

Minutes of Regular Assembly Meeting

Held on April 14, 2020

Mayor Prysunka called the telephonically held Regular Assembly meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., April 14, 2020. The pledge was led by Assembly Member DeLong and the roll was called.

PRESENT BY TELECONFERENCE: POWELL, DECKER, GILBERT, LARRABEE, DELONG, PRYSUNKA, MORRISON

ABSENT:

Borough Manager Von Barga and Borough Clerk Lane were also in attendance via telephone.

CEREMONIAL MATTERS

Mayor Prysunka presented a Proclamation for National Library Week.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD

Dale Parkinson, resident, commented that he believed that it was time to start talking about getting back to normal.

Mike Lockabey, resident, expressed that he didn't believe that we needed any further restrictions other than what the State had imposed; requested that critical infrastructure businesses be allowed to operate; vital to the health and wellbeing to our community.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Prysunka declared a potential Conflict of Interest due to his son owning a Fishing Vessel and he and his wife being shareholders in that business. Vice-Mayor Gilbert stated that she did not see a Conflict of Interest; there were no objections from the Assembly.

DeLong declared a potential Conflict of Interest because a portion of her household income relied on commercial fishing; Mayor Prysunka declared that he did not see a substantial conflict; there were no objections from the Assembly.

Decker declared a potential Conflict of Interest due to her family owning a fishing boat operation; Mayor Prysunka declared that given the generality of the fleet, he did not see a Conflict of Interest; there were no objections from the Assembly.

Decker declared a second conflict of interest due to her being an executive director to the Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation, which is a non-profit organization; organization works on issues for the seafood industry, state wide; because of connection with the Seafood industry and the ability to network within that community, COVID-19 is where she has been asked to focus a lot of her attention and distribute information out to people; if the industry were to shut down, her position and salary would remain the same.

Prysunka requested if her salary was paid with the dues of the membership. Decker stated that the dues of the membership was a very small portion of what supported the organization; they receive grants and fees for services.

Prysunka asked if there were any potential conflicts of the board of the organization that she worked for and if they would benefit or not benefit from any of her actions on the Assembly. In response to Prysunka, Decker stated that she has a board member who works for Trident Seafoods; Pacific Seafoods (Sealevel Seafoods) is not a member of AFDF; those would be the only connections.

Prysunka asked if there were any assembly members who wanted to ask and questions of Assembly Member Decker.

Powell asked that the statute be read to the Assembly. Clerk Lane read from the Wrangell Municipal Code, Section 3.04.112 (b)(f), the definition for "Substantial Financial Interest" to the Assembly and the listening public.

DeLong commented that she didn't believe that Decker had a conflict.

Prysunka stated that with the blessing of the Assembly, Assembly Member Decker does not have a conflict that meets the definition laid out in the code. There were no objections from the Assembly .

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes from the March 22, 2020 Special Emergency Assembly Meeting
- b. Minutes from the March 24, 2020 Regular Assembly Meeting
- c. Minutes from the April 6th and 8th, 2020 Special Emergency Assembly Meeting
- d. Liquor License Renewal - Totem Bar & Liquor Store
- e. POA-2020-00111 Permit Application SEARCH for Employee Housing

M/S: Gilbert/Larrabee to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Von Bargaen provided updates on the following:

- Point that was raised from one of our community; planning on bringing an item to the Assembly for consideration, the potential for a temporary first quarter sales-tax first quarter payment deferral for those businesses that were required to close due to COVID-19
- Have received 15 voluntary plans for review
- Meeting occurring on Thursday at noon that will include Managers around Alaska, Alaska Municipal League, and members of the Governor's office; submitted a list of topics to the AML Executive Director

There were substantial COVID-19 updates from the following individuals:

- ***Dorianne Sprehe, EMS Captain***
- ***Dr. Debbe Lancaster, Wrangell Public School Superintendent***
- ***Dr. Lynn Prysunka, Wrangell Medical Center Director***

- ***Leatha Mercurieff, Wrangell Medical Center CEO***

BOROUGH CLERK'S FILE

Clerk Lane's report was provided.

MAYOR AND ASSEMBLY BUSINESS

Decker reported that the State was moving forward with a mandate for fishing vessels; will have a set of requirements for vessels; there might be an attached agreement that vessel owners would be required to sign; stringent penalties attached if the requirements were not followed; highest risk is when the vessels come back to communities, they run the risk of contracting the virus, then the vessels leave and move around; State is wanting to make it very clear what should happen on board vessels and will be very different than what has happened in the past; for those who have already submitted a plan as an independent fishing vessel, this mandate will supersede that plan so keep an eye out.

Prysunka reported that he had been in contact with mayors around the region; one of the topics was "when do we open up for business?"; also, discussions were on how to not jump the gun; also, on how to safely have transient workers come to town to work; feedback received this evening from persons to be heard was good; these are issues that all communities are having around the State.

Powell stated that he runs two businesses and understands that businesses would like to open now; would like any community members that have ideas, he is open to that.

Prysunka encouraged that if any members of the public have ideas or comments, to send them to the Borough Manager or Clerk and that they could get those to the Assembly.

Morrison questioned if businesses that have been closed by the State's mandate, could open-up before the State says that they can. Von Bargaen answered that no, they cannot.

MAYOR AND ASSEMBLY APPOINTMENTS – None.

PUBLIC HEARING

11a Modification to a Contract Zone Agreement allowing a Third Storage Unit Building on Lot C, Torgramsen-Glasner Subdivision, Plat No. 2016-2, Zoned Light Industrial per the original Contract Zone Agreement, Requested by Owner Don Glasner

Mayor Prysunka declared the Public Hearing open for this item.

There were no Persons to be Heard on this item.

Mayor Prysunka declared the Public Hearing closed on this item and entertained a motion.

M/S: Morrison/Powell to Approve the Modification to a Contract Zone Agreement allowing a Third Storage Unit Building on Lot C, Torgramsen-Glasner Subdivision, Plat No. 2016-2, Zoned

Light Industrial per the Original Contract Zone Agreement. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS

13a Approval of a Contract Award to Heller High Water, LLC in the Amount of \$67,000 for the City Dock Summer Float Procurement Project Rebid


M/S: Morrison/DeLong to approve a contract award to Heller High Water, LLC in the amount of \$67,000 for the City Dock Summer Float Procurement Project Rebid. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

ATTORNEY'S FILE

14 Available for Assembly review in the Borough Clerk's office.


EXECUTIVE SESSION – None.

Regular Assembly meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.



Stephen Prysunka, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kim Lane, MMC, Borough Clerk

