

Session 25-28 a Regular Meeting of the Homer City Council was called to order on November 24, 2025 by Mayor Rachel Lord at 6:00 p.m. at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska, and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: COUNCILMEMBERS ADERHOLD, DAVIS, ERICKSON, HANSEN, LORD, VENUTI

STAFF: CITY MANAGER JACOBSEN
CITY CLERK WOODRUFF
FINANCE DIRECTOR FISCHER
PORT DIRECTOR HAWKINS
PLANNING DIRECTOR FOSTER
PERSONNEL DIRECTOR BROWNING
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR ENGBRETSSEN

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

Mayor Lord announced the supplemental items: **CONSENT AGENDA** Memorandum CC-25-278 from Mike Illg, Community Recreation Manager provided in the supplemental packet as backup for Resolution 25-098 **PUBLIC HEARINGS** Memorandum CC-25-279 from Community Development Director, Table of Amendments, Draft minutes excerpt from the November 10, 2025 Homer City Council Regular Meeting, and Public Comments Received as backup for Ordinance 25-64 approving the 2045 Comprehensive Plan **ORDINANCES** Public Comments Received. Memorandum CC-25-275 is renumbered as CC-25-274 to correct a duplication error. **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT** item c November 19, 2025 Homer Harbor Expansion report.

ERICKSON/VENUTI MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED.

MAYORAL PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

- a. 2025 Small Business Saturday Proclamation

Mayor Lord read the 2025 Small Business Saturday Proclamation and took a photograph with the staff of the Homer Chamber of Commerce.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA

Jan Keiser, City Resident, provided comment on Ordinance 25-71, recommending that the City consider a Complete Streets approach to street design and operation, using a context-sensitive design approach in lieu of a fixed lane width designation in the design standards.

Mary Griswold, City Resident, spoke against mandating maximum lane widths for residential and collector streets, encouraging the Council to consider Jan Keiser's proposal for context-sensitive design. She added that adequate shoulders and sidewalks are mandatory for the safety of all travelers.

RECONSIDERATION

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Homer City Council Unapproved Regular Meeting Minutes of October 13, October 27, and November 10, 2025. City Clerk. Recommend approval.

- b. Memorandum CC-25-262 from Mayor Re-appointment of Lucas Parsley to the Park, Arts, Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission. Recommend approval.
- c. Memorandum CC-25-263 from City Clerk Authorizing the Issuance of a Letter of Non-Objection to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board Regarding Liquor License Transfer for Wall Enterprises, LLC. Recommend approval
- d. Memorandum CC-25-264 from City Clerk Authorizing the Issuance of a Letter of Non-Objection to the Marijuana Control Board Regarding Marijuana License Renewal for Kachemak Cannabis, LLC. Recommend approval.
- e. Ordinance 25-69, An Ordinance of The City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the FY26 Capital Budget by Accepting and Appropriating a State of Alaska Online With Libraries (OWL) Grant for FY26 in The Amount of \$6,462 for Internet Service, and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/Library Director. Recommended Dates Introduction November 24, 2025 Public Hearing and Second Reading January 12, 2026.

Memorandum CC-25-265 from Library Director as backup.

- f. Ordinance 25-70, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY26 Capital Budget by Appropriating \$7,000 from the Homer Education and Recreation Complex (HERC) Capital Asset Repair and Maintenance Allowance (CARMA) for the Replacement of the Floor of the Activity Room in the Herc 1 Building. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommended Dates Introduction November 24, 2025 Public Hearing and Second Reading January 12, 2026.

Memorandum CC-25-266 from Public Works Director as backup.

- h. Resolution 25-099 A Resolution of The City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving the Renewal of a Lobbyist Contract with J & H Consulting, LLC Of Juneau, Alaska, for a Term of One Year Commencing on December 15, 2025 and Ending December 15, 2026 in the Amount of \$42,000 and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum CC-25-268 from Special Projects and Communications Coordinator as Backup.

- i. Resolution 25-100, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Acknowledging the Results of the Invitation to Bid for City Owned Cold Storage 2026 Seasonal Rental Units. City Manager/Port Director. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum CC-25-269 from Port Director as backup.

