

Regular City Council Meeting
March 3, 2021 @ 7:00 pm
Cordova Center Community Rooms A & B
Minutes

A. Call to order

Acting Vice Mayor Allison called the Council regular meeting to order at 7:00 pm on March 3, 2021, in the Cordova Center Community Rooms.

B. Invocation and pledge of allegiance

Acting Vice Mayor Allison led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Roll call

Present for roll call were Council members *Tom Bailer, David Allison,* and *David Glasen. Mayor Clay Koplín* and Council members *Cathy Sherman, Jeff Guard* and *Melina Meyer* were present via teleconference. Council member *Anne Schaefer* was absent. Also present were City Manager *Helen Howarth* and City Clerk *Susan Bourgeois*.

D. Approval of Regular Agenda

M/Bailer S/Glasen 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 we have 23 active cases, 532 tests have been given in the last 2 weeks and we had a 5% positive testing rate. The recent outbreak is now pretty contained. 721 have begun vaccination and a large number of that has received both doses.

2. Audience comments regarding agenda items - none

3. Chairpersons and Representatives of Boards and Commissions

CCMC report - *Dr. Sanders* reported: 1) the Medicaid cost report came back with only marginal rate adjustments, had been hoping for more; 2) billing function is improving.

School Board report - none

4. Student Council representative - none

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) met with Mark Hoover, met with Bert Adams; 2) congratulated the Clerk on a well-run election; 3) spoke with *Stutes*, periodically speaking with *Bitney*.

6. Manager's Report - City Manager *Helen Howarth* reported: 1) thanked everyone for participation in the election and was glad to see the support of the propositions; 2) her time has been occupied mostly with the recent Covid outbreak - it is incumbent on City employees to participate at the highest level, abide by rules that are in place and set the example - she has heard from citizens, council members, local businesses on the matter so she's taking time to address our rules with the help of *Dr. Sanders* to ensure we have good protocols in place for city employees; it was a reminder to everyone that one small incident could have such an impact - we have done a great job containing it though - that's a testament to our community. If there are more specifics Council wants to get into, that could damage the reputation or character of an individual, an executive session could be warranted; we have received the permission of individuals to do that if council so chooses.

7. City Clerk's Report - *Bourgeois* reported: 1) election was yesterday, went smoothly, divided into two groups for quicker tallying and that went well, 666 ballots were counted yesterday, with the changes to Title 2 council adopted, certification is later than usual, we can certify at the March 17 regular meeting.

K. Correspondence

8. 02-10-21 Letter from EVOSTC, invitations for proposals
9. 02-23-21 Mayor Koplun letter of support for William Deaton

L. Ordinances and Resolutions

10. Ordinance 1194 An ordinance of the Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, enacting Cordova Municipal Code 17.24.005 to require a certificate to plat for all plats submitted for city approval - 2nd reading

M/Bailer S/Glasen to adopt Ordinance 1194 an ordinance of the Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, enacting Cordova Municipal Code 17.24.005 to require a certificate to plat for all plats submitted for city approval

No comments from Council, this is second reading, all were in support.

Vote on motion: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent. Bailer-yes; Sherman-yes; Guard-yes; Meyer-yes; Schaefer-absent; Allison-yes and Glasen-yes. Motion was approved.

11. Resolution 03-21-05 A resolution of the Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, authorizing the City Manager to enter into a sole source contract with Alpine Diesel, LLC. to install and purchase a rebuilt Volvo loader engine for the City of Cordova

M/Bailer S/Glasen to approve Resolution 03-21-05 a resolution of the Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, authorizing the City Manager to enter into a sole source contract with Alpine Diesel, LLC. to install and purchase a rebuilt Volvo loader engine for the City of Cordova

Glasen said he supported this. **Bailer** agreed and said we should get the old one sold as soon as possible. **Meyer, Sherman Guard** were also in support.

Vote on motion: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent. Schaefer-absent; Sherman-yes; Bailer-yes; Meyer-yes; Allison-yes; Guard-yes and Glasen-yes. Motion was approved.

M. Unfinished Business - none

N. New & Miscellaneous Business

12. Discussion of COVID-19 Emergency Response - **Glasen** commented that **Helen** should confer with **Dr. Sanders** about numbers being vaccinated in case it's medically appropriate to get rid of mandates once enough are vaccinated. **Sherman** said she'd like to keep this on the agenda for a while longer so there is a place to discuss issues at each council meeting. **Meyer** thanked the community for doing a great job containing the outbreak and for being willing to get vaccinated. **Allison** said a little scare these past couple of weeks, that's going to happen, we handled it the best we could.

13. Council direction to staff regarding Impound Lot RFP

- Report/PowerPoint by Public Works/Police Department

The power point presentation offered multiple options and staff's suggestion was to maintain the impound lot in its current location and secure it with chain link fencing. After lengthy discussion and with Council members not having a clear concurrence for one option or another, Council referred this item and when it comes back before them they asked for: 1) a fiscal note as to how much and where the money would be coming from; 2) pictures of the more aesthetically pleasing fences with slats; 3) costs of a hybrid fencing system (partial connexes and partial chain link fencing); 4) all of these options to include security systems and how much that would cost.

M/Sherman S/Bailer to refer to staff with the considerations as mentioned in the discussion to be brought back.

Vote on motion: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent. Motion was approved.

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

Council made some edits to the Pending Agenda and removed three items: refuse strategic planning, continuity of government and Harbor Commission discussion to increase to 7 members.

O. Audience Participation - none

P. Council Comments

Sherman complimented public works for handling the snow recently, great job to streets dept on plowing and the refuse for getting the garbage picked up; appreciated the work on the outbreak and the community's response; kudos to the ski hill for keeping it open on such a great snow year and thanks to the Clerk's office for handling the election and expanding the early voting hours.

Bailer thanked those who ran for the offices hopes they will run again. He opined that the Harbor is paid for by the users, the commercial fishermen, we should listen to them and their needs. We had an unfortunate incident; we all make mistakes and there was a sincere apology.

Meyer echoed the voter turnout comments, thanks to the election workers - thanks for the weekend hours. Glad that the outbreak seems pretty well-contained.

Guard echoed a lot of the staff thanks. He said about the unfortunate incident - we've not had enforcement of rules from the beginning - but this isn't political, it's financial. The more the processors spend on Covid overhead, the less the fishermen get in grounds price, the less the City gets in raw fish tax, the less for the whole community, businesses, sales tax etc.

Glaser congratulated **Anne** and **Melina** on their wins. He thanked Nate for writing the letter - he's done a lot of good stuff - he hopes this one mistake can be water under the bridge. Thanks for the school for how they handled it.

Allison thanked those who ran, hopes they stay involved and try again. Thanked staff for the research, the extra hours put in coming to meetings.

Q. Executive Session

15. Council discussion of City Clerk'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/Bailer S/Glaser to go into executive session 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, **Acting Vice Mayor Allison** said they would enter the executive session.

First, Council took a brief recess to clear the room at 8:40 pm

Council entered the executive session at 8:45 pm and came back into open session at 9:10 pm.

Acting Vice Mayor Allison said we discussed the Clerk's evaluation, and the Mayor will write up a summary and get that to the City Clerk.

R. Adjournment

M/Bailer S/Glaser to adjourn the meeting.

Hearing no objection **Acting Vice Mayor Allison** adjourned the meeting at 9:12 pm.

Approved: April 7, 2021

Attest:



Susan Bourgeois, CMC, City Clerk

