

Session 21-04, a Regular Meeting of the Public Works Campus Task Force was called to order by Chair Donna Aderhold at 2:32 p.m. on March 24, 2021 via Zoom Webinar from the City Hall Conference Room located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

**PRESENT:** MEMBERS ENGBRETSSEN, ARGUETA, SLONE, VENUTI AND ADERHOLD

**ABSENT:** MEMBERS KEISER AND BARNWELL (EXCUSED)

**STAFF:** RENEE KRAUSE, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

### **AGENDA APPROVAL**

Chair Aderhold requested a motion to approve the agenda.

VENUTI/SLONE MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

There was no discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS UPON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. Regular Meeting Minutes for March 10, 2021

Chair Aderhold requested a motion to approve the minutes.

SLONE/VENUTI - MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED

There was no discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

### **VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS**

### **REPORTS**

A. Memorandum from Public Works Director re: Probability on Tsunami

Chair Aderhold introduced the item by reading the title and asked if there was any questions regarding the information.

Ms. Engebretsen expressed that she still had questions regarding the risks and probability and did not believe that she would be able to explain it to a member of the public if she was questioned on it at some point. She explained that having a talking points that were very elementary and that can be used on the website to communicate this complicated information to the general public was preferred. Ms. Engebretsen further explained that if this group could synthesize and put it into everyday language so if the Council asks what the analysis of the risks are they can respond in two or three sentences.

A discussion ensued on what it would take to get to those talking points with references to the map that was done by Member Barnwell and the information in Member Keiser's memorandum did not quite match up. Further discussion on the following:

- When comparing the maps to memorandum the Public Works facility will only get about 2.8 feet of water.
- All information and discussion is public and will be on the website available to the public.
- Goal is to explain to Council and the Public why they are recommending action and who they got to those recommendations.
- Exactly what the Council is expecting from the Task Force and rating the risks with the resulting remedies.
- This is a low probability event but potentially catastrophic or high consequence.
- Even a low probability the Council will have to have some idea so that funding can be reserved to mitigate those issues.
- Creation of a matrix to determine risk probability using a the data that is currently available, there would be no accuracy, but how low would the probability be.

Chair Aderhold requested a motion.

SLONE/VENUTI MOVED THAT THE TASK FORCE CREATE A TSUNAMI INUNDATION PROBABILITY MODEL.

Discussion that there is data available on the likelihood of an event by scale which could be used to create the model ensued with Member Slone providing an example of equations he used to figure the likelihood of a tsunami based on those figures in the data provided by DGGS.

Further discussion points were made in review of the information:

- The information does not support relocating the facility on a whole, only certain aspects of it.
- Should be addressing the Public Works needs moving forward similar to the police and fire station projects.
- Alaska does not use this methodology for probability because there is not enough historical data to base the probability of events on and they do not have a simple response for the public.
- Every tsunami warning Public Works personnel take action to mitigate any possible damage to the equipment. These warnings are issued by the State and the city is part of the system and cannot be changed. It provides good practice on behalf of the city and the community.

There was no further discussion

VOTE. NO. VENUTI, ARGUETA, ENGEBRETSEN, ADERHOLD.

VOTE. YES. SLONE.

Motion failed.

## **PENDING BUSINESS**

### **A. Memorandum from Member Engebretsen re: Risk Catalogue and Evaluation**

Chair Aderhold introduced the item by reading of the title and invited Ms. Engebretsen to present her memorandum.

Member Engebretsen reviewed, from the previous meeting, the information that was requested.

Member Argueta reported on the information he found regarding impact to the environment from fuels and calcium chloride. He noted that while there would be immediate acute toxicity following the event of a tsunami, because of the underlying dilution to those chemicals from the tsunami there would be no long term damage. He stated that the information he received on additional items such as hydraulic fluid, motor oil, etc., were that the quantities were very limited and it would not be a significant source of impact to the environment.

