



City Council Minutes
January 16, 2007 ~ 5:00PM

Regular Meeting
City Hall, Delta Junction, Alaska

The regular meeting of the Delta Junction City Council was held on Tuesday, January 16, 2007 at City Hall in Delta Junction, Alaska. Mayor Mary Leith-Dowling called the meeting to order at 5:02pm.

Council members present: Mayor Mary Leith-Dowling, Mayor Pro tem Lou Heinbockel, Mike Tvenge
Leslie Feilner, JW Musgrove, Pablo Martinez (arrived at 5:12pm)

Council member absent: Mike Jenkins

City employees present: Dave Zimmerman, Pat White

Two members from the community were present.

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA ~ APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Leith-Dowling reported two items to add to *New Business*:

- ✓ Gaming Permit Renewal – VFW Ladies Auxiliary 9889
- ✓ PO#011442 in the amount of \$570.00

Tvenge moved to approve the agenda as amended; Feilner seconded. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Leith-Dowling asked to change wording from “larger” to “smaller” in the discussion about subdivisions with minimum sized lots (page 3, first paragraph under *Draft Minimum Lot Size*).

Feilner moved to approve the January 2, 2007 minutes as amended; Heinbockel seconded. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

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

COUNCIL COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Leith-Dowling called for Council comments on non-agenda items.

Tvenge stated he has talked to local residents, real-estate agents and developers about lot sizes. He said they are in agreement that a plan needs to be established for future growth of Delta Junction.

CORRESPONDENCE

Leith-Dowling referenced City Attorney Jim DeWitt’s January 8, 2007 letter to the Public Affairs Office in Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD regarding Notice of Intent to Prepare Supplement to 5th Stryker Brigade Combat Team EIS. She said the purpose of the letter is informational.

Heinbockel quoted DeWitt’s statement, “The City is not necessarily opposed to relocation of all or part of the Second Brigade, 25th Infantry Division (formerly the 5th Stryker Brigade) from Hawaii to Donnelly Training Range.”

Mike Paschall stated there were four sites identified for new Stryker Brigades locations.

Heinbockel said a public information meeting regarding the railroad was scheduled in Fairbanks but because of the time it was difficult to attend. The information would be published in the Fairbanks News-Miner. He said Delta's interest in the railroad extension is to transport the Stryker vehicles.

REPORTS

Fire Department – Fire Chief Carin Bear reported the piping issue, relating to the overhead 2 1/2" fill, would be worked on shortly. The air system, purchased with FEMA funds, would be delivered and installed next week. Bear said the Firefighter I class would resume soon also.

City Clerk – Pat White reported the Community Center is reserved for a statewide special election on April 3, 2007. Alaskans will cast an advisory vote on same-sex partner benefits for public employees.

Finance – Dave Zimmerman referenced a 6-month budget report that he drafted for Council review. He said 6 months into the FY07 budget shows 57% has been expended and that is within reason.

Martinez arrived at 5:12pm.

DREDC – Mike Tvenge stated the next Delta Regional Economic Development Council (DREDC) meeting is scheduled for January 22. They did not meet in December.

Recreation – Mike Tvenge reported Delta hockey teams are considering moving up to higher tier levels to play stiffer competition. The rink continues to generate a lot of activity from the community and visiting teams. He said games and events are posted on the Delta News Web and the local paper's new Community Calendar feature.

Public Health & Safety – Pablo Martinez reminded Council of the LEPC Wildland Fire Tabletop Exercise scheduled on February 13, 2007. The committee is in the process of completing Phase One of revising the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP).

Paschall asked if Council members would participate in training if classes were conducted in Delta Junction. He said one of the components of the NIMS (National Incident Management System) compliance is a 2-hour supplement for local elected officials.

Leith-Dowling stated training would be beneficial if it enables Council to be more functional in the event of a crisis.

Discussion followed regarding dates and priorities.

Public Works – Lou Heinbockel reported Equipment Operator Dave Boadwine negotiated on the recently purchased vibrator attachment for the sander. He referenced an invoice, showing the purchase price (\$1,631.49) negotiated down to \$872.24. Heinbockel said it was well within the purchasing guidelines, including the \$121.30 freight, and there was no violation. Effort to negotiate the price eliminated having to go out for bids because it was under the \$1,000 limit. (Topic was discussed at the December 19 and January 2 meetings.) Heinbockel reported the 26-year old grader is experiencing mechanical problems and will require the engine be torn down. They hope to manage until spring. He said purchasing the grader was a priority of Hank Brewis' during his term and it has served the community well.