- j. Resolution 25-101, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents for the Real Property Acquisition of 160 Acres and Designating the Use as Conservation. City Manager/ Community Development Director. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum CC-25-270 from the Community Development Director as backup.

- k. Resolution 25-102, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving a Contract With the Kachemak Heritage Land Trust as a Subaward Recipient in an Amount not to Exceed \$60,000 to Assist with Acquisition of Properties in the Bridge Creek Watershed Protection District and Other Grant Activities Outlined in Ordinance 25-62 and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum CC-25-271 from the Community Development Director as backup.

- l. Resolution 25-103, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving a Contract Extension with Agnew Beck Consulting of Anchorage, Alaska, for the Completion of the 2045 Comprehensive Plan and the Update of the Title 21 Zoning and Planning Code and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum CC-25-272 from the Planning Director as backup.

- m. Councilmember Erickson requested to move Resolution 25-104 from the Consent Agenda to Resolutions.

ERICKSON/VENUTI MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS READ

There was no discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

VISITORS

- a. Homer Chamber of Commerce – Brad Anderson, Executive Director (15 Minutes)

Mr. Anderson presented information on the Chamber of Commerce's tourism marketing activities, highlighting their tagline "All of Alaska in one little town." He noted that Homer had an increase in visitor days over 2024, and mentioned the inaugural Homer Harborfest concert, which drew 1700 attendees to the city in June. Tour buses and cruise ships are scheduled for 2026, but marketing efforts also target the independent traveler, emphasizing that Homer has authentic experiences. He shared that the Chamber is already planning for the July 4, 2026 events for the celebration of the Nation's 250th birthday.

Councilmember Erickson said it's exciting to see how the Chamber has grown since 1995.

Councilmember Venuti said the photographs of Homer are great, and she looks forward to the visitor guide.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS (5 Minute limit per report)

- a. Worksession Report

There was no worksession prior to this meeting.

- b. Committee of the Whole Report

Councilmember Erickson reported that councilmembers talked about things from the consent agenda and Memorandum CC-25-275 regarding one of the marijuana grow operations. Regarding Resolution 25-105 to award a contract for harbor floats, Council discussed understanding the process going forward and the notice to proceed. The rest of the time was spent talking about Comprehensive Plan amendments, where the staff was on the process, and adding a few more amendments from Councilmember Venuti regarding the College. Councilmember Aderhold had amendments relating to governance, land use, and public facilities.

d. Mayor's Report

Mayor Lord reported that she has mostly been working out of town and traveling since the last meeting and didn't have a ton to report. She mentioned receiving an email from DNR noticing public meetings regarding a Kenai State Forest. Council could consider weighing in on this. She chatted with Jenny Martin in State Senator Gary Steven's office. Once the Legislative Session kicks off mid-January, we'll be getting updates from legislators about the session. It's nice for the Council to establish legislative priorities before the February lobbying trip to Juneau. Governor will be dropping his proposed budget by December 15, 2025. Mayor Lord mentioned that she chatted with the City's Auditors as a part of their process, and acknowledged that Councilmember Aderhold also made herself available to speak with them.

e. Borough Report

The Mayor relayed that Assemblymember Cooper told her she had nothing to report and that she wished Council a Happy Thanksgiving.

f. Library Advisory Board Report

Board Member Red Asselin reported from the LAB meeting. At their last meeting, board members discussed fundraising tactics for library endowment fund and reviewed ideas and planning for celebrating 20 years of the library in its current location. Several activities and events coming up to celebrate that anniversary. On December 7th at the Porcupine, a documentary called the Librarians will be screened and a discussion panel including Library Director Dave Berry. Meet on the third Tuesday of the month at 5:30 pm.

h. Economic Development Advisory Commission Report

EDC Commissioner Karin Marks: Major business on November 12 was a broad discussion of the 2026 work plan. Taking the guidance given on the priorities of the Council and being mindful of Staff capacity. Recognizing that Comprehensive Plan and Title 21 are in motion, we're looking at getting started on a few things after those are resolved, including itinerant merchant code and short-term rentals. The EDC expresses appreciation for Julie Engebretsen for putting together a page discussing short-term rentals in a way that's easy to digest. Announced resignation of long-time commissioner Deborah Brown, thanked her for her service and announced that there is an open seat for a resident or non-resident to join the EDC.