Member Engebretsen reported that she contacted Homer Police Department and they do not currently appoint an officer to direct traffic, however there is enough of a lag in traffic that allows Public Works personnel to move the equipment. She then reported that there are two bulk water suppliers in the area that get their water from other locations that would be able to supply residents.

Member Engebretsen stated that it would be helpful to have an executive summary for the report putting the highest risks and most likely along with mitigation strategies. That will leave these concerns to be addressed by City Council and the public. The Chart will assist in showing the Council and Public what the Task Force looked at overall.

Further discussion points made were on the following:

- Highest priorities include relocating materials such as sand and gravel
- Using the current information in relation to the requirements as outlined by the resolution, including a priority level
- Review of the table and placement of priority of those items based on discussion

Member Engebretsen stated that the next part of the discussion in the development the table would be does the current Public Works meet our needs and will it continue to meet our needs for the next 30 years.

At the next meeting Member Keiser should lead a discussion on what the current needs are of Public Works and what the future needs would be.

Member Engebretsen volunteered to provide the draft for the next meeting and Chair Aderhold volunteered to be copy editor for the document.

Member Slone did not agree with adding in the long term needs for the Public Works Campus is high jacking the intent of the resolution and doesn't fulfill the request of the Council.

Member Engebretsen acknowledged Member Slone's concerns and opined that they could have that conversation with Council when they present the table and ask those questions of Council noting that this was a difficult exercise and what direction would they like the Task Force to take.

Member Slone concurred with that approach since there was no way to define the risks in general terms of probability.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Next Steps**

Chair Aderhold introduced the item by reading of title and noted what next steps were going to be brought forward for the next meeting as follows:

- Member Engebretsen will be drafting the Probable Risks Table and Report
- Identifying Strategies for Mitigation of Risks has been partially worked on
- Short & Long Term Costs for Mitigation Strategies

Deputy City Clerk Krause reported that the steps listed are those that were listed in the resolution, she explained that the risks shown, identified strategies, and some of the mitigation strategies as listed responded to the requested information, and with two meetings in April that should be enough time to get that information to finish the table.

Additional points made were the following:

- Finish the report to Council including the information found on tsunami risks
- Should the Task Force refocus energy on looking at the facility long term and adequacy of will the facility work for the city in the long term
- Public Works Budget requests for FY22/23
- Council unlikely to make a decision this big this quick
- Costs are needed to mitigate the strategies whether it is from tsunami or old age

Deputy City Clerk Krause reported that she did hear from Councilmember Smith on his concerns regarding the public attendance at the meetings were focused on the following:

- the average person is working during the day and they're unable to attend
- due to the complexity and depth of discussions, it would be hard to follow by reading of the minutes
- A webpage would not be adequate information for the general public

Chair Aderhold requested to add on the agenda for the next meeting public input and meeting schedule.

## **INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS**

## **COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**

### **COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF**

Deputy City Clerk Krause commented that it was an interesting meeting.

### **COMMENTS OF THE TASK FORCE**

Member Argueta commented on the decision making process and statistical model on the possible worst case scenarios and expressed appreciation for everyone's input.

Member Engebretsen echoed Mr. Argueta's comments and appreciated the good conversations.

Member Venuti expressed appreciation for Ms. Krause's follow through and doing an excellent job taking notes and adding her comments. She then thanked Member Engebretsen for doing most of the heavy lifting and reminded the Task Force that on March 27<sup>th</sup> it has been 57 years since the 1964 earthquake which totally wiped out all infrastructure in seven cities noting that those cities she believed came back stronger and better for every community because they had good city leaders, she expressed her belief that Homer had good leadership and that this committee is a good example. She continued by acknowledging the members individuality, intelligence and ability to work well together. Member Venuti expressed her appreciation for everyone's work and thanked Member Slone for reminding them about the tasks outlined in the resolution.

Chair Aderhold expressed her thanks for everyone's work and stated her hope that one day soon everyone will be once again able to meet in Council Chambers.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Task Force the meeting adjourned at 4:26 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at 2:30 p.m. at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers via Zoom Webinar located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

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RENEE KRAUSE, MMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_