

Regular City Council Meeting
February 16, 2022 @ 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 16, 2022, 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 **Anne Schaefer**, **David Allison**, and **David Glasen**. Council members **Tom Bailer**, **Jeff Guard**, and **Melina Meyer** were present via teleconference. Council member **Cathy Sherman** was absent. Also present were City Manager **Helen Howarth** and City Clerk **Susan Bourgeois**.

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

Vote on the motion: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (Sherman). 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: none
2. Audience comments regarding agenda items: none
3. Chairpersons and Representatives of Boards and Commissions **CCMCA Board, School Board**: no reports
 - a. PWSRCAC highlights of January Board Meeting
4. Student Council representative: no report

G. Approval of Consent Calendar

5. Minutes of the January 19, 2022 Regular Council Meeting
6. Council concurrence of Mayor's appointment of the 2022 Election Board
7. Council action to Waive Protest of Liquor License Renewal for Package Store License #911, Laura's Liquor Shoppe
8. Per Charter Section 2-8 and Cordova Municipal Code 3.12.022, recordation of unexcused absence of Council member **Cathy Sherman** from the February 2, 2022 Regular Meeting

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

H. Approval of Minutes – in consent calendar

I. Consideration of Bids – none

J. Reports of Officers

9. Mayor's Report – **Koplín** suggested an e.s. at the next meeting to discuss the City Manager's and Clerk's evaluations which he has compiled and will have those available for that meeting date.

10. Manager's Report – City Manager **Helen Howarth** reported: 1) we've put together some capital projects and entered them into CAPSIS – at March 2 meeting we will have the full list for Council; **Bert Cottle** has been appointed by Governor – he's been in touch with Alaskan cities regarding projects – she's mentioned the Harbor and inflation, he's on our team, hopefully can help us out; 3rd ARPA distribution - \$666K for us – we hope to use it as part of a capital budget – she'll be bringing a list at next meeting.

a. Public Works Director, Samantha Greenwood, harbor rebuild update – **Mark Keller** reported kickoff meeting with MARAD (RAISE funders) – we had hoped we could ask for a bit more due to increased costs, they said it had all been allocated already, we then hoped we could eliminate a part of the project to reduce costs, they also said no to that and said – they intend us to complete the 3 main components as originally planned: 1) floats, 2) drive down dock; 3) bulkhead. We are trying to reevaluate costs, possible a reduced amount of steel as that has been the most increased commodity. He also wants to reevaluate the electrical system planned – once R&M is on they can assist with this (currently a \$3 million component of project).

b. City Financials, 2021 provisional year-end, investment earnings and cash report

Howarth noted that the reason it looks like we brought in exactly what we spent in 2021 is that the ARPA funds were allowed to be used for lost revenue and so that is where they were plugged into the budget. The biggest deficit in the revenue side was “other governmental” including lack of State bond debt reimbursement. Best part of revenue was taxes which were up by almost \$550K. Most expenses (departments) were down, finance, disaster management, library/museum and non-departmental were above budget.

Allison commented that we should get an answer to the amount we really need to keep in the sweep account at any given time, so we can earn interest on it instead of having such a large sum sitting in there earning nothing. **Howarth** mentioned that she had someone working on exactly that (Cashvest) they are analyzing our accounts/investments – there will be a report forthcoming.

Howarth also reported that the investment earnings from 2021 were \$517,752. We budgeted to use \$100k from that in the 2022 budget. There is therefore, \$417k available pending Council action.

11. City Clerk’s Report – Bourgeois reported: last day to mail ballots is Feb. 22, in-person early voting still available up until election day at City Hall – all election info available on website.

K. Correspondence

12. 01-25-22 US Navy notice of Intent to Prepare a Supplement to the GOA Training Activities draft Supplemental EIS

13. 01-28-22 ADN article re Whittier Second Cruise Ship Dock

14. 02-02-22 PWSRCAC letter requesting a City of Cordova representative to the Advisory Council

15. 02-04-22 ADF&G PWS and Copper River 2022 Salmon Forecast

16. 02-07-22 Mayor letter to ABC Board Regarding Local Government Input

L. Ordinances and Resolutions - none

M. Unfinished Business – none

N. New & Miscellaneous Business

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

Council asked the Clerk to advertise the RCAC upcoming vacancy and see if anyone is interested.

O. Audience Participation - none

P. Council Comments

Guard said it would make sense that we have the conversation and decide how we want to structure our permanent fund before we decide how we are going to spend that money.

Meyer was happy to see the financial reports – looks forward to having a longer discussion about finances.

Allison opined that a good project if someone is looking for a project to add to a list would be a bathroom at Mt. Eccles playground. Looks forward to seeing the audit before budget time this year.

Glaser thanked Helen for the reminder that Council gets to decide what to do with the investment earnings.

Schaefer appreciates the Harbor update, finally getting to see the 2020 audit – she encouraged everyone to go vote, in person or on March 1.

Q. Executive Session - none

R. Adjournment

M/Allison S/Glaser to adjourn the meeting.

Hearing no objection **Mayor Koplín** adjourned the meeting at 7:54 pm.

Approved: March 16, 2022

Attest:


Susan Bourgeois, CMC, City Clerk

