

Session 22-09 a Regular Meeting of the Homer City Council was called to order on May 9, 2022 by Mayor Ken Castner 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-CAVASOS, LORD, VENUTI

**STAFF:** CITY MANAGER DUMOUCHEL  
CITY CLERK JACOBSEN  
POLICE CHIEF ROBL  
FINANCE DIRECTOR WALTON  
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR KEISER  
SPECIAL PROJECTS & COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR CARROLL  
RECREATION MANAGER ILLG  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ANALYST SULCZYNSKI

**AGENDA APPROVAL** (Only those matters on the noticed agenda may be considered, pursuant to City Council’s Operating Manual, pg. 6)

Mayor Castner announced the supplemental items: **CONSENT AGENDA** Road Financial Plan 5-Year Outlook graphs and Non-Motorized Transportation & Trails Plan 2022 Supplement as backup to Ordinances 22-25 through 22-28 approving HART Funds for Road and Trail Projects; Written public comments on Resolution 22-040 supporting efforts to increase voter awareness of upcoming elections, Memorandum 22-083 to Resolution 22-042 Accepting the donation of the print “Serenity”, **ANNOUNCEMENTS / PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS** Planning Commission written report.

ADERHOLD/ERICKSON MOVED TO ADOPT THE AGENDA.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

#### **MAYORAL PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA**

Heath Smith, city resident, commented in support of Resolution 22-040 and the importance of engaging voters early in the election process.

#### **RECONSIDERATION**

**CONSENT AGENDA** (Items listed below will be enacted by one motion. If a separate discussion is desired on an item, that item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Meeting Agenda at the request of a Councilmember.)

- a. Homer City Council Unapproved Regular Meeting Minutes of April 25, 2022. City Clerk. Recommend adoption.
- b. Memorandum 22-066 from Mayor Castner Re: Appointment of Douglas Baily to the Library Advisory Board. Recommend approval.
- c. Ordinance 22-24, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY22 Capital Budget and Appropriating an Additional Expenditure of \$106,000 from the Homer Accelerated Roads and Trails (HART) Road Fund for the Construction of the Main Street Sidewalk Project. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommended Dates Introduction May 9, 2022, Public Hearing and Second Reading May 23, 2022.

Memorandum 22-075 from Public Works Director as backup.

- d. Ordinance 22-25, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY22 Capital Budget by Appropriating \$750,000 from the Homer Accelerated Roads and Trails (HART) Road Fund and \$100,000 from the HART Trails Fund to Establish a Non-Motorized Transportation Opportunity Fund. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommended Dates Introduction May 9, 2022, Public Hearing and Second Reading May 23, 2022.

Memorandum 22-073 from Public Works Director as backup.

- e. Ordinance 22-26, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY22 Capital Budget by Appropriating \$500,000 from the Homer Accelerated Roads and Trails (HART) Road Fund to Establish a Pavement Restoration Program. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommended Dates Introduction May 9, 2022, Public Hearing and Second Reading May 23, 2022.

Memorandum 22-073 from Public Works Director as backup.

- f. Ordinance 22-27, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY22 Capital Budget by Appropriating an Additional \$511,228 from the Homer Accelerated Roads and Trails (HART) Road Fund to the Small Works Road Repair Program, the Small Works Drainage Program, and the Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) Contract to East Road Services. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommended Dates Introduction May 9, 2022, Public Hearing and Second Reading May 23, 2022.

Memorandum 22-073 from Public Works Director as backup.

- g. Ordinance 22-28, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY22 Capital Budget by Appropriating an Additional \$56,803 from the Homer Accelerated Roads and Trails (HART) Trails Fund to the Small Works Trails Maintenance Program. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommended Dates Introduction May 9, 2022, Public Hearing and Second Reading May 23, 2022.

Memorandum 22-073 from Public Works Director as backup.

- h. Resolution 22-036, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving a Recreational Use Agreement between the City of Homer and South Peninsula Little League, Inc. Regarding the Maintenance and Operation of Little League Activities on City Owned Land at Karen Hornaday Park and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum 22-076 from Recreation Manager as backup.

Moved to Resolutions item b. Aderhold.

- i. Resolution 22-037, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Awarding Term Contracts for Survey Services to Multiple Firms and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum 22-077 from Public Works Director as backup.

- j. Resolution 22-038, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Awarding Term Contracts for Engineering, Architectural and Landscape Architectural Services to Multiple Firms and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum 22-078 from Public Works Director as backup.

- k. Resolution 22-039, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Awarding a Contract for the Construction of the Main Street Sidewalk to East Road Services, Inc. of Homer, Alaska in the Amount of \$1,148,123.11 and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum 22-079 from Public Works Director as backup.

- l. Resolution 22-040, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Supporting Efforts to Increase Voter Awareness of Upcoming Elections. Aderhold. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum 22-080 from Councilmember Aderhold as backup.

