

**Regular City Council Meeting**  
**September 15, 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 September 15, 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 Council members **Jeff Guard, Anne Schaefer,** and **David Glasen.** Council members **Tom Bailer, Cathy Sherman** and **David Allison** were present via teleconference. Council member **Melina Meyer** was absent. Also present were City Manager **Helen Howarth** and City Clerk **Susan Bourgeois.**

**D. Approval of Regular Agenda – M/Guard S/Schaefer** to approve the agenda.

Vote on the motion: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (Guard). 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) there are currently 8 active cases locally – medical response team is meeting slightly less regularly, continue to offer testing 6 days/week – encourage the community to test after travel – particularly unvaccinated should test after travel. Vaccinated can get covid and can transmit covid but the period of time that they shed virus is much smaller; 2) the hospitals in Anchorage are in crisis standards of care – the larger hospitals, like Providence have notified all Alaskans that they are at the point where they are having to ration care – she stated it is time for everyone to be extra cautious not only with Covid but with anything – we should try to minimize hospitalization; locally our health care facility is intact.

2. Audience comments regarding agenda items - none

3. Chairpersons and Representatives of Boards and Commissions

**CCMCA Board – Dr. Sanders** reported: 1) finalizing the 2020 audit this week – will be presented to the board at the end of this month; 2) hospital priorities are meeting the demands of Covid including testing and helping the rest of the state with capacity.

**School Board** – no report

4. Student Council representative - no report

**G. Approval of Consent Calendar**

5. Minutes of the August 18, 2021 Regular Council Meeting

6. Per Charter Section 2-8 and Cordova Municipal Code 3.12.022, recordation of unexcused absence of Council member **Jeff Guard** from the September 1, 2021 Regular Meeting

Vote the Consent Calendar: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent. Schaefer-yes; Sherman-yes; Glasen-yes; Bailer-yes; Guard-yes; Meyer-absent and Allison-yes. Consent Calendar was approved.

**H. Approval of Minutes** – in consent calendar

**I. Consideration of Bids** - none

**J. Reports of Officers**

7. Mayor's Report – **Mayor Koplín** reported: 1) he's been discussing redistricting with **Bitney** – looks like we remain with Kodiak and it will probably ride out that way – he would like to write a letter with Council's ok to the redistricting board asking them to hold a public hearing in Cordova – Council was in concurrence; 2) he'll be in DC Oct 4-8 and NVE will be there advocating for healthcare, Shepard Point Rd and they have agreed to advocate for waterfront development and harbor projects and grants applications the City has in – the problem is he doesn't feel comfortable advocating for healthcare until the committee that Council formed has had a chance to meet with NVE – he wanted to let **Dr. Sanders** know since she is on that committee as well.

8. Manager's Report – City Manager **Helen Howarth** reported: 1) on redistricting – Yakutat is being moved to Southeast as it stands – Kodiak and Cordova will be together but no other PWS communities – instead the district is picking up 3 small Russian communities out East End Rd in Homer (collectively population of about

350); 2) last week **Drs. Zink, Cutchins** and **Sanders** gave some great information to the community – answered a lot of community questions around Covid 19, vaccinations, etc. – the recording is on the City YouTube page available for anyone to watch; 3) last night we sponsored another community forum, this time on substance abuse – the panelists were **Chief Taylor, Dr. Sanders**, representatives from the Ilanka Clinic and Sound Alternatives – gave out great information about the resources available in Cordova and the steps being taken to help mitigate substance abuse problems in our community; it is also recorded and available on City's YouTube.

9. City Clerk's Report – **Bourgeois** had no report.

#### K. Correspondence - none

#### L. Ordinances and Resolutions

10. Resolution 09-21-39 A resolution of the Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, extending the City's declaration of a local emergency arising from COVID-19

**M/Schaefer S/Guard** to approve Resolution 09-21-39 A resolution of the Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, extending the City's declaration of a local emergency arising from COVID-19

**Schaefer** said we are still experiencing Covid, the state is at the highest hospitalizations yet, now isn't the time to let up; we need the flexibility to respond quickly and be eligible for funding support as well. **Guard** said this gives us more tools to be quick to respond – he is in favor. **Sherman** said she is fully in support – the state is not in good shape, if you look at the numbers and listen to **Dr. Sanders** and **Dr. Zink** it's a no-brainer, she is in favor. **Glaser** said he is in favor. **Bailer** said he supports this. **Allison** said he does not support this – he doesn't think we need to be under an emergency order at this time.

Vote on the motion: 5 yeas, 1 nay (Allison), 1 absent (Meyer). Motion was approved.

#### M. Unfinished Business - none

#### N. New & Miscellaneous Business

11. Discussion of COVID-19 Emergency Response

**Glaser** stated that just because we continued the emergency order it doesn't mean there are any mandates.

12. Pending Agenda, Calendar, CIP List and Elected & Appointed Officials lists

#### O. Audience Participation

#### P. Council Comments

**Sherman** expressed her thanks to **Dr. Sanders** – she thanked the Clerk for the board and commission updates. She thanked all the City staff working on the harbor grants.

**Bailer** gave a shout out to the medical staff at Ilanka and CCMC – he appreciates them.

**Schaefer** thanked **Dr. Sanders** for managing the hospital, the medical response team for the emergency and assisting with these 2 recent community forums on Covid and substance abuse. She wants to spread the word about board and commission seats available for people to get involved.

**Guard** encouraged people to read the letter put out by the Providence Hospital Chief of Staff – it is in the ADN – let's you know that state of health care in the state.

**Glaser** echoed the comments before him and wanted to thank his fellow Council members, this is not an easy job, been a rough year and he appreciates them for sitting in these seats.

#### Q. Executive Session - none

#### R. Adjournment

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

Hearing no objection **Mayor Koplín** adjourned the meeting at 7:26 pm.

Approved: October 6, 2021

Attest:



Susan Bourgeois, CMC, City Clerk

