

Minutes of Regular Assembly Meeting

Held on August 27, 2019

Vice-Mayor Patty Gilbert called the Regular Assembly meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., August 27, 2019, in the Borough Assembly Chambers. The pledge was led by Vice-Mayor Gilbert and the roll was called.

PRESENT: MORRISON, GILBERT POWELL, DECKER, DEBORD

ABSENT: PRYSUNKA, DELONG

Borough Manager Von Bargaen and Borough Clerk Lane were also in attendance.

CEREMONIAL MATTERS

A Proclamation was presented to Aleisha Mollen for Payroll Week.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD – None.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

At the request of Von Bargaen, Item 13a (Approval to Refund Overpaid Property Taxes to Arnold and Alice Bakke) was removed from the Agenda and will be brought back for the September 24, 2019 meeting.

Item 13j was moved up to be considered first under New Business by Gilbert.

There were no objections from the Assembly for either amendment.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST – None.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Assembly Minutes - Regular from July 23, 2019
- b. Assembly Minutes – Special from August 21, 2019
- c. Approval of Marijuana Renewal License #10200 - Happy Cannabis (Store)
- d. Approval of Marijuana Renewal License #10201 - Happy Cannabis (Cultivation Facility)
- e. CORRESPONDENCE School Board Minutes (Regular 5-20-19)

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

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Von Bargaen's reported on the following items:

1. Thanked Wrangell Police Department for their hard work in the arrest of the person suspected of the crime spree this past weekend
2. Meeting with School Admin Staff on CIP items
3. School and Borough maintenance staff discussion

4. School vehicle maintenance; would look at maintaining school vehicles and charge school as we do our city departments
5. ALICE instructor training (our officer Connor Phillips and School Maintenance Staff Josh Blatchley)

BOROUGH CLERK'S FILE

Clerk Lane's report was provided.

MAYOR AND ASSEMBLY BUSINESS

Decker reported that she and Manager Von Bargaen had attended the International Joint Commission meeting; Wrangell Resident, Tis Peterman is a part of the Southeast Alaska Indigenous Transboundary Commission; she wants to keep in communication with the Assembly; Mining in Alaska and the possible impacts in Southeast; commission is looking at holding a meeting in Bellingham with some other tribal groups from BC and Alaska.

WCA held a joint meeting with community members and city staff; creating an action plan (draft); looking at coming to the Assembly to adopt an Memorandum of Understanding in the near future; focusing on the Institute Property; if pieces of the property were to be developed in cooperation with the Tribe, they might be able to get some funding for that; working cooperatively with the Tribe would be very positive.

Economic Development Committee: met with the Forest Service on the Central Tongass Environmental Impact Statement; the appendix actually talks about what they plan on doing and is talks about what they are planning on doing; comment period is open now and closes September 16th?; EDC is looking at submitting comment; Assembly could possibly approve or make comments at the September 10th Assembly meeting.

MAYOR AND ASSEMBLY APPOINTMENTS – None.

PUBLIC HEARING

11a ORDINANCE NO. 966 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AMENDING SECTION 3.05.020, ORDER OF BUSINESS, OF THE WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE

Vice-Mayor Gilbert declared the Public Hearing open on this item.

There were no public comments on this item.

Vice-Mayor Gilbert declared the Public Hearing closed on this item.

M/S: Decker/Morrison to approve Second reading of Ordinance No. 966. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

11b ORDINANCE NO. 967 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, REPEALING SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 1.20 OF THE WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE, IN

THEIR ENTIRETY, AND ESTABLISHING A NEW PROCESS FOR INTRODUCING AND ADOPTING ORDINANCES, AND AMENDING SECTION 1.12.070, RESOLUTIONS, OF THE WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE

Vice-Mayor Gilbert declared the Public Hearing open on this item.

There were no public comments on this item.

Vice-Mayor Gilbert declared the Public Hearing closed on this item.

M/S: Powell/Morrison to approve Second reading of Ordinance No. 967.

Gilbert requested that in Section 2 (C), that the wording “total authorized membership of the Assembly” be amended to be consistent with the other section of the ordinance; Clerk Lane stated that she could change it to say the “an affirmative vote of the majority of the membership present”. There were no objections to the correction.

Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

11c PROPOSED ORDINANCE No. 968 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, REPEALING SECTION 15.18.070, COLLECTION OR DISPOSAL FEES, IN ITS ENTIRETY AND ESTABLISHING A NEW PROCESS FOR FEES IN CHAPTER 15.18 GARBAGE OF THE WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE

Vice-Mayor Gilbert declared the Public Hearing open on this item.

There were no public comments on this item.

Vice-Mayor Gilbert declared the Public Hearing closed on this item.

M/S: Decker/Powell to approve Second reading of Ordinance No. 968.

Gilbert stated that she didn’t like the idea of passing a Resolution without proper Public Notice to the public.

Lane stated that the Ordinance could be amended to state that a Public Hearing would be set along with any fee change Resolution; if the Assembly agreed we would bring this item back to the September 10th meeting and also not consider Item 13c, which is the Resolution that sets the fee.

Gilbert asked that “may” be changed to “shall” to the first paragraph under 15.18.070 so that the assembly “shall” establish fees by resolution. There were no objections to this amendment.

M/S: Morrison/Powell to postpone Ordinance No. 968 and to not consider Item 13c. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS

13j Discussion Item: Proposed Staff Changes in the Electric Department (*placed before Item 13a, with the consent of the Assembly*)

Rod Rhoades, Wrangell Electrical Superintendent explained the current staffing needs to the Assembly and requested that a new position be added to the WML&P Staff and that the duties of an existing position are modified to address those needs. Below is the excerpt from Mr. Rhoades memo to the Assembly:

- Item 1 - Add a new position of Diesel Electric Mechanic Apprentice
WML&P intends post for a Diesel Electric Mechanic Apprentice who would also assume the duties of a 'groundman' for the line crew.

