



CITY OF GUSTAVUS

CITY COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING

Monday, August 11, 2025 at 7:00 PM
Gustavus City Hall

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Sally McLaughlin
Vice Mayor Shelley Owens
Council Members: Susan Warner, Geoff Fosse,
Jim Kearns, 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

MINUTES - PENDING

VIRTUAL MEETING INFORMATION

<https://tinyurl.com/5h2spsuc>

ID: 515 501 9406

PASSCODE: 5432

TEL: 253-215-8782

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mayor Sally McLaughlin
Vice Mayor Shelley Owens
Council Member Susan Warner
Council Member Lucas Beck
Council Member Mike Taylor
Council Member James Kearns
Council Member Geoff Fosse



Reading of the City of Gustavus Mission Statement

Mission Statement read by Council Member Beck.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. 07-14-2025 General Meeting Minutes
2. 07-30-2025 Special Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Council Member Kearns to approve by unanimous consent the 07-14-2025 General Meeting Minutes and the 07-30-2025 Special Meeting Minutes.

Seconded by Council Member Warner

Hearing no objections, the 07-14-2025 General Meeting Minutes and the 07-30-2025 Special Meeting Minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

MAYOR'S REQUEST FOR AGENDA CHANGES

There were no agenda changes.

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

COMMITTEE / STAFF REPORTS

3. Disposal and Recycling Center Quarterly Report
Disposal and Recycling Center Manager/Operator, Ian Barrier submitted a written report and provided an oral summary.
Clarifying Questions: None
4. Marine Facilities Quarterly Report
Marine Facilities Coordinator, Kenn Magowan submitted a written report.
Clarifying Questions:
Mayor McLaughlin
Vice Mayor Owens
5. City Treasurer Monthly Report
City of Gustavus City Treasurer, Ben Sadler provided monthly financial documents and gave an oral summary.
Clarifying Questions: None
6. City Administrator Monthly Report
City of Gustavus City Administrator, Kathy Leary provided a written report and provided an oral report.
Clarifying Questions:
Vice Mayor Owens

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

CONSENT AGENDA

7. Approve Records Destruction Certificate
8. Approve Calculation of the Endowment Fund Grant Amount for the FY26 Cycle
Motion made by Vice Mayor Owens to adopt the consent agenda by unanimous consent as presented.
Seconded by Council Member Warner
Hearing no objections, the motion passed.

ORDINANCE FOR PUBLIC HEARING

9. FY26-01NCO Ordinance providing for the amendment of the City held accounts in fiscal year 2026 for AMLIP Repair and Replace Fund (Introduced July 14, 2025)
Mayor McLaughlin opened the public hearing at 7:24 PM.

Public Testimony: None

Mayor McLaughlin closed the public hearing at 7:25 PM.

Motion made by Council Member Kearns to approve FY26-01NCO Ordinance providing for the amendment of the City held accounts in fiscal year 2026 for AMLIP Repair and Replace Fund

Seconded by Council Member Taylor

Council Debate: None

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Warner, Council Member Beck, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Fosse

7 yea/ 0 nay

Motion Passed

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

10. QUASI-JUDICIAL Matter City of Gustavus waives the right to file a protest of the renewal of ARAMARK Sports and Entertainment Services, LLC Alcohol Beverage Dispensary- Seasonal License

There were zero council member conflicts of interest of Ex Parte communication to declare.

Applicant Representative was not present.

Mayor McLaughlin opened the Public Hearing at 7:27pm.

Public Testimony: None

Mayor McLaughlin closed the Public Hearing at 7:27 pm

Motion made by Vice Mayor Owens that the City of Gustavus waives the right to file a protest of the renewal of ARAMARK Sports and Entertainment Services, LLC Alcohol Beverage Dispensary- Seasonal License

Seconded by Council Member Warner

Council Debate: None

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Warner, Council Member Beck, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Fosse

7 yea/ 0 nay

Motion Passed.

11. Approve job description for Fire Chief

Motion made by Council Member Beck to approve the job description for the Fire Chief.

Seconded by Council Member Kearns

Public Comment: None

Council Debate: None

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Warner, Council Member Beck, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Fosse

7 yea/ 0 nay

Motion Passed

12. CY25-15 Supporting Sea Otter Managment in Southeast Alaska

Motion made by Council Member Kearns to approve CY25-15 Supporting Sea Otter Management in Southeast Alaska.

Seconded by Council Member Fosse

Public Comment: None

Council Debate:

Council Member Beck

Vice Mayor Owens

Council Member Taylor

Council Member Kearns

Council Member Warner

Council Member Fosse

Mayor McLaughlin

Council Member Kearns

Voting Nay: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Warner, Council Member Beck, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Fosse

0 yea/ 7 nay

Motion Failed

13. CY25-16 Gustavus Amendment of Title 4 Chapter 14 Section 030 (b)-Imposition of Room Rental Tax and Title 4 Chapter 15 Section 030 (b)-Imposition of Sales Tax

Motion made by Council Member Warner to approve CY25-16 Gustavus Amendment of Title 4 Chapter 14 Section 030 (b)-Imposition of Room Rental Tax and Title 4 Chapter 15 Section 030 (b)-Imposition of Sales Tax.

