

**Minutes of Regular Assembly Meeting
Held on April 25, 2023**

Mayor Patricia Gilbert called the Regular Assembly meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., April 25, 2023, in the Borough Assembly Chambers. Assembly Member Powell led the pledge of allegiance.

Representative Ortiz gave a legislative budget update for the Assembly and community.

Ryan Naylor gave a brief presentation on his preliminary themes and content that he has compiled on tourism within select communities in Southeast Alaska, specifically Wrangell, Petersburg, and Ketchikan.

PRESENT - ROBBINS, POWELL, DALRYMPLE, GILBERT, HOWE, DEBORD, MORRISON

ABSENT -

Borough Mayor Good and Borough Clerk Lane were also present.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Dalrymple and Morrison declared a potential conflict to item 13d, since they are both on the Economic Development Committee and that item creates the Economic Development Board; Gilbert stated that she did not see a conflict for either member. There were no objections from the Assembly.

Howe declared a potential conflict to Item 13a because he is an employee of the school.

Robbins declared a potential conflict to Item 13a because she is a School Board member.

Gilbert spoke in depth on Conflict of Interest in our municipal code, state statutes, past attorney opinions, and set precedence.

Gilbert ruled that Howe does not have a conflict of interest. Upon asking if there were any objections:

M/S: Powell/Morrison to object to the Mayor's ruling on the conflict of interest.

Powell stated that if for example, the contribution or funding for the school was cut drastically, that could possibly affect Howe's income; also, that Howe's spouse is a school employee.

Dalrymple stated that in the past, assembly member Courson had to declare a conflict to the borough's budget because his wife was employed by the borough.

Motion approved (to overrule the Mayor's ruling) with Morrison, Dalrymple, Powell, and DeBord voting yes; Robbins and Gilbert voted no.

Gilbert stated that Robbins does have a conflict of interest due to her being on the School Board. There were no objections from the assembly.

CONSENT AGENDA

6a Minutes from the April 11, 2023, Regular Assembly Meeting

6b RESOLUTION No. 04-23-1773 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AMENDING THE FY 2023 BUDGET TO REFLECT A \$14,040 INCREASE IN LIBRARY FEDERAL GRANT REVENUE AND AUTHORIZING ITS EXPENDITURE FOR LIBRARY DEPARTMENT TEMPORARY WAGES

6c Approve Saturday, May 13, 2023, and Saturday, October 7, 2023, as the 2023 Tax Free Days, as allowed under WMC 5.08.060

6d CORRESPONDENCE: Minutes of the February 20, 2023, Regular School Board meeting

M/S: Morrison/Howe to approve the Consent Agenda, as submitted. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Good's report was presented.

Amber Al-Haddad provided a Capital Facilities report.

BOROUGH CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk Lane's report was provided.

MAYOR AND ASSEMBLY BUSINESS

MAYOR AND ASSEMBLY APPOINTMENTS

Finance Committee Vacancy Appointment

There were no letters of interest received for the Finance Committee appointment; Gilbert stated that we would continue to advertise.

PUBLIC HEARING

11a ORDINANCE No. 1039 AN ORDINANCE OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, ADDING CHAPTER 20.24, SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL – MEDIUM DENSITY DISTRICT (SFMD) AND CHAPTER 20.42, RURAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT (RC) TO TITLE 20, ZONING AND AMENDING SEVERAL SECTIONS IN TITLE 20, ZONING, IN THE WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE

Mayor Gilbert declared the Public Hearing open and asked for an administrative report.

Good explained that this would strengthen our code in establishing the Alder Top Village area.

Gilbert asked if there were any person's who wished to speak on this Public Hearing item.

Hearing none, Gilbert closed the Public Hearing and asked for a motion.

M/S: Powell/Howe to approve Ordinance No. 1039. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

11b ORDINANCE No. 1040 AN ORDINANCE OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA AMENDING THE ZONING MAP TO EFFECT A CHANGE LOTS 1-5, BLOCK 1; LOTS 1-5, BLOCK 2; LOTS 1-3, BLOCK 3; AND TRACT A, SHOEMAKER BAY SUBDIVISION AMENDED PLAT 87-9; AND A PORTION OF LOT 26, USS 3403 FROM HOLDING TO SINGLE FAMILY MEDIUM DENSITY, RURAL COMMERCIAL, AND MULTIFAMILY AS PART OF THE PROPOSED ALDER TOP VILLAGE SUBDIVISION

Mayor Gilbert declared the Public Hearing open and asked for an administrative report.

Good explained that this would change the zoning from "Holding" to the suggested zoning for the Alder Top Village area.