Our Powerhouse Operator hold a unique set of skills that includes a complete maintenance of the diesel engines that drive our generators, the maintenance of the generators themselves and the control systems that make it possible for all of our generators to provide full power to the City and Community of Wrangell. This new job is in recognition of the risk we face if our sole Powerhouse Operator (Royce Cowan) is, for any reason, unable to perform his duties. Additionally, Royce may want to retire someday. An Apprentice to tutelage under Royce's leadership is needed to ensure that institutional knowledge of WML&P's Powerhouse is passed along to a workforce that will carry that knowledge into the future.

- Item 2 - Changes to the existing Meter Reader position
The duties of WML&P's existing Meter Reader position need to be change to more reflect the actual needs of the department. The needs of the department will be best served by making this position a 'part-time' position; i.e. exclusively employed to read the meter route. The Meter Route averages about a week's worth of work (5 days), depending upon time of year, weather conditions and needs for "re-reads".

The Meter Reading position traditionally has been an 'entry-level' position, with very little, if any opportunity for upward mobility (advancement). This has resulted in less-than stable employment; those employed in this position quickly looking for 'something better'.

By offering the Metering Reading position as a part-time job, we reduce the expectations of advancement. Further, a part-time position would be emphasized in a way as to discourage those applicants who are looking for full employment.

In all other respects WML&P's staffing levels would remain as they presently are.

In response to Decker on what the net cost change would be, Von Bargaen stated that Staff would bring that back to the Assembly with the staffing proposal.

In response to Powell on how many staff members are in the department if this new position was added; Von Bargaen stated that they would stay at 6 positions and add a .25 meter reader position.

Powell asked if the meter reading could be distributed amongst the existing staff; Rhoades stated that it would be nearly impossible to change the schedule to accommodate this; it is a burden for the linemen or the admin staff to read meters.

13a Approval to Refund Overpaid Property Taxes to Arnold and Alice Bakke

Item was removed from the Agenda by Von Barga under Amendments to the Agenda

13b RESOLUTION No 08-19-1476 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, SUPPORTING THE SMALL COUNTY PILT PARITY ACT

M/S: Morrison/Decker to approve Resolution No. 08-19-1476. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13c RESOLUTION No 08-19-1477 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, ESTABLISHING THE FEE SCHEDULE FOR COLLECTION OR DISPOSAL FEES

This item was not considered since Item 11c (Ordinance No. 968) was amended and moved to a third reading.

13d RESOLUTION No 08-19-1478 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AMENDING THE FY2020 BUDGET IN THE WATER FUND BY TRANSFERRING \$119,000 FROM WATER FUND RESERVES TO THE WATER FUND CIP EXPENDITURES FOR THE WATER TREATMENT PLAN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING ITS EXPENDITURE

M/S: Morrison/Powell to approve Resolution No. 08-19-1478. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13e RESOLUTION No 08-19-1479 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AMENDING THE FY20 BUDGET IN THE RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION FUND BY ACCEPTING REVENUE FROM THE SALE OF CITY OWNED LAND TO JOB AND MARY MONTOY, AS AUTHORIZED IN RESOLUTION NO. 07-19-1474, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,325, AND AUTHORIZING ITS EXPENDITURE

M/S: Powell/Morrison to approve Resolution No. 08-19-1479. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13f RESOLUTION No 08-19-1480 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AMENDING THE FY2020 BUDGET IN THE GENERAL FUND BY TRANSFERRING \$25,000 FROM GENERAL FUND RESERVES TO CAPITAL FACILITIES CAPITAL EQUIPMENT EXPENDITURES FOR THE PURCHASE OF A USED VEHICLE, AND AUTHORIZING ITS EXPENDITURE

M/S: Morrison/Powell to adopt Resolution No. 08-19-1480. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13g Approval to Authorize the Borough Manager to Dispose of any City Surplus Items that were not bid on during the Surplus Sale

M/S: Powell/Morrison to authorize the Borough Manager to dispose of any City Surplus Items that were not bid on for the Surplus Sale, in a manner that is in the best interest of the City. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13h RESOLUTION No 08-19-1481 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, ADOPTING THE ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION MEASURES OUTLINED IN THE MARCH 2017 ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW BY SOLTICE ALASKA CONSULTING FOR THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENTS DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

M/S: Morrison/DeBord to approve Resolution No. 08-19-1481. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

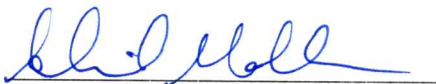
13i RESOLUTION No 08-19-1482 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY & BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA AMENDING THE FY2020 BUDGET IN THE GENERAL FUND BY TRANSFERRING UP TO \$50,000 FROM GENERAL FUND RESERVES TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT CAPITAL EQUIPMENT EXPENDITURES FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWO USED USFS POLICE VEHICLES

M/S: Powell/Morrison to approve Resolution No. 08-19-1482. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – None.

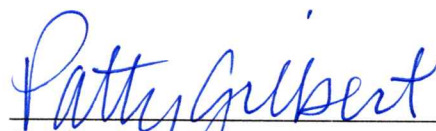
Regular Assembly meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

ATTEST:


Kim Lane, MMC, Borough Clerk

Aleisha Mollen, Deputy Borough Clerk




Stephen Prysunka, Mayor
Patricia Gilbert
Vice Mayor