

**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 19, 2014 @ 7:30 PM  
LIBRARY MEETING ROOM  
MINUTES**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

*Acting Vice Mayor EJ Cheshier* called the Council Regular Meeting to order at 7:30 pm on March 19, 2014, in the Library Meeting Room.

**B. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

*Acting Vice Mayor EJ Cheshier* led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**C. ROLL CALL**

Present for roll call were Council members *Tim Joyce, Tom Bailer, Bret Bradford* and *EJ Cheshier*. Council Members *Kristin Carpenter* and *Dave Reggiani* were present via teleconference and *Mayor James Kacsh* and Council member *James Burton* were absent. Also present were City Manager *Randy Robertson*, City Clerk *Susan Bourgeois* and Student Council Representative *Sarah Hoepfner*.

**D. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA**

*M/Joyce S/Bailer* to approve the Regular Agenda.

Vote on motion: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (Burton). Motion passes.

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

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

**1. Guest Speaker in re Tsunami Ready City**

*Joanie Behrends* introduced the four guests and then each spoke and showed slides. They were addressing the fact that Cordova had just become a Tsunami Ready and a Storm Ready community and they also gave a briefing on the upcoming Alaska Shield 2014 exercise which would be held on Friday March 28 and Saturday March 29 in Cordova and elsewhere across the State. *Whitmore* also mentioned the 1964 earthquake and the tsunami that affected Cordova and the Prince William Sound area. *John Madden* presented *Acting Vice Mayor EJ Cheshier* with two signs that read “You are now entering a Tsunami Ready City”. The invited guests were: *John Madden*, Director of Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, *Paul Whitmore*, Director of the National Tsunami Warning Center, *Cindy Prellar* (NOAA) and *Ervin Petty* (AK Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management).

**2. Audience comments regarding agenda items:**

*Robert Beedle* of 609 Spruce spoke to the Harbor dumpsters issue; he asked Council that if they were going to make any specific decisions about it, that they should write it down so we don't have to keep revisiting this issue. He said we had discussed this a while ago and he thought it had been figured out.

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

*Harbor – Burton* was not present, so Harbormaster *Schinella* mentioned their last meeting where the Commission discussed harbor dumpsters and he said they have a special meeting tomorrow.

*Planning and Zoning – Reggiani* said the Commission met last week and one issue was the Comprehensive Plan which the commission unanimously decided to hold off on until next budget cycle and this way they could be better prepared to start right in on it in January 2015. If they were to start now, it is too close to fishing and everyone's busy time to dedicate the appropriate time to it. Land disposal maps were before the commission as well and there was a split vote on a number of lots (specifically North Fill lots) so it was referred to come back before a full commission before they make their recommendation to Council.

*School Board – Bradford* said he missed the last School Board meeting. *Allison* was in the audience and said he had been at the last School Board Special Meeting where they elected officers. *Barb Jewell* is the new president and *Tammy Altermott* the vice president.

4. Student Council Representative Report – *Sarah Hoepfner* said this week there will be an all-school game night for seventh through twelfth graders at the Elementary School. In April there's an AASG conference in Fairbanks and Cordova's Student Council hopes to take 5 – 10 people there. Also coming up, there will be an Oscar Talent night.

#### G. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

*Acting Vice Mayor EJ Cheshier* informed Council that the consent calendar was before them.

5. Proclamation of Appreciation to David Allison

6. Record unexcused absence of Council member Carpenter and excused absence of Council member Cheshier from the March 05, 2014 Regular Meeting

Vote on Consent Calendar: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (Burton). Cheshier – yes; Carpenter – yes; Bradford –yes; Bailer – yes; Reggiani-yes and Joyce-yes. Consent Calendar was approved.

*Acting Vice Mayor EJ Cheshier* read the Proclamation of Appreciation to *David Allison* into the record.

#### H. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*M/Bradford S/Joyce* to approve the Minutes.

7. Regular Meeting Minutes 3-05-14

*Bourgeois* mentioned an edit that she would make because in page 5 of the packet there was an incorrect number relating to the PERS rate being capped in 2008. It should say capped at 22% but it says 22.5%. She will make the edit and speak to the correction in the minutes.

Vote on motion: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (Burton). Motion passes.

#### I. CONSIDERATION OF BIDS

#### J. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

8. Mayor's Report – *Mayor Kacsh* was not present. *Acting Vice Mayor EJ Cheshier* said it was a really nice day today in Cordova and he did get some crab today went he went crabbing.

