

**MINUTES
OF THE
ANCHORAGE CITY COUNCIL**

Special Meeting - July 20, 2016

6:00 p.m.

City Hall

The Council members in attendance were Cece Hagan, Connie O'Connell, Neil Ramsey, and Brian Rublein. 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, and Deputy City Treasurer Sara Ritchie.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Hewitt at 6:07 p.m.

MINUTES

Minutes from the June 13, 2016, regular meeting of City Council were reviewed. There were no questions or corrections. Hagan motioned to approve the minutes as presented, and Rublein seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The June 2016 Check Register and Financial Report were presented.

Hewitt stated that the City now has a good surplus and enough cash reserves. In the next few months, the City will review the operating budget and financial statements for the last few years, excluding any extraordinary expenses. The City has already done a comparison of similar Metro cities and will evaluate a financial plan to lower taxes. Ramsey stated the City should be able to run a balanced budget with a plan in place for extraordinary events.

OLD BUSINESS

Sign Ordinance – Second Reading

Hagan conducted the second reading of the Ordinance that repeals the sign permit fee of \$20. Hagan motioned to approve the ordinance. O'Connell seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

T-Mobile Update

McGarvey stated that T-Mobile has agreed to pay all repairs to the cell tower and back rent, but if they are required to move to the new cell tower, the City will need to pay for the transfer of T-Mobile's equipment to the new tower. Major stated the cost estimate for the transfer of equipment was approximately \$18,000.

NEW BUSINESS

Real Estate Sign Variance Request

Hewitt stated that the City usually doesn't grant exceptions for real estate signs, however, the property at 11801 Squires Lane was difficult to access. It was recommended to give a variance for a sign to be placed on Evergreen Road at Squires Lane. Ramsey motioned to approve the variance for six months only. Rublein seconded. The motion to grant a variance was unanimously approved.

Google Fiber Franchise Ordinance and Agreement – First Reading

McGarvey explained the details of the ordinance. Hewitt stated Google has equipment houses or huts and recommends these not be permitted in the City of Anchorage without City approval. McGarvey stated that he would amend the Ordinance to include wording that requires City Council approval for any structures. McGarvey stated Jeffersontown had originally used a similar ordinance with Google but switched to Metro's model for uniformity. Hagan conducted the first reading of the Ordinance.

Waive ABC Special Temporary License Fee – St. Luke's Episcopal Church and Anchorpalooza.

Major stated that St. Luke's Episcopal Church's license is pending and Anchorpalooza is forthcoming. Both need to have their City ABC fees waived. Ramsey motioned to approve. O'Connell seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. Hewitt stated that Anchorpalooza will be at Wagner Park this year, and two police officers will be present and requests at least two City Council members attend, since he is unable to be there himself.

Approval of PICNIC ABC License

Ramsey stated that he did not remember City Council approving ABC Licenses in the past. McGarvey explained that they do not occur very often. Ramsey motioned to approve the ABC License for PICNIC restaurant. Rublein seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Street Parking Limits

Major presented the time-stamped photos taken by Booth of the parking situation across from the Post Office. The office building tenants are using the street parking most of the day, leaving less temporary parking for the restaurants. Major asked Evergreen Real Estate to speak to their office building tenants about using their building parking lots instead of the street parking. The parking dilemma continues. Ramsey motioned to assign a two-hour parking limit from the Village Anchor to the stop sign at the railroad crossing excluding the 15-minute parking spots in front of the Post Office. O'Connell seconded. Discussion followed. The motion was unanimously approved.

Hewitt stated that the City is contemplating an offer to open up the City Hall parking lot to restaurant patrons who are City residents. Discussion followed as to how to properly do this. Additional parking options will become important since a new restaurant is planned to open next year.

Bids for Bellewood Road and Osage Road Walking Paths

Booth stated that American Paving was the low bidder for both projects. O'Connell motioned to approve awarding the contract to American Paving. Ramsey seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

OTHER BUSINESS

Statue in Middletown

Hewitt presented information about a statue of former Gov. Wetherby being placed in Middletown. Governor Wetherby graduated from Anchorage High School. Hewitt suggested an article in the newsletter to inform residents of how they can make a donation to this statue. O'Connell inquired if there is a target amount of money to raise. Ramsey stated it's just to let people know they have an opportunity to donate to this cause.

Tour of Homes for Sale/Open House

Hewitt stated there is a tour of 16 homes planned for Sunday, and there may be extra directional signs and traffic in the City.

At 6:40 p.m. O'Connell made a motion for Council to move to Executive Session. Ramsey seconded. All approved. City Council returned from Executive Session at 7:03 p.m., and resumed the meeting in regular session.

Settlement Agreement with Uspiritus

A motion was made by O'Connell, part of the settlement of the pending civil action between the City and Uspiritus, Inc. ("Uspiritus"), that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute for the City an Agreement with Uspiritus setting certain limitations on individuals who may be admitted to any program conducted by Uspiritus on its Bellewood campus located within the City, or who may remain a resident on the Bellewood Campus, and, except for such minor revisions as are approved by the Mayor, and Council members Cecelia Hagan and Neil Ramsey, the Agreement shall conform to the "City's Proposed Terms of Agreement" presented to the Council. It is understood that execution of the Agreement for the City is contingent upon the entry of an Agreed Order, which the City's counsel in the action are authorized to sign for the City, dismissing the action and the counterclaims with prejudice, and with each party to the action to bear its own costs and attorneys' fees. Rublein seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

W. Thomas Hewitt
Mayor

Reneé Major
City Clerk