i. Parks Art Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission

There was no presentation.

j. Port and Harbor Advisory Commission

There was no presentation.

l. Conversations with a Councilmember – Parsons

Councilmember Parsons reported that 10 people joined him for Conversations with a Councilmember on Wednesday, November 12. One unifying theme throughout entire time was housing, especially short term rentals. That used about 55 minutes of the discussion. He was impressed by how knowledgeable and

passionate the participants are.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

- a. Ordinance 25-64, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Adopting the City of Homer 2045 Comprehensive Plan and Recommending Adoption by the Kenai Peninsula Borough. City Manager. Introduction October 13, 2025 Public Hearing October 27, 2025 Public Hearing and Second Reading November 10, 2025 Public Hearing November 24, 2025.

Memorandum CC-25-273 from Community Development Director as backup.

Memorandum CC-25-254 from City Manager as backup.

Memorandum CC-25-242 from Planning Director/Community Dev. Director as backup.

Mayor Lord opened the public hearing.

Jan Keiser, City Resident, commented on the lack of property lines on the Future Land Use Map. She pointed to the location of the public works campus and Bishop's Beach on the map as examples of a disconnect between current use and future use.

Penelope Haas, Non-Resident, thanked Council for their hours of work on the Comprehensive Plan. She requested additional amendments to the plan to address concerns outlined in her written comments.

Brad Faulkner, City Resident, requested that the City add plowing of the bike path to the Comprehensive Plan. He said that the spit has been ignored for many years. He commented that land use is not managed on the spit in accordance with the Comprehensive Plan.

Mayor Lord announced the motion on the floor from the November 10th meeting to adopt Ordinance 25-64 as amended by reading of title only for second and final reading, that was postponed to this meeting and opened discussion.

ERICKSON/VENUTI MOVED TO AMEND THE NOVEMBER 18, COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING DRAFT OF THE 2045 HOMER COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BY ADOPTING AMENDMENTS 60-65, 67,69 AND 70.
There was no discussion.

VOTE (AMENDMENT). NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

ERICKSON/VENUTI MOVED TO AMEND NOVEMBER 18, COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING DRAFT OF THE 2045 HOMER COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BY ADOPTING AMENDMENTS 66 AND 68 WITH LANGUAGE PROPOSED BY THE PROJECT TEAM IN THE SUPPLEMENTAL PACKET.

There was no discussion.

VOTE (AMENDMENT). NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

ADERHOLD/VENUTI MOVED TO AMEND PAGE 31 OF THE NOVEMBER 18TH COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING DRAFT OF THE 2045 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AFTER PARAGRAPH LABELED ZONING, BEFORE THE TABLE LABELED “ A FUTURE LAND USE MAP DOES AND A FUTURE LAND USE MAP DOES NOT” TO ADD A NEW PARAGRAPH STATING **“THIS PLAN TAKES TWO GENERAL APPROACHES TO GUIDE DEVELOPMENT IN RELATION TO ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS. ONE IS TO “OVERLAY” INFORMATION REGARDING ENVIRONMENTAL CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES ONTO THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP. THIS MEANS, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT SOME PORTIONS OF AN AREA IDENTIFIED FOR DEVELOPMENT WOULD BE LIMITED BY THE SITE-SPECIFIC PRESENCE OF STEEP SLOPES, WETLAND AREAS, DRAINAGE CHANNELS, ETC. THE SECOND BROAD STRATEGY IS TO RECOMMEND THAT APPROPRIATE STANDARDS BE ADOPTED SO THAT WHERE DEVELOPMENT DOES OCCUR IT IS DESIGNED TO RESPECT ENVIRONMENTAL FUNCTIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS. EXAMPLES IN THIS CATEGORY INCLUDE SITE DEVELOPMENT POLICES FOR DRAINAGE, VEGETATION, AND GRADING.”**

Councilmembers discussed that this amendment copies language from the 2018 Comprehensive Plan and requested comments from City Staff, who had not comments.

