

**MINUTES  
OF THE  
ANCHORAGE CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING**

Monday, January 14, 2019  
6:00 p.m.  
City Hall

The Council members in attendance were Diane Cook, Cece Hagan, Bill Wetherton, Neil Ramsey, Jason Walters, and Hunter Wilson. Also, in attendance were Mayor Thomas Hewitt, City Administrator Reneé Major, Public Works Director Erwin Booth, Police Chief Dean Hayes, Deputy Treasurer Sara Ritchie, Clerk/Receptionist Angie Chick, and Forestry Chairperson Lucy Spickard.

Mayor Hewitt called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Mayor Hewitt introduced and welcomed the two new City Council members, Jason Walters and Hunter Wilson.

**MINUTES**

Minutes from the December 10, 2018 City Council regular meeting were reviewed. Hagan motioned to approve the minutes, Wetherton seconded the motion, and all approved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Ramsey asked about the auction fee paid to Govdeals Inc. Booth explained the auction fee is added to the price paid to the City by the buyers. Govdeals invoices the City directly for the auction fees.

Mayor Hewitt announced that he is looking at a possible reduction in the Anchorage real and personal property tax rate for fiscal year ending June 30, 2019.

Cook inquired about Verizon's lease revenue. Major explained that no revenue appears for Verizon's lease in 2016 and 2017 because the lease began in 2018. Major noted that the City will run an ad in the newspaper this week seeking bids to remove the obsolete cell tower.

Council also discussed the fluctuation in insurance premium tax revenue from year to year. The revenue is unpredictable, which makes budgeting for it a challenge.

**POLICE REPORT**

Chief Hayes is still working to fill the position vacated by Officer Taylor. Cook recommended putting an article in *the Anchor Age Newsletter* to thank the police department for another good year of service. Hayes will provide the data for the article.

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

Hagan asked if the City had signed the agreement for Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc. (CRA) to revise the AHPC Guidebook. The Guidebook is approximately 25 years old and needs to be updated to reflect new building materials, address past issues, update examples, and ensure that guidelines are clear and easy to use. The agreement has been signed by the Mayor. CRA will begin gathering data and photos on January 15, 2019 to draft a guidebook, hold a meeting to get public response, and present the guidebook to City Council for approval. Hewitt indicated the City is also working to update zoning regulations such as floor area ratio and impervious surface calculations.

Cook inquired about the actions taken for a resident that used material that was different than what the Historic Preservation Commission approved. The homeowners were fined \$250.00. A revised Certificate of Appropriateness was also issued based on extenuating circumstances.

### **FORESTRY BOARD REPORT**

Lucy Spickard, Chairman of the Forestry Board, thanked the soon-to-retire Director of Public Works, Erwin Booth, for all he has done over the years for the Forestry Board.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **MCImetro Access Transmission Services Franchise Update**

The franchise agreement has been signed and the franchise fee has been paid. MCImetro was advised to obtain permits for work such as tree removal, trenching, and road cuts.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **2019 Mayoral Appointments**

After many years in the position, Monica Westhusing's last year as tax assessor was 2018. A new tax assessor will be appointed soon. Cook motioned to approve the following 2019 mayoral appointments. Wilson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

#### **Board of Tax Supervisors**

##### **January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019 (New term)**

Ken Purnell	Tax Supervisor
Keith Sant	Tax Supervisor
Paul Wessel	Tax Supervisor

#### **City Officials**

##### **January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019 (New term)**

Paul Bergmann	Zoning Compliance Officer
Greg Smith	City Engineer & Flood Safety Officer
Cooper Robertson	Alcohol Beverage Control Officer

#### **Ethics Commission**

##### **January 1, 2019– December 31, 2019 (New term)**

Brooks Alexander

#### **Forestry Board**

##### **January 1, 2019– December 31, 2019 (New term)**

Lucy Spickard, Chairperson	Nan Dryden
Diane McAllister	Ellen Welham
Nancy Wilkinson	Jan Ruzich

#### **Historic Preservation Commission**

##### **January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2019 (Currently serving; no appt.)**

Bill Wetherton, Nonvoting/Chairman  
Clyde Ensor

##### **January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2020 (Currently serving; no appt.)**

Bill Wilkinson  
Greta Chessler

##### **January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2021 (New term)**

Katie Greene  
Dan Fultz  
Doug Schmitt  
Connie O'Connell

#### **Cable Commission**

##### **January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019 (New term)**

Reneé Major

#### **Conservation Easement Board**

##### **January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019 (New term)**

Brooks Alexander

**Waiver of ABC license fee for Winter Bowl**

City Council approval is needed to waive any ABC license fees. Ramsey motioned to waive the ABC license fee for the 2019 Winter Bowl. Walters seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.

**Hazardous Tree Removal Bids**

The City received two bids for hazardous tree removal. The City will accept the lowest bid, which was received from Podges Tree Service. No vote is required to accept the lowest bid.

**Renewal of Republic Services Contract**

The current contract expired on December 31, 2018, but is renewable. Republic Services issued a price increase notice for recycling services, from \$3.75 to \$5.25 per address. The increase is due to the lack of an aftermarket for recyclable materials. Republic Services will check on whether they could offer better pricing. Council will discuss the contract and prices at the next meeting.

**Replacement of Director of Public Works**

Erwin Booth will retire as of April 1, 2019. The position was advertised in local newspaper and twenty-five applications have been received. Five applicants are scheduled to be interviewed.

**Anchorage Public School Grounds**

Cook suggested the City send a letter thanking Anchorage Public School Superintendent Kelley Ransdell for doing a great job with the landscaping on and improvements to the school grounds. The school representative noted that installation of the scoreboard was delayed about two months due to the weather.

**Snow Removal**

Wilson congratulated Erwin Booth and the Public Works department for a job well done with snow removal in the City.

An executive session was not needed. Ramsey motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Hagan and was unanimously passed. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

W. Thomas Hewitt  
Mayor

Reneé M. Major  
City Clerk