

**MINUTES
OF THE
ANCHORAGE CITY COUNCIL**

Special Meeting – Wednesday, January 18, 2017
6:00 p.m.
City Hall

The Council members in attendance were Diane Cook, Cece Hagan, Connie O’Connell, Neil Ramsey, Brian Rublein, and Bill Wetherton. Mayor Tommy Hewitt presided. Also in attendance were City Administrative Officer Reneé Major, City Attorney John McGarvey, Police Chief Dean Hayes, Director of Public Works Erwin Booth, Deputy City Treasurer Sara Ritchie, Clerk/Receptionist Angie Chick, and Forestry Board Chair Lucy Spickard.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Hewitt at 6:11 p.m.

MINUTES

Minutes from the December 12, 2016 City Council regular meeting were reviewed. There were no questions or corrections. Rublein motioned to approve the minutes as presented, and Ramsey seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

TREASURER’S REPORT

The December 2016 Check Register and Financial Report were presented. There were no questions or corrections.

POLICE REPORT

Chief Hayes announced the approval of the grant for Generation 7 Glock handguns for Anchorage Police officers. Each officer has a handgun, and shotgun. Six officers also carry a rifle in their vehicle.

Chief Hayes reported there were only six burglaries in 2016, one of which was forced entry. The previous year had twelve burglaries, eight of them were forced entries. Hayes clarified that items stolen from an open garage are categorized as a burglary rather than a theft. Cook mentioned that Anchorage should communicate the fact that burglaries are down. McGarvey added that burglaries are down because Anchorage investigates burglary cases, unlike other cities where cases only get filed. Hayes noted the difference Anchorage citizens make in preventing crime, citing how neighbors move packages off porches for each other. This alone resulted in less packages stolen from porches during the 2016 holiday season as compared to the previous year. Hagan asked about reports of people knocking on doors and running off. Hayes said these events get reported as incidents.

There were 2,438 traffic stops in 2016. Hayes noted it is recommended that officers stop offenders, but officers are able to use their own discretion for issuing citations.

McGarvey pointed out that there were no missing persons reports in 2016, and only one disturbance call, which came from U-Spiritus, in the last two years.

Mayor Hewitt commented on the high quality of personnel in the Anchorage police force.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Cook asked if FAR (Floor Area Ratios) are being enforced in Anchorage. Major replied that zoning does enforce maximum FAR regulations.

FORESTRY BOARD REPORT

Spickard announced that Arbor Day will be on Wednesday, March 22, 2017.

OLD BUSINESS

ABC License Ordinance Changes

Hagan conducted the second reading of the ordinance amending the code of ordinance sections 112.24 and 112.47 relating to the expiration date of alcohol beverage licenses to conform to the amendment in state law. The state changed their ABC license renewal dates for local governments to coincide with the county in which they are located. New ABC licenses will renew each year on November 1st going forward, making them consistent with Jefferson County. Hagan motioned to approve the ordinance. Ramsey seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Woodland Road Sewer Extension Bids

Booth recommended accepting the lowest bid, which was submitted by Flynn Brothers Construction. Major and Booth met with Flynn Brothers Construction. Flynn Brothers Construction agreed to a “will not exceed” contract, with the anticipation that the total cost could be lower than their bid at \$75,707.

Residential sewer connection expense to reimburse the City of Anchorage is estimated to be \$14,000.00 each for the two properties at the intersection of Woodland and Evergreen Road. Hewitt mentioned the possibility of creating a special tax district for this expense, whereby the residents would make a payment of \$14,000.00 as a deposit until the special tax district is created or finalized.

McGarvey confirmed that no vote is needed and the Mayor is able to accept the lowest bid.

As for expanding the sewer line from this intersection, O’Connell is chairing the sewer expansion task force to bring sewer connections to the southeast section of Anchorage in the area east and south of Evergreen Road and Ridge Road. O’Connell stated that the next planned step will be to have water samples taken and analyzed by a laboratory.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayoral Appointments

The Ambulance Board will be appointed at the next City Council meeting. Rublein motioned to accept all Mayoral Appointments, with the exception of the Ambulance Board. O'Connell seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Verizon Lease Agreement

McGarvey stated Ramsey negotiated the Verizon Lease Agreement and McGarvey asked for a few changes. A 2% escalation clause is included. The contract is locked in for a minimum of five years. Wetherton motioned by resolution of the City Council to accept the Verizon Lease Agreement and authorize Mayor Hewitt to sign the lease agreement on behalf of the City. O'Connell seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Cell Tower Update

Ramsey, Wetherton, and McGarvey are negotiating the T-Mobile agreement. T-Mobile agreed to pay all lease payments due, going back to December 1, 2013, and pay to move their equipment to the new cell tower. The City agreed to forgive the approximately \$17,000 in repair expenses on the old cell tower.

Major stated that AT&T initially paid to install the new cell tower and that AT&T will be repaid through market-rate rent forgiveness for a total amount of \$200,000. Booth said the AT&T equipment on the old tower has been removed, and new AT&T equipment has been placed on the new cell tower. The new equipment was placed in service on January 16, 2017. Completion of the new tower is estimated to be completed and ready for new equipment by 31 January 2017.

McGarvey noted that the antennas for City of Anchorage, Midwest Alarm, T-Mobile, and Sprint need to be relocated.

Waiving the Anchorage ABC License for the Civic Club Winter Bowl

Ramsey motioned to waive the Anchorage ABC License for the Civic Club Winter Bowl. O'Connell seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Announcement: Winter Bowl and Town Hall Meeting, Sunday, January 29, 2017 from 4 to 6 pm.

The Town Hall meeting will be held at 5:30 pm at Shall We Dance. Wetherton asked about the ABC requirements for serving alcoholic beverages at Winter Bowl. McGarvey deferred compliance questions to Anchorage ABC Officer, Cooper Robertson.

At 6:43 p.m. Cook motioned to go to executive session to discuss pending litigation. O'Connell seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. City Council returned to open session from executive session at 7:56 p.m.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

W. Thomas Hewitt
Mayor

Reneé M. Major
City Clerk