VOTE (AMENDMENT). NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Venuti/Aderhold MOVED TO INCLUDE PROPERTY LINES ON THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP.

Discussion ensued noting that property lines would be useful, and requesting information from Staff on the rationale for why they were excluded.

Community Development Director Engebretsen noted that a Future Land Use Map (FLUM) is a policy-level planning tool, not a regulatory one, and is meant to show general land use patterns. Property lines don't belong partially because of scale and accuracy, and they can make it harder to read. The map of property lines changes forty times a year as subdivisions occur, so property lines would be hard to keep on Comprehensive Plan. Council asked to confirm that there would be no changes to the FLUM when subdivisions come in. Staff confirmed that there would be no changes until the next time the Comprehensive Plan is revised and approved by Council and the Borough.

Discussion ensued noting that the whole Comprehensive Plan is supposed to be broad and visionary, it's not specific on purpose. The plan will be fluid just as our lives are fluid and Homer is fluid.

Shelly Wade of Agnew::Beck commented that she understands why this has come up, and that there has been consistent blending of FLUM categories with zoning. Adding property lines can make the FLUM look like a zoning map. A Zoning map is a legally binding and a parcel-specific tool. A FLUM with categories that cross property lines can reflect a broader planning intent. Specific zoning changes can be made later in the process through the edits to Title 21.

Councilmember Venuti requested a roll call vote.

VOTE:

NO: ADERHOLD, DAVIS, ERICKSON, HANSEN, PARSONS, VENUTI

Motion failed.

Discussion followed acknowledging concerns about plowing at the harbor, but the comprehensive plan is not the place for that. The focus moved to the different uses of a paper map like the FLUM versus GIS tools.

Community Development Director Julie Engebretsen spoke to how the City uses GIS when looking at new regulations. GIS is a tool to inform policy—does the City have the information it would need to administer a policy? Bluff erosion is an example of where regulations were strengthened once more precise LIDAR data became available in GIS and complemented existing aerial photographs in the system.

It was noted that for the City to provide a system like the Kenai Peninsula Borough Parcel Viewer would be a budget conversation.

VOTE (MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED). NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Mayor Lord expressed gratitude for the hard work of the many community members who participated, the project team, and all commissioners and board members who participated. She noted that the party continues with Title 21.

- b. Ordinance 25-67, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Approving a Sublease Between Alaska Custom Seafoods, Inc. and Ind and Tide, LLC DBA Peninsula Seafoods Occupying a portion of Internal Building Space for an Office and Additional space as well as Yard Space Consisting of Shared Parking Spaces, Space for an Ice Making Machine and Equipment Storage on the Property Entitled T7S R13W Sec 1 Seward Meridian HM 0920050 Homer Spit Sub No Two Amended Lot 88-4, and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/Port Property Associate. Introduction November 10, 2025 Public Hearing and Second Reading November 24, 2025.

Memorandum CC-25-258 from Port Property Manager as backup.

Mayor Lord opened the public hearing. There were no comments and the hearing was closed.

ERICKSON/VENUTI MOVE TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 25-67 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING

There was no discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- c. Ordinance 25-68, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending Homer City Code Title 10, Port and Harbor, Sections 10.04.035 Homer Port and Harbor Tariff, 10.04.040 Port Director, 10.04.055 Fees, 10.04.090 Underway Requirement, 10.04.120 Impounded Vessel Procedure, and 10.04.140 Annual Review. City Manager/Port Director. Introduction November 10, 2025 Public Hearing and Second Reading November 24, 2025.

Memorandum CC-25-259 from Port Administrative Supervisor as backup.

Mayor Lord opened the public hearing. There were no comments and the hearing was closed.

