

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

Monday, July 08, 2019
6:00 p.m.
City Hall

The Council members in attendance were Cece Hagan, Diane Cook, Neil Ramsey, Bill Wetherton, and Hunter Wilson. Also, in attendance were: Mayor Tommy Hewitt, City Attorney John McGarvey, City Administrator Reneé Major, Deputy Treasurer Sara Ritchie, Anchorage Police Lieutenant Deron Berthold, Public Works Director Gary Burkhead, Clerk/Receptionist Angie Chick, and Forestry Chair Lucy Spickard. Council member Jason Walters did not attend.

Mayor Hewitt called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

MINUTES

Wilson motioned to approve the June 17, 2019 special meeting minutes. Cook seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER’S REPORT

There were no questions about the June 2019 check register and financial statements.

POLICE REPORT

Lt. Berthold announced that Officer Ratterman will retire at the end of July due to health reasons. Chief Hayes is looking for a replacement to fill Ratterman’s second-shift position. To answer Hagan’s concern for being down one officer, Berthold said Ratterman would be available to work until mid-August if a replacement had not been found.

Cook noted traffic citations were down and asked if more citations would be a deterrent to cut-through traffic. Berthold replied that Anchorage has a reputation for checking speed, and the sign placed on Log Cabin Lane has been successful in reducing speeders. He also stated, the hours that officers patrol for traffic can differ depending on their work schedule, which can be affected by things like residence checks while people are gone on summer vacation. Hewitt noted that historic numbers do not show a huge increase in traffic. Cook stated that some streets like Glenbrook Road have seen increased cut through traffic.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

There were no questions or comments on the Historic Preservation Commission report.

FORESTRY BOARD REPORT

Spickard reported two trees are to be planted to the south of City Hall. A Venus Dogwood tree will be purchased by the City and planted to honor the many years of service by retired Public Works Director Erwin Booth. Ben Sough will plant the other tree in memory of Anchorage resident Brad Farrar.

Spickard also reported two forestry permits were issued for multiple trees. The City Forester approved removal of 25 trees at 1905 Stonegate Road due to their decline and overgrowth, and another eight trees at 11706 Little Lane for construction.

Cook asked about the process to ensure trees are replanted. Spickard pointed out that the permit obtained by homeowners states the requirement to replace trees on a 1:1 ratio or a 3:1 ratio using specific trees. Residents must utilize the annual Spring Tree Give-Away or the Fall Canopy Campaign to replace them. According to Spickard, the Forestry Board spoke on this at a recent meeting. The City Forester must approve an application if six trees or more are requested for removal. In the event several replacement trees are mandated, the Forest Board will ensure compliance.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

Variance – Cary Martin, 1006 Evergreen Road

The Martins propose rebuilding an existing deck and adding a roof and screens. The property is currently a legal, non-conforming lot with a 370.8 sq. ft. impervious surface overage. The request is for an 865 sq. ft. impervious surface variance, which is the total existing overage plus new construction. City Attorney John McGarvey stated that this lot was created years ago and it falls below the densest zoning allowed. He indicated variances were created to handle such situations. Wilson motioned to approve the impervious surface variance. Wetherton seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Variance – Oliveira, 11905 Spring Garden Lane

Kristen Manouchehri de Oliveira and Pedro Oliveira propose to build a fence on the lots they are purchasing at 11905 Spring Garden Lane. Mrs. Oliveira stated the fence would be six-feet tall and setback 14 feet from the Glenbrook Road property line. Hagan asked about neighbors' positions on the fence. Neighbor notifications were sent by mail and no objections were received prior to or during the City Council meeting. Zoning Officer Paul Bergmann issued a letter of support for the project. Wilson motioned to approve the setback variance for the Glenbrook Road side contingent on consolidation of lots 19, 20, and 21 and the deed transferring to Mr. and Mrs. Oliveira. Hagan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Police Department Security Cameras

McGarvey said the Police Department has been considering installing security cameras at the Police Station, City Hall, Public Works, and Evergreen Road/Station Road parking lot for a long time. A recent incident involving an individual that may have wanted to commit suicide via police shooting, prompted action to install security cameras. Cameras will be monitored 24/7. Mayor Hewitt informed City Council that he accepted the lowest bid and cameras will be installed soon.

Wildlife Management Proposal

City representatives and a few Anchorage residents met with Jonathan Gasset of Southern Wildlife Resources, LLC to discuss a population assessment of coyotes and deer and a stakeholder (resident) survey regarding wildlife in Anchorage. Major confirmed that the company will give the City recommendations after doing the assessment and survey. Ramsey asked for the company to provide outcomes and costs for their recommendations. McGarvey confirmed for Wilson that there is no downside legally for doing either the assessment or survey. Cook suggested surveys be done by household, not per person, and said resident surveys should be done to correspond to the next deer hunting season. The cost of the survey would be \$7,040 for both an assessment and survey, with a 20% discount if both are done. Cook and McGarvey stated concerns for the methodology and validity of the results of doing an online survey. Ramsey expressed that, as elected officials, City Council members could make decisions based the wildlife assessment without a stakeholder survey. Hagan agreed that a survey would not be helpful. Hewitt delegated Ramsey and Hagan as a subcommittee to decide the course of action after Major gets feedback from the company on the cost of their recommendations.

Resolution approving Madelynn Grace Myers Day Proclamation

Hagan read the proclamation to proclaim July 12, 2019 as Madelynn Grace Myers Day in the City of Anchorage. Hagan motioned to accept the proclamation, Cook seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Real Estate Sign Variance – Straub, 12204 E. Osage Road

Jennifer and Rudolf Straub received a 14-day sign variance from City Administrator Reneé Major, due to the flag shape of the lot. Jennifer Straub asked to extend the previous variance and permission to add a second sign. The request is for one regular full-sized (30' x 36') real estate sign with an added arrow to be placed next to E. Osage Road, and one pointer sign farther back, near the flag portion of the lot. Ramsey motioned to approve the sign variance. Wilson seconded the motion, and all approved.

Ramsey motioned to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation at 7:02 p.m. Wetherton seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. An executive session was called at 7:02 p.m. Council returned from executive session at 7:32 p.m.

With no further business to discuss, Wetherton motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ramsey and was unanimously passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

W. Thomas Hewitt
Mayor

Reneé M. Major
City Clerk