

Minutes of Regular Assembly Meeting

Held on June 23, 2020

Mayor Prysunka called the telephonically held Regular Assembly meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., June 23, 2020 by teleconference. The pledge was led by Assembly Member Powell and the roll was called.

PRESENT: POWELL, DECKER, GILBERT, PRYSUNKA, MORRISON, HOWE

ABSENT: DELONG

Borough Manager Von Barga and Borough Clerk Lane were also in attendance by teleconference.

CEREMONIAL MATTERS – None.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD

Joan Sargent gave the invocation.

Duane King, resident spoke in favor of Permanent Registration (Z-Tags) in our Community; for vehicles and trailers that are eight years or older.

Eli Michael, resident read a statement to the community and Assembly that stated that he wanted to see a "Statement of Action" come from our Police Department to condemn excessive force, police brutality, racial profiling, and encouraging social justice.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA – None.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Gilbert declared a potential conflict of interest to Item 13d (ORDINANCE No. 979 OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AUTHORIZING THE WITHDRAWAL FROM THE PORT AUTHORITY KNOWN AS THE "INTER-ISLAND FERRY AUTHORITY" AND CALLING A REFERENDUM ON THE PROPOSITION TO WITHDRAW FROM SAID PORT AUTHORITY) since she is currently a seated member of the IFA Board. Prysunka declared that he did not see that she had a conflict of interest, since he had no financial gain. There were no objections from the Assembly.

Decker declared a potential conflict to interest Item 13m (Approval of a Professional Services Agreement with R&M Engineering - Ketchikan for Land Development Survey Services in the Amount of \$154,775) since one of the owners of R&M, is also an owner of an oyster company and because of his ownership in that company, he is on the Board of Directors for the organization that she works for. Prysunka stated that he did not see a direct economic advantage to her and therefore, did not see that she had a conflict of interest. There were no objections from the Assembly.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes from the June 2 - 4, 2020 Special Emergency Assembly Meeting
- b. Minutes from the June 9, 2020 Regular Assembly Meeting

- c. Minutes from the June 16, 2020 Special Assembly Meeting
- d. CORRESPONDENCE: School Board Action from June 8, 2020 Special Meeting
- e. CORRESPONDENCE: School Board Action from June 15, 2020 Regular Meeting

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

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Von Barga provided updates on the following:

- Two additional COVID-19 cases – Seafood Industry; expecting a statement shortly from the Plant Manager
- Mask Cash Voucher Promotion – Chamber has been handing these out to people who have been wearing masks
- American Cruise Lines – Waiting on an update; are planning to be here at the end of July or beginning of August; waiting answers to the questions to their submitted plan
- COVID EOC – working on Community Testing Program; plan has been submitted to the State for review and approval
- Water / Sewer Dept – Water Line breaks (Zimovia Hwy and Spring Street)
- Toilet Etiquette – WW Plant crew pulled 75% blockage from intake which was due to wipes
- Police Community Meeting – scheduled for Monday, June 29th at 6:00 p.m.

BOROUGH CLERK'S FILE

Clerk Lane's report was provided.

MAYOR AND ASSEMBLY BUSINESS

Prysunka gave SEAPA report: Cable Replacement from Mitkof to Petersburg is going out to bid; TYEE Reservoir is up around 1365 feet.

MAYOR AND ASSEMBLY APPOINTMENTS – None.

PUBLIC HEARING – None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS

13a RESOLUTION No. 06-20-1530 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR ALL FUNDS OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021

M/S: Gilbert/Howe to approve Resolution No. 06-20-1530.

Von Barga explained how the budget process happens; draft budget provided to the Assembly over a series of Budget Work Sessions; Public Hearing held last week; final Work Session held after the PH and some changes made.

Powell stated that the numbers changed a lot and he had requested information and did not receive it; was not comfortable with this budget.

Von Bargaen stated that there was a lot of information requested and took longer than anticipated; provided information on the Armory Building.

