

**Regular City Council Meeting**  
**September 20, 2023 @ 7:00 pm**  
**Cordova Center Community Rooms A & B**  
**Minutes**

**A. Call to order** – **Mayor David Allison** called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at 7:00 pm on September 20, 2023, in the Cordova Center Community Rooms.

**B. Invocation and pledge of allegiance** – **Mayor Allison** led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**C. Roll call** - Present for roll call were **Mayor David Allison** and Council members **Cathy Sherman**, **Kasey Kinsman**, **Kristin Carpenter** and **Ken Jones**. Council members **Tom Bailer** and **Wendy Ranney** 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**

Hearing no objection to approval of the regular agenda, **Mayor Allison** declared it approved as submitted.

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

**F. Communications by and Petitions from Visitors**

1. Guest speakers - none
2. Audience comments regarding agenda items - none
3. Chairpersons and Representatives of Boards and Commissions - none
4. Student Council Report – a written report was in the packet.

**G. Approval of Consent Calendar**

5. Minutes:

a. 09-06-23 City Council Public Hearing Minutes, b. 09-06-23 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes  
Vote on the Consent Calendar: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent. Ranney-yes; Bailer-yes; Sherman-yes; Kinsman-yes; Schaefer-absent; Jones-yes; and Carpenter-yes. Consent Calendar was approved.

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

**I. Consideration of Bids/Proposals/Contracts** - none

**J. Reports of Officers**

6. Mayor's Report – Mayor Allison reported: 1) **Kate Laird** has resigned from Harbor Commission so there will be 3 seats vacant for appointments in December; 2) the USFS sent him a request for support for a land purchase they are making, he had sent it to Council for review, he wondered if there are objections to his writing a support letter – **Jones** objected, no one else commented, **Mayor Allison** said he would not write the letter then. **Sherman** said we could still write individual letters of support – **Mayor Allison** agreed.

7. City Manager's Report – **Howarth** reported: 1) the October 4 agenda would include the audit presentation.

a. South Harbor Project Update, Special Projects, **Collin Bronson** gave an overview of the project to date. He said we are ready to start except that we are awaiting final approval on some of the permits. He doesn't think the overall timeline will be negatively affected. Still the plan to have everyone out by Oct. 6, begin demo on Oct. 9. He passed out pictures of a lot of the floats that have been made up and will be sent out of Anacortes, WA soon, hopefully, the barge carrying them will be here early November.

Harbormaster **Tony Schinella** reported that the Travelift slings are still not here – either Friday or Monday they will be sent down here from Anchorage. Then, he said, we will get to hauling all the boats that need

hauling – we will get it done, work around the clock if need be. The new Transporter is here and assembled and we have begun to use it.

**b.** Public Works Projects Update, Public Works Director **Samantha Greenwood** reported on several Public Works Department projects: 1) she has applied for a Rural & Tribal Assistance Pilot Program grant – for engineering, a cost/benefit analysis, and environmental for a fix to drainage from Fourth St and Council (jailhouse doors culvert) to USPS. 2) applied for TAP grant for covered walkways and lighting in 3 locations: Adams to 4<sup>th</sup> St., 2<sup>nd</sup> St. to Main St., and walkway from Council to Front St. 3) Community Transportation grant for paving on Chase Ave. and drainage 7<sup>th</sup> St. 4) 2 awarded grants are Whitshed Pedestrian Path – construction slated for 2024 and Second St. reconstruction – scheduled for construction in 2025. 5) an ADoT project that is funded is Odiak Culvert Replacement – preliminary phase includes City waterline relocation (state will reimburse our costs), we have an engineer hired to develop plans and coordinate with ADEC on relocation. 6) Eyak Drive Culvert replacement project (6-mile CRH) – Wilson Construction was awarded the bid in August, turns out during fish habitat permitting it was determined we couldn't use the pipe we had for this, we have to get the correct pipe and the contract allows for fall or spring construction, still hoping to get it done this fall. 7) Shepard Pt. Road – GV Jones and HDL are providing engineering services for the City for our raw water line replacement (NVE will reimburse the costs of this project) – date of that project is still unknown. 8) oil leak at Eyak Water Treatment Plant – the clean-up report has been sent to ADEC, they will review and provide input on next steps. 9) Scrap metal company is sending a crew that will be crushing out at the landfill to begin this week or early next week – the barge will return late next week. 10) Forest Heights washout – it is a DoT issue – it has moved to design they believe they have funding for it – trying to work with landowners and DoT – waiting now to see what DoT comes back with.

