



**City Council Minutes**  
**October 5, 2005 ~ 5:00PM**

**Regular Meeting**  
**City Hall, Delta Junction, Alaska**

The regular meeting of the Delta Junction City Council was held on Wednesday, October 5, 2005 at City Hall in Delta Junction, Alaska. Mayor Gilbertson called the meeting to order at 5:00PM.

Council members present: Mayor Roy Gilbertson, Mayor Pro tem Mary Leith-Dowling  
Mike Tvenge, John Sloan, Lynnetta Marcellus

Council members excused: Lou Heinbockel, Leslie Feilner

City employees present: Dave Zimmerman, Pat White

Three members from the community were also present.

#### **AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA ~ APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

White reported one item to add to *New Business*:

- ✓ Purchase Order 010293 to Aetna WHO-AAS

White reported *Election Results and Certification* and administering the Oath of Office to newly elected officials would be postponed until October 19 to allow time to contact top vote getters of Seat F. Sloan would remain as Council member until that seat could be filled. According to Code, Council shall meet the second Tuesday of the month to receive the Certification of Elections report.

Sloan said he would like to pass the baton but would not be present on October 19.

Leith-Dowling moved to approve the agenda as amended; Sloan seconded. Motion carried.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Leith-Dowling moved to approve the minutes from the September 21, 2005 Council meeting as presented; Marcellus seconded. Motion carried.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **COUNCIL COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Mayor Gilbertson called for public and Council comments with none being offered.

#### **REPORTS**

**Fire Department** – Chief Carin Bear reported new changes in Incident Command and standards for bunker gear. Postponing ordering of new bunker gear was in their favor because of the new standards. They would wait until fall when the changes would be implemented. Bear stated she received another 16 hours of training in auto extrication. She said she was encouraged by the growth of and newly acquired respect toward those who serve on the City's Fire Department.

**City Clerk** – Pat White reported the next regular Council meeting would be postponed to Wednesday, October 19 and City offices would be closed on October 18, Alaska Day. She stated complaints were received regarding nuisance dogs, rat-infested apartments and a landlord giving one-day notice of increasing rent due to fuel costs.

Discussion followed regarding agencies that could provide assistance.

**City Administrator** – Mary Leith-Dowling reported she and Hallgren attended the Partners for Progress meeting on September 28. The program leaders hope to better coordinate education efforts in the Delta area, improving efficiency and eliminating duplication. A work session is to be planned before Christmas.

**School Liaison** – Lynnetta Marcellus reported a representative from the Alaska Association of School Boards was visiting Delta and conducting interviews with the public, as an effort to get the community more involved in student education. It is the second phase of QS2, a Quality Schools grant. Marcellus said it basically provided support to students and help toward education. Typical suggestions from other communities included lab access to students without home computers, Big Brothers/Big Sisters for guidance or possibly a youth center.

Tvenge said cones were placed for a crosswalk where the elementary children cross Nistler Road.

Sloan said students crossing Nistler were well supervised. After school was still a concern.

Marcellus said students were bussed across the street for after-school activities.

**DREDC** – Mike Tvenge reported the Recreation Coordinator moved back to Montana. He said reasons for her leaving were multiple and he was unsure if DREDC would pursue another person for that position. 2006 Social Service Grant applications are due by noon on October 7.

**Library** – Mary Leith-Dowling reported:

- The library was still experiencing problems with the furnace, the same problems with the automatic air handler fan shutting down and the temperature rising to uncomfortable levels, despite low thermostat settings. Hallgren contacted Sieman's and MACTEC to get it resolved and also did some initial troubleshooting to make the building livable.
- The Adam Miller Folk Concert, sponsored by the Library Board, was well attended by about 60 people. Miller plans to return next year around the same time. Admission to the concert was free, however \$120 was collected from donations. Kelly's Motel provided accommodations at no charge.
- Janet Boyer was hired as the weekend library aide. She will be working Friday evenings and Sunday afternoons.
- Cindy Aillaud's book signing of her newly published book, Recess at Twenty Below, was held at the library on October 1. Approximately 300 people attended and over 450 books were sold.
- Many compliments were received from recent library visitors. Comments related to rockwork on the fireplace and Dave Boadwine's landscaping between the library and the Community Center.
- 23,290 patrons visited the library between January and September, excluding the 6-week period in which the library was closed because of moving. 470 of the total patrons were new residents, 13,381 items were circulated and 10,865 were Internet users.

**Park** – Lynnetta Marcellus said she thought the porta-potties were to be removed before snow flies.

Discussion followed regarding when they were to be removed (mid-September) and recent snowfall.

**Recreation** – Mike Tvenge reported hockey begins this coming weekend. Ice time was rented at Polar Ice in North Pole. 50+ youth signed up for this season. The annual fundraiser is scheduled for November 5 at the Moose Lodge. Tvenge displayed a sample of the sign for the hockey rink. Stewart's Signs, who also made the new elementary school sign, would make the sign. The base of the lighted sign would stand 8 feet off the ground and would be visible from both sides. The black 6" lettering would be manually changed. Stewart's say the sign is vandal-proof, will withstand 120 mph winds and has no cold restrictions. They offer a lifetime warranty to back that. Tvenge said the cost for the sign is \$7,560 but does not include freight. That price quote was good for 60 days. It would take 6-8 weeks to complete once the sign is ordered. Meanwhile, in preparation, concrete could be poured and posts could

be positioned. The sign could be bolted in place when it arrives. Stewart's declare the sign is easier to put up than to uncrate. Tvenge said presently the logo was in question.

