

Minutes of Regular Assembly Meeting

Held on March 24, 2020

Mayor Prysunka called the telephonically held Regular Assembly meeting to order at 6:12 p.m., March 24, 2020. The pledge was led by Assembly Member Gilbert 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

The Wrangell Public School District's FY2021 Annual Budget was presented.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

M/S: Gilbert/Powell to remove Agenda Item 15a (Executive Session) from the Agenda. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST- None.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes from the March 10, 2020 Regular Assembly Meeting
- b. Minutes from the March 17, 2020 Special Emergency Meeting

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

Mayor Prysunka asked the following community leaders to provide a report:

Leatha Mercurieff, Wrangell Medical Center CEO reported on several items including: planning for alternate care sites; long-term care patients relocation, if needed; Wrangell Medical Center and the Long-term care units are on complete lock-down at the moment; asking the community to go directly through the Emergency Room so that you can be pre-screened; all elective procedures have been canceled; Health Fair has been canceled; Appreciates the donation of PPE equipment from community members/businesses; about 100 tests have been performed throughout SEARHC, as a whole; cannot specifically give out the total numbers in Wrangell, due to patient and provider protection; no positive cases currently in Wrangell; supplies here in Wrangell at this time, are adequate; drive-up COVID-19 trailer is up and running; asking residents to call the clinic first and not to simply drive-up to the trailer to be tested; trying to put out weekly press releases (typically Thursday or Friday morning).

Dorianne Sprehe, EMS Captain reported on Command Center Operations with EMS and Fire Response; main goal for the Fire Department is making sure that the Fire and EMS are trained and up to date on all of the new and ever changing protocols; safe and ensuring minimal exposure; utilizing telephonic measures; keeping on top of EOC; NIXLE working very well; reminded the public of the State Mandate with anyone coming from out of state, that they are required to quarantine for 14 days; thanked the grocery stores for creating time for the elders to shop.

Tom Radke, Wrangell Police Chief reported on mandatory travel; taking on educational role at the airport; some people not understanding the rules; reaching out to some people; encouraging people to stay home as much as possible; reported on the mandated order from the Governor.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Von Barga provided updates on the following:

- Working tirelessly to keep our Community safe
- SEAPA Annual Spring maintenance has been postponed to the Fall due to the COVID-19
- Working on issues dealing with access to the community
- Finance Director working to get the Budget numbers gathered
- Looking at postponing the Board of Equalization process
- Working on temporary alternate staffing schedules

Decker requested if we could investigate having the local surveyor who works for R&M do the survey for the Institute Property. Von Barga stated that yes, she could investigate that.

BOROUGH CLERK'S FILE

No report.

MAYOR AND ASSEMBLY BUSINESS

DeLong stated that this was a good time for people to look at our Website at the businesses; thanked Carol for keeping this up.

Morrison suggested that we keep an eye on what's coming out of Washington; might have funding opportunities.

Gilbert reported that the IFA was deemed a critical infrastructure by the Governor and if needed, will run to provide supply services and possibly other emergency service operations.

Decker reported that she spearheaded an initial conversation between Southeast Conference, Southwest Municipal Southwest Association, and Pacific Seafoods Association regarding fish processing and what maybe can happen, working through these difficult times; a lot of upcoming meetings and discussions are forthcoming.

Prysunka spoke about the limitations with our hospital; will be having a joint meeting with Sealevel Seafoods, Alaska Crossings Program, and the Forest Service on April 15, 2020 to discuss how the community and more importantly, the hospital with its limited capacity, would be

impacted with bringing additional people to town to work; will make sure to report to the Assembly.

Prysunka and Von Bargaen spoke extensively on the current situation of COVID-19; trying to come up with some state-level strategies; attending numerous teleconferences a day; been in contact with some legislators about concerns that might be coming our way; have to have plans in play, just in case; appreciative to the Governor for giving "teeth" to incoming travelers with regard to traveler requirements.

MAYOR AND ASSEMBLY APPOINTMENTS – None.

PUBLIC HEARING – None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS

13a RESOLUTION No 03-20-1520 1523 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL ALASKA ESTABLISHING ALTERNATIVE 1: SPILLWAY TRENCH AND SIPHON AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE FOR THE RESERVOIR BYPASS PROJECT

M/S: Gilbert/DeLong to approve Resolution No. 03-20-1523.

Amber Al-Haddad provided the background and explanation of the project.

In response to Powell on if we would be abandoning the bypass line altogether, Al-Haddad state that no, we would be connecting to that line: trenching a line through the spillway and that line would meet up with that existing line that was put in place in the early 2000's.

Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13b RESOLUTION No 03-20-1521 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA ADOPTING THE WRANGELL MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

M/S: Gilbert/Morrison to approve Resolution No. 03-20-1521.

Von Bargaen explained that if there are amendment required for this plan, Staff would be bringing those back to the Assembly for approval.

Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13c RESOLUTION No 03-20-1522 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA AMENDING THE JOB DESCRIPTION OF THE ASSISTANT DIESEL MECHANIC TO INCLUDE METER READING RESPONSIBILITIES

M/S: DeLong/Morrison to approve Resolution No. 03-20-1522. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13d Approval to Purchase Quantifit Respirator Fit Testing System in the Amount of \$8,373.10

M/S: Morrison/DeLong to approve the purchase of Quantifit Respirator Fit Testing System in the amount of \$8,873.10. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.


ATTORNEY'S FILE

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

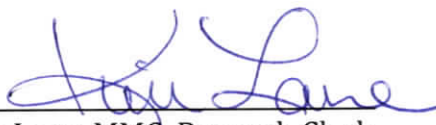
EXECUTIVE SESSION

15a Executive Session: Collective Bargaining Strategy (*removed from the Agenda under Amendments to the Agenda*)

Regular Assembly meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.



Stephen Prysunka, Mayor

ATTEST: 
Kim Lane, MMC, Borough Clerk

