular Agenda**

*M/Allison S/Guard* to approve the Regular Agenda.

Vote on the motion: 7 yeas, 0 nays. 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

3. Chairpersons and Representatives of Boards and Commissions

CCMCA Board, CEO *Scot Mitchell* reported 1) the new electronic health records system went live in August and they are still working out some problems; 2) they've added services to increase revenue - sleep medicine, neurology group in Anchorage reads the exams, monthly sleep clinic to work on patients who need c-pap or bi-pap machines; 3) new arrangement for sale of durable medical equipment - they cannot bill but they can provide the equipment, a good service and the company they sell it for can bill so the hospital saves money on no longer giving away expensive equipment; 4) working on a speech therapy contract and occupational therapy services as well; 5) still working on physician recruitment - fully covered through May 2019. *Schaefer* asked about the audit - *Mitchell* said they are still asking questions - now about the third-party administrator and health insurance billing. *Wiese* asked if the pharmacy was in a position to make any kind of reimbursement to the City on the startup costs. *Mitchell* said we should have enough to make the first \$50,000 payment to the City by the end of the year.

School Board President *Barb Jewell* reported: 1) **volleyball** team won regionals will be attending the state tournament, also Cordova had a great showing at the Alaska state **music** festival and at a **robotics** competition last weekend - great to see our students competing and excelling in such a variety of activities; she expressed appreciation for all the volunteers who helped with the volleyball tournament: staff, students, parents, businesses - we had volunteers for all facets, not just watching games - the concessions, the logo, the graphic design of program, the live-streaming, etc. - that was Cordova at it's best, which will help us prepare for tip-off and basketball regionals in the coming months; 2) district goals update - finalizing strategic plan, end product by year-end - interactive online tool in addition to paper based, to explore what the school is doing and where people can give input; also working on establishing a comprehensive social-emotional framework; board working on focusing best policy alignment with best practice - particularly in the areas of discipline and academic expectations; board also working on strengthening financial stability, looking closely at all expenses and getting a handle on what they need, what the community expects and what we need to maintain in our fund balance to have a sustainable budget; also looking at board role in curriculum review, making sure the best academic opportunities are provided for our students. 3) school music performances are December 4 at Elementary School and December 11 at the high school.

4. Student Council Representative Report - was not present

**G. Approval of Consent Calendar**

5. Continuation of, and Council concurrence of, Mayor's appointments to Cordova Historic Preservation Commission

6. Record excused absence of Council member *Wiese* and the unexcused absence of Council member *Schaefer* from the November 7, 2018 regular meeting

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

## H. Approval of Minutes - none

## I. Consideration of Bids

7. Direction to Manager to negotiate purchase of a Utility Truck for use in the Sewer Department

*M/Jones S/Allison* to direct City Manager to negotiate a contract with Kendall Ford to provide one 2018 Ford, Gas, V-8, ¾-ton, 4X4, utility truck per the State ITB - ADOT State Equipment Fleet for a sum not to exceed Thirty-Eight thousand and seventy-eight dollars (\$38,078.00).

*Jones* said he appreciates that this is coming from budgeted funds.

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

## J. Reports of Officers

8. Mayor's Report - *Mayor Koplín* mentioned the Monday evening meeting between CCMCA Board, City Council and Tribal Council - he appreciated full attendance by the Tribal Council, nearly full attendance of the City Council but he was disappointed that not many of the CCMCA Board were present. He said it's a very important process as we consider budget and he'll leave it at that. He's been reaching out to *Bitney* to discuss connecting with the new administration, but it's been kind of like a brick wall - there may be a better opportunity with *Kevin Meyer*, Lieutenant Governor and we will continue to reach out and try to get some engagement there.

9. Manager's Report - City Manager *Alan Lanning* reported 1) he attended AML and will send out a written report to Council early next week - it was nice to reconnect with some people, he met with City Attorney, *Bitney* and Insurance broker - we have really, really good news on our renewal premium for 2019; overriding theme of the conference was uncertainty in this new administration and how municipalities would be dealt with, etc. and how the minorities and majorities would shake out with legislature; 2) he and Cindy interviewed an interim finance director applicant today with lots of Alaska experience and we had reached out to a large recruiting firm in Illinois and were given a lot of resumes to sift through and one candidate rose to the top and that is who we interviewed - we asked the recruiting firm to give us an idea of what a potential contract with him would look like for a 6 months contract with a potential 3 month extension.

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

11. Comprehensive Plan Update

## K. Correspondence

12. 11-5-18 Letter from Mayor to AFDF re City Collaboration on NOAA S-K grant

13. 11-6-18 Letter from ARWA re 2018 Outstanding Achievement Award Winners

*Mayor Koplín* brought attention to the award the water department received, he said that regardless of thin budgets and cuts to department, we've still had some great performance - thinking back to the DEC visit to our landfill and their comments that it is one of the best managed landfills they've seen.

## L. Ordinances and Resolutions

14. 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 - 2<sup>nd</sup> reading

*M/Allison S/Guard* to adopt 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.