Discussion followed regarding using the school husky mascot or using figure and hockey skaters.

Tvenge said the logo should be a City Council decision, not the Skating Association.

Gilbertson asked to table discussion until the next meeting on October 19.

**Public Health & Safety** – John Sloan asked Al Edgren for an update on radio information.

Edgren said the 2003 grant was finalized and they were working on 2004. A fairly substantial purchase was recently made for more mobile radios to be used in the fire trucks. Progress is being made on repeater issues. The City Fire Department is functioning and hopefully the Delta Rescue Squad repeater will be online in the next 30-60 days. New co-chairs will be discussed at the October 6 LEPC meeting. One is required to be appointed by City Council to take John Sloan's position and the other by Deltana Community Corporation to take Steve Fields' position.

**Additional Reports by Council** – Mike Tvenge stated he received comments regarding the north side of Reeve Avenue and that it was in need of grading.

Butch Ellis said frost would be the only hindrance but would pass it onto Boadwine.

Gilbertson asked for an update on the landfill.

Ellis said the operation was progressing well and that the only problem is when others deliver garbage on our operators' day off. He felt no one should be given access except when the landfill operators were available. Winds create problems spreading light debris. White grocery sacks react like parachutes. Garbage delivered needs to be covered on a daily basis.

Zimmerman said he has been called to open the landfill on Mondays when the equipment operators are off.

Ellis said he would prefer to accommodate garbage haulers early on Tuesday. He suggested looking into closing the landfill when there are high wind conditions, similar to Ft. Greely's landfill policy.

Discussion followed regarding complaints about increases in garbage pick-up rates, misdirecting the blame to the City for those increases and how the community is reacting to garbage fees versus service.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS - none**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Final Library Pay Request from UNIT SKW (PO#010290)**

Leith-Dowling explained that unfinished contract projects were completed.

Discussion followed regarding heating problems and approving the pay request under *Purchase Orders*.

### **Purchase Orders**

PO#010282 to Buffalo Fuel Inc. in the amount of \$572.58 for Aug '05 street equipment fuel

PO#010283 to Delta Sanitation in the amount of \$1,186.32 for Aug + Sept '05 dumpsters

PO#010284 to Delta Texaco in the amount of \$751.56 for Sept '05 (ambulance, landfill and street) vehicle fuel

PO#010285 to Motorola Inc. in the amount of \$18,634.25 for 3 mobile radios for ambulances

PO#010286 to Motorola Inc. in the amount of \$16,413.00 for 3 digital/programmable radios for Deltana Fire Department

PO#010287 to Motorola Inc. in the amount of \$9,126.90 for transportable base station for Deltana Fire Department

PO#010288 to ProComm Alaska LLC in the amount of \$4,850.00 for installing radios into ambulances and fire trucks

PO#010289 to Powerhouse Signs in the amount of \$3,395.00 for 60 new street signs

PO#010290 to UNIT SKW LLC in the amount of \$5,589.99 for library final payment

PO#010291 to Willis of Alaska Inc. in the amount of \$90,163.00 for annual insurance renewal

PO#010292 to Lamar Cotten in the amount of \$2,250.00 for Sept '05 consulting services

PO#010293 to Aetna WHO-AAS in the amount of \$7,016.91

**Leith-Dowling moved** to approve purchase orders 010282 through 010293 as presented; Marcellus seconded.

**Motion passed** unanimously on a roll call vote.

#### **ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Janet Boyer asked if DREDC planned to request Social Service Grant funding for the Recreation Coordinator. She also asked if they anticipated using a VISTA volunteer.

Tvenge said they would be addressed at a future DREDC meeting.

Zimmerman said he understood a replacement for the VISTA volunteer would be located.

Al Edgren, referring to rolls of paper leaning against the wall, said he brought more draft proposals of bathrooms and locker rooms for Tvenge to review. He hoped to present decisions at the next meeting.

Boyer asked if the improvements would alter the existing facility to require a sprinkler system.

Tvenge said the plans would be outside the existing facility. An engineer would review them also.

Boyer said meanwhile \$20,000 was authorized to pour concrete in a building that is unsure of continued use.

Tvenge said there are no plans to stop utilizing the hockey rink even though the only heat is in the locker rooms and concession area.

Edgren said once a proposal fits an engineer's plans it will then go for the Fire Marshal's approval.

#### **ADDITIONAL COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Marcellus asked about status of the Waldo house.

Gilbertson said getting it surveyed might require someone from out of town.

Tvenge thanked John Sloan for serving on the City Council.

Discussion followed regarding Sloan's departure and appreciation for his dedication.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Sloan moved to adjourn at 5:47PM; Leith-Dowling seconded. Motion carried.

Pat White

City Clerk

Date of approval: October 19, 2005