

Minutes of Regular Assembly Meeting

Held on January 12, 2021

Mayor Prysunka called the Regular Assembly meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., January 12, 2021 by Zoom teleconference. Assembly Member Gilbert led the pledge of allegiance and the roll was called.

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

ABSENT: DECKER

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

CEREMONIAL MATTERS

PERSONS TO BE HEARD / PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received for the December 8, 2020 Meeting but was received after the deadline for insertion into the meeting packet from:

- Jim DeBord
- Patrick Freeman
- Jim Freeman
- Michael Smith
- Alesa McHolland
- Shelby Smith
- Stephanie Cartwright
- Edward Rilatos
- Bruce and Nancy McQueen
- Tony Leveque
- Don McConachie
- Mark Armstrong
- Wayne McHolland
- Cori Robinson
- Steve Prunella
- Lisa Gillen
- Alex Angerman
- April & Walter Stephens
- Bob Lippert
- Carla Smith
- Karen Lockabey
- Jeanie Littlejohn
- Penny Allen
- Michelle Dutro
- Brendan Jackson
- Greg & Carrie McCormack
- Valerie Massie
- Tanner Smith
- Alex Freericks

Don McConachie Sr., resident spoke in opposition of extending the Emergency Ordinance No. 985.

Michael Lockabey, resident spoke in opposition of extending the proposed Emergency Ordinance No. 985 and asked for a change to the wording for Ordinance No. 984.

Rolland Howell, resident spoke on why he resigned from the City as the Public Works Director.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Gilbert declared a conflict of interest to Item 13g since some of the capital projects were for the school; Prysunka stated that he did not see that she had a conflict. There were no objections from the Assembly.

Courson declared a conflict of interest to the Executive Session since his wife is a city union employee; Prysunka stated that yes, he did see that there was a conflict. There were no objections from the Assembly.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of the December 8, 2020 Regular Assembly Meeting
- b. Minutes of the December 18, 2020 Special Assembly Meeting
- c. CORRESPONDENCE: Action from the December 14, 2020 Regular School Board Meeting
- d. CORRESPONDENCE: Agency Review Notice for Aquatic Farm Lease ADL 233635 from AK DNR

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

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Captain Dorianne Sprehe provided the local and State COVID-19 report.

Manager Von Bargaen's report was provided.

BOROUGH CLERK'S FILE

Clerk Lane's report was provided.

MAYOR AND ASSEMBLY BUSINESS

Morrison stated that she had received a message from Jim Clark in Juneau regarding the roadless act that was passed in October; wanted to bring this up, in case the Assembly was interested.

Prysunka stated that he sat in on a meeting of Mayors and with the Governor; wanted to prep communities to look for ideas on how to roll out various ideas on the Tongass; looking for support for the governor's budget; was a positive meeting.

MAYOR AND ASSEMBLY APPOINTMENTS

10a Parks & Recreation Board Appointment

There were no letters received for this vacancy; Mayor Prysunka directed the Clerk to continue advertising.

PUBLIC HEARING

11a ORDINANCE NO 982 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AMENDING THE ZONING MAP TO EFFECT A CHANGE TO LOTS 1A, 1B AND 1C, ETOLIN-SPRUCE SUBDIVISION FROM MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL TO SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL

Mayor Prysunka declared the Public Hearing open and asked if there was an administrative report.

Von Barga explained that this was to change the zoning for the Etolin Lots so that the survey could be completed, and the Lots put up for sale.

There were no persons to speak on this item. Therefore, Prysunka declared the Public Hearing closed on this item and entertained a motion.

M/S: Gilbert/Howe to Approve Ordinance No. 982. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None.

NEW BUSINESS

13a Acceptance of the Resignation from Assembly Member Julie Decker from the Borough Assembly

M/S: Gilbert/Morrison to Accept the Resignation from Assembly Member Julie Decker from the Borough Assembly and to direct the Borough Clerk to begin advertising for the vacancy with the term expiring October 2021 and express gratitude for her service to the whole community.

Prysunka read Assembly Member Decker's resignation for the public.

recessed at 7:52 p.m.

reconvened at 7:57 p.m.

Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13b ORDINANCE NO 984 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AMENDING SECTION 14.01.030(DD) TITLED "LIVE ABOARD" AND ADDING SECTION 14.01.030(MM) TITLED "RESIDENTIAL USER FEE" IN THE WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE

M/S: Gilbert/Morrison to Approve first reading of Ordinance No. 984 and move to a Second Reading with a Public Hearing to be held on January 26, 2021.

Port and Harbor Director Miller stated that this Ordinance cleans up the definition for Live Aboard residents and it also allows the ability to charge city utilities for Live Aboard residents.

Miller stated, in response to Gilbert, that the utility rates would be based on the set utilities that are in code.

Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13c Approval of Sponsorship Plan for Wrangell (Reliance Harbor) Seaplane Base (68A)

M/S: Powell/Morrison to Approve Sponsorship Plan for Wrangell (Reliance Harbor) Seaplane Base (68A).

Von Bargen stated that although the city owns the harbor seaplane base, it was discovered by the State that a sponsorship plan had not been put in place; would ensure that we are meeting FAA and DOT requirements; would also allow the city to apply for federal grants, in the future.

Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13d Approval of Sponsorship Plan for Meyers Chuck Seaplane Base (84K)

M/S: Powell/Morrison to Approve Sponsorship Plan for Meyers Chuck Seaplane Base (84K).

