



**City Council Minutes**  
**August 1, 2006 ~ 5:00PM**

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

The regular meeting of the Delta Junction City Council was held on Tuesday, August 1, 2006 at City Hall in Delta Junction, Alaska. Mayor Pro tem Mary Leith-Dowling called the meeting to order at 5:07pm.

Council members present: Mayor Pro tem Mary Leith-Dowling, Lou Heinbockel, Mike Tvenge  
Pablo Martinez, Mike Jenkins (5:37pm)

Council member excused: Leslie Feilner

City employees present: Pete Hallgren, Butch Ellis (6:20), Pat White

Two members from the community were also present.

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

Leith-Dowling reported one addition to *New Business*:

- ✓ M2C1 Payment for Road Assessment and Survey

Heinbockel moved to approve the agenda as amended; Martinez seconded. Motion carried.

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

Heinbockel moved to approve the July 18, 2006 minutes as presented; Martinez seconded. Motion carried.

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

Leith-Dowling called for public and Council comments on non-agenda items with none being offered.

#### **REPORTS**

**Fire Department** – Lou Heinbockel reported Fire Chief Carin Bear was released from the hospital again and should not be allowed to serve in her capacity until she is fully recovered. Heinbockel said Bear works too hard and must be forced to rest.

Mike Paschall stated Insurance Services Office (ISO) would be in Delta the end of August to conduct fire department ratings for Delta and Deltana.

**Cemetery** – Lou Heinbockel said lawn maintenance at the cemetery is “as good as I’ve ever seen it.” He said Dave Boadwine and Chad Morris are to be complimented also because of their professionalism and aid demonstrated during burials.

**City Clerk** – Pat White reported the deadline for the Council vacancy is August 4. Still only one qualifying letter of interest has been received.

**City Administrator** – Pete Hallgren reported the Waldo auction is scheduled for 12:05pm, August 7, 2006 at City Hall. He continued:

- Carpet installation at City Hall would begin on August 7. He referenced a printed schedule and said the small conference room is in the process of being repainted before carpet is laid.
- A meeting with Enhanced Use Lease (EUL) is scheduled for 1:30pm, August 8 at City Hall. Hallgren inquired about Council attendance and said the meeting would be advertised if more than three planned to attend.
- The City Rock Sale ended on July 31. Hallgren asked to consider extending the sale or reducing the overall price to the 5¢ sale price.

Discussion followed regarding removing boulders at the landfill and selling to commercial buyers.

Heinbockel moved to continue the sale through December 31, 2006; Martinez seconded.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote with a quorum (4) in attendance.

- A random drug and alcohol testing policy for city employees was being researched. Hallgren said the Rescue Squad has had a policy for several years but staff employees did not.

Heinbockel said he would agree as long as it is a requirement of every city employee, volunteer and Council member.

Hallgren said it will involve costs but now is a good time because there are no existing problems.

- Dave Hendry agreed to accommodate the City by servicing refrigerators and freezers at the landfill. He would provide the service once 10 units are collected to make it worth his trip. He would charge \$10 per unit and service them in the fall and in the spring when temperatures were suitable (+50° or warmer). Electricity will be needed to service the units. Hallgren recommended charging a landfill premium as well as Hendry's fee because of making arrangements for where they will be collected and stored until they are serviced.

Heinbockel said he approved of the arrangements and did not want to make money but felt charges need to cover all costs in providing the service to the public.

Hallgren said Hendry is able to reduce his fees because he does not need to factor in travel expenses. He would create a policy and present it at the meeting on August 15.

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

- Michele Helkenn, a faithful 2-year aide, would be leaving on August 22 to attend college. Other part-time employees will fill her position.
- Library Story Hour, which is scheduled twice a month, will resume on September 6.
- The Public Library Assistance Grant was filed. It was \$6,250, \$750 less than in the past.
- The Rasmuson Grant report was filed. Librarian Joyce McCombs was given advice about an extension for the remaining \$70,000 that could pay for a storage building, covered staff entry and a few other items.

**Recreation** – Mike Tvenge reported the rink parking lot was left very clean after the Deltana Fair on July 28 through 30.

Hallgren said some vehicles were parked in the new elementary paved parking lot.

**Military Liaison** – Mary Leith-Dowling reported Senator Lisa Murkowski was at Ft. Greely for meetings on July 29, then came to the Deltana Fair and visited with locals.

Heinbockel said contractors are putting people back to work since the layoff in May.

**Department of Transportation (DOT) Liaison** – Mary Leith-Dowling reported Department of Transportation (DOT) billed the City for the repairs on Nistler Road. The \$24,000 bill would be split between the City (\$20,000) and the school district (\$4,000).

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### Road Improvements

Hallgren said \$740,000 is available for paving from a series of 3 grants. Paving has been the #1 priority for the last several years. Engineer work is necessary before starting the bid process by the end of the year in order for construction next summer. Hallgren referenced the December 21, 2005 Legislative Priority List and said the money available is not enough to complete all the road improvements. M2C1

was hired to research work needed on a number of streets. He referenced their July 31, 2006 report and explained their research and cost figures. M2C1 ranked roads differently than Council's prioritized list. Discussion followed regarding similarities to Mill-Tan Road, which was paved in 2003, and the fact that Emmaus Road is more problematic than Rapids Street and other major feeder roads.

