



Regular City Council Meeting
March 5, 2002
City Hall Conference Room

MINUTES

Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting of the regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Gilbertson at 5:01pm with Nat Good, Mark Weller, Lou Heinbockel, Mary Leith-Dowling, Susan Kemp, and Henry Summers present.

Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Leith-Dowling moved to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2002 regular meeting: Good seconded. Motion passed by unanimous consent.

Request to Speak

Joseph Lupo talked to council about playing Hockey in the Arctic Winter Games in Canada. He said he and his brother have to raise about \$1,600 for airfare. They are both going to play in the games.

Kemp would like to see Council help the entire group from Delta going to the games.

Heinbockel agreed that if we have money in the budget we should be spending it on the youth in our community and providing support.

Kemp moved for the City to provide funding for up to twelve participants at \$100 each; Good seconded.

Eli Grossmann has been sent \$100 already for the trip.

Roll call vote with motion passing. Weller voted no.

Correspondence

A letter was received from AML addressing the rising costs of insurance.

The Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Office sent a letter regarding the property they will be selling in the Delta area.

Letters were received from Wendy Latimer and Kathleen Dalton, both about the renaming of Alaskaland.

Hallgren discussed the City ordinances about zoning.

Dick Anderson said the District has looked at lands the Mental Health Trust owns and the District has also asked for 20 acres at the top of Jack Warren hill.

Reports

Airport – Hallgren presented a draft ordinance about sales of the lots at the airport. This parcel is not zoned in City Ordinance 5.20, and this will be a part of that chapter about an aviation related use zone.

Weller likes the idea of development having to take place now and owners not being able to buy the land and do nothing with it for years.

Heinbockel thought the City should be leasing it and not selling the lots.

Cemetery - Leith-Dowling reported Ron Lester cleared the last section at the cemetery. He asked Art Saarloos to square the corners up so he can complete the clearing.

Clerk – Ellis reported City Hall has been re-keyed as there are keys being used by people that are not authorized to have them. This Wednesday is the anniversary of Chris Kobierowski's death. There is a card for everyone to sign and we will

be taking a basket and flowers to Leslie. We had a young man doing community service and he did a very good job for us.

Hallgren reported Sorensen called Washington DC and the application for Kobierowski's death benefits has been located. It wasn't impounded for 9-11 as we originally thought. They found the file and it will be processed immediately.

Department of Economic Development – Hallgren said he has written letters to the cell phone providers asking if they are interested in installing better coverage in the area. Both CellularOne and ACS have expressed an interest. CellularOne wants to install a full cell site at their expense locally, which will provide better service out the Alaska Highway. ACS called today and they are looking into upgrading also.

The 172nd Infantry Brigade held an ESI scoping meeting at the Community Center recently. More Delta residents attended this one than at any other place in the State. They will be making range control upgrades in the amount up to 50 million dollars and this will provide 10-15 full time positions.

Hallgren attended the DREDC meeting last night and they would like Council to make them an advisory committee to the City of Delta Junction. When we get a Planner hired, they will be able to work together. Their next meeting is April 1st. This Thursday Kemp and Hallgren will be attending a USDA meeting in Fairbanks and has invited local realtors and the Chamber of Commerce. They will discuss potential housing programs that are available, as well as programs for small businesses. Lamar Cotten will also attend.

Leanna Dube went to the teleconference hearing on the private prison being located at Wittier. This is different from the Delta or Kenai private prison bills.

Hallgren reported we received letter from the Deltana Fire Department asking us to abandon the old furnace that came out of the landfill. We should let them have it for the work they have done installing the new furnace there.

We have been looking for a better communications building for Donnelly Dome and have found a surplus fiberglass shed with rack mounts already installed. Mark Miller can rewire and install it for \$3,000.00. Hallgren stated we don't have to put this out for bid since it is a specialized item and they are hard to find.

Hallgren recommends we purchase it for this price installed.

Council wanted to be sure it is installed with decent tie down system for the wind.

Weller moved to purchase the communication shed from Mark Miller as proposed for \$3,000.00; Summers seconded.

Roll call vote with motion passing unanimously.

