

## Minutes of Regular Assembly Meeting

**Held on January 14, 2020**

Mayor Stephen Prysunka called the Regular Assembly meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., January 14, 2020, in the Borough Assembly Chambers. The pledge was led by Assembly Member Drew Larrabee and the roll was called.

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

ABSENT: DELONG

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

### CEREMONIAL MATTERS

Mayor Prysunka presented a Proclamation to the 2019 Wrangell Wolves Wrestling Team.

Mayor recessed meeting at 6:04 p.m.

Mayor reconvened meeting at 6:10 p.m.

### PERSONS TO BE HEARD

***Joan Sargent, resident,*** gave the invocation.

***Clint Kolarich, Wrangell District Forest Ranger,*** provided an update to the Assembly, on the ongoing mutual items of concert between the Wrangell Ranger District, the Borough Assembly, and the community.

***Joan Sargent, resident,*** spoke positively on the proposed Resolution No. 01-20-1506 and stated how important this topic is; good to see the community come together to address mental health, drugs and alcohol abuse.

***Chris Guggenbickler, resident and fisherman,*** reported on the NOAA Work Session that was held in Petersburg, on Critical Whale Habitat concerns; was well attended; a lot of concerns about what regulations would mean for our area; Hawaiian whales (which is about 98% of the whales that come to our region) are doing just fine in our region; concerned with the economic impact from the data collected: more restrictions, cruise industries, fishing; very threatening to our way of life here in Southeast.

### AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Gilbert asked that Item 11a (Ordinance No. 965) be removed from the Agenda for this evenings meeting; item is not ready; Gilbert requested that there be a Work Session before it comes back to the Assembly for consideration.

Gilbert requested that Clerk Lane forward the comments that she had made to the rest of the Assembly.

### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Gilbert declared a potential conflict of interest to Item 13i to approve funds to the School District for maintenance since she is a member of the School Board. Prysunka stated that because the Borough funding source for this item was pre-established before Gilbert joining the School Board, he didn't see that she had a conflict.

Larrabee voiced a potential conflict to the same item since he works for the School District. Prysunka stated that he didn't see a conflict.

There were no objections from the Assembly on either of the declarations.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Assembly Minutes from Regular December 10, 2019
- b. Renewal of Liquor License - Wrangell IGA Inc. - Package Store
- c. Renewal of Liquor License - Muskeg Meadows Golf Course
- d. Renewal of Gaming Permit Application - WFD
- e. CORRESPONDENCE - School Board Minutes from Regular Oct. 8 & Special Nov. 14 - 2019
- f. CORRESPONDENCE - Port Commission Minutes from Regular held October 9, 2019

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

#### BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Von Bargaen provided updates on the following:

- Introduced our new Police Chief, Tom Radke
- Thanked the Public Works Crew for their hard work on Snow Removal in the Community
- Community may be getting about 35,000 in Pink Salmon relief funding
- WCA was notified last week that the Department of Public Safety will be making a decision sometime this week on the grants that were applied for, for the Public Safety Building

Prysunka questioned if the \$500,000 grant funding to make repairs to the Public Safety Building was worth it or if building new was the way to go. Von Bargaen answered that it was her understanding that if the grant was approved, that the Assembly would have a secondary discussion with Staff to make that decision.

- Wrangell Medical Center Legacy Funds received in the amount of \$26,000
- Denali Commission accepting applications
- Work Session prior to the next Assembly Meeting: Vance Jacobson to update the Assembly on the Compensation Study
- ISO Insurance Services organization Audit this year; putting together an ISO Committee
- Census Committee
- Electrical Consumption anomaly update; have exhausted everything that they (WMLP Staff) can think of to do; asked if anyone is still showing a high increase, to call the Electric Superintendent.
- Wrangell Community's participation to hold activities for our youth during the holiday break



BOROUGH CLERK'S FILE

Clerk Lane's report was provided.

MAYOR AND ASSEMBLY BUSINESS

Decker spoke on ongoing problem of plastic recyclables; one-time use plastic bags; received consent to move forward in having the Manager and Clerk draft an Ordinance for the voters to vote on. Direction was also given to schedule a Community/Business Work Session on this issue.

Prysunka asked that residents look at ways to conserve water in the winter months; saw a large spike in water use.

Prysunka stated that he would be traveling to Juneau next week, for a meeting with the Alaska Municipal League to discuss Ferry issues.

MAYOR AND ASSEMBLY APPOINTMENTS – None.PUBLIC HEARING

***Item 11a, Ordinance 965 was removed from the Agenda under Amendments to the Agenda***

**11a ORDINANCE NO. 965** OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AMENDING CHAPTER 15.12, ELECTRICITY, BY ADDING SECTION 15.12.193 RATE STABILIZATION *(third reading)*

**11b ORDINANCE NO. 971** OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AMENDING SECTION 5.02.070 OF THE WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE TITLED INVESTMENTS PLACED *(second reading)*

Mayor Prysunka declared the Public Hearing open for Ordinance No. 971.

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

***M/S: Gilbert/Powell to approve Ordinance No. 971. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.***

**11c ORDINANCE NO. 972** OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A COMMON INVESTMENT AGREEMENT AMONG POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS OF THE STATE OF ALASKA AND TO AUTHORIZE BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE INVESTMENT POOL, INC. *(second reading)*

Mayor Prysunka declared the Public Hearing open for Ordinance No. 972.