- m. Resolution 22-041, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving New One-Year Contracts with Premera Blue Cross, VSP, and Prudential with a Renewal Date of July 1, 2022. City Manager. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum 22-081 from Human Resources as backup.

- n. Resolution 22-042, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving and Accepting a Donation to the City of Homer Municipal Art Collection from Washington State Artist James Hardman Entitled "Serenade". City Clerk/PARCAC. Recommend adoption.

Moved to Resolutions item c. Aderhold.

Items h. and n. moved to Resolutions b. and c. Aderhold.

ADERHOLD/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONSENT AGENDA AS READ.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

### **VISITORS**

- a. COVID-19 Agency Update - Lorne Carroll, State of Alaska Public Health Nurse III (10 minutes)

Lorne Carroll, State of Alaska Public Health Nurse III, provided an update of COVID -19 activity globally, statewide, and locally. He touched on vaccines, gave an update on what epidemiologic studies are saying looking backward. Mr. Carroll also provided a brief hospital update on available treatments, and a status update on testing and vaccines.

- b. Safe and Health Kids Fair - Red Asselin Martin, Sprout Family Services (10 minutes)

Red Asselin Martin, Outreach Coordinator for Sprout Family Services, Webster Martin, Safe and Healthy Kids Fair Enthusiast, and Kyle Darbonne, Prevention Coordinator for South Peninsula Haven House presented on the upcoming Safe and Healthy Kids Fair.

- c. Southern Kenai Peninsula Resiliency Coalition - Hannah Gustafson (10 minutes)

Mayor Castner announced this presentation will be rescheduled.

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

- a. Worksession Report

City Manager Dumouchel provided an overview of the worksession discussion on the Lobbyist's report, the City Attorney's Open Meetings Act comments, and the HERC/Pioneer Avenue Gateway Redevelopment Project.

- b. Committee of the Whole Report

Councilmember Aderhold provided an overview of the Committee of the Whole discussion of Resolution 22-040 promoting voter awareness, Resolution 22-036 approving a Recreational Use Agreement with South Peninsula Little League, Resolution 22-042 accepting an art donation, and the HERC/Pioneer Avenue Gateway Redevelopment Project.

- c. Mayor's Report

Mayor Castner reported on a letter he wrote concerning House Bill 277 that was being used as a vehicle to change how the Boroughs would make appointments to their Planning Commission. He attended

the Homer Planning Commission meeting and alerted them to Resolution 22-043 regarding Council's intention to promote sidewalks and pedestrian safety. Lastly, following unsettling news today related to the disappearance of Duffy Murnain, he reminded everyone that Homer is a small town that's very intertwined and you never know how a discussion might be affecting those around you. He asked everyone to be respectful and allow the process to proceed.

d. Borough Report

Lane Chesley, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly Member, reported the Homer High School roof replacement project is moving forward and should be completed by the end of summer. The ordinance to increase the tax cap from \$500 to \$1000 has been moved to the June 17<sup>th</sup> meeting to allow for some additional work by the finance and legal departments. They're in the middle of their budget process, revenues are up, they're in compliance with all their fund balance policies, and they'll be able to fund the school district above their \$50 million request to the cap of approximately \$52.5 million. The Mayor has included an appropriation for the Kachemak Silo School, he's proposed filling vacancies in departments, and lowering the mil rate from 4.7 to 4.5 mils. Mr. Chesley also reported Robert Ruffner is the new Planning Director.

e. Planning Commission

A written report was provided in the supplemental packet.

f. Port and Harbor Advisory Commission

**PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

- a. Ordinance 22-23, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY22 Capital Budget and Appropriating \$18,712 from the General Fund Capital Asset Repair and Maintenance Allowance (CARMA) Fund to Complete the Purchase of the Bi-Directional Amplifier System for the Homer Police Department and Microwave Links for Homer's Repeaters. City Manager/Police Chief. Introduction April 25, 2022, Public Hearing and Second Reading May 9, 2022.

Memorandum 22-068 from Police Chief as backup.

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

ADERHOLD/ERICKSON MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 22-23 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE(S)**

## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

### a. City Manager's Report

City Manager Dumouchel commented regarding the inclusion of \$750,000 in the State capital budget for the general investigation study of the large vessel port expansion project, and that he included some spit parking follow up after the presentation from HDL at their last Committee of the Whole meeting. He also commented regarding the draft tsunami brochure, the Woodwell Climate Research Center Climate Risk Mapping Assessment, and conditional use permit reform.

There was discussion with Councilmembers about the tsunami brochure, the area marked as tsunami hazard zone in relation to the new police station, and messaging included within.

## **PENDING BUSINESS**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

## **RESOLUTIONS**

- a. Resolution 22-043, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Establishing the City Council's Intention to Promote Sidewalks and Safe Pedestrian Access. Lord/Davis/Erickson.

