



CITY OF GUSTAVUS CITY COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING

Monday, March 09, 2026 at 7:00 PM
Gustavus City Hall

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Sally McLaughlin
Vice Mayor Lucas Beck
Council Members: Renee Patrick,
Justin Marchbanks, Karen Hutten,
Jim Kearns, Mike Taylor

CITY HALL

City Administrator – Kathy Leary
City Clerk – Liesl Barker
City Treasurer – Ben Sadler
Phone: 907-697-2451
clerk@gustavus-ak.gov

MINUTES - PENDING

VIRTUAL MEETING INFORMATION

<https://tinyurl.com/b3v6w832>

ID: 515 501 9406

PASSCODE: 5589

TEL: 253-215-8782

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mayor Sally McLaughlin
Vice Mayor Lucas Beck
Council Member Renee Patrick
Council Member Karen Hutten
Council Member Mike Taylor
Council Member James Kearns
Council Member Justin Marchbanks



Reading of the City of Gustavus Mission Statement

Mission Statement read by Hutten.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 02-09-2026 General Meeting Minutes
- 02-23-2026 Special Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Kearns to approve the 02-09-2026 General Meeting Minutes and the 02-23-2026 Special Meeting Minutes by unanimous consent.

Seconded by Beck

Hearing no objections the 02-09-2026 General Meeting Minutes and the 02-23-2026 Special Meeting Minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

MAYOR'S REQUEST FOR AGENDA CHANGES

There were no requests for agenda changes.

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

COMMITTEE / STAFF REPORTS

- Conservation Lands Advisory Committee Quarterly Report

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Lands Committee Chair, Mike Taylor submitted a written report and provided an oral summary.

Clarifying Questions: None

4. Library Quarterly Report

Library Administrative Director, Melisa Gomb submitted a written report and provided an oral summary.

Clarifying Questions: Patrick

5. City Treasurer Monthly Report

City of Gustavus City Treasurer, Ben Sadler provided monthly financial documents and gave an oral summary.

Clarifying Questions: McLaughlin

6. City Administrator Monthly Report

City of Gustavus City Administrator, Kathy Leary provided a written report and provided an oral report.

Clarifying Questions:

Hutten

McLaughlin

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Susan Warner - Clarification on abbreviation and budget meeting date

CONSENT AGENDA - None

ORDINANCE FOR PUBLIC HEARING

7. FY26-13NCO An Ordinance providing for the amendment of the city held accounts in fiscal year 2026 - closing Capital Project CP19-06 DRC Composting Facility (Introduced 02-09-2026)

McLaughlin opened the public hearing at 7:31 PM.

Public Testimony: None

Mayor McLaughlin closed the public hearing at 7:31 PM.

Council Debate: None

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Beck, Council Member Patrick, Council Member Hutten, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Marchbanks

7 yea/ 0 nay

Motion passed

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

8. FY26-14NCO An introduction of an ordinance providing for the amendment for the City held accounts in Fiscal Year 2026 - Closing Capital Project CP24-01 DRC Expansion (Public Hearing 04-13-2026)

Motion by Beck to introduce FY26-14NCO An introduction of an ordinance providing for the amendment for the City held accounts in Fiscal Year 2026 - Closing Capital Project CP24-01 DRC Expansion (Public Hearing 04-13-2026).

Seconded by Kearns

Public Comment: None

Council Debate:

Kearns

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Beck, Council Member Patrick, Council Member Hutten, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Marchbanks

7 yea/ 0 nay

Motion passed

9. FY26-15NCO An introduction of an ordinance providing for the amendment of the City Budget and City held accounts in Fiscal Year 2026 - Road Maintenance (Public Hearing 04-13-2026)

Motion by Kearns to introduce FY26-15NCO An introduction of an ordinance providing for the amendment of the City Budget and City held accounts in Fiscal Year 2026 - Road Maintenance (Public Hearing 04-13-2026).

Seconded by Patrick

Conflict of interest declared for Council Member Marchbanks- Marchbanks will not participate in debate or voting.