Von Bargen stated that Myers Chuck is considered as “unclassified” which means that we do not have meet FAA requirements and we cannot apply for federal grant funding; if considered an official postal stop, might be able to have the Seaplane Base elevated to “basic” so that we could apply for federal funding.

Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13e EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO 985 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA EXTENDING THE BOROUGH’S DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY RELATED TO THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC AND GRANTING AUTHORIZATION TO TAKE ACTIONS NECESSARY TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH DURING THE EMERGENCY THROUGH MARCH 31, 2021

M/S: Powell/Gilbert to Approve Emergency Ordinance No. 985.

Von Bargen explained that the emergency declaration ensures that if there is any federal funding available that requires an emergency declaration, having this in place will ensure that we are eligible; would still need to take any action that would be in the community to the assembly for approval.

Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13f RESOLUTION NO 01-21-1557 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, EXTENDING THE TEMPORARY AMENDMENT OF WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 3.05.050 (TELECONFERENCING) RELATED TO ASSEMBLY MEETINGS AND PROVIDING GUIDANCE FOR ALL NON-ESSENTIAL BOROUGH COMMISSION, BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

M/S: Morrison/Powell to Approve Resolution No. 01-21-1557.

Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

recess at 8:38 p.m.

reconvened at 8:49 p.m.

13g RESOLUTION NO. 01-21-1558 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, ESTABLISHING THE PRIORITY CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR SUBMISSION TO THE STATE OF ALASKA DESIGNATED LEGISLATIVE GRANTS PROGRAM (CAPSIS) FOR FY 2022

M/S: Gilbert/Morrison moved to amend by placing priority number five (5) Upper Reservoir Bypass (Connection to Treatment Plant) to priority number three (3) and to move the number three (3) High School and Middle School Fire Alarm System Upgrades to read "High School and Middle School Life Safety Upgrades" and to move that project to number one (1).

M/S: Gilbert/Morrison offered an amendment to the amendment; to place the High School and Middle School Life Safety Upgrades to number two (2) instead of one (1) and keeping the Public Safety Building Renovations at the number one (1) position. Amendment to the amendment was approved unanimously by polled vote.

Amendment to move the Upper Reservoir Bypass (Connection to Treatment Plant) to priority number three (3) and to change the High School and Middle School Fire Alarm System Upgrades title to "High School and Middle School Life Safety Upgrades" and to move that project to the number two (2) position, was approved unanimously by polled vote.

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

13h Discussion Item: CARES Act Funding following Deadline Extension to December 31, 2021

There was extensive discussion on this item. Von Bargaen stated that an option was to use some of the remaining CARES funds to continue to offset wages.

The Assembly, by consent, stated that they would like to go with the original plan and purchase the SCBAs.

13i Approval of Amendment No. 2 to the M/V Chugach Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the US Forest Service

M/S: Morrison/Gilbert to Approve Amendment No. 2 to the M/V Chugach Memorandum of Understanding with the USFS. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13j Approval of the "2021: Wrangell's Year of Hope" Power Program

M/S: Gilbert/Morrison to approve the 2021 Wrangell's Year of Hope Power Program. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

ATTORNEY'S FILE

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Clerk Lane stated that the Assembly could vote on both Executive Sessions and enter into closed session; once the first session was concluded (Item 15a), Courson would eject since he had an established conflict of interest to that item (15b). Once both Executive Sessions were concluded, Lane would then notify Courson to rejoin the Regular Meeting via Zoom.

15a Discuss and Provide Direction Regarding Legal Strategy on Collection of Attorney’s Fees Awarded in the Litigation Case Valvoda v. Borough of Wrangell, et al, Case No. 1WR- 19-8 CI

M/S: Howe/Morrison Pursuant to AS 44.62.310 (c)(d), I move that we go into Executive Session, and invite the Borough Attorney, Clerk and Manager, to discuss litigation tactics and strategies concerning the CBW collection of Court granted Attorney’s Fees and Bill of Costs in the Valvoda Case, a matter “which by law, municipal charter, or ordinance” is required to be confidential.

Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

15b Discuss and Provide Update of the Status of the Collective Bargaining Negotiations

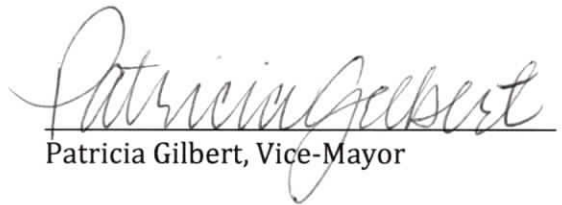
M/S: Gilbert/Powell Pursuant to AS 44.62.310 (c)(3), that we go into Executive Session, and invite the Borough Collective Bargaining Team, to discuss and provide an update of the status of the Collective Bargaining Negotiations, a matter “which by law, municipal charter, or ordinance” is required to be confidential.

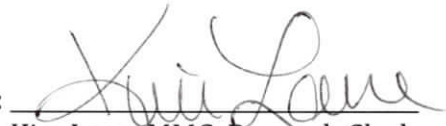
Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

*Regular Meeting recessed into Executive Session at 9:36 p.m.
Regular Meeting reconvened back into Regular Session at 10:27 p.m.*

Prysunka stated that direction had been given to the Borough Attorney and that there was no action to be taken.

Regular Assembly meeting adjourned at 10:27 p.m.


Patricia Gilbert, Vice-Mayor

ATTEST: 
Kim Lane, MMC, Borough Clerk