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

***M/S: Morrison/Decker to approve Ordinance No. 972.***

Gilbert stated that in Section 2, there was a lengthy run-on sentence that needed to be fixed. There were no objections from the Assembly to having Staff fix that sentence without having to bring it back for consideration at another meeting.

***Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.***

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**12a** Approval to Purchase Used Dump Truck from Unknown Vendor in an Amount Not to Exceed \$80,000

***M/S: Gilbert/Morrison to approve the purchase of a Used Dump Truck from Unknown Vendor in an Amount not to exceed \$80,000.***

Von Bargaen gave an administrative report on this item.

Prysunka stated that he would like to see that the Borough Manager works with her Staff to come up with a check-list that ensures that things are checked off before bringing such items to the Assembly for consideration.

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

#### NEW BUSINESS

**13a** Approval of Contract with WESCO Distribution, Inc. in the Amount of \$38,333 for the 3MW Transformer Procurement Project

***M/S: Gilbert/Morrison to approve a contract with WESCO Distribution, Inc. in the amount of \$38,333 for the 3MW Transformer Procurement Project.***

Morrison asked if this was for one transformer; Von Bargaen said that yes, this was for one and that this frees up one of the 2MW generator that can be used for the portable generator.

***Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.***

**13b** Approval of Freight Expenditure with Performance Transport in the amount of \$36,800 for the Truck Transport of the Barstow Containerized Generator

***M/S: Morrison/Powell to approve freight expenditure with Performance Transport in the amount of \$36,800 for the truck transport of the Barstow Containerized Generator. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.***

**13c RESOLUTION No 01-20-1506 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, COMMITTING SUPPORT TO STRENGTHEN WRANGELL'S SOCIAL FABRIC THROUGH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

***M/S: Gilbert/Decker to approve Resolution No. 01-20-1506.***



Gilbert thanked the Borough Manager and Staff; encouraging other organizations in the community to write Resolutions to make Wrangell a safe place.

***Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.***

**13d RESOLUTION No 01-20-1507** OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AMENDING THE PARKS AND RECREATION FUND BY ACCEPTING A GRANT AWARD FROM THE WRANGELL COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

***M/S: Gilbert/Morrison to approve Resolution No. 01-20-1507. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.***

**13e RESOLUTION No 01-20-1508** OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, URGING THE STATE OF ALASKA TO ENSURE THAT THE BRITISH COLUMBIA (B.C.) GOVERNMENT IMPLEMENTS AN OPEN AND TRANSPARENT PROCESS TO CLEAN UP AND CLOSE THE TULSEQUAH CHIEF MINE

***M/S: Morrison/Larrabee to approve Resolution No. 01-20-1508.***

Prysunka stated that this is an example of why these projects should be bonded correctly; this mine has been leaking for several years.

***Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.***

**13f Approval of Official City & Borough of Wrangell Comments regarding the Proposed Rule to Designate Critical Habitat of Mexico, Central America, and Western North Pacific Distinct Population Segments of Humpback Whales under the Endangered Species Act**

***M/S: Decker/Gilbert to approve City & Borough of Wrangell Comments opposing the Proposed Rule to Designate Critical Habitat of Mexico, Central America, and Western North Pacific Distinct Population Segments of Humpback Whales under the Endangered Species Act.***

Prysunka directed Von Bargaen to "beef" up the letter with the additional information from Mr. Guggenbickler and other additional information received.

Decker stated that she would like to work with Von Bargaen on the letter as well.

Gilbert stated that she would like to see Sport Fishermen and Charter Fishermen listed in the letter.

In response to Morrison on where our delegation stands on this issue, Prysunka stated that they are opposed to this; Lobbyists are very aware of this issue as well.

Decker stated that she would like to see the opposition because she has seen over and over again attempts to fix a problem with a solution that doesn't actually fix the problem but creates

additional problems for everyone else; designating Southeast Alaska as a critical habitat is not accurate; our whales are doing great; we just need to make a solid case.

***Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.***

**13g** Approval of the Priority Capital Projects for Submission to the State of Alaska Designated Legislative Grants Program (CAPSIS) for FY 2021

***M/S: Larrabee/Morrison to approve Priority Capital Projects for Submission to the State of Alaska Designated Legislative Grants Program (CAPSIS) for FY 2021. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.***

**13h ORDINANCE No 973** OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AMENDING SECTION 14.03.040, REGULAR MEETINGS, OF THE WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE

***M/S: Decker/Gilbert to approve first reading of Ordinance No. 973 and move to a Second Reading with a Public Hearing to be held on January 28, 2020. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.***

**13i** Approval of Use of Maintenance Funding by Wrangell Public School District for Brick Work Repairs in the amount of \$9,500

***M/S: Morrison/Powell to approve the use of Maintenance Funding by Wrangell Public School District for Brick Work in the amount of \$9,500.***

Gilbert asked that Staff confirm the balance of funds available after this approval, as stated in the Agenda Statement; believes that the motion had been amended to be "up to 71,000" at the September 24<sup>th</sup> meeting for the HVAC System to the School District.

***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 7:33 p.m.

ATTEST:

Kim Lane, MMC, Borough Clerk



Stephen Prysunka, Mayor