Good discussed the Windy Ridge area and how we will not be able to access it any more. The buffalo will be congregating where the live fire is happening and that causes concern.

Good said there are businesses that have been developed, like the wild life tours and they have been using that area as part of the tour due to the high concentration of wildlife.

Other issues brought to their attention were the traffic on the highways.

Mayor Gilbertson will call General Lovelace and talk about these concerns.

Hallgren said he would follow up with a letter to the Army.

Good pointed out there is an email address on the pamphlet and everyone should write to them with concerns.

Kemp said they had small turnout considering we are the location where this is all happening. We need to write an article or letters to the editor.

Get the word out to everyone and let them know what is happening.

Hockey - Heinbockel talked to Ron Liewer and discussed the history of skating in Delta

Landfill – Mayor Gilbertson is locating property for the new landfill.

Lands – Council discussed the land sales. Ellis said the Packards are interested in lots behind the Steak House when they become available. No land will be sold until more planning is done to determine what the City may need in the future.

Public Health and Safety – Summers submitted an ambulance bill to council to write off with a debt of \$466.00.

Kemp moved to forgive the \$466.00 ambulance bill; Good second.

Roll call vote with motion passing unanimously.

Public Works – Council set a meeting for March 13th at 4:00pm in the conference room to discuss the details of putting out the bid packets for the grounds maintenance contract. The park fence will also be discussed at the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Ellis presented two copies of the election ordinance to council. One copy has all the mark ups and the other shows only the most recent changes in bold.

A few grammatical changes were made and a clean copy will be available to Council as soon as the changes are made.

NEW BUSINESS

Delta Industrial Service, Inc. sent a letter to Council requesting the vacation of a portion of Granite Avenue near Fourth Avenue.

Tom Waggoner told Council he has concerns about the pressure of traffic the vacation would put on Jarvis Street. He is also worried about the road being able to handle the additional traffic.

Kemp has concerns with fire department access.

They have the use of the right-of-way to drive on and they don't need to own it for that purpose, they just can't build a permanent structure on it.

Good left the meeting at 6:30pm.

Weller moved not to vacate the right-of-way on Granite Avenue; Heinbockel seconded.

Roll call vote with motion passing unanimously.

Council received a letter from ACS about the pay phones being removed from City property because they don't generate enough income to pay for themselves.

Leith-Dowling said the phone at the Community Center is important for kids to use that attend dances there and it is the only phone in the building.

Heinbockel moved to leave the phones at the Community Center and City Hall and pay the \$35 a month for each one; Kemp second.

Roll call vote with motion passing. Leith-Dowling voted no.

Heinbockel move to approve Resolution 2002-11 Requesting FY03 Safe Communities funding from the Department of Community and Economic Development; Kemp seconded.

Roll call vote with motion passing unanimously.

Leith-Dowling moved to introduce and set the public hearing for March 19, 2002 for Ordinance 2002-10, Sale of Airport Lots; Summers seconded.

Roll call vote with motion passing unanimously.

Kemp moved to approve:

- PO#6873 to Pamela R. Ellis for travel and per diem to Alaska Association of Municipal Clerk's Conference in the amount of \$1,273.94
- PO#6876 to Guess & Rudd for attorney fees for Jan 02 in the amount of \$249.99
- PO#6880 to Mikunda, Cottrell & Co. for professional services in the amount of \$1,843.54
- PO#6881 to ASCG for final on Allen Army Airfield contract in the amount of \$14,329.60
- PO#6882 to Dean Witter Reynolds for transfer of funds for E911 in the amount of \$1,266.00
- PO#6884 to Pat White for ambulance billing services in the amount of \$634.15
- PO#6898 to Overhead Door for repairs at Fire Department and Landfill in the amount of \$1,610.50;

Weller seconded.

Roll call vote with motion passing unanimously.

Weller moved to go into executive session at 7:00pm to discuss matters, the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the City; Kemp seconded.

Motion passed by unanimous consent.

Weller moved to come out of executive session at 7:35pm; Summers seconded.

Motion passed by unanimous consent.

Adjournment at 7:35pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pamela R. Ellis
City Clerk/Treasurer