

**MINUTES
OF THE
ANCHORAGE CITY COUNCIL**

December 14, 2015
6:00 p.m.
City Hall

The Council members in attendance were Diane Cook, Cece Hagan, Connie O’Connell, and Bill Wetherton. Mayor Tommy Hewitt presided. Also in attendance were City Administrative Officer Reneé Major, Public Works Director Erwin Booth, Police Chief Dean Hayes, City Attorney John McGarvey, Deputy Treasurer Sara Ritchie, Clerk/Receptionist Sandra Kunzler, and guests Diane McAllister, Ed Weyler, and Michelle Arnold and her two sons, Blake and Ryan.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Hewitt at 6:02 p.m.

Blake and Ryan Arnold attended the City Council meeting as a requirement of their Boy Scout Civic badges. Cook had the boys introduce themselves, and told them to ask questions if they had any as the meeting proceeded.

MINUTES

Minutes from the November 9, 2015, Regular Meeting of City Council were reviewed. Hagan stated the minutes were very well written and accurately captured both sides of the deer discussion. O’Connell motioned to accept the minutes as presented, and Cook seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

TREASURER’S REPORT

The November 2015 Check Register and Financial Report were presented. Cook questioned the newsletter cost. Major explained the expense is monthly, and that the newsletter is used to mail legal notices (approved Ordinances) first class to residents as required by Kentucky’s Constitution. The alternative is publication of Ordinances in *The Courier-Journal* which becomes cost prohibitive. Major also informed Council that the loan held by the City to finance the purchase of the Wagner property was paid in full.

POLICE REPORT

The November Police Activity Report was presented. Hayes advised Council that Officer Atchinson had successful surgery, but resigned due to family concerns and to pursue other work. Officer Hans, who was part time, will take over the full-time slot. The new body cameras were unable to communicate with the old Police Department PC so a new computer was purchased. To be effective, the cameras and computer must talk to each other to capture data. McGarvey suggested that an Officer be present at all large City gatherings and meetings as a safety precaution. Hayes stated a break-in occurred over the weekend in the Forest School subdivision. The house was alarmed, but Hayes noted there is a few minute delay in notification if an alarm report initially goes to the monitoring company, then the

police. It greatly expedites their response time if the alarm goes directly to the Anchorage PD. Midwest is direct, but ADT (the largest in the area) requires alarms go through their main dispatch. Hayes said that burglars assume every house is alarmed, but know they have 30 seconds before the alarm goes off, and two or three minutes before the police are actually notified. With this knowledge, they are in and out of a house in that time frame.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes from the November 17, 2015 meeting were shared with Council. When asked about the approved demolition of 809 Glenbrook, Wetherton said the Commission would have preferred the structure be preserved and restored, but that the engineer's report indicated the deterioration was severe, and the house could not be saved.

FORESTRY BOARD

Forestry Board minutes from the October 5 and November 2, meetings were presented. McAllister informed Council that she was relinquishing the Board chair after seven years, but would stay on during 2016 to assist with the transition. O'Connell thanked McAllister for her 15 years of service on the Forestry Board, and summarized all of the accomplishments that occurred during her tenure as chair, including Tree City USA, Growth Awards, annual forestry calendars, a new forestry handbook, as well as the many seminars and programs. O'Connell informed McAllister that a tree will be planted in her honor at City Hall, and a plaque erected at the site.

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance Adopting Supplement to the Code of Ordinances, Second Reading – Hagan entered a motion to adopt the S-18 Supplement and approve the Ordinance; seconded by Wetherton. The floor was opened for discussion, and there was none. A vote was taken, and all approved.

REACH Alert Contract/Update – Hayes indicated there was a difference of wording on the contract, but that was worked out. Training for APD personnel is scheduled for this week. He noted 75 to 80 residents have already signed up. Another article will be placed in the January newsletter encouraging registration. O'Connell said that three test messages will be sent in January with instructions so residents can win prizes: 1) Public Works will plow a drive one time during a snow event, 2) an Anchorage book, 3) a gift card. O'Connell requested Mayor Hewitt approve a gift card amount of \$50, and it was confirmed. Every year Eagle Scout candidates look for ways to assist the City. It was suggested they call on (door to door) those who have not registered and encourage them to do so.

MSD Sewer Project Status – Booth reported that MAC Construction has erected silt fencing, and that tree removal has started. Kentuckiana Seismic & Survey is going door to door to complete their pre-blasting inspections. A staging area has been set up at St. Luke's. Construction will begin from the Old Harrods Creek Road area and move east, with digging to start in late December or early January.

