

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

**Monday, July 12, 2021
6:00 p.m.**

Council members in attendance were Diane Cook, Matt Delehanty (via phone conference), Patrick McMahon, and Bill Wetherton. Also, in attendance were Mayor Neil Ramsey, Assistant City Attorney Richard Edwards, City Administrator Reneé Major, Police Chief Dean Hayes, Public Works Director Gary Burkhead, Clerk/Receptionist Angie Chick, Anchorage Forestry Board Chairperson Lucy Spickard, and guest R. Todd Hockenbury, and Dawn Elmore. Council member Hunter Wilson was absent.

Mayor Ramsey called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

MINUTES

McMahon motioned to approve the June 21, 2021 City Council Special Meeting minutes. Wetherton seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Cook pointed out that real property tax income has been increasing each year and noted one cause is the increase in appraisal values. Major confirmed for Cook that Anchorage received the first Covid relief check that was used to cover police department expenses, and a submission was made to obtain further Covid relief funds.

POLICE REPORT

Chief Hayes reported another car break-in that occurred on June 27th near the Anchorage trailhead. The possibility of putting up “Area Under Surveillance” signs and an additional pole and cameras was discussed. Mayor Ramsey said he approves putting cameras up at the trailhead and supplying electricity to them, pending the City obtaining permission from the property owner.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Bill Wetherton reported that no applications were received so there was no June meeting. Wetherton shared that he approved an emergency Certificate of Appropriateness for replacing a storm-damaged attached garage with a like-kind garage at 1503 Ridge Court.

Wetherton shared information about an event that he and Anchorage Archivist Peg Revell attended at the Louisville Water Tower in 2004. First Lady Laura Bush made a presentation to all thirty-

one Kentucky historic preservation cities. Wetherton plans to share the information with the Louisville Water Tower historian.

FORESTRY BOARD REPORT

Because of the holiday, the Forestry Board meeting was scheduled later than normal in the month. Since it was held on July 12th, the same day as the City Council meeting, the minutes will be made available for Council review at the August City Council meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

Invasive Plant Species

Anchorage resident Todd Hockenbury gave a slide presentation on invasive plants, with the main emphasis on bamboo. He asked City Council to consider banning invasive plants, like other local governments and states have done. Assistant City Attorney Edwards explained that invasive species are very different from a one-time event like a tree falling on a neighbor's property. Cook and McMahon are in favor of banning invasive plants. Mayor Ramsey and Major will work with City Forester Andrea Hanlon to get a more comprehensive list, i.e., other species to include in a ban ordinance. Should an ordinance be considered, Council will need to review a comprehensive ban including an allowance with possible property setbacks, remediation of existing plants, retroactive recourse, if any, and a penalty process for failure to comply. More research is needed.

Annexation

Mayor Ramsey explained the City owns 6.75 acres at the end of Ridge Road. It was purchased as a preemptive action to reduce development. Anchorage would like to annex the property, rezone it to R-E, and sell it with deed restrictions that limit it to a single-family residence.

Executive Session

An executive session was not needed.

Wetherton motioned to adjourn the meeting. Cook seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Neil Ramsey, Mayor

Reneé M. Major, City Clerk