



# CITY OF GUSTAVUS CITY COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING

Monday, December 16, 2024 at 7:00 PM  
Gustavus City Hall

## COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Sally McLaughlin  
Vice Mayor Shelley Owens  
Council Members: Susan Warner, Rachel Patrick  
Brian Taylor, Lucas Beck, Mike Taylor

## CITY HALL

City Administrator – Kathy Leary  
City Clerk – Liesl Barker  
City Treasurer – Ben Sadler  
Phone: 907-697-2451 | [clerk@gustavus-ak.gov](mailto:clerk@gustavus-ak.gov)

## MINUTES - PENDING

### VIRTUAL MEETING INFORMATION

<https://tinyurl.com/3cnhjd7t>

**ID:** 515 501 9406

**PASSCODE:** 2451

**TEL:** 253-215-8782

### **ROLL CALL** (38 seconds)

PRESENT

Mayor Sally McLaughlin  
Vice Mayor Shelley Owens  
Council Member Susan Warner  
Council Member Rachel Patrick  
Council Member Brian Taylor  
Council Member Lucas Beck  
Council Member Mike Taylor



### **Reading of the City of Gustavus Mission Statement** (1 minute 08 seconds)

Mission Statement read by Council Member Warner.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** (2 minutes 18 seconds)

- 11-12-2024 General Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Council Member Patrick to approve by unanimous consent the 11-12-2024 Meeting Minutes.

Seconded by Council Member B. Taylor

Public Comment: None

Council Comment: None

Hearing no objections, the 11-12-2024 General Meeting Minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

### **MAYOR'S REQUEST FOR AGENDA CHANGES** (3 minutes 22 seconds)

There were no agenda changes.

Point of Information: Council Member Owens / Clerk Barker

Hearing no objections, Mayor McLaughlin announced the agenda set as presented by unanimous consent.

### **COMMITTEE / STAFF REPORTS**

2. Library Quarterly Report *(5 minutes 18 seconds)*  
Library Administrative Director, Melisa Gomb, submitted a written report and provided an oral summary.  
Council Clarifying Questions: None
3. Gustavus Visitors Association Quarterly Report *(7 minutes 20 seconds)*  
Gustavus Visitor Association President, Leah Okin submitted a written report and provided an oral summary.  
Council Clarifying Questions:  
Council Member Owens
4. City Treasurer Monthly Report *(12 minutes 30 seconds)*  
City of Gustavus City Treasurer, Ben Sadler provided monthly financial documents and gave an oral summary.  
Clarifying Questions:  
Council Member Owens  
Mayor McLaughlin
5. City Administrator Monthly Report *(16 minutes 38 seconds)*  
City of Gustavus City Administrator, Kathy Leary submitted a written report and provided an oral report.  
Clarifying Questions: None

### **PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS** *(28 minutes 04 seconds)*

James Kearns - Breakwater for dock and pave Wilson road.

### **CONSENT AGENDA** *(30 minutes 30 seconds)*

6. Approve the appointment of John Tanner Horst to the Conservation Lands Advisory Committee  
Motion made by Council Member B. Taylor to adopt the consent agenda by unanimous consent as presented.  
Second by Council Member M. Taylor  
Hearing no objections, the motion passed.

### **ORDINANCE FOR PUBLIC HEARING** *(31 minutes 50 seconds)*

7. FY25-06NCO Endowment Fund Grant Transfer  
Mayor McLaughlin opened the public hearing at 7:33 PM.

Public Testimony: None

Mayor McLaughlin closed the public hearing at 7:33 PM.

Motion made by Council Member Beck to approve FY24-06NCO Endowment Fund Grant Transfer.

Seconded by Council Member Warner

Council Debate: None

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Warner, Council Member Patrick, Council Member B. Taylor, Council Member Beck, Council Member M. Taylor

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

8. Medical Director *(34 minutes 22 seconds)*

Thank you to Dr. Rodney Vaught for his volunteer service to our City as the GVFD Medical Director for over a decade.

9. Approve Conservation Lands Advisory Committee Project Scoping document - lands lease *(35 minutes 25 seconds)*

Motion made by Council Member Warner to approve Conservation Lands Advisory Committee Project Scoping document- lands lease.”

Seconded by Council Member M. Taylor

Summary provided by Council Member Warner

Public Comment:

Tom Traibush - spoke in support

Clerk read into record written public comments by:

L. Toshua Parker - in opposition

Ben DeBoer - in support

Jessica Mulligan - in support

Sylvia Pederson - in opposition

Sharon Wagruespeck White - in opposition

Krystal Sheakley - in opposition

Michelle Olney - in opposition

Council Debate:

Council Member Warner

Council Member M. Taylor

Council Member Patrick

Council Member Beck

Council Member B. Taylor

Vice Mayor Owens

*\*Point of Clarification by Clerk: Is Vice Mayor Owens making a motion? Answer by Owens, yes.*

*\*Point of Information by Vice Mayor Owens: Are the public comment letters on the website? Answer by Clerk yes, they are under 2024 Correspondence.*

*\*Point of Clarification by Mayor McLaughlin please explain difference between postponing time certain vs. postponing indefinitely. Answer by Clerk postponing time certain is until the next regularly scheduled meeting vs. postponing indefinitely is the easiest way to "kill" a motion.*

*\*Point of information by Council Member Warner: Can we finish the discussion first before motion to postpone? Answer by Mayor McLaughlin - no the motion to postpone can be made at any point in time when a member has the floor.*

Motion made by Vice Mayor Owens to postpone indefinitely item number 9, to approve Conservation Lands Advisory Committee Project Scoping document- lands lease.

