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**City Council Minutes**

**March 10, 2009 ~ 5:00PM**

**Regular Meeting**

**City Hall, Delta Junction, Alaska**

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A quorum of the Delta Junction City Council was not present at the regular meeting on March 3, 2009 so items of business were postponed to a meeting held on Tuesday, March 10, 2009 at City Hall in Delta Junction, Alaska. Mayor Mary Leith-Dowling called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Council members present: Mayor Mary Leith-Dowling, Dawn Grossmann
JW Musgrove, Lou Heinbockel

Council members excused: Mayor Pro tem Pete Hallgren, Pablo Martinez, Leslie Feilner

City employees present: Finance Officer Dave Zimmerman, Public Works Supervisor Butch Ellis

Facilities Maintenance Employee Jeremy Williams, Acting City Clerk Debbie Heral

Three members from the community were present.

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA ~ APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Heinbockel moved to approve the March 10, 2009 agenda; Grossmann seconded. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Tvenge asked to correct wording in the February 17, 2009 minutes under the *City Administrator Report*.

He said he submitted Stimulus information to U.S. Senator Mark Begich, not to the State.

Heinbockel moved to approve the minutes from the February 17, 2009 meeting as presented; Grossmann seconded. Motion carried.

PUBLIC AND COUNCIL COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Musgrove read aloud a letter from Char Lundy, dated February 19, 2009, that was addressed to the City Council regarding her disappointment in denying Heart Fur Animals use of the Community Center for a spay and neuter clinic. Musgrove said some members of the Council felt the Community Center was not an appropriate place to perform surgeries. It is not that the Council does not support Heart Fur Animals. Spay/neuter clinics nationwide do reduce the population of unwanted pets.

Discussion followed regarding Heart Fur Animals' value as an organization within the community and the ideal place (Public Works building) no longer being available.

Grossmann said several community members approached her who also supported Heart Fur Animals, but felt the clinics should not be held at the Community Center.

REPORTS

Rescue Squad – Michael Nuckols reported:

- The number of ambulance transports decreased last month.
- The squad is researching the purchase of a new gurney and they hope to save \$700 in freight.
- A 40-hour, 4-day ETT class may be scheduled in late May, specifically to train and support a

Search & Rescue team. Nuckols explained finding an instructor for the course and said the class will be open to the public.

Airport – JW Musgrove reported a good wind is needed to keep the snowdrifts down.

City Administrator – Mike Tvenge reported he attended OSHA training in Anchorage in February and has since reviewed concerns with Jeremy Williams, who inspected City facilities. Corrections, such as switch plate covers and replacement of fire extinguishers, will cost about \$2,000. Alaska Municipal League Joint Insurance Association (AMLJIA) Safety Credits will cover some costs (\$608) and the rest will come from each department's budget.

Library – Mary Leith-Dowling reported:

- She and Librarian Joyce McCombs participated in the Strategic Sustainability Conference, a future vision for Ft. Greely, on February 18. It was learned during a workshop that the Library Support Grant (\$14,000) has been renewed, allowing the library to be open during evening hours.
- The Library Board has applied for a \$5,000 gaming grant from the Library Association. It will provide Wii (video game box), flat screen TVs, and evening events for teenagers and Senior citizens.
- The 50th Anniversary Statehood quilt exhibit is on display at the library through March 23, 2009.
- The Toyota Motor Company presented the library with a letter stating they will receive a fifty-book collection on translated Japanese literature. Leith-Dowling said Russian books were donated to the library last year, so the collection becomes more diverse.

Personnel – Mary Leith-Dowling reported Katie Charlie was hired to work in the evenings during the extended hours at the library, courtesy of the military grant.

Recreation – Mike Tvenge reported:

- The sewer froze up at the rink a week ago. It was in use on March 1, but froze up the following day. A line that was within fifty feet of the building froze and M2C1 engineers called Kel Weidner to thaw it out. He said it is still under warranty but the problem needs to be resolved.
- Delta hosted the Bantam Bush League Tournament last weekend, March 6 and 7. Teams came from Healy, Fairbanks, Tok, Glennallen, and Kenny Lake. Delta won the tournament.