Decker stated that this has been a difficult year, with difficult decisions; we have some work to do in the coming year so that it will not be as bleak as we are anticipating.

Morrison stated that we might have to look at amending the budget throughout the year.

Howe questioned various items within the budget.

Prysunka stated that we must have regularly financial statements moving forward; not willing to see us raise fees dramatically; must do everything that we can so that we are not downshifting the burden to our citizens.

Von Bargaen stated that there is no problem reporting expenditures, but revenues are more difficult because there is a four-month lag in receiving sales tax.

Gilbert asked that the Assembly also receive monthly Accounts Receivable reports.

Motion approved with Decker, Gilbert, Morrison, Howe, and Prysunka voting yes; Powell voted no.

13b RESOLUTION No. 06-20-1531 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY & BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA AMENDING THE FY 2020 BUDGET IN THE GENERAL FUND BY ACCEPTING DONATIONS FOR DIGITIZING WRANGELL NEWSPAPERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,025 AND AUTHORIZING ITS EXPENDITURE

M/S: Gilbert/Morrison to approve Resolution No. 06-20-1531. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13c RESOLUTION No. 06-20-1532 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY & BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AMENDING THE FY 2020 BUDGET IN THE CARES ACT GRANT FUND BY ACCEPTING A PUBLIC SAFETY CARES ACT GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,557.84

M/S: Howe/Morrison to approve Resolution No. 06-20-1532. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13d ORDINANCE No. 979 OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AUTHORIZING THE WITHDRAWAL FROM THE PORT AUTHORITY KNOWN AS THE "INTER-ISLAND FERRY AUTHORITY" AND CALLING A REFERENDUM ON THE PROPOSITION TO WITHDRAW FROM SAID PORT AUTHORITY

M/S: Gilbert/Powell to approve Ordinance No. 979 and move to a Second Reading with a Public Hearing to be held on July 28, 2020.

Von Bargaen stated that Petersburg had withdrawn from the IFA Port Authority in 2012; if the Assembly approved the Ordinance at the next meeting, the question for Wrangell to withdraw from the Port Authority will go before the vote of the people at the October Municipal Election.

Gilbert explained that the IFA has not come into Wrangell since 2008 and only served Wrangell before that for just three years.

Motion approved unanimously by polled vote

13e Approval of the Employee Health Insurance Renewal for Plan Year 2020-2021

M/S: Gilbert/Morrison to approve the Employee Health Insurance Renewal with Premiera Blue Cross Blue Shield for Plan Year 2020-2021. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote

13f Approval of Property & Liability Insurance Policy Renewal for Plan Year 2020-2021

M/S: Morrison/Powell to approve the General Liability, Property, Equipment, and Auto Insurance; and the Workers Compensation Insurance from Alaska Public Entity Insurance for Plan Year 2020-2021. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote

13g Approval of the Wrangell Convention and Visitor Bureau COVID-19 Marketing Assistance Funding Request in the Amount of \$146,516

M/S: Powell/Morrison to approve the Wrangell Convention and Visitors Bureau COVID-19 Marketing Assistance Funding Request of \$146,516.

Carol Rushmore stated that most of the requests were activities that WCVB has wanted to do in the past and has not had the funding to do them.

Prysunka requested that Von Bargaen make sure that all items were vetted before funded to make sure that they qualified through the COVID-19 Cares funding.

Von Bargaen stated that everything was being vetted before funding.

Motion approved unanimously by polled vote

13h Approval the Economic Development Committee COVID-19 Business Assistance Funding Requests in the Amount of \$515,000

M/S: Gilbert/Decker to approve the Economic Development Committee COVID-19 Business Assistance Funding Requests in the amount of \$515,000.

Carol Rushmore stated that this program addressed all businesses and Wrangell resident commercial fishermen; to try and help businesses to provide follow-up and accounting services through the Alaska Cares Grant application process.

Von Bargaen stated that each applicant would be required to submit an application that stated that their business was negatively impacted by COVID-19.

Prysunka expressed concern that by his tally, we were getting close to the end of the COVID-19 Cares funding.

