

Session 25-15 a Special Meeting of the City Council of Homer, Alaska was called to order on Monday, June 2, 2025 by Mayor Rachel Lord at 5:00 p.m. at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

PRESENT: COUNCILMEMBERS HANSEN, ADERHOLD, VENUTI, PARSONS, DAVIS AND ERICKSON

STAFF: CITY MANAGER JACOBSEN
CITY CLERK KRAUSE
CITY ATTORNEY GATTI
PORT DIRECTOR HAWKINS
CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER JIRSA
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR KORT

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Lord called the meeting to order.

City Clerk Krause called attendance and a full Council was present.

AGENDA APPROVAL (Only those matters on the noticed agenda may be considered, pursuant to City Council's Operating Manual)

ADERHOLD/VENUTI MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

There was no discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA

Mayor Lord invited the public to comment on the agenda.

Scott Adams, city resident, expressed questions on the parking area available under Plan 1A, upland development, impacts to traffic with additional traffic on the road.

Mike Jones, city resident, requested the discussion to include the difference when you go from Plan 1B to Plan 2 and the increase in vessel comparison but not the substantial increase in footprint or breakwater, armor rock, dredging etc. Consideration of optimization for very small incremental cost to achieve a really big benefit for additional moorage.

NEW BUSINESS

Ron McPherson with HDR presented to Council on the following:

- Homer Harbor Expansion with updates on the Alternatives,
- Reviewed the US Army Corps of Engineers Tentatively Selected Plan Analysis
 - Preliminary Alternative Matrix – Subject to Change
- Cost Share Implication
 - Construction Cost Share

- 10% Due at Start of Construction
 - Estimated a 5-7 start date
- 10% financed over 30 years
- Locally Preferred Plan Discussion and Next Steps
 - Plan 2 over Plan 1A
 - City responsible for costs of Corps selected design
 - Increased costs to the city

Council was hesitantly supportive with not knowing actual costs or estimated costs for Preliminary Plan 2

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

George Maltz, resident of Fritz Creek expressed comments regarding the development of the Comprehensive Plan and recommending that Council use that document as guidance whether the harbor should be expanded.

William Roth, expressed comments on consideration to include additional crane space, hearing opposition on expansion due to increased costs and questioned if this would increase the rates for moorage.

Heath Smith, city resident, expressed comments in support of Council decision to go with Plan 2.

Mike Jones, city resident, expressed comments in support of Plan 2 and echoed Mr. Smith's comments.

Bruce Friend, Commissioner and Marine Trades Boardmember, commented personally stated it was a positive step, unique place and review of the design and hoped the Feds stepped up as they needed maximum support for the project.

Dave Mastolier, business owner, recounted his experience bringing a replacement vessel from Louisiana and told at first he couldn't park in the harbor but since his first boat burned he was allowed. That indicated to him that he could not increase his business unless he went to another harbor.

Larry Slone, city resident, expressed comments on the uncertainty surrounding the process but playing the game.

Scott Adams, city resident, expressed concerns regarding a 2008 and 2017 report done by the Corps, and that they have been waiting for 20 years to get their road reconstructed but told there is no money and but they are going to expand the harbor and recommended that they include areas outside city limits to pay for the bond.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Lord adjourned the meeting at 6:54 p.m. Next Regular Meeting is Monday, June 9, 2025 at 6:00 p.m., Committee of the Whole at 5:00 p.m. A Worksession at 4:00 p.m. and a Joint Worksession with Planning Commission on Wednesday June 11, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. on the Comprehensive Plan. All meetings are scheduled to be held in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

RENEE KRAUSE, MMC, CITY CLERK

APPROVED: _____