*Allison* said he considers this a good use of a portion of the City's permanent fund that will be repaid at a set interest rate - he supports this because there is a plan and it brings interest back to the permanent fund unlike disbursements to the hospital. *Jones* said he agrees we need a new garbage truck he doesn't think we need to be paying for it out of the permanent fund. He said he'll vote no unless someone changes his mind. *Guard* said for an enterprise fund to be able to save for a purchase like this would require raised rates and we didn't do that so it's kind of on us. He doesn't see an option - and there's a payback program and he will support this. *Schaefer* said budgeting for a pick-up at \$35k is a big difference from budgeting for a \$269k garbage truck. *Allison* said the last UBS report had our money earning less than 1% this will allow a portion of the fund to earn much more than that. *Jones* opined we could hold off 2 or 3 years and the enterprise will just have to go with what they have until then. *Burton* said he is also having a hard time with this. The constant expenditures out of the permanent fund are troubling to him. *Greenwood* reported that the refuse department has spent money recently from its reserve account to better the operation and enclose an office with heat and a bathroom. Also, the enterprise will be finishing up loan payments in 2019 which is why we opted to ask for the first year of payments

for this loan to be in 2020. **Allison** reiterated his point that this is not a risk to the permanent fund, this is a loan, really a good investment of \$269,000 of our permanent fund, we know right where it is going and we are in control of the funds of the enterprise – it is investing in ourselves. He reminded everyone that the Harbor enterprise fund has taken a loan in the past – and they have faithfully made the loan payments. **Burton** said that reminder makes him think that the Travel Lift would not exist in Cordova if it weren't for us using the loan from the permanent fund mechanism for enterprise fund capital items. **Guard** said we shouldn't be gun shy of doing the business we need to do for the city based on the hospital's finances – just because that looks so scary. **Meyer** said she will be voting yes. **Jones** asked what interest rate the Harbor pays on their loan – the answer given was 0%.

Vote on the motion: 7 yeas, 0 nays. Allison-yes; Schaefer-yes; Guard-yes; Meyer-yes; Wiese-yes; Burton-yes and Jones-yes. 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 – 2<sup>nd</sup> reading **M/Guard S/Allison** 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.

**Guard** said we certainly don't need it, so we might as well move it along. **Allison** said he supports this, not a public necessity for sure. He just wanted to ensure we'd be going through the normal procedure for land disposal.

Vote on the motion: 7 yeas, 0 nays. Wiese-yes; Jones-yes; Meyer-yes; Schaefer-yes; Allison-yes; Burton-yes and Guard-yes. Motion was approved.

#### **M. Unfinished Business**

**16. Council concurrence of Mayor's appointments to the Comp Plan Committee**

**M/Guard S/Schaefer** to direct staff to concur with **Mayor Koplín's** appointment of **Olivia Carroll** (as a student representative) to the Comprehensive Plan Committee.

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

#### **N. New & Miscellaneous Business**

**17. Council concurrence of Mayor's appointments to the Harbor Commission Library Board, Planning Commission and Parks & Recreation Commission**

**M/Allison S/Guard** to concur with Mayor Koplín's appointments of the following:

**Wendy Ranney**, to the Library Board for a term through November 2021;

**Chris Bolin** and **John Baenen**, to the Planning Commission for terms through November 2021;

**Wendy Ranney** and **Kirsti Jurica**, to the Parks & Rec Commission for terms through November 2021; and

**Jacob Betts**, to the Harbor Commission for a term through November 2021.

**Allison** said he appreciates people putting their names forward and their interest in serving.

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

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

**Nov 27, 6-8pm** budget work session. Bear discussion – Council asked the City Clerk to contact the pertinent community partners and try to get them to pick a date in the future for a work session after **January 1. Dec 5** – work session with PBS and Chris Fejes. **Dec 6** – joint work session with NVE and CCMCA – at Pioneer. Budget approval is slated for **December 19**, along with fee schedule.

Declaration of Candidacy for March 5, 2019 election will be opening first week in January.

#### **O. Audience Participation**

**Wendy Ranney** of 2500 Orca Road and Orca Adventure Lodge she offered any assistance that the City might want with the bear discussion. She said they can help with bear relocation. She also thanked Council for appointing her to 3 different board and commission seats.

**Chris Bolin** of 607 Birch Street – thanked Council for the decision on the new garbage truck, the fleet is aging, without new equipment it's a difficult job.

#### **P. Council Comments**

**Burton** thanked for the volunteers to boards and commissions.

**Meyer** thanked everyone for their attendance, said sobriety went well, happy about the comp plan process so far – she'd encourage people to fill out a survey.

**Allison** passed on congrats to the water department on their award.

**Schaefer** reiterated what had already been said and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

**Jones** echoed previous comments and thanked everyone for bearing with him on the Garbage Truck discussion. He appreciated the points that were made.

**Wiese** also thanked volunteers on boards and commissions, congratulated the water department and commented that the School did a great job putting on the volleyball tournament, he wished the girls good luck at State and thanked all the volunteers who helped with the tournament.

**Koplin** thanked Council for the assistance with the gym floor that helped with the success of the tournament.

#### **Q. Executive Session**

**Mayor Koplin** asked that Council handle these in reverse order, Clerk first.

##### **20. City Clerk's Annual Evaluation**

**M/Allison S/Guard** to enter executive session to discuss subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person; provided that the person may request a public discussion, specifically, the City Clerk's Annual evaluation.

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

Hearing no objection, **Mayor Koplin** recessed the meeting at 8:13 pm, to clear the room prior to the executive session.

Council entered executive session at 8:17 pm and re-entered open session at 8:37 pm.

**Mayor Koplin** stated that no action was taken in the executive session.

##### **19. City Manager's Annual Evaluation**

**M/Allison S/Guard** to enter executive session to discuss subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person; provided that the person may request a public discussion, specifically, the City Manager's Annual evaluation.

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

Council entered executive session at 8:40 pm and re-entered open session at 11:10 pm.

**Mayor Koplin** stated that no action was taken in the executive session.

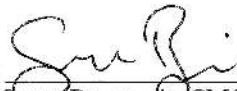
#### **R. Adjournment**

**M/Guard S/Allison** to adjourn the meeting.

Hearing no objection Mayor Koplin adjourned the meeting at 11:11 pm.

Approved: December 19, 2018

Attest:



Susan Bourgeois, CMC, City Clerk