Hallgren said M2C1 estimated improvements on Rapids to the intersection of Kimball only, not through North Clearwater to Nistler.

Heinbockel said there might be good reason to stop paving at Kimball because the gravel will force people to drive slower.

Discussion followed regarding percentages of drivers who actually stop at intersections and cost comparisons for road improvements as researched by M2C1.

Hallgren said he would direct M2C1 to prepare a bid package. There are no guarantees but a possibility of additional funding after the legislative session next year. It would not be known until after July 1, 2007 and because of that M2C1 instructed to bid all the main arterial roads and the additive alternates and that the contract be written as "...reserve the right to award, based on available funding, and if more money becomes available the additive alternates could be added at a later date."

Heinbockel moved to change priorities, based on information provided by M2C1, for road improvements to: #1 Rapids Street (excluding North Clearwater), #2 South Clearwater and #3 Emmaus Road with additive alternates listed as #1 Kimball, #2 Deborah and #3 Harper; Martinez seconded.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote with 5 members present.

Discussion followed regarding the width of Mill-Tan Road, AST ticketing drivers of four-wheelers and repair work needed every 7 or 8 years.

### **Delta Junction Moto-Cross (DJMX) Club Racetrack**

Hallgren said he spoke with Senator Lisa Murkowski over the weekend and has not received response from the State or DOD regarding contributing \$10,000 of impact funds for construction of the DJMX racetrack. He explained that the Deltana Fair Board Association, which is non-profit, would own it. The DJMX Club has received funding that will cover insurance only.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Council Consideration of Interim Mayor and Mayor Pro tem**

Leith-Dowling explained duties of Mayor and Mayor Pro tem.

Tvenge said he reconsidered his stance and felt the seats should be filled in the interim before the October election. Tvenge moved to nominate Mary Leith-Dowling as Mayor; Heinbockel seconded.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Hallgren stated Leith-Dowling would serve as Mayor until the next election in October.

Tvenge moved to nominate Lou Heinbockel as Mayor Pro tem; Martinez seconded.

Tvenge said he felt very fortunate to have Leith-Dowling and Heinbockel to choose from because of their history in this community.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

#### **Resolution 2007-01, A Resolution to Continue Participation in the AMLJIA Loss Control Incentive Program for the City of Delta Junction**

Hallgren explained telephonic safety meetings conducted by Alaska Municipal League / Joint Insurance Association (AMLJIA) once a month. Participation reduces municipality insurance premiums and \$1,210 was saved last year. Hallgren reminded Council that AMLJIA provided close to \$250,000 on an insurance claim to defend Delta Junction against litigation during BRAC.

Heinbockel moved to approve Resolution 2007-01 as presented; Jenkins seconded.

Motion passed by unanimous consent.

**M2C1 Payment for Road Assessment and Survey**

Heinbockel moved to approve payment of the M2C1 invoice in the amount of \$3,350.00 for engineer services on the street improvement project; Tvenge seconded.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

**Purchase Orders**

PO#011038 to Amazon.com Credit in the amount of \$597.31 for library books

PO#011039 to Brodart Company in the amount of \$568.80 for library series books

PO#011040 to Construction Machinery Industrial, LLC in the amount of \$1,779.98 for (9) loader bucket teeth

PO#011041 to Jacob Dalstra in the amount of \$1,250.00 for EMTII training class

PO#011042 to Delta Industrial Services in the amount of \$1,862.46 for Rescue Squad oxygen and rent of compactor for street grading

PO#011043 to Delta Sanitation, Inc. in the amount of \$715.96 for July '06 garbage services

PO#011044 to Emergency Medical Products, Inc. in the amount of \$1,640.68 for Rescue Squad supplies (catheters, syringes)

PO#011045 to GVEA in the amount of \$2,183.36 for June / July electricity

PO#011046 to Interior Building Supply in the amount of \$1,493.70 for EOC renovations

PO#011047 to Interior Region EMS Council in the amount of \$680.05 for EMT training books

PO#011048 to Powerhouse Signs in the amount of \$1,060.65 for street and (no-dogs) park signs

PO#011049 to Sam's Club in the amount of \$650.01 for cases of copier paper, toilet paper, transmission fluid, diesel oil and cleaner solution

Tvenge moved to approve purchase orders 011038 through 011049 as presented; Martinez seconded.

Heinbockel asked about loader bucket teeth (PO#011040).

Butch Ellis said big rocks are hard on equipment.

Discussion followed regarding purchasing a grizzly, screening 12 to 16" boulders and selling rocks.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

**ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mike Paschall referenced purchase orders paying for Emergency Operations Center (EOC) renovation and EMT training and asked Council to realize that the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) returned \$20,000 to the State 3 months ago that could have been used. Those monies are under the City's control, not the LEPC. [Comment clarified at August 15 meeting under *Approval of Minutes*.]

**ADDITIONAL COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Heinbockel said he researched businesses to locate DR string trimmers. Craig Taylor was the only one that carries the commercial version and it is priced at \$599. The equipment would be used on ditches.

Hallgren said he would identify funding.

Tvenge reported the Skating Association won Best Youth Float in the Deltana Parade.

Heinbockel said the Puck Shoot appeared to be a busy and successful booth.

Discussion followed regarding the fair's success despite the cold weather, the rides and the newly featured tractor pull.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Heinbockel moved to adjourn at 6:28pm; Jenkins seconded. Motion carried.