Public Works – Lou Heinbockel reported on the on-going battle with snow removal.

Leith-Dowling said she and Butch Ellis are working on establishing a recycling plan for Hazmat materials.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS

Burn Barrel Policy

Leith-Dowling referenced the February 19, 2009 draft of a burn barrel policy and said rules for accepting burn barrels is needed.

Heinbockel asked to clarify a “non-acceptable item.”

Tvenge said the non-acceptable item in the policy is a burn barrel and it would not pass inspection if it were still hot. The policy is to protect the landfill from accidental fire. All burn barrels would be declared at the scale house and would require inspection.

Ellis said the Landfill Operating Permit identifies what items are unacceptable. The policy simply makes the public aware that warm burn barrels will not be accepted.

Discussion followed regarding testing for glowing embers and rejected barrels remaining in the possession of the owner.

Heinbockel moved to adopt the burn barrel policy as discussed; Musgrove seconded.

Motion passed by unanimous consent.

City Hall Closure Policy

Leith-Dowling referenced the January 30, 2009 draft of a City Hall Closure Policy and said it addresses whether employees are required to show up during extreme cold weather conditions when very little business is conducted.

Heinbockel moved to adopt the City Hall Closure Policy; Grossmann seconded.

Discussion followed regarding use of a Sense-a-phone and changing wording of “recorded” temperatures.

Motion passed by unanimous consent.

Heinbockel asked that the policy be advertised on the radio as a public service announcement.

Litter Fencing

Tvenge explained that Butch Ellis received the three quotes for standard 6-foot litter fencing and that installing it in-house would cost an estimated \$5,000. He said the lowest quote for 3,000 lineal feet of fencing, including shipping, was from Coastal Netting Systems for \$4,275.

Discussion followed regarding the installation process, critters (moose, owls, ravens, and rabbits) that frequent the landfill, and containing plastic bags within the fenced area.

Musgrove moved to accept the lowest quote from Coastal Netting Systems for \$4,275.00; Heinbockel seconded.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Landfill Roll-off Containers

Heinbockel asked to postpone discussion until a full Council is present. He said landfill expenses to be considered include \$30,000 to replace loader tires and approximately \$15,000 to repair the D6 dozer.

Leith-Dowling stated the topic would be postponed to the meeting on April 7.

Purchase Orders

PO#013286 to Aetna WHO-AAS in the amount of \$8,798.34 for Mar '09 group health insurance

PO#013287 to Bank of America in the amount of \$2,014.67 for credit card purchases (Mike Tvenge and Letha Burcham lodging for Risk Management Seminar in Anchorage, annual tax forms and toner for City Hall printers, answering machine/phones for City Hall, Butch Ellis' Landfill Manager Certification course, and phone replacement at landfill)

PO#013288 to GVEA in the amount of \$1,152.55 for Jan '09 electricity at Liewer-Olmstead Ice Arena

PO#013289 to Morley Electric in the amount of \$1,360.00 to install electronic gate lock at landfill

PO#013304 to Construction Machinery in the amount of \$1,819.78 for Volvo loader bucket edges, blades, and bolts

PO# 013305 to Crowley Petroleum in the amount of \$3,692.54 for Feb '09 heating oil

PO# 013306 to Delta Professional (Texaco) in the amount of \$890.10 for Feb '09 vehicle fuel

PO# 013307 to Raymond Andreassen in the amount of \$2,500.00 for Feb '09 physician sponsor fee

Heinbockel moved to approve purchase orders 013286 through 013289 and 013304 through 013307 as presented; Grossmann seconded.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Tana Wood stated she appreciates Aurora Avenue being maintained and kept open, enabling her to drive between the library and the Post Office without having to travel on the main highway.

Heinbockel stated he would like to combine Parks and Recreation when it comes time to fill Feilner's seat on the Council.

Leith-Dowling stated the next City Council meeting would be scheduled on March 24, 2009 instead of the third Tuesday of the month, which would be March 17.

ADJOURNMENT

Heinbockel moved to adjourn at 5:53pm; Musgrove seconded. Motion carried.

Debra Heral
Acting City Clerk

Pat White, CMC

Approved: March 24, 2009