Charter Commission – Lou Heinbockel reported March 16 is the tentative date set for the Local Boundary Commission (LBC) public hearing regarding the Deltana Borough Petition. It would be held at the high school gymnasium, same as the informational meeting on December 4. Heinbockel said he expected the public hearing to be well attended.

Leith-Dowling stated 115 attended the informational meeting.

Discussion followed regarding violation of federal law if firearms are carried onto public school grounds and attendance at the informational meeting last December.

Tvenge stated there is a lot of public misinformation.

Additional Reports by Council - Mike Tvenge presented Leith-Dowling with rules for a National High School Oratorical Contest, which is sponsored by the American Legion and deals with the United States Constitution. Tvenge explained the contest, stating it was an opportunity for scholarship but more importantly to learn the skill of public speaking.

Leith-Dowling said she would share the information with the school district.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS**Work Session to Review Rink Upgrades ~ Tentative Date Set for January 23**

White stated attempts to schedule a meeting to review the 65% design submittal for January 5 and January 8 failed. The next opportunity with M2C1 would be January 23.

Discussion followed and Heinbockel, Feilner, Martinez, Tvenge, and Leith-Dowling committed to attend the work session at 5:00pm on January 26 at City Hall.

NEW BUSINESS**Gaming Permit Renewal – Alaska Moose Association****Gaming Permit Renewal – VFW Ladies Auxiliary 9889**

Heinbockel moved to show no opposition to approve gaming permit renewals for Alaska Moose Association and VFW Ladies Auxiliary 9889; Martinez seconded.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Purchase Orders

PO#011436 to ATT & Alascom in the amount of \$803.54 for Jan '07 911 phones and power

PO#011437 to Buffalo Center Auto Parts in the amount of \$527.30 for Rescue Squad, Fire Department, landfill and Ford truck vehicle parts

PO#011438 to Delta Building Supply in the amount of \$1,500.00 for Jan '07 warm storage

PO#011439 to Delta Fuel Company in the amount of \$7,687.07 for Dec '06 heating oil

PO#011440 Delta Sanitation, Inc. in the amount of \$567.14 for Jan '07 dumpster service

PO#011441 to Delta-Greely School District in the amount of \$107,360.89 for final payment on Career

Advancement Center / job training, using Missile Defense Impact funds on the \$1,500,000.00 budget

PO#011442 to Arline Sargent in the amount of \$570.00 for Dec / Jan LEPC secretarial duties

Feilner moved to approve purchase orders 011436 through 011442 as presented; Martinez seconded.

Heinbockel stated the newest buildings are the most expensive to operate. It is reason to lobby the legislature to reinstate revenue sharing.

Leith-Dowling said revenue sharing and the TRS/PERS issue are top priority items with Alaska Municipal League (AML).

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Tvenge apologized for his recent absence and asked if the purchasing process had changed.

Leith-Dowling stated items over \$1000 will require a purchase request (PR) to show proper steps in getting quotes, no matter if there is room in the budget for the particular department. It will eliminate dealing with learning of items after-the-fact, once they have already arrived.

Heinbockel said it would then be run through the Council member who is head of that department.

Tvenge stated the Skating Association has received payment in the amount of \$1,600 for recycled aluminum. Once the connex is returned, courtesy of Lynden Transport, the bin will be emptied and ready to collect more.

Heinbockel said the Delta-Greely School District and Alaska Mechanical (AMI) are in arbitration over the construction of the new elementary school. He said it would be interesting if anything comes of the \$9,000 they stiffed the Skating Association for renting the rink throughout the summer of 2005.

Tvenge said AMI offered the \$1,000/month price but then denied that even though they used the rink.

Carin Bear said the Delta Presbyterian / Faith Lutheran Church collects tabs off cans to purchase minutes of chemotherapy for children. Every tab pays for one minute of free medical treatment. She said Toni Lee oversees the project and sends the tabs to an organization in Seattle.

Discussion followed regarding the easiest way of contributing to both programs.

Paschall said chemotherapy costs are more expensive than what can be collected from recycling cans.

ADJOURNMENT

Feilner moved to adjourn at 5:44pm; Martinez seconded. Motion carried.

Pat White, City Clerk

Date of approval: February 6, 2007