

Minutes of Regular Assembly Meeting

Held on September 24, 2019

Mayor Stephen Prysunka called the Regular Assembly meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., September 24, 2019, in the Borough Assembly Chambers. The pledge was led by Member Gilbert and the roll was called.

PRESENT: PRYSUNKA, POWELL, MORRISON, GILBERT, DELONG, DEBORD

ABSENT: DECKER

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

CEREMONIAL MATTERS - None.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD

Don McConachie, resident, gave the invocation.

Leatha Mercurieff, WMC/SEARHC Administrator, provided an update on the Wrangell Medical Center; reported that Cathy Gross was awarded an Outstanding Performance Award by the Alaska State Hospital of Nursing Home Association; presented the final merger close-out check in the amount of \$220,000 to the City.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Von Bargen stated that Item 15b (Executive Session to discuss legal strategies related to collection of moorage fees) could be removed from the Agenda. There were no objections from the Assembly.

Gilbert asked to move Items 13f and 13j to be considered after Item 13a. There were no objections from the Assembly.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

DeBord declared a potential conflict to Items 13g and 13h, due to his employment at the Wrangell Medical Center. Prysunka stated that he did not see a conflict. There were no objections from the Assembly.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Assembly Minutes - Regular from September 10, 2019

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

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Von Bargen's reported on the following items:

- Notified by Lobbyist one a Pacific Maritime update
- Reposted Police Chief position; would like to start moving on that next week; looking for an Assembly Member to participate in first round interviews (Prysunka and Powell)
- Will be getting an update on the Powerhouse and Public Safety rehab projects
- Leaving tomorrow (Wednesday) for the SEAPA Board meeting; back Thursday
- Brief update on the Valvoda complaint
- Update on Southeast Conference in Sitka (Von Bargen, Prysunka, DeLong and Carol Rushmore, Rolland Howell, and Cyni Crary attended)

- Met with Esther Ashton with WCA; attended a Tlingit language class
- Possible Denali Commission funding opportunities

Prysunka stated that he was concerned with condition of the WTP Flume; is there a policy in place to regularly inspect the flume.

Von Bargaen stated that she did not believe that there was a current policy in place; may need to look at replacement, major rehab, or repair of flume; concern is the support structure for the flume.

Prysunka stated that he wanted regular updates on all aspects of the Water Treatment Plant; need a plan moving forward on the plant.

BOROUGH CLERK'S FILE

Clerk Lane's report was provided.

MAYOR AND ASSEMBLY BUSINESS

DeLong reported on SE Conference; being considered to hold the 2021 conference in Wrangell.

Prysunka provided an update on the AK Marine Ferry to and from Prince Rupert; may have a short term solution to allow the port to remain open possibly through the winter/spring.

Morrison reported on the Friends of the Museum.

MAYOR AND ASSEMBLY APPOINTMENTS – None.

PUBLIC HEARING – None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS

13a Approval to Refund Overpayment of Property Taxes to Arnold and Alice Bakke

M/S: Powell/DeLong to approve refund of overpayment of property taxes to Arnold and Alice Bakke.

Von Bargaen provided a report to the Assembly; stated that since construction of the Bakke home, from 1994 to 2013, assessors wrongly assessed the structure; state assessor told Helen Keller (representing Mr. and Mrs. Bakke) that although the process for appealing tax errors was established by the City, that does not mean that they cannot still come to the Assembly and ask to be refunded on the overpayment of property taxes.

Von Bargaen stated that the recommendation to the Assembly was to refund the Bakke's six years back from 2013; total recommended amount was \$4,334.67.

Helen Keller, resident read a letter to the Assembly, asking that the Assembly authorize the refund from 1994 to 2013.

After more discussion, direction was given to Von Bargaen to consult the Borough Attorney and draft a Resolution based on the recommendation from the Attorney.

M/S: DeBord/Morrison to postpone this item to the next Assembly meeting. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

Meeting recessed at 8:13 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 8:25 p.m.

13fb Approval to Sole Source Purchase of Fire Pumper Truck from Hughes Fire Equipment/Pierce in the amount of \$419,707 in Conformance with Wrangell Municipal Code Section 5.10.050 (I), and Authorize Contingency Funding in the Amount of \$30,293 for a Total Cost up to \$450,000

M/S: Gilbert/Morrison to approve Sole Source Purchase of Fire Pumper Truck from Hughes Fire Equipment/Pierce in the amount of \$419,707 in Conformance with Wrangell Municipal Code Section 5.10.050 (I), and Authorize Contingency Funding in the Amount of \$30,293 for a Total Cost up to \$450,000. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13jc Approval of Use of Maintenance Funding by Wrangell Public School District for HVAC Control System in the amount of \$70,000

M/S: Powell/Morrison to approve the use of Maintenance Funding by Wrangell Public School District for HVAC Control System in the amount of \$70,000.