Seconded by Council Member Patrick

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Patrick

Voting Nay: Council Member Warner, Council Member B. Taylor, Council Member Beck, Council Member M. Taylor

3 yea/4nay

Motion (to postpone indefinitely) failed.

Council Debate on main motion Continued:

Mayor McLaughlin

*\*Point of clarification by City Administrator Leary - the committee needs to have a scoping document to receive approval from council to seek funding for a project over \$15,000.*

Council Member Warner

Council Member M. Taylor

Council Member Patrick

A motion made by Council Member Patrick to postpone this item, item 9 approving the Conservation Advisory Lands Committee Project Scoping document - lands lease to time certain that would take it and put in on the agenda for next month's meeting.

Seconded by Council Member Beck

*\*Point of order by Council Member B. Taylor, Do we need to have an approved scoping document to assign funds to a project? Answer, Mayor McLaughlin there is no discussion on a motion to postpone.*

*\*Point of Clarification by Clerk, did Council Member B. Taylor mean point of information? If so, that can be interjected at any point in time. Answer- Council Member B. Taylor, yes.*

*\*Point of information question by Council Member B. Taylor – Do we need to have an approved scoping document to assign funds to project?*

*\*Answer unclear, Clerk requested 5 minutes recess to research answer- recess granted*

*\*Back in session and Final Answer to Point of information by Mayor McLaughlin - for any project proposed to the city in amounts greater than \$15,001 a scoping document must be approved before funding maybe applied for.*

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Council Member Patrick, Council Member Beck

Voting Nay: Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Warner, Council Member B. Taylor, Council Member M. Taylor

3 yea/4 nay

Motion (to postpone to time certain) failed.

Council Debate on main motion Continued:

Council Member Patrick

Council Member B. Taylor

Vice Mayor Owens

Mayor McLaughlin

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Warner, Council Member B. Taylor, Council Member M. Taylor

Voting Nay: Mayor McLaughlin, Council Member Patrick, Council Member Beck

4 yea/3nay

Motion Passed.

10. CY24-19 Endowment Fund grant awards 2025 *(1 hour 53 minutes 24 seconds)*

Motion made by Council Member Patrick to approve the CY24-19 Endowment Fund grant awards 2025.

Seconded by Vice Mayor Owens

*\*Point of Order by Clerk, resolution needs to be read - well taken*

Resolution read by Council Member Patrick

Public Comment:

Liesabet Barker - thanks for supporting Girl Scouts application

Leland Barker - thanks for supporting Girl Scouts application

Martha Matthews - asking to reconsider awarding more money to GCC

Barb Shienberg - asking to reconsider awarding more money to GCC

Annie Mackovjak- in support of CLAC submission

Artemis Bona Dea - in support of CLAC submission

Toshua Parker- in opposition of CLAC submission

Tom Traibush - in support of CLAC Submission

Whitney Rapp - in support of GCC submission and in opposition of CLAC submission

Larry Landry - in opposition of CLAC submission

Public Comment read into record by city clerk:

Lillian Ruedrich - in support of CLAC submission

Denise Van Der Pol - in opposition to CLAC submission

Sandi Marchbanks- in opposition to CLAC submission

Council Debate:

Council Member Patrick

Council Member M. Taylor

Motion made by Council Member M. Taylor to amend resolution CY24-19 as follows

to change the nine WHEREAS paragraph to read: "WHEREAS, the Conservation Lands Committee's request for funds will be fully funded at \$25,000.00; and,"

And change the tenth WHEREAS paragraph to read:

"WHEREAS, the Friends of Glacier Bay's request for funds will be partially funded at \$5,030.00"

And change the Now therefore be it resolved paragraph to read:

"NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Gustavus grants \$7,621.84 to the Girl Scouts of Alaska Troop 23032, \$4,326.00 to the Gustavus Community Center, \$25,000.00 to the Conservation Lands Advisory Committee for the Conservation Lands Lease Project, and \$5,030.00 to Friends of Glacier Bay for a total allocation of \$41,977.84"

Seconded by Council Member Warner

Council Debate:

Council Member Warner

Council Member B. Taylor

Council Member Patrick

Mayor McLaughlin

Council Member M. Taylor

Council Member M. Taylor made a motion (privilege) to suspend the rules to extend our meeting as needed beyond 10pm.