LORD/ERICKSON MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 22-043 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY.

Councilmember Lord noted there was a lot of interest from their strategic planning session regarding sidewalks, safe pedestrian access, and there's been a lot of input from the community regarding the amount of development that's happening with a lack of pedestrian access ways. This resolution enunciates how Council as a body, to move their intent forward with an effort to improve pedestrian safety in the community.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- b. Resolution 22-036, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving a Recreational Use Agreement between the City of Homer and South Peninsula Little League, Inc. Regarding the Maintenance and Operation of Little League Activities on City Owned Land at Karen Hornaday Park and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum 22-076 from Recreation Manager as backup.

ADERHOLD/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 22-036 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY.

Councilmembers discussed the recreational use agreement with the City Manager, City Attorney, and Recreation Manager. The addressed who's responsible for different areas of the city owned land,

protection for the city and balance with the activity the group is providing, and ensuring that all parties are involved in negotiating the agreement.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- c. Resolution 22-042, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving and Accepting a Donation to the City of Homer Municipal Art Collection from Washington State Artist James Hardman Entitled "Serenade". City Clerk/PARCAC. Recommend adoption.

ADERHOLD/LORD MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 22-042 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY.

There was brief discussion confirming that the City determines where donated art will be placed and that there is a deaccession process in place in the City of Homer Gift, Donation, and Art Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

#### **COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**

Ken Bryant commented with a proposed solution of his plan to upcycle 50% of the existing HERC building, tear it down through volunteer service, and do the whole project for roughly \$100,000 to \$150,000. Mayor Castner referred Mr. Bryant to contact the City Manager.

Heath Smith, city resident, encouraged Council to think outside the box in order to bring a project like this to pass, he thinks the current proposal is pie in the sky. It reminds him of the work done at Karen Hornaday Park with volunteer labor. He also commented regarding the use of Memorandums of Understanding (MOU), he understands the protection aspect but has concerns about user group's abilities to meet the requirements.

Laura Heckert, city resident, thanked Mr. Bryant for his efforts to help the town.

Mike Illg, city resident and Recreation Manager, commented about the importance of having MOU's, and reminded listeners May 18<sup>th</sup> is Homer High School graduation.

#### **COMMENTS OF THE CITY ATTORNEY**

City Attorney Gatti said he enjoyed being here in person. It's always interesting and he enjoys the questions and discussion.

#### **COMMENTS OF THE CITY CLERK**

City Clerk Jacobsen announced an opening on the ADA Compliance Committee and the voter registration deadline for the upcoming State Special Primary.

**COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER**

City Manager Dumouchel reported on job openings at the City.

**COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR**

Mayor Castner thanked Council for a good meeting tonight. They started meetings at 4:00 pm and progressed through three meetings.

**COMMENTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

Councilmember Hansen-Cavasos thanked everyone who presented tonight and Mr. Bryant for his proposal. Her heart goes out tonight to Duffy's family.

Councilmember Aderhold commented about the importance of the non-profits in our community, the community engagement, and volunteer spirit of the community. The Homer Drawdown group has selected, through a competitive process, non-motorized transportation as their new project for the next year to year and a half. Kachemak Heritage Land Trust held a grand opening of the trail on the Poopdeck Platt property and City property. It was a shore bird event, there weren't many birds but it was a good opportunity for people of all abilities to get out and use the trail.

Councilmember Davis thanked Mr. Bryant for his proposal, he thinks it's exciting, hopes it can move forward, and recommended engaging with an engineer also. He commended City staff that went out to the Harbor for the clean-up this weekend. The Chamber organized a very nice reception for the birders who came to town, and next weekend they're planning a Food Truck festival.

Councilmember Erickson highlighted activities coming up this weekend including the Food Truck event at the KOA campground, Safe and Healthy Kids Fair, Little League and high school softball and baseball games, concerts, and high school graduation.

Councilmember Venuti is excited about the Main Street Sidewalk project and shared about a Girl Scout Troop project where the girls discussed the need for the sidewalk. She will be at the library for the last Lunch with a Councilmember for the season, and she thanked KBBI and Homer News for their efforts in City Council coverage.

Councilmember Lord shared her love of being on Council and hearing people's concerns and feedback, and also about her family's participation in the Bird Walk at the Shorebird Festival. The Girls on the Run event for girls 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> grade girls and sponsored by Haven House, is coming up and she participated in a training run, it's a great program. She appreciates the input from the community regarding the HERC project, the City Manager is an out of the box sort of thinker, and starting with written proposals and working with staff is the right place to start.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Council Mayor Castner adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m. The next Regular Meeting is Monday, May 23, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., Worksession at 4:00 p.m. Committee of the Whole at 5:00 p.m. All meetings scheduled to be held in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.



HOMER CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
MAY 9, 2022

Melissa Jacobsen

Melissa Jacobsen, MMC, City Clerk

Approved: May 9, 2022