Josh Blatchley, School Maintenance, explained the need for the HVAC Control System and stated that the amount is just below \$71,000.

M/S: Powell/DeBord to amend the motion to approve up to \$71,000. Amendment approved unanimously by polled vote.

Main Motion, as amended, was approved unanimously by polled vote.

13bd **RESOLUTION No 09-19-1488** OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, DESIGNATING CANVASS BOARD DUTIES TO THREE ASSEMBLY MEMBERS FOR CANVASSING THE RESULTS OF THE REGULAR ELECTION TO BE HELD OCTOBER 1, 2019

M/S: Gilbert/DeLong to approve Resolution No. 09-19-1488 that designates the Canvass Board for the October 1, 2019 Regular Borough Election. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13ee Approval to hold a Special Assembly meeting to Certify the October 1st Regular Local Election

M/S: Gilbert/DeLong to approve holding a Special Assembly meeting on October 7th at 5:30 p.m. to certify the results of the Regular Borough Local Election.

M/S: Gilbert/DeLong to amend the motion to hold the meeting on Thursday, October 3rd at 5:30 p.m. Amendment approved unanimously by polled vote.

Main motion, as amended, was approved unanimously by polled vote.

13df Approval of Professional Services Agreement with JB Rewards Systems in the amount of \$21,750 for the Employee Compensation & Classification Study, and Contingency Funding in the amount of \$3,250 for a Total Project Budget of \$25,000

M/S: Morrison/Gilbert to approve a Professional Services Agreement with JB Rewards Systems in the amount of \$21,750 for the Employee Compensation & Classification Study, and Contingency Funding in

496
124

the amount of \$3,250 for a Total Project Budget of \$25,000. Motion approved with DeBord, Gilbert, Morrison, DeLong, and Prysunka voting yes; Powell voted no.

13eg RESOLUTION No 09-19-1489 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY & BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA AMENDING THE FY 2020 BUDGET IN THE GENERAL FUND BY TRANSFERRING \$25,000 FROM GENERAL FUND RESERVES TO THE ADMINISTRATION PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ACCOUNT FOR THE EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION STUDY AND AUTHORIZING ITS EXPENDITURE

M/S: Gilbert/Morrison to approve Resolution No. 09-19-1489. Motion approved with DeBord, Gilbert, Morrison, DeLong, and Prysunka voting yes; Powell voted no.

13gh Approval to Use \$240,000 of State of Alaska Hospital Grant for Construction of the Pharmacy in the new Wrangell Medical Center Campus

M/S: Powell/Gilbert to approve use of \$250,000 of State of Alaska Hospital Grant for Construction of the Pharmacy in the new Wrangell Medical Center Campus. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13hi RESOLUTION No 09-19-1490 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY & BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA AMENDING THE FY 2020 BUDGET IN THE CIP FUND BY ACCEPTING REMAINING FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF ALASKA HOSPITAL GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$567,340.47 AND AUTHORIZING ITS EXPENDITURE

M/S: Morrison/Gilbert to approve Resolution No. 09-19-1490. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13ij Approval of Alternative 4th Quarter Assembly Meeting Schedule

M/S: Gilbert/Powell to approve alternate 4th Quarter Assembly Meeting Schedule.

Motion approved unanimously by polled vote

EXECUTIVE SESSION

15a Executive Session: Mill Property Purchase Update

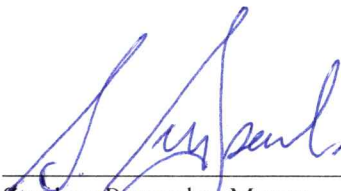
M/S: DeLong/ moved, pursuant to AS 44.62.310, that we recess into executive session to discuss matters in which the immediate knowledge would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the borough, specifically the update to the proposed purchase of the Mill Site property and invite the Borough Manager to sit in this Session. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

15b Executive Session: Discussion of Legal Strategies Related to Collection of Moorage Fees
(removed from the Agenda under Amendments to the Agenda)

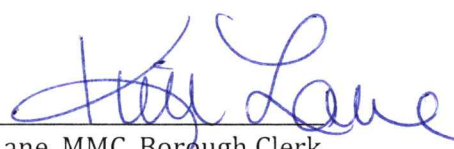
Recessed into Executive Session at 9:05 p.m.

Reconvened back into Regular Session at 9:37 p.m.

Regular Assembly meeting adjourned at 9:37 p.m.


Stephen Prysunka, Mayor

ATTEST:


Kim Lane, MMC, Borough Clerk