ERICKSON/VENUTI MOVE TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 25-68 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING

There was no discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

ORDINANCE(S)

- a. Ordinance 25-71, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending Homer City Code 11.04.050, Master Roads and Street Plans-Adopted, 11.04.058, Design Criteria Manual-Adopted, and 11.04.060 Geometric Design Requirements. Davis/Parsons. Recommended dates Introduction November 24, 2026 Public Hearing and Second Reading January 12, 2026.

Memorandum CC-25-274 from Councilmembers Davis & Parsons as backup

DAVIS/PARSONS MOVED TO INTRODUCE ORDINANCE 25-71.

There was discussion regarding the shift away from standards that prioritize moving cars quickly, and might endanger pedestrians and non-motorized users towards standards for narrower streets that might encourage drivers to reduce speeds. Reference was made to packet materials, including Complete Streets information provided as public comment and the excerpted documents from engineers and planners attached to the supporting memorandum.

Specific points raised included interest in incremental change, in not making the situation worse or creating standards that conflict with a context sensitive design approach, and in policy that emphasizes all modes of travel. Concern was expressed that narrowing permitted street widths may result in future developments without pedestrian amenities. It was mentioned that lanes on Heath Street are 14 feet wide, two wider than highways.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

a. City Manager's Report

City Manager Melissa Jacobsen provided a brief overview of the materials she provided in the Council's packet and offered to answer any questions.

Discussion ensued regarding a suggestion box that used to be made available to the public, and every once in a while Council would hear those suggestions made by the public. The City Manager acknowledged that the City could discuss putting those boxes back out.

b. FY26 October Monthly Report

It was noted that the profitability of Water and Sewer funds has switched positions relative to each other: in 2024 the sewer fund was lagging, now water fund is lagging. City Manager Jacobsen acknowledged that the budgeting model has changed and more discussion would come in January when reviewing the quarterly report.

c. HHE report

No discussion.

PENDING BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Memorandum CC-25-275 from City Clerk Authorizing the Issuance of a Letter of Non-Objection to the Alcohol Beverage Control Board Regarding Marijuana Cultivation Facility License Renewal for Alaska Loven It, LLC DBA Wildflower Farms.

ERICKSON/DAVIS MOVED THAT THE HOMER CITY COUNCIL CONDITIONALLY APPROVES THE STANDARD MARIJUANA CULTIVATION FACILITY FOR WILDFLOWER FARMS DOING BUSINESS AS ALASKA LOVEN IT, LLC LICENSE #12833 UNDER THE CONDITION THAT THEY BECOME IN COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATION 3 AAC 306.430(C)(2) THAT LICENSED MARIJUANA FACILITIES ENSURE THE ODOR OF MARIJUANA IS NOT DETECTABLE BY THE PUBLIC FROM OUTSIDE THE LICENSED PREMISES, EXCEPT AS SPECIFICALLY ALLOWED BY A LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN HOMER CITY CODE 21.59.010 NUISANCES A. 2 ODORS AND GASSES.

The City Manager noted that the facility is located in the General Commercial 2 District and in the relevant chapter of City Code, 21.26.080 notes that the nuisance standards of 21.59.010 apply to all developments, uses, and structures in that zoning district. 21.59.010 (a)(2) Odors and Gases reads in part, "The emission of odors in such quantities as to be objectionable to any person with normal sensitivities at any point beyond the lot line is prohibited."

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

- a. Resolution 25-104 A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Awarding the Contract for the Development of the 2025 Water and Wastewater Master Plan to Bristol Engineering Services Company,

LLC Of Anchorage Alaska in the Amount of \$149,987 and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/Public Works Director.

Memorandum CC-25-276 from Public Works Director as backup.

ERICKSON/VENUTI MOVE TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 25-104 AWARDING THE CONTRACT FOR THE 2025 WATER AND WASTEWATER MASTER PLAN TO BRISTOL ENGINEERING.

There was no discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- b. Resolution 25-105, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Awarding the Contract for Design & Construction of the Homer Harbor's System 4 Float Replacement to Turnagain Marine Construction of Anchorage, Alaska in the Amount Of \$22,459,855 and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/City Engineer.

Memorandum CC-25-277 from the City Engineer as backup.

Mayor Lord introduced the item and requested a motion.