Gilbert asked if there were any person's who wished to speak on this Public Hearing item.

Don McConachie, Planning & Zoning Commission stated that there were a lot of discussions at the meetings to get this done; a lot of the hard work was done by Carol, and it was much appreciated. Gilbert closed the Public Hearing and asked for a motion.

M/S: Morrison/Robbins to approve Ordinance No. 1040. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None.

NEW BUSINESS

13a Approval of FY 2024 Wrangell Public Schools Budget and Local Funding Contribution in the Amount of \$1,536,484

M/S: Powell/Morrison to approve the FY 2024 Wrangell Public Schools Budget and Local Funding Contribution in the Amount of \$1,536,484.

Superintendent Bill Burr stated that the request and letter was \$1.6M and the motion is \$1,536,484 which is significantly discrepancy based on their budget; there are a number of students in early elementary (under 5) that will be required to work with another f/t teacher that is not currently in the budget; looking at expanding their ESEA and Title position; have had a short time teacher that was being paid under a grant; don't think we will need an additional \$242,000 because we might be able to take care of it inhouse; however, state is requiring that we hire a full time reading specialist and a full time reading teacher; asking the assembly to set aside SRS funds in the event the school needs such funds.

In response to Gilbert on how much the "set aside" number would be, Mr. Burr stated that it would be around \$240,000.

In response to Powell on why we lowered the amount from the \$1.6 requested by the school, Gilbert stated that the amount proposed in the motion is the "cap" allowed by the state.

Mr. Burr explained that the state says that we cannot take more than the \$1.5M "cap" from tax revenue but that we can give more than that on top from SRS funds; the \$500 per student amount that Rep. Ortiz stated might happen would allow the school to break even.

David Wilson, School Board President stated that the school district has been suffering a lot in the last decade; loss of programs; less students and still cutting programs; some families might not want to live here if programs are further cut; looking at rebuilding the programs but those come with requirements and more funding; due to inflation, the school needs more funding; hoping that the majority of the \$1.5M will come from taxes.

M/S: Powell/DeBord to amend the motion to increase the motion to 1.6M with those funds to come from SRS funds.

Morrison asked if the Assembly gave the \$1.6M, would they still need the \$242,000. Mr. Burr said that yes, they would.

Amendment was approved unanimously by polled vote. (Robbins and Howe did not vote).

Main motion, as amended, was approved unanimously by polled vote (Robbins and Howe did not vote).

13b Approval to cancel the May 9, 2023, Regular Borough Assembly meeting

M/S: Howe/Morrison to approve cancelling the May 9, 2023, Regular Assembly Meeting. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13c ORDINANCE No. 1041 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AUTHORIZING THE PARTICIPATION IN THE ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGE INVESTMENT POOL, INC. FOR USE BY CITIES AND BOROUGHHS

M/S: Morrison/Howe to approve First Reading of Ordinance No. 1041 and move to a Second Reading with a Public Hearing to be held on May 23, 2023. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13d ORDINANCE No. 1042 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, ADDING A NEW CHAPTER 3.55 TITLED "ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD" TO THE WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE

M/S: Powell/Morrison to approve First Reading of Ordinance No. 1042 and move to a Second Reading with a Public Hearing to be held on May 23, 2023. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13e RESOLUTION No. 04-23-1774 A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, PROVIDING FOR THE AMENDMENT TO ALL TEMPORARY NON-UNION JOB DESCRIPTIONS AND ALSO AMENDING THE NON-UNION WAGE AND GRADE TABLE TO REFLECT THOSE AMENDMENTS

M/S: Morrison/Robbins to approve Resolution No. 04-23-1774. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.


13f RESOLUTION NO. 04-23-1775 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA AMENDING THE FY 2023 BUDGET BY APPROPRIATING THE FIRST AND SECOND TRANCHE OF SLFRF FUNDS (\$485,984) AND ADDITIONAL UNALLOCATED ARPA FUNDS (\$1,625) TO THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT FOR EXPENDITURE

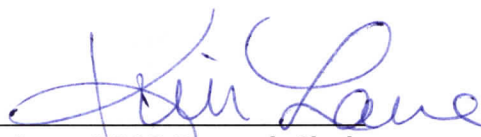
M/S: Powell/Robbins to approve Resolution No. 04-23-1775. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

ATTORNEY'S FILE - Available for Assembly review in the Borough Clerk's office

EXECUTIVE SESSION - None.

Regular Assembly meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.


Patricia Gilbert, Borough Mayor

ATTEST: 
Kim Lane, MMC, Borough Clerk