Von Bargaen stated that we would be just under \$500,000.

Prysunka stated that this money was for our crisis response; once the money was gone, and we still had a need (at the lodge for instance), we might not have Cares funding to respond; so we might have to respond with funds from our General Fund; hope that we are equipped and read to respond as a community.

Decker stated that she is the Chair of the EDC; explained that although the EDC is making the recommendations, the request for funding is not only for economic purposes but for relief for businesses and community members; believes that the spending to date, addresses both costs that have been pushed down to the municipality and the relief side, to assist in negative revenues; does agree that maybe we should sit in a holding pattern (if this is approved), to see where we are at after possibly the summer has passed.

Gilbert expressed concern that the School District might need assistance; believed that to date, the school had only received around \$80,000.

Carol Rushmore stated that she would reach out to the School.

Motion approved unanimously by polled vote

13i Approval of City & Borough Tidelands Annual 2020 Five-Year Reassessments

M/S: Howe/Gilbert to approve the five-year City Tidelands Reassessments for tax year 2020, as presented. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote

13j RESOLUTION No. 06-20-1533 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY & BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA AMENDING THE FY 2020 BUDGET IN THE HARBOR AND CIP FUNDS BY TRANSFERRING \$29,414 FROM THE HARBOR FUND RESERVES TO THE CIP FUND FOR THE SHOEMAKER BAY HARBOR REPLACEMENT PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING ITS EXPENDITURE

M/S: Gilbert/Morrison Resolution No. 06-20-1533.

Von Bargaen stated that this was a request so that the engineering could be finalized.

Motion approved unanimously by polled vote

13k Approval of Amendment No. 1 to the Professional Services Agreement with PND Engineers in the Amount of \$29,414 for the Shoemaker Bay Harbor Replacement Project

M/S: Gilbert/Decker to approve Amendment No. 1 to the Professional Services Agreement with PND Engineers in the amount of \$29,414 for the Shoemaker Bay Harbor Replacement Project. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote

13l Approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Shannon & Wilson for the Reservoir Bypass Engineering Design in the Amount of \$210,063

M/S: Morrison/Gilbert to approve a Professional Services Agreement with Shannon & Wilson for the Reservoir Bypass Engineering Design in the Amount of \$210,063.

Von Bargaen stated that this would be the design portion for this project so that it would be shovel ready.

Motion approved unanimously by polled vote

13m Approval of a Professional Services Agreement with R&M Engineering - Ketchikan for Land Development Survey Services in the Amount of \$154,775

M/S: Gilbert/Morrison to Approve a Professional Services Agreement with R&M Engineering - Ketchikan for Land Development Survey Services in the Amount of \$154,775.

Von Bargaen stated that the only change to what the Assembly directed was to expand the survey area at the Institute property; will speak with R&M about other community projects and properties that are needed and will bring a budget amendment back to the Assembly, when we are ready.

Motion approved unanimously by polled vote

13n Approval to Accept the Resignation of Assembly Member, Mya DeLong from the Borough Assembly

M/S: Gilbert/Powell to Accept the Resignation of Assembly Member Mya DeLong from the Borough Assembly and to direct the Borough Clerk to begin advertising for the Unexpired Term ending October 2020.

Decker stated that she was sorry to see her leave the Assembly and appreciated her service.

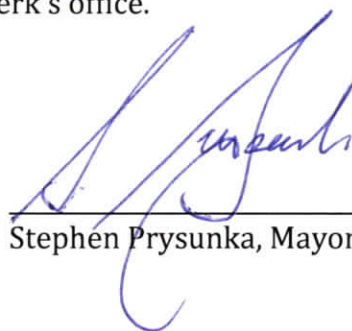
Motion approved unanimously by polled vote

ATTORNEY'S FILE

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


EXECUTIVE SESSION - None.

Regular Assembly meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.



Stephen Prysunka, Mayor

ATTEST:


 Kim Lane, MMC, Borough Clerk