ERICKSON/VENUTI MOVED TO POSTPONE 25-105 TO JANUARY 12, 2026

City Manager Jacobsen commented that the resolution was submitted to the Clerk close to the packet deadline and staff need a little more time to refine information in the Resolution and Memorandum.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- b. Resolution 25-098, A Resolution of The City Council of Homer, Alaska, Establishing the 2026 Regular Meeting Schedule for City Council, Economic Development Advisory Commission, Library Advisory Board, Parks Art Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission, Planning Commission, Port and Harbor Advisory Commission, and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Advisory Board Meeting Schedule. City Clerk. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum CC-25-267 from City Clerk as Backup.

ERICKSON/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 25-098 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY

ERICKSON/VENUTI MOVED TO AMEND BY ADDING A JANUARY 15, 2026 MEETING OF THE PARC COMMISSION

There was no discussion.

VOTE (AMENDMENT). NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

There was no discussion.

VOTE (ADOPTION AS AMENDED). NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

Jan Knutsen, City Resident and Visitor Center Director for the Homer Chamber of Commerce, provided information on the Homer City of Peonies program and thanked many people who help to make the program a success. She noted that visitors are interested in Homer as a peony destination and request farm tours and other information on peonies.

Mary Griswold, City Resident, commented she looks forward to discussion on road design and noted the importance of discretion, saying that Heath Street is so wide so that snow can be piled in the middle when plowing, leaving 2 narrow lanes to keep traffic moving.

Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Director Robert Ruffner offered his congratulations to the City and Council on the updates to the Comprehensive Plan and said that he looks forward to transmittal to the borough.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

City Attorney Gatti wished all listening a pleasant and safe Thanksgiving holiday.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY CLERK

City Clerk Woodruff thanked the room for bearing with her through technical difficulties and said she looked forward to many more meetings.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Jacobsen noted that earlier this year Chief of Police Robl announced his plan for retirement. The City has the Chief of Police job listed as well as an opening for a Deputy City Clerk I and Port Administrative Supervisor.

COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Lord celebrated the passing of the Comprehensive Plan and thanked Robert Ruffner for calling in. She said good job to City Clerk Amy Woodruff and thanked former City Clerks Renee Krause and Melissa Jacobsen for holding that seat for many years. The City team is doing a lot of good work, there's a lot more to be done. She mentioned upcoming events including the turkey trot, community dinners, Share the Spirit, Winter Solstice, and family birthdays.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Councilmember Venuti wished listeners and colleagues a Happy Thanksgiving. She offered her gratitude to the members of the public who follow council meetings and provide testimony, to City employees keeping the roads safe and the buildings clean and warm, and finally to the staff that keeps council on their toes.

Councilmember Parsons thanked Amy & Scott in the Clerk's office and City Manager Melissa Jacobsen. He noted that the public did deep dives into the Comprehensive Plan and their intelligent approaches made it easier for him to understand these issues. He reminded public of the upcoming tree lighting event at the Chamber.

Councilmember Aderhold shared that she has received outreach by email from AirBNB and that she directed them to contact the City Clerk to get on the agenda for a Council meeting so that Council and the public can all hear the same information and ask questions. She expressed appreciation for the work of City employees, noting that the City has some vacant positions so the people who are here have been working really hard. She said that it makes us a stronger and more resilient community to have a lot of different viewpoints and to be respectful to each other before wishing everyone a Happy Holidays.

Councilmember Davis wished everyone a Happy holidays said he would see everyone next year.

Councilmember Erickson reflected on the life of Merle Worlford, a community member who recently passed away. He and his wife Bev had the parfait shop across from the high school, and he was a legend on the anchor river. She offered her condolences to the family and acknowledged that he made an impact on many lives. She encouraged everyone to be looking out for your friends and your family because the holidays can be a difficult time for mental health. She said that Nutcracker is coming up and it's going to be a lot of fun along with musical events and Christmas tree lighting and parties..

Councilmember Hansen wished a happy birthday to her children with upcoming birthdays and wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

ADJOURNMENT

Next Regular Meeting is Monday, January 12, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. All meetings are scheduled to be held in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.