Seconded by Vice Mayor Owens

Public Comment: None

Council Debate:

Council Member Warner

Council Member Taylor

Motion by Council Member Taylor to amend CY15-16 in the now, therefore be it resolved section to delete the word tax after room rental and replace that with word sales.

Seconded by Vice Mayor Owens

Point of information by Clerk Barker - In the ordinance it is referred to as room rental tax. Suggested correction to read imposition of 3% sales tax in addition to 4% room rental tax.

Motion by Mayor McLaughlin to amend the amendment to have the therefore be it resolved to read "...to allow the imposition of 3% sales tax in addition to 4% room rental tax, for a total of 7%, beginning January 1, 2026."

Seconded Council Member Kearns

Council Debate: None

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Warner, Council Member Beck, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Fosse

7 yea/ 0 nay

Motion Passed.

Back to the amendment as amended

Council Debate: None

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Warner, Council Member Beck, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Fosse

7 yea/ 0 nay

Motion Passed.

Back to main motion as amended

Council debate continued: None

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Warner, Council Member Beck, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Fosse

7 yea/ 0 nay

Motion Passed.

14. CY25-17 Establishing a Special Code of Ordinances Review Advisory Committee

Motion by Council Member Kearns to approve CY25-17 Establishing a Special Code of Ordinances Review Advisory Committee

Seconded by Council Member Warner

Public Comment: None

Council Debate:

Motion made by Vice Mayor Owens to amend CY25-17 under the scope in the fourth bullet point to strike for review and insert to the.

Seconded by Council Member Warner

Council Debate:

Vice Mayor Owens

Mayor McLaughlin

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Warner, Council Member Beck, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Fosse

7 yea/ 0 nay

Motion Passed.

Back to the main motion as amended

Council debate continued:

Council Member Taylor

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Warner, Council Member Beck, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Fosse

7 yea/ 0 nay

Motion Passed.

15. FY26-02 Introduction to the amendment of Title 5 Chapter 10 Section 080 Qualification for City Council (Public Hearing 09-08-2025)

Motion by Council Member Beck to introduce FY26-02 Introduction to the amendment of Title 5 Chapter 10 Section 080 Qualification for City Council.

Seconded by Vice Mayor Owens

Public Comment: None

Council Debate: None

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Warner, Council Member Beck, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Fosse

7 yea/0 nay

Motion Passed

16. FY26-03 Introduction to the amendment of Title 4 Chapter 14 Section 030 Imposition of Room Rental Tax (Public Hearing 09-08-2025)

Motion by Council Member Kearns to introduce FY26-03 Introduction to the amendment of Title 4 Chapter 14 Section 030 Imposition of Room Rental Tax.

Seconded by Council Member Beck

Public Comment: None

Council Debate:

Clerk - Section 4. Effective Date needs to add after ratification by voters

Vice Mayor Owens

Motion by Mayor McLaughlin to amend Section 4 Effective Date to insert after City Council "and ratification by the voters in the October 2025 municipal election."

Second by Council Member Beck

Council Debate:

Council Member Taylor

Mayor McLaughlin

Motion by Mayor McLaughlin to recess for 5 minutes.

Seconded by Council Member Warner.

Any objections to approving by unanimous consent.

Hearing none, motion is approved.

*Clerk note City Council went into recess at 8:03pm

Back to in session at 8:07pm

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Warner, Council Member Beck, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Fosse

7 yea/ 0 nay

Motion Passed

Back to main motion as amended

Council Debate: None

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Warner, Council Member Beck, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Fosse

7 yea/ 0 nay

Motion Passed

17. FY26-04 Introduction to the amendment of Title 4 Chapter 15 Section 030 Imposition of Sales Tax (Public Hearing 09-08-2025)

Motion made by Council Member Taylor to introduce FY26-04 Introduction to the amendment of Title 4 Chapter 15 Section 030 Imposition of Sales Tax.

Seconded by Council Member Fosse

Public Comment: None

Council Debate:

Motion made by Vice Mayor Owen to amend Section 4 Effective Date to insert after City Council "and ratification by the voters in the October 2025 municipal election."

Seconded by Council Member Kearns

Council Comment: None

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Warner, Council Member Beck, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Fosse

7 yea/ 0 nay

Motion Passed.

Back to main motion as amended

Council debate: None

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Warner, Council Member Beck, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Fosse

7 yea/0 nay

Motion Passed

18. Approve amendment of Endowment Fund Grant Policy and Procedure Section 2

Motion made by Council Member Fosse to approve amendment of Endowment Fund Grant Policy and Procedure Section 2.

Seconded by Council Member Beck

Public Comment: None

Council Debate: None

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Warner, Council Member Beck, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Fosse

7 yea/ 0 nay

Motion Passed

19. Merit based increase of \$1 per hour for City Clerk

Motion made by Council Member Warner to approve a Merit based increase of \$1 per hour for City Clerk.

Seconded by Council Member Kearns

Public Comment: None

Council Debate: None

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Owens, Council Member Warner,
Council Member Beck, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council
Member Fosse

7 yea/ 0 nay

Motion Passed

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

20. Mayor Monthly Report

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

Clarifying Questions:

Council Member Taylor

Vice Mayor Owens

CITY COUNCIL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business and hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

POSTED ON: August 6, 2025 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