Public Comment: None

Council Debate:

Taylor

McLaughlin

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Beck, Council Member Patrick, Council Member Hutten, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns

Voting Abstaining: Council Member Marchbanks

6 yea/ 0 nay

Motion Passed

10. Approve the proposal to engage with a new city attorney, Megan J. Costello, Foghorn Law Office, LLC

Motion made by Hutten to Approve the proposal to engage with a new city attorney, Megan J. Costello, Foghorn Law Office, LLC

Seconded by Patrick

Public Comment: None

Council Debate: Taylor

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Beck, Council Member Patrick, Council Member Hutten, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Marchbanks

7 yea/ 0 nay

Motion passed

11. Approve Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) Village Safe Water Program to submit Gustavus Septage Management Project as part of their Capital Improvement Plan

Motion made by Patrick to Approve Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) Village Safe Water Program to submit Gustavus Septage Management Project as part of their Capital Improvement Plan

Seconded by Hutten

Public Comment: None

Council Debate:

Hutten

City Administrator Leary

McLaughlin

Taylor

City Administrator Leary

Kearns

Marchbanks

Taylor

City Administrator Leary

McLaughlin

Hutten

Kearns

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Beck, Council Member Patrick, Council Member Hutten, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Marchbanks

7 yea/ 0 nay

Motion passed

12. Approve Project Development Short Form for Grant and Projects Master Dashboard and Compliance Tracker

Motion made by Hutten to approve Project Development Short Form for Grant and Projects Master Dashboard and Compliance Tracker

Seconded by Taylor

Public Comment: None

Council Debate:

Taylor

Hutten

City Administrator Leary

Kearns

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Beck, Council Member Patrick, Council Member Hutten, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Marchbanks

7 yea/0 nay

Motion passed

13. Approve Grant Consulting Agreement with Alcyon Consulting Grant writing and Consulting Services in the amount of \$6,500.00

Motion made by Kearns to approve Grant Consulting Agreement with Alcyon Consulting Grant writing and Consulting Services in the amount of \$6,500.00

Seconded by Beck

Public Comment: None

Council Debate:

Beck

Hutten

Kearns

City Administrator Leary

Beck

McLaughlin

City Administrator Leary

Hutten

Motion made by Hutten to amend the agreement with ALCYON to include "Travel Expenses. The Client shall reimburse Consultant for any and all reasonable travel-related expenses incurred by Consultant in connection with Consultant's performance of the Services included in this proposal. All travel expenses must be preapproved by Client before booking. Reimbursable travel expenses shall include main cabin airfare (or similar), airport parking, shuttle, and other reasonable transportation expenses. Lodging and per diem will be calculated based on DoD per diem rates for the community. All travel related to this Professional Services Contract will be considered contractual services and will be subject to 1099 tax reporting."

Seconded Kearns

Council Debate:

Taylor

Patrick

McLaughlin

Kearns

City Administrator Leary

Hutten

0 yea/ 7 nay

Motion failed

Continued Council Debate on the original motion

Patrick

City Administrator Leary

Kearns

Motion made by Kearns to amend the consulting agreement to have the project be completed within 8 weeks of commencement.

Seconded by Patrick

Hutten

City Administrator Leary

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Beck, Council Member Patrick, Council Member Hutten, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Marchbanks

7 yea/ 0 nay

Motion passed

Back to main motion as amended -no further council debate

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Beck, Council Member Patrick, Council Member Hutten, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Marchbanks

7 yea/ 0 nay

Motion passed

14. Approve Master Services Agreement with RESPEC Company, LLC

Motion made by Beck to approve Master Services Agreement with RESPEC Company, LLC

Seconded by Hutten

Public Comment: None

Council Debate: None

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Beck, Council Member Patrick, Council Member Hutten, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Marchbanks

7 yea/ 0 nay

Motion passed

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

15. Mayor Monthly Report

Mayor, Sally McLaughlin provided a written report and provided an oral report.

Clarifying Questions: None

CITY COUNCIL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Beck - encourages public comment on fish box tax policy

Beck - Thanking Mayor McLaughin for her leadership during the winter storm

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Whitney Rapp

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Since there is no further business, the meeting is adjourned. The time 8:42pm.

POSTED ON: March 4, 2026 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