9. Manager's Report – *Robertson* reported that: 1) he will be away for the next two Council meetings. In Washington DC for the next one and then *Ms. Behrends* and he will be at the Alaska Shield after action meeting on the April 16 meeting date; 2) NVE has an approved Clean Harbors Grant of \$90K that will be spent over the course of the next year, kudos to *Mr. Azure* and his team; 3) he said we have 50#s of halibut that have been donated and they will make their way to Juneau in 2 – 3 weeks; 4) *Alan Austerman's* daughter has announced her candidacy for his seat, FYI; 5) the *Adjutant General* for the State as well as the *Governor* will be here during Alaska Shield.

a. Finance Director *Jon Stavig*, financial update

b. *Today in America*, television show – *Laura Cloward* showed a five minute segment from the television show with host *Terry Bradshaw*. *Cloward* said this began in 2012 – Council approved it, then staff waited for summer months for the filming crew to come up here; was filmed eventually in July 2013, we received the finished product in October 2013. She wanted Council to see it before we started using it locally. It has aired seven times in two locations so far, Albany and Salt Lake City.

10. City Clerk's Report – *Bourgeois* said she had a written report in the packet but just wanted to announce the change in Council Meeting start times beginning with our next regular meeting, Council meetings will begin at 7:00 pm.

#### K. CORRESPONDENCE

11. DoT plans for Avalanche gates 02-24-14

12. Email from Dave Janka in re Oil Spill Drill 02-28-14

13. DoT letter in re Whitshed Road 03-04-14

#### L. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

14. Ordinance 1114 an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, repealing section 8.04.170 entitled trapping to eliminate contradiction in the Cordova Municipal Code

*M/Joyce S/Bailer* to adopt Ordinance 1114 an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, repealing section 8.04.170 entitled trapping to eliminate contradiction in the Cordova Municipal Code.

*Joyce* said this is being done because of the passage of the trapping initiative at our recent election. The code that the people voted in conflicts with what's in code so we are fixing the conflict with this ordinance.  
Vote on motion: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (Burton). Joyce-yes; Bailer-yes; Cheshier – yes; Reggiani – yes; Bradford - yes and Carpenter – yes. Motion passes.

15. Resolution 03-14-17 a resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, appropriating \$205,000 from the Cordova Center fund balance to pay necessary professional services and other costs related to the Cordova Center construction project

*M/Bradford S/Joyce* to approve Resolution 03-14-17 a resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, appropriating \$205,000 from the Cordova Center fund balance to pay necessary professional services and other costs related to the Cordova Center construction project.

*Robertson* said the Cordova Center Committee met last week and this is just an administrative resolution, catching up with some bills that we owe, appropriating the money to do so.

Vote on motion: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (Burton). Joyce-yes; Cheshier – yes; Bradford – yes; Carpenter – yes; Reggiani – yes and Bailer-yes. Motion passes.

#### **M. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – none**

#### **N. NEW & MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

16. Harbor Dumpsters and Refuse Billing to Harbor – discussion

*Robertson* and *Dahl* gave a presentation to Council on what has been changed recently; what they have been doing lately concerning refuse. *Robertson* began by reminding Council that one month ago they gave guidance to staff regarding the way forward at the baler as far as collections, equipment, etc. *Mayor Kacsh* then asked for this agenda item, as a discussion tonight. Lengthy discussion ensued and Council was able to offer some suggestions to *Dahl* and *Robertson* especially regarding the dumpster lids (i.e. the small size of the opening and the difficulty in using the equipment). Also extended hours at the baler were suggested, currently the hours are 7 – 3:30 M-F (*Dahl* agreed he would like the hours better and will work toward that). *Joyce* mentioned that if we were to offer free bulk drop off, more often than just on the clean-up day annually, then we could save money in the staff time used to sort through dumpsters when people toss bulk items in there instead. *Dahl* liked the idea and said he would work through the details to see how it could be implemented. Another Council suggestion was putting a dumpster outside the gate of the baler when it is closed. Also maybe a steel collection bin could be placed somewhere so the public could dispose of these larger items properly.

17. Council election of Vice-Mayor

*Bradford* nominated *Dave Reggiani* to continue as Vice Mayor. *Cheshier* closed the nominations.

Upon roll call vote: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (Burton). Cheshier – yes; Joyce-yes; Bradford – yes; Bailer-yes; Carpenter – yes and Reggiani – yes. Reggiani was elected Vice Mayor.

