

Regular City Council Meeting
February 3, 2021 @ 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 February 3, 2021, 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 **Tom Bailer**, **David Allison**, and **David Glasen**. Council members **Cathy Sherman**, **Jeff Guard**, **Melina Meyer**, and **Anne Schaefer** were present via teleconference. Also present were City Manager **Helen Howarth** and Deputy Clerk **Tina Hammer**.

D. Approval of Regular Agenda

M/Bailer S/Allison to approve the agenda.

Hearing no objection, the motion was approved.

E. Disclosures of Conflicts of Interest and ex parte communications - none

F. Communications by and Petitions from Visitors

1. Guest speaker

a. **John Bitney**, City Lobbyist, reported on the legislative session in Juneau. He reported about the prospects of a large infrastructure bond package; the Governor has proposed 50% of the school bond debt reimbursement but just this morning Senate Finance was discussing supporting 100% of the reimbursement - there seems to be a lot of legislative support for the 100%.

b. Covid-19 update - CCMCA CEO, **Dr. Hannah Sanders** reported via teleconference: 1) there is one active case currently; 2) we are working with Ilanka to vaccinate the community - there is a single point of contact for signup - she encouraged signup. 433 have received first does, 128 have completed the series which makes 561 immunized - there should be another 300 immunized in the next 2 weeks.

2. Audience comments regarding agenda items

Ken Jones of 514 Sunnyside Dr. spoke in support of Resolution 02-21-04.

3. Chairpersons and Representatives of Boards and Commissions - CCMC report - **Dr. Sanders** reported that CCMC is doing much better at billing, she hopes the community is seeing that.

4. Student Council representative - **Madelyn Roemhildt** had a written report in the packet.

G. Approval of Consent Calendar - none

H. Approval of Minutes - none

I. Consideration of Bids - none

J. Reports of Officers

5. Mayor's Report - **Mayor Koplín** reported: 1) he stopped into the special school board meeting earlier tonight - both as Mayor and as Manager of CEC - he's had a good working relationship with the Superintendent so he commented positively at the meeting for **Alex Russin's** evaluation; 2) he wanted to recognize that **Kristin Carpenter** at PWSEDD and **Cathy Renfeldt** at the Chamber have both been actively commenting about the summer ferry schedule.

6. Manager's Report - City Manager **Helen Howarth** reported: 1) she mentioned several projects that are being worked on - as far as Harbor, she deferred to **Tony Schinella** - she said between **Tony** and Public Works staff and other City Hall staff, there are a lot of people working hard to ensure we get the funding for the harbor projects. **Schinella** reported the Port Infrastructure Development grant is a good fit - we'll pursue that, and the EDA grant is moving along, we have begun NEPA work and recently had a BUILD grant meeting and they've given us pointers to put in a better application this time. We have to update our cost-benefit analysis too - working with Northern Economics to do that. Tier I grant through state is still looking like an option, BUILD and PID grants both look good now too.

Howarth continued her report – the Council and School Board will meet first week in April for a joint work session; to discuss mutual concerns, good chance after the election for new school board members and new council members to meet. She also has regular meetings with the Superintendent. She asked **Greenwood** to comment on another pending agenda item, the impound lot. **Greenwood** said the first meeting in March that will occur. She’s busy now conducting 2 mug-ups on the landfill equipment ballot prop (Feb 4, 5:30-6:30pm and Feb 24). **Howarth** mentioned some staff changes – **Ken Fay** has left City employment and **Dean Baugh** is helping out to close out 2020 – there will be an updated financial report to Council and the community as soon as **Dean** is able to do that. **Laura Cloward**, an HR professional is working with us on policies and job descriptions. She is taking this opportunity to restructure Finance Department – with the vacancies in HR and Finance. Parks and Rec Director position will be out by Monday, as **Susie Herschleb** is leaving us as well, mid-March.

7. City Clerk’s Report – **Hammer** reported the election is coming up in about a month; **Susan** is back and working on the ballots as early voting begins on February 9. She is back working on the 2021 assessments which notices will be out next month.

K. Correspondence

8. 12-07-2020 Katie Jo Roemhildt letter to council
9. 01-15-2021 DCCED (DCRA) letter with Cordova’s 2020 population determination
10. 01-21-2021 Joshua Pearson thank you for HVAC project letter
11. 01-22-2021 Mayor Letter opposing elimination of Tutka Bay Lagoon Hatchery
12. 01-25-2021 DOT & PF seeks public review of 2021 summer ferry schedule

L. Ordinances and Resolutions

13. Resolution 02-21-04 A resolution of the Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska supporting the 2016 pink salmon disaster relief funds application and projects identified by the Harbor Commission
M/Bailer S/Allison to approve Resolution 02-21-04 A resolution of the Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska supporting the 2016 pink salmon disaster relief funds application and projects identified by the Harbor Commission
Bailer said he supports this. **Allison** agreed and also supports this. Others were in support. **Meyer** asked about the Crater Lake siphon project and how much that would cost. **Greenwood** explained that the engineering would come first and she doesn’t yet have a price tag for that but she said this is the number one priority of the water department and if they go over they’d be hopeful to use the water department depreciation to fund the rest.
Vote on motion: 7 yeas, 0 nays. Bailer-yes; Sherman-yes; Guard-yes; Meyer-yes; Schaefer-yes; Allison-yes and Glasen-yes.
Motion was approved.

M. Unfinished Business - none

N. New & Miscellaneous Business

14. Discussion of COVID-19 Emergency Response – no comments were made

15. Pending Agenda, Calendar and Elected & Appointed Officials lists
Bailer suggested that the investment policy gets put on the next agenda. **Bailer** also asked about addressing too – he’d like it on the next agenda. **Howarth** said she will have the investment update on the next meeting. Also, she has the attorney giving her clarifying Code language for number 3 on PA (CM approval of purchases/contracts whether budgeted unbudgeted). Title 4 – she is working with Attorney and a recommended policy will come to you. Impound Lot will be to you in March. Addressing – we are actively getting quotes/bids.

O. Audience Participation - none

P. Council Comments

Allison asked if we should get started on the Clerk’s evaluation before any potential Council changes after the election.
Glasen thanks to staff and for the one public comment.
Bailer encouraged the Harbor Commission to come up with a master plan for a fuel dock in the Harbor.
Sherman thanked the Harbor staff about the graph about the travel lift – it would be great if it could be tied in to how the seasons go (how good of a season it was vs. how many lifts, etc.). She said she knows having a lobbyist is expensive, but she thinks **Bitney** is invaluable to have in Juneau and he’s worth every penny.
Guard thanked staff for all the hard work on the Harbor grants and the Refuse bond prop.

Q. Executive Session

R. Adjournment

M/Allison S/Bailer in lieu of the new information we received, that we do not have reason to go into the executive session at this time, he moved to adjourn the meeting.

Hearing no objection *Mayor Koplín* adjourned the meeting at 8:10 pm.

Approved: April 7, 2021

Attest: 
Susan Bourgeois, CMC, City Clerk

