

**Regular City Council Meeting
February 18, 2026 @ 7:00 pm
Cordova Center Community Rooms A & B
Minutes**

A. Call to order – Mayor **Kristin Smith** called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at 7:00 pm on February 18, 2026, in the Cordova Center Community Rooms.

B. Pledge of allegiance – **Mayor Smith** led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Roll call – Present for roll call were **Mayor Kristin Smith** and Council members **Debra Adams, Aaron Hansen, Mike Mickelson, Wendy Ranney,** and **Cathy Sherman**. Council members **Kasey Kinsman** and **Dave Zastrow** were present via zoom videoconference. Also present were City Manager **Sam Greenwood**, and City Clerk **Susan Bourgeois**.

D. Approval of Regular Agenda

Hearing no objection to approval of the agenda, **Mayor Smith** 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

Sarah Kathrein of 828 Woodland Sr., representing CTC spoke in support of agenda item 13 a lease with CTC.

Jason Lee of 220 South Second St. spoke in support of agenda item 5, the resolution opposing some of the Board of Fish proposals.

Tyler Dillon of 140 Prince William Marina Rd. spoke in support of agenda item 5, the resolution opposing some of the Board of Fish proposals.

3. Chairpersons and Representatives of Boards and Commissions

Pete Hoepfner reported for the school district: 1) Mt. Eccles has seen some excellent results in student growth – stemming from the Alaska Reads Act legislation; 2) Cordova High School ranked #1 high school in Alaska 2nd year in a row by US News & World Report; 3) Elks Tournament in Valdez, Cheer team placed first, 2nd year in a row, Girls Team got 2nd place, beat Valdez, first time in a long time and other 3A teams; 4) travel upcoming – music goes to Hawaii then Close-Up and NYC trip after that; 5) Homecoming this weekend – games against Nenana, senior night on 3/27/26, homecoming dance at Pioneer Igloo; 6) new superintendent **Kim Hanisch**, experienced coming from a three year stint in Unalaska/Dutch Harbor – sad to see **Alex** retiring – we’ve been lucky to have such a long-term superintendent; 7) he traveled to Juneau, it is early – one topic being looked at TRS retirement; 8) the classified staff at the school district has formed a union to advocate for themselves, currently in negotiations with the Board.

a. PWSRCAC – Highlights from January 2026 Board of Directors Meeting

G. Approval of Consent Calendar

4. Council concurrence of Mayor’s appointment of 2026 Election Board

5. Resolution 02-26-09 A resolution of the Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska opposing BOF proposals

6. Minutes: a. Minutes of the Council Regular Meeting of November 19, 2025; b. Minutes of the Council Regular Meeting of December 3, 2025

7. Per Charter Section 2-8 and Cordova Municipal Code 3.12.022, recordation of excused absence of Council member Kasey Kinsman from the February 4, 2026, Regular Meeting

Vote on the Consent Calendar: 7 yeas, 0 nays. Ranney-yes; Mickelson-yes; Hansen-yes; Kinsman-yes; Sherman-yes; Adams-yes; and Zastrow-yes. Consent Calendar was approved.

H. Approval of Minutes – in consent calendar

I. Consideration of Bids/Proposals/Contracts - none

J. Reports of Officers

8. Mayor's Report – **Mayor Smith** reported: 1) submitted a letter of support for PWSRCAC recertification with USCG; 2) had a call with Stutes' staff about Fisheries Business Tax, timing of payment to the City; 3) gave a shout out to the City Election Board – integrity, important roles they play in democracy; 4) BoF – she may make it there for testimony – or else written; 5) wanted to be transparent, in her role as ED of PWSEDD, they have submitted a proposal for a land disposal in NFDP – she has been working on this since 2020, has nothing to do with her role as Mayor; 6) some bad news unfortunately, Silver Bay Seafoods will not be processing at the OBI plant in Cordova this summer due to low forecasts; she spoke to Trident and they are optimistic that they'll open in April to buy ground fish.

9. City Manager's Report – **Greenwood** reported: 1) **Samantha Hagerthy-Schneider** gave a pool update; 2) payroll department – instituted a time-keeping module from Caselle – working well as we roll it out; 3) AMLIP account has been doing well – she and **Sheryl**, working hard to pay attention to that – successfully working with cash vest on analysis; 4) she and **Kayleen** have been working with Department Heads on personnel policy updates.

a. Finance Director **Glaser** YTD26 Actuals report

10. City Clerk's Report – **Bourgeois** reported: 1) election prep going smoothly, 55 or so ballots used so far between early voting and absentee by mail; 2) assessment notices will be in the mail March 2 and that starts the 30-day appeal period.

a. March 3, 2026, Regular City Election notices, including sample ballot

K. Correspondence

11. City Council correspondence primer: correspondence policies & procedures

a. 01-30-26 Letter from DoT&PF re USMA approved FONSI for PWS Ferry Terminals projects

b. 02-02-26 Letter from DCCED, DCRA with Cordova's FY27 population determination

c. 02-04-26 ADoT& PF notice re long range transportation plan 2055 development

L. Ordinances and Resolutions

12. Resolution 02-26-06 A resolution of the Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska adopting the 2026 land disposal maps

M/Sherman S/Kinsman to approve Resolution 02-26-06 a resolution of the Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska adopting the 2026 land disposal maps

Sherman a regular occurrence, has been recommended by Planning Commission. **Kinsman** echoed the comments, appreciates the work. **Mickelson** said he was concerned about Harbor parking and wondered if we could keep some of those lots as unavailable.

