

Regular City Council Meeting
February 17, 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 17, 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, Cathy Sherman, Jeff Guard, David Allison,** and **David Glasen.** Council members **Melina Meyer** and **Anne Schaefer** were present via teleconference. Also present were City Manager **Helen Howarth** and City Clerk **Susan Bourgeois.**

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. Incident Management Team, COVID-19 Update - **Dr. Hannah Sanders** reported: 1) currently 1 active case; 2) 719 individuals in Cordova have initiated the vaccine process and we have vaccine allocated for their second dose, those 719 will be finished up over the next month and there are currently 300+ people on the waiting list for vaccine - early March will be the next vaccine clinic for those individuals.

b. **Barb Jewell** report on the Cordova Safe Housing Project - a project that grew from several years of discussion by the Cordova Coalition for Healthy Communities. It is a project aimed at providing safe environment for individuals or families experiencing homelessness.

2. Audience comments regarding agenda items

Pete Hoepfner - thanked Council for their tireless work, he knows what they do is a thankless job especially this year and he showed his appreciation and handed out some Pete's Treats truffles to Council members and **Howarth** and **Bourgeois.**

3. Chairpersons and Representatives of Boards and Commissions

CCMC report - **Dr. Sanders** reported: 1)CCMC continues to work on revenue and billing cycle, such an expensive difficult year with Covid and all the testing, still last month came in positive which is great; we still continue to lose busines to providers and pharmacies out of town.

School Board report - **Barb Jewell** reported: 1) we finished up the superintendent evaluation and we have retained **Alex Russin** and he wants to remain; all are happy about that; 2) district has been getting odd phone calls about threats - law enforcement has relayed that there isn't a real danger - good opportunity to update emergency plans, training, etc.; 3) plans for graduation are close to being finalized.

4. Student Council representative - none

G. Approval of Consent Calendar

5. Council concurrence of Mayor's appointment of the 2021 Election Board

6. Council concurrence of Mayor's appt: Tom McGann to the Planning Commission

7. Minutes of the 01-20-21 Public Hearing

Vote on consent calendar: 7 yeas, 0 nays. Glasen-yes; Schaefer-yes; Bailer-yes; Sherman-yes; Guard-yes; Allison-yes and Meyer-yes. Consent Calendar was approved.

H. Approval of Minutes - none

I. Consideration of Bids - none

J. Reports of Officers

8. Mayor's Report - **Mayor Koplín** reported: 1) met with **Mark Hoover**, new Chair of NVE Tribal Council; 2) attended a Harbor Commission meeting; 3) mentioned the possibility of an aviation museum in Cordova, needs to find someone to spearhead that.

9. Manager's Report - City Manager **Helen Howarth** reported: 1) feds are distributing additional Covid resources - second CARES distribution - preliminarily, Cordova might get \$480K.

a. Proposition No. 1 PowerPoint presentation by Public Works Director **Sam Greenwood** and Refuse Superintendent **Aaron Muma** on proposition 1.

10. City Clerk's Report - **Bourgeois** reported: 1) updated Council on election work she's been completing and 2) Deputy Clerk been working on finalizing 2021 assessments - notices will go in the mail week of March 8

K. Correspondence - none

L. Ordinances and Resolutions - none

M. Unfinished Business - none

N. New & Miscellaneous Business

11. Discussion of COVID-19 Emergency Response - **Schaefer** asked the status of the emergency, based on that the State House hasn't acted on the continuation of the emergency. **Howarth** said with the non-continuation of the emergency, any mandates that were in place are now recommendations. We've been advised that things will be remedied within the next few days - nothing on the ground in Cordova has been changed at all.

12. Report from City Attorney regarding CBA negotiations process - City Attorney **Will Earnhart** reported on the process for approval of the union contract. Basically, Council sets the big picture by approving the contract, but the administration negotiates the details.

13. City Manager report/Council discussion regarding Investment Policy and Committee - **Howarth** said there is a foundational document, our investment policy, that will inform whichever firm we hire. Her commitment is to get with a few individuals she has contacted as her advisors in a working group investment committee and she'll get a new policy back to Council as soon as possible. The individuals are extremely well-versed in institutional investments, they run a private investment company that invests billions of dollars, we as a City could never work with them (too small a portfolio) so there will be no conflict of interest in their evaluations and recommendations.

14. Pending Agenda, Calendar and Elected & Appointed Officials lists
Council discussed removing some items from the PA.

O. Audience Participation - none

P. Council Comments

Sherman thanked the election board and thanked **Tom McGann** for getting back on Planning Commission. She praised the **manager** for the written report which showed how she is tackling many of the items on the Pending Agenda, she was thrilled to see that. She thanked the **clerk** for the Pending Agenda Primer - that answered a lot of her questions.

Allison he also thanked the manager for a written report in the packet, he wished **Susie Herschleb** well and thanked her for her years of service.

Schaefer thanked **Sam, Aaron** and **Chris** for the thorough informative presentation. Thanks **Susie**, sad to see her go, she's been a dedicated and passionate asset to the department and the City, she'll be missed.

Meyer wished **Susie** best of luck and said she'll be very missed, also thanks to **Tom McGann** and all those who presented tonight.

Bailer asked for the investment policy and the part of the charter about the permanent fund sent to Council. USFS lease should come to Council for direction to negotiate.

Glaser echoed thanks to **Aaron, Sam** and **Chris**. He appreciates the attorney's comments on CBA negotiations.

Guard said he thinks we should codify the steps for CBA negotiation and approval. Thanked staff for all the written documents tonight, makes it easier to get done what we need to do.

Mayor Koplín praised Council for their full attendance and following proper procedures on personnel issues - directing those to the manager, not interfering - it's been a busy year and we have a good council working hard for the City, he wanted to acknowledge that.

Q. Executive Session

15. Council discussion of Manager's evaluation, in executive session because it is a subject that may prejudice the reputation or character of a person; the person may request a public discussion

M/Guard S/Bailer to go into executive session to discuss the manager's evaluation it is a subject that may prejudice the reputation or character of a person; the person may request a public discussion, the manager did not request a public discussion; also to discuss the clerk's evaluation it is a subject that may prejudice the reputation or character of a person; the person may request a public discussion, the clerk did not request a public discussion

Hearing no objection, *Mayor Koplín* said they would enter the executive session.

First, Council took a brief recess to clear the room at 8:49 pm

Council entered the executive session at 8:55 pm and came back into open session at 9:10 pm.

Mayor Koplín stated: the Mayor and Vice Mayor were directed to present the Manager's evaluation to her. The Clerk's evaluation is deferred to the next regular meeting.

R. Adjournment

M/Allison S/Bailer to adjourn the meeting.

Hearing no objection *Mayor Koplín* adjourned the meeting at 9:11 pm.

Approved: April 7, 2021

Attest:



Susan Bourgeois, CMC, City Clerk