18. Council concurrence of suggested Council Representatives to City Boards and Commissions

*Reggiani* said that he couldn't see in Code where the Council member that is designated to a board or commission doesn't also have a three year term which is different from how we have been practicing that. Also he doesn't like that they would be referred to as a Council representative because he thinks that person to be a full-fledged board or commission member; not there to give what they may believe to be Council's point of view on a topic. *Joyce* said that they are one-year terms simply because Council members could be termed out of Council in less than the amount of time if they were to be appointed to three year terms on the board or commission. By default, they are one-year terms. *Reggiani* said that what he is describing is the way we have been practicing it, but it is not the way it is written in Code. *Reggiani* and *Joyce* suggested we clarify code. As far as the School Board liaison, Council made it clear that that was a non-voting member,

and the Council rep to School Board was a much different role than the Council rep to City Boards and Commissions. Conversation went back to the role of the Council designated board member. **Reggiani** was of the opinion that the Council member on a board is a full-fledged member, not a Council rep and not a liaison.

**M/Joyce S/Bailer** to agree with the suggested Council members to act as Council reps to boards and commissions as follows:

**Carpenter** as Council designated member to the Parks and Recreation Commission,

**Burton** as Council designated member to the Harbor Commission and

**Bradford** as Council rep to the School Board.

All to serve one year terms that expire after the 2014 regular election when new Council members are seated.

Vote on motion: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (Burton). Carpenter – yes; Bradford – yes; Bailer–yes; Cheshier – yes; Reggiani – yes and Joyce–yes. Motion passes.

Council asked the Clerk to bring the Planning & Zoning agenda item to the next meeting.

19. City Code on election noticing/publication requirements – discussion

After lengthy discussion, Council said the code was followed but maybe code needs to be changed to provide for more notification as far as elections. The Clerk was directed to bring the language regarding Elections notification to the April 2 meeting and Council would deal with it.

20. Pending Agenda and Calendar

**Bourgeois** said the Public Hearing on April 2 would be at 6:45 pm and then the Regular Meeting is at 7:00 pm – this is the new, earlier start time for Council regular meetings. HSB will also be meeting on April 2 – hospital staff will be in touch with the HSB members to let them know the start time of that meeting. March 26 there are two work sessions scheduled. First a joint work session with the School Board at 7pm and then a Council budget work session immediately following that. **Bourgeois** also mentioned the upcoming BOE meeting on April 21.

## O. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

**David Allison** 203 Whiskey Ridge Rd, thanked Council for the Proclamation, said it was an honor to serve. He thanked **Donald (Kurz)** for broadcasting the meetings. He said we have a great City crew hopes that Council will continue to support the staff. Lastly, he said when you meet as HSB, don't wash your hands of our Community Medical Center; staff morale is not great over there. Make sure your oversight is still there.

**Robert Beedle** 609 Spruce Street, reiterated his concerns about the dumpsters at the Harbor. He promoted the idea of transfer sites.

## P. COUNCIL COMMENTS

21. Council Comments

**Carpenter** thanked **David Allison** and **Brandon (Dahl)** for all the work he puts in.

**Reggiani** thanked **David Allison** again as well and welcomed **Tom Bailer**.

**Bailer** said thanks again to **Allison** and said he looks forward to working with the rest of Council and in keeping these meetings shorter.

**Bradford** thanked **David Allison** again too. Dumpster issue is a tough one, we will continue to work on it and it will get solved.

**Joyce** also thanked Dave for his years of service. He said that the issues that we were dealing with tonight are somewhat insignificant when you think about the things we can be dealing with – but there were good discussions.

**Acting Vice Mayor EJ Cheshier** thanked **Allison** and asked for a recess before the executive session.

**M/Joyce S/Bradford** to recess for 5 minutes at 10:00 pm. Hearing no objection the meeting was recessed and then reconvened at 10:04 pm.

## Q. EXECUTIVE SESSION

22. Attorney legal advice regarding Cordova Center finances

*M/Bradford S/Bailer* to enter an executive session to receive attorney legal advice regarding the Cordova Center a matter the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect on the finances of the government.

Vote on motion: 5 yeas, 0 nays, 2 absent (Carpenter, Burton). Motion passes.

Council entered executive session at 10:04 pm and was back in regular session at 10:40 pm.

**R. ADJOURNMENT**

*M/Bradford S/Joyce* to adjourn. Hearing no objections the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 pm.

Approved: April 02, 2014

Attest:

  
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Susan Bourgeois, CMC, City Clerk