NEW BUSINESS

Holy Angels Academy Detention Basin Project – Major informed Council that when Holy Angels Academy was constructed, it was agreed that the detention basin built would absorb the majority of the run-off. Currently, the basin is only collecting approximately 30%. With a new baseball field, basketball court, and parking lot planned, the City hired CFW Engineering/Chuck Weber to analyze the current basin and the proposed revised design. Excess run-off currently drains through the old Shallcross Park via an unapproved swale, then down Glenbrook. Today, Weber and Major held a meeting with the construction contractor, Korfhage Landscaping, who agreed to increase the capacity of the detention basin, re-grade the land, and re-direct the flow of the run-off to the basin. A public meeting has been scheduled for tomorrow evening at City Hall with Tier 1 and Tier 2 neighbors. Middletown residents affected by the project will also be coming to the meeting. Cook entered a motion authorizing Mayor Hewitt to send a letter of approval to MSD once Weber has approved and signed-off on the final drainage plan. Motion seconded by O’Connell. All approved. It is noted that no lights are planned for the ball field.

2016 Hazardous Tree Bids – Ten bids were received, several from out of the immediate area. Booth was unable to find any Kentucky Secretary of State registration or Better Business Bureau information about the low bidder, 3 Crosses Tree Service, and recommended they be eliminated. The second and third lowest bids are separated by only \$175. The second bid at \$17,375 was from Cornerstone Landscape. They are a relatively new company, recommended by the City Forester. Number three, Kentucky Tree, was awarded the bid in 2015, and they have proved highly efficient and easy to work with. Because of prior experience and proven ability to perform, Booth recommended that Kentucky Tree’s bid of \$17,550 be accepted, and they be awarded the contract for 2016. Wetherton made a motion to approve Kentucky Tree, and the motion was seconded by O’Connell. A vote was taken and all approved.

Stone Bridge Hazardous Tree Removal – There are 66 diseased ash trees in the subdivision’s public right-of-way. The City and the homeowners association have been in negotiation regarding their removal. The HOA will contract to have the trees removed, and the City was asked to split the cost and provide seedlings that the HOA will plant. Hagan entered a motion to approve the \$14,700 request; seconded by O’Connell. All approved. McGarvey inquired about the status of the R-2A rezoning request for Stone Bridge. He stated that the signed, approved Resolution is typically sent by the City Clerk to Metro for processing. Major stated she would take of it.

HPC Request to Upgrade/Replace Non-confirming Shutters – Historic Preservation Commission members noticed that the shutters on the new addition to City Hall and the fire station are non-compliant with Anchorage Historic Preservation Guidelines. Shutters should be operational and full width so that they meet when closed. It is not known how the City Hall shutters made it past HPC when the addition was constructed in 2003. Due to their age, the fire station shutters are grandfathered, however City Hall’s 11 sets should addressed. Booth was asked to secure estimates to replace them.

Proposed New Mono-pole Cell Tower – McGarvey stated that AT&T is ready to begin the project. The question of whether a new tower is needed arose again. Wetherton said the current tower is above 100% weight capacity. The recent repairs simply made it safe. McGarvey said he still needs to deal with the title transfer from T-Mobile. Hagan asked if the City received the requested certification letter from AT&T that all of the work required to stabilize the tower was completed. Wetherton said the last item on the list was the installation of the guy wires and that work was completed several months ago. Hagan would still like something in writing from AT&T. Verizon wants on the tower and cannot be added; the Alaska Broadband site to be vacated on the existing tower is not suitable for them. The spot is too low on the tower, plus removing existing Alaska Broadband equipment does not eliminate sufficient weight for new data equipment which is heavier. Cook would like to see a financial analysis created for a new tower, to include increased leases and additional revenue projections. No action was taken.

OTHER BUSINESS

Due to a scheduling conflict, the Civic Club has moved the annual Town Meeting from January 31st to January 24th.

McGarvey stated that all small cities should have franchise contracts with the utility companies. Anchorage's 20-year agreement with LG&E ran out during Peyton Hoge's tenure as mayor. Mayor Hewitt stated that LG&E would not agree to obey City Ordinances. McGarvey noted LG&E made it clear any franchise fee assessed to them by the City would be passed on to residents. Cook asked why a franchise agreement was required. McGarvey pointed out that LG&E did not have a right to complete recent work on Owl Creek Lane; they had to secure individual permits for the work. He said it's not a crisis, but the benefit of having an agreement is to properly regulate them.

At 6:57 p.m. Hagan made a motion that Council move to Executive Session to discuss pending litigation; seconded by Cook. All approved. Council returned to Regular Session at 7:18 p.m. No action was taken, and the meeting adjourned.

W. Thomas Hewitt
Mayor

René M. Major
City Clerk