

**Anchorage City Council  
Special Meeting Minutes**

**Teleconference  
April 20, 2020  
6:00 p.m.**

Councilmembers in attendance were Diane Cook, Matt Delehanty, Jason Walters, Hunter Wilson, and Bill Wetherton. Also in attendance were Mayor Hewitt, Deputy Mayor Cece Hagan, City Attorney John McGarvey, Assistant City Attorney Richard Edwards, City Administrator Renee Major, Clerk/Receptionist Angie Chick.

**Call to Order**

Due to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) requirements to maintain social distancing for the Coronavirus pandemic, and pursuant to KY Senate Bill 150 of the 2020 KY Legislature signed into law on 30 March 2020, this meeting was conducted as a public teleconference, in lieu of a physical meeting of City Council at Anchorage City Hall.

Mayor Hewitt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Old Business**

**2020 Tax Rate Ordinance - Second Reading**

Cook conducted the second reading of the 2020 tax rate ordinance and motioned to approve the ordinance. Delehanty seconded the motion. Cook asked for clarification that the discount for early payment is how the City is refunding the approximately \$180,000.00 it collected last year from the increased rate on insurance premiums. Cook inquired whether or not the City should consider postponing the refund in light of the state of the economy. Mayor Hewitt explained that this tax rate ordinance only affects the current budget, which ends on June 30, 2020 and that the City will finish this fiscal year with a surplus of approximately \$80,000.

Hewitt reminded Council that the City Council agreed to adjust property taxes to offset the increased insurance premium tax rate of 10%. Hewitt said the City would do a 12-month budget for the next fiscal year, but recommended reassessing the City's position in January. Hagan asked Hewitt and Major if they felt that the City needed to save money for next year. Cook noted the \$80,000 surplus from this year but asked if the City could access the \$4,000,000 it has in reserves, if foreclosures reduce property tax revenue. Hewitt said there were only a few foreclosures during the recession from 2008 to 2010. McGarvey stated that the City has a priority lien over mortgage holders, and that taxes were paid with all the foreclosures Hewitt mentioned. Major noted that City Council can approve a budget amendment after the six-month review, if needed. She also stated the City can include a Transfer from Fund Balance, the accounting term for utilizing cash reserves to supplement a current budget, and that cities do this all the time. Cook is okay with the City budgeting realistically and not conservatively. Major said the City received approximately \$200,000 more in tax premiums this year, and the City should consider refunding it as previously promised.

On another item, McGarvey pointed out new state legislature mandates a school resource officer at each school, so the City may have to employ an eleventh police officer to fill this roll for next school year. One possibility, which has not been agreed upon, is that the school use the officer when school is in session and reimburse the City, while the City uses the officer during its busy times of winter and summer breaks. Hewitt stated the extra officer would be part of the next fiscal

year budget FY2021. With no further discussion, City Council voted unanimously to approve the 2020 tax rate ordinance.

**Ordinance Adopting a Supplement to the Code of Ordinances - Second Reading**

Wetherton read and motioned to approve the ordinance adopting a Supplement to the Code of Ordinances. Walters seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Cook motioned to adjourn the meeting. Wilson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:14 p.m.