

Regular City Council Meeting
March 20, 2024 @ 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 March 20, 2024, 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 **Kasey Kinsman**, **Anne Schaefer**, **Kristin Carpenter**, and **Ken Jones**. Council members **Tom Bailer** and **Wendy Ranney** were present via zoom videoconference. Council member **Cathy Sherman** was absent. Also present were Interim City Manager **Samantha Greenwood** and Deputy City Clerk **Tina Hammer**.

D. Approval of Regular Agenda

Mayor Allison stated that the executive session tonight was not necessary.

Hearing no objection to approval of the agenda less the executive session, **Mayor Allison** declared it approved.

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 – none

G. Approval of Consent Calendar

5. Minutes:

- a. 01-17-23 Regular Meeting Minutes
 - b. 01-25-23 Special Meeting Minutes
 - c. 02-07-24 Public Hearing Minutes
 - c. 02-21-24 Public Hearing Minutes
 6. Council action to waive protest for renewal of liquor license #919, for Robin Traxinger dba Powder House Bar and Grill, beverage dispensary
 7. Council action to waive protest for renewal of liquor license #919, for Mary Little dba Laura's Liquor Shoppe, package store
 8. Per Charter Section 2-8 and Cordova Municipal Code 3.12.022, recordation of excused absence of Council member **Anne Schaefer** from the March 6, 2024, Regular Meeting
- Vote on the Consent Calendar: 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent. Schaefer-yes; Bailer-yes; Carpenter-yes; Sherman-absent; Kinsman-yes; Jones-yes; and Ranney-yes. Consent Calendar was approved.

H. Approval of Minutes – in consent calendar

I. Consideration of Bids/Proposals/Contracts – none

J. Reports of Officers

9. Mayor's Report – **Mayor Allison** reported: 1) state legislature is not having much luck yet agreeing with the Governor on School funding; 2) he and **Kinsman** attended the School Board work session on their budget last night – if no increase to the BSA they would be in a \$1.5 million deficit, BSA just to keep up with inflation since 2017 would need to increase by \$1,980 per student; they have increases like all of us do, they are looking at cutting food service, maybe all extracurriculars, maybe a few teachers (considering not hiring a HS math teacher, not have 2 kindergartens and 2 sixth grades at Elementary School). City

may be allowed to fund some things beyond the cap because some funding is not included in the cap. Still hopeful that the legislature will work things out.

10. City Manager's Report – **Greenwood** reported: 1) submitted requests for heavy equipment to **Stutes** for Capital Budget, through AML; 2) finalizing a request to **Murkowski's** office for the Public Safety Building – good to get that started; 3) working with Agnew: Beck on a sewer grant – narrowing it down to what we will apply for; 4) Altman/Rogers – 2 consultants here now doing pre-audit work – audit will be May 20; still working closely with Finance Department on the software issues, more to come; 5) airport projects are upcoming, there is an open house and between those projects and Second Street and Whitshed there will be some asphalt in town so we should be planning for that.

a. South Harbor Rebuild, project update, **Collin Bronson** updated Council on the project to date, including funding, MARAD reimbursements, construction progress. He introduced **Kim Nielson** who is the Engineer on the project.

11. City Clerk's Report - **Bourgeois** was not present. **Deputy Clerk Tina Hammer** reported: we are in the property assessment appeal period, last day to appeal is Friday April 5 at 5 pm.

K. Correspondence

12. Letter from Mayor Allison to Governor Dunleavy supporting SB140 and an increase to the BSA

13. ADoT notice of Public Open House for Cordova Airport Projects Wednesday, March 27, 5-7:30pm at the Cordova Center

14. Letter from Mayor Allison to all legislators supporting SB140 and urging an override of Governor's veto of it

L. Ordinances and Resolutions

15. Resolution 03-24-13 A resolution of the Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska Certifying the Results of the March 5, 2024, General Election

M/Schaefer S/Kinsman to approve 03-24-13 a resolution of the Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska Certifying the Results of the March 5, 2024, General Election

Schaefer is in support – thanked **Wendy** and **Dave** for stepping up to serve. **Kinsman** agreed and looked forward to continuing to work with **Wendy** and to start working with **Dave**.

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

M. Unfinished Business – none

N. New & Miscellaneous Business

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

Board of Equalization will be April 15. Election of Vice Mayor at the next meeting.

O. Audience Participation - none

P. Council Comments

Bailer thanked **Anne Schaefer** for her service, said he hoped she'd take a year off and come back he felt like she represented the community well. He needs to step down as city representative to PWSAC Board so he hopes someone will come forward to represent the City.

Ranney thanked **Schaefer** for her service.

Carpenter also thanked **Schaefer** for volunteering her time and focus and energies. She welcomed **Dave Zastrow** and thanked **Wendy Ranney** for coming back to serve.

Kinsman echoed the thanks to **Anne, Wendy, Dave**. Encouraged everyone to get letters to the Governor and legislature about the school funding issue. He mentioned that the teachers are at no increase this year and 1% next year. Some in the administration are at a pay freeze. There may be creative options to get them more funding.

Jones thanked **Anne**, welcomed **Dave**.

Schaefer thanked everyone for the kind words, we haven't always agreed but it has been civil and interesting discussions which she has appreciated. Big thank you to staff for answering all my questions and providing her with more information when he needed it. She thanked the Cordova community for allowing her to have this opportunity, she has learned a lot, definitely a different perspective. She said it is so important to get the community input, via phone call, email or at meetings – she encourages citizens to continue that.

Q. Executive Session

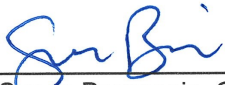
The e.s. was removed at approval of agenda.

~~17. Council discussion of Interim City Manager Applicants, a subject that tends to prejudice the reputation and character of a person(s); provided that the person(s) may request a public discussion~~

R. Adjournment

Hearing no objection **Mayor Allison** adjourned the meeting at 7:43 pm.

Approved: May 15, 2024

Attest: 
Susan Bourgeois, CMC, City Clerk