**8.** City Clerk's Report – **Bourgeois** said she included a Council attendance report, as was requested. She also included a notice she began advertising regarding board & commission seats that would be available in November. She wanted Council to consider what day to have the Oct. 18 regular meeting as it falls on Alaska Day this year.

**a.** Council attendance report

**b.** Public Notice for Upcoming Board & Commission Vacancies

## **K. Correspondence**

**9.** 09-05-23 Letter from B. Mickelson Supporting Cordova Covered Spaces

**10.** 09-20-23 Comment Period Notice for ADL 234017 Aquatic Farmsite Lease for Chenega Regional Development Group, LLC 12.19 acres in Crab Bay

**L. Ordinances and Resolutions** - none

**M. Unfinished Business** – none

## **N. New & Miscellaneous Business**

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

Oct. 4 meeting would have the audit presentation. Oct. 2, Monday at 5pm – a follow up work session with the City Attorneys on taxes.

**Kinsman** asked if revenue discussions would go hand-in-hand with budget work sessions, because we need to discuss new revenues in order to keep property taxes down. **Howarth** said those discussions will be forthcoming. **Bailer** wondered if we needed an item to discuss the CPD before we decide how to handle budgeting for that department. He has heard maybe they are still working a ton of hours; he wants to know the community's opinion on the matter. **Howarth** said there is a potential Chief candidate who is coming for a visit in a couple of weeks. She believes scheduling is a matter directly related to leadership and with a new leader coming on, there may be some openness to alternative ideas on scheduling. **Ranney** and **Jones** both agreed to have a discussion item – **Howarth** asked for an opportunity to give them information on this item at the first budget work session.

**O. Audience Participation** - none

**P. Council Comments**

**Kinsman** said he appreciated the work session discussion, our unique opportunity to create something for Cordova – he made a plea to the public to get involved, let us know what you want. Hopes for more public involvement during budget preparation too.

**Jones** appreciated the work session, exciting to see progress on incentives.

**Ranney** appreciated staff's work on that work session tonight, **Sam's** very comprehensive report on projects, thanked **Helen** and **Susan** for their work. She also appreciates zoom and the ability to see faces.

**Bailer** echoed those comments and also said that zoom worked great for him.

**Carpenter** mentioned the CRH Transportation Master Plan open house next week, Wednesday Sept. 27 5-7pm in the Cordova Center. PWSEDD has a housing survey that was mailed out – encouraged those listening to please fill it out, will be very helpful to us.

**Sherman** echo everything, work session, reports (**Sam**), AMHS is working on a 20-year plan, she was very surprised and grateful, looks interesting. She also mentioned that the Moose Lodge is having the statewide convention here Oct. 4-8, approximately 75 people will be in town for that.

**Q. Executive Session**

12. Recommendations from City Manager regarding Collective Bargaining Agreement negotiations, a subject which is a matter the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the government

**M/Carpenter S/Jones** to enter executive session to discuss recommendations from City Manager regarding Collective Bargaining Agreement negotiations, a subject which is a matter the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the government

Vote on the motion: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (Schaefer). Motion was approved.

At 8:06 **Mayor Allison** asked for a short recess to clear the room.

Council entered the executive session at 8:08 pm and was back in open session at 8:20 pm.

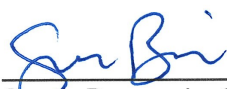
**Mayor Allison** stated that Council discussed the CBA with the Manager and no decisions were made.

**R. Adjournment**

Hearing no objection **Mayor Allison** adjourned the meeting at 8:20 pm.

Approved: October 4, 2023

Attest:



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Susan Bourgeois, CMC, City Clerk