M/Mickelson S/Ranney to amend the land disposal maps by changing p.66 of the packet - South Fill DP page, the lot that is next to the recycling facility, change that from 'available needs subdivision' to 'unavailable'.

Vote on the motion to amend: 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion was approved.

Vote on the motion as amended: 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion was approved.

13. Resolution 02-26-07 A resolution of the Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska authorizing the lease of a 1,400 square foot portion of Tract A, USS 833 to Cordova Telecom Cooperative, Inc. for construction of a communications building

M/Sherman S/Adams to approve Resolution 02-26-07 a resolution of the Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska authorizing the lease of a 1,400 square foot portion of Tract A, USS 833 to Cordova Telecom Cooperative, Inc. for construction of a communications building

Sherman said we've discussed this before, great benefit to the community and many others, won't affect water/sewer operations, she is in favor. **Adams** said ditto to those comments, this is innovative and a benefit to the community, she is supportive. **Kinsman** gave a shoutout to CTC for this great project and how many it will benefit. **Ranney** mentioned she is the President of the CTC Board but has no financial interest. **Hansen** said he is an employee of CTC. **Mayor Smith** ruled that both could vote and did not have substantial financial interests.

Vote on the motion: 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion was approved.

14. Resolution 02-26-08 A resolution of the Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska authorizing the City Manager to enter into a sole source contract with Caliber Mechanical for preventative maintenance services **M/Mickelson S/Ranney** to approve Resolution 02-26-08 a resolution of the Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska authorizing the City Manager to enter into a sole source contract with Caliber Mechanical for preventative maintenance services

Mickelson said he is in favor, great to have someone on that will help us with basic maintenance, sometimes very hard to find in Cordova. **Ranney** said preventative maintenance, regular maintenance, she is a fan of maintenance. **Zastrow** is in favor, and he has heard this company is very invested in the community, will stage equipment here to be able to do other work also – good for whole community.

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

M. Unfinished Business - none

N. New & Miscellaneous Business

15. Pending Agenda, CIP List, Calendar, Elected & Appointed Officials lists – no major additions or changes to PA.

O. Audience Participation

Stephen Phillips CVFD Chief of 100 Gandil reported – he will be getting Council a 2025 Q4 report soon – they are a little behind compiling the statistics. Reported: 1) explorers program up and running again, 2 high school students currently; 2) received a grant for \$150,000 worth of tools; 3) Firefighter 1 training completed – 9 new firefighters, ETT class starts end of February, they will finish with EMT 1 status. They participated with CPD, AWT in an active shooter training.

P. Council Comments

Mickelson thanked staff – budget documents very helpful and also appreciate the land disposal maps process. We have a lot of challenges ahead of us, main focus, how do we continue to make Cordova a great place to live, without sacrificing too many of the things that make us want to live here.

Hansen appreciates the thorough packets – makes our job easier. He knows there is financial strain on the city – some of the lots we go to sell are outpricing start-up businesses and really can only be bid on by established businesses we have to be careful of that.

Ranney appreciate the financial report. Wants voters to educate themselves on the ballot prop.

Adams appreciates the depth of information in packets – makes it much easier for her to prepare herself for meetings. She suggested a video be created to explain the ballot prop – a good, different way to educate people – staff reported they are working on that should be completed this week. Silver Bay news isn't great – how can we incentivize processors to stay here, stay open?

Sherman thanked the audience for attending, thanked staff for the financials, loves the professionally done Land Disposal Maps, and was glad to hear about the Caselle timekeeping module working so well.

Zastrow appreciate staff work on Land Disposal Maps, budget report. Appreciate board & commission reports – thanks Pete (CSD), CVFD, P&R. Tough news about Silver Bay – hoping they flex, year in and year out and will be reopen again soon in a regular way.

Kinsman fantastic news about the growth at the Cordova School District. Great work by CVFD/EMS – always thrilled to hear and see their efforts and progress – homegrown efforts, classes, recertifications, all to better their organization and the community as a whole. He thanked the processors and businesses that

are still operating in Cordova. Thanked **Samantha** for her pool and other recreation updates.

Q. Executive Session

16. Council discussion with City Manager regarding land sale negotiation with Native Village of Eyak a matter the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the City

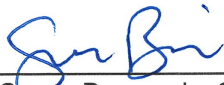
Staff said this executive session was no longer needed.

R. Adjournment

Hearing no objection **Mayor Smith** adjourned the meeting at 8:35 pm.

Approved: April 1, 2026

Attest:



Susan Bourgeois, CMC, City Clerk

