

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

Monday, March 19, 2018  
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 Administrator Reneé Major, Director of Public Works Erwin Booth, City Attorney John McGarvey, Police Chief Dean Hayes, Deputy City Treasurer Sara Ritchie, Clerk/Receptionist Angie Chick, and Forestry Board representative Lucy Spickard.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Hewitt at 6:03 p.m.

**MINUTES**

Minutes from the February 12, 2018 City Council regular meeting were reviewed. There were no questions or corrections. O’Connell motioned to approve the minutes as presented, and Hagan seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

The February 2018 Check Register and Financial Report were presented. Hewitt again pointed out the high insurance tax revenue. Hagan noted that the revenue included life insurance policies. Insurance policies on animals, such as horses, would also be subject to the tax. Cook inquired about the higher than normal police fuel expense given that the municipal road aid revenue was lower. Hayes stated fuel prices have increased from last year, and McGarvey added that the state legislature had reduced the tax revenue to cities. Major reported that annualizing the year-to-date expenses shows all departments are forecast to be under budget for FY2017-2018.

**POLICE REPORT**

Chief Hayes has interviewed a couple prospects for the open police lieutenant position but has not hired anyone yet. He also reported that the \$7,000 Homeland Security Grant for new officer safety vests was approved.

The Police Department has been involved in active shooter training at Anchorage Public School. The school is open to quarterly training with the police. The goal is to make Anchorage School a model school for school safety. Hewitt asked if the school educates parents on safety issues. Hayes replied that he provided a letter for the school to include in the packets for parents at the beginning of this school year. Hayes’ goal is to include parents in the safety training in the future.

He noted that Anchorage School is unique because it serves kindergarten through eighth grade and needs protocols tailored to each age group.

Hagan inquired about the three people that were reported missing. Hayes said one person was located in Lexington, and the other two were located in less than 15 minutes of being reported.

The Police Department received the Gold AAA Traffic Safety Award for their designated plan to enforce safety.

## **HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

There were no questions or statements.

## **FORESTRY BOARD REPORT**

Lucy Spickard announced Anchorage received the Tree City USA Growth Award for the eighth time and Anchorage was named a Tree City USA for the 29<sup>th</sup> year. Hagan motion to approve a resolution declaring March 21, 2018 as Arbor Day in Anchorage. O'Connell seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Spickard reminded Council that the guest speaker will be Barbie Tafel at the Arbor Day event on March 21, 2018.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Verizon Tower Lease**

The subcommittee of Ramsey, Wetherton, and McGarvey reviewed the