Seconded by B. Taylor

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Warner, Council Member Patrick, Council Member M. Taylor, Council Member Beck, Council Member B. Taylor

7 yea/0 nay

Motion (to suspend rules) passed.

Council debate continued on the amendment:

Council Member B. Taylor

Council Member Patrick

*\*Point of order by Council Member Patrick: Council members who serve on a committee who submitted an EFG application shouldn't be able to amend the amount of the grant. - Not taken*

Vice Mayor Owens

*\*3 min Recess taken*

Voting Yea: Council Member Warner, Council Member B. Taylor, Council Member M. Taylor

Voting Nay: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Patrick, Council Member Beck

3 yea/4 nay

Motion (to amend CLAC/FGB amounts) Failed

Motion made by Vice Mayor Owens to amend Resolution CY24-19 paragraph nine by striking \$4,326.00 and replacing it with \$6,826.00.

And in paragraph ten striking the \$9,400 and replacing it with \$21,036.32.

And in "NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Gustavus grants \$7,621.84 to the Girl Scouts of Alaska Troop 23032, \$6,826.00 to the Gustavus Community Center, \$21,036.32 to the Conservation Lands Advisory Committee for the Conservation Lands Lease Project, and \$6,494.00 to Friends of Glacier Bay for a total allocation of \$41,978.16"

Seconded by Council Member M. Taylor

Council Debate on amendment:

Vice Mayor Owens

Council Member B. Taylor

Council Member M. Taylor

Council Member Partick

Council Member Beck

Mayor McLaughlin

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Warner, Council Member B. Taylor, Council Member Beck, Council Member M. Taylor

Voting Nay: Mayor McLaughlin, Council Member Patrick

5 yea/2 nay

Motion (to amend GCC/CLAC amount) Passed

Back to main motion as amended

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Warner, Council Member B. Taylor, Council Member Beck, Council Member M. Taylor  
Voting Nay: Mayor McLaughlin, Council Member Patrick

5 yea/2 nay

Motion (main motion as amended) Passed

11. CY24-20 Shared Fisheries Business Tax for FY25 *(3 hours 25 minutes 27 seconds)*

Motion made by Council Member M. Taylor to approve CY24-20 Shared Fisheries Business tax for FY25.

Seconded by Council Member B. Taylor

Public Comment

Point of Order by Council Member M. Taylor - need to read resolution - well taken

Resolution read by Council Member M. Taylor

Public Comment: None

Council Debate:

Point of Information by Council Member B. Taylor - Should it ready CY24? – Answer CY23 is correct

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Warner, Council Member Patrick, Council Member B. Taylor, Council Member Beck, Council M. Member Taylor

7 yea/0 nay

Motion Passed

12. CY24-21 A resolution by the city of Gustavus directing the city administration to file for reconsideration of the Local Boundary Commission's decision to approve the Xunaa Borough petition *(3 hours 32 minutes 03 seconds)*

Motion made by Vice Mayor Owens to approve CY24-21 A resolution by the city of Gustavus directing the city administration to file for reconsideration of the Local Boundary Commission's decision to approve the Xunaa Borough petition.

Seconded by Council Member B. Taylor

Resolution read by Vice Mayor Owens

Public Comment: None

Council Debate: None

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Warner, Council Member Patrick, Council Member B. Taylor, Council Member Beck, Council Member M. Taylor

7 yea/0 nay

Motion Passed

13. Review RUBA 's Gustavus trip report *(3 hours 38 minutes 00 seconds)*

City Clerk submitted Local Government Specialist, Iura Leahu's report about his site visit.



**CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

- 14. Coffee with Council Update *(3 hours 38 minutes 34 seconds)*

Council Member Patrick submitted a written report and provided an oral summary.

- 15. Mayors Monthly Report *(3 hours 39 minutes 42 seconds)*

Mayor McLaughlin submitted a written report and provided an oral summary.

**CITY COUNCIL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS** *(3 hours 40 minutes 30 seconds)*

Susan Warner gave a brief update on informational sessions she hosted.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS** *(3 hours 41 minutes 42 seconds)*

Jim Kearns - Next year Endowment Fund Grant for wave barrier and pave the road.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

**ADJOURNMENT** *(3 hours 42 minutes 20 seconds)*

Since there is no further business, the meeting is adjourned. The time is 10:43pm.

**POSTED ON:** December 11, 2024 at P.O, Library, City Hall & <https://cms.gustavus-ak.gov/>

**ADA NOTICE**

*Any person with a disability who requires accommodations in order to participate in this meeting should telephone the City Clerk’s office at (907) 697-2451, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting in order to make a request for a disability related modification or accommodation.*

**MISSION STATEMENT**

*The City of Gustavus is a distinctive Alaskan City that provides high quality public services in a thoughtful, cost effective and professional manner to sustain a safe, beautiful tolerant environment to live, work, and play with respect for individual freedom and each other.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sally A. McLaughlin, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Attest: Liesl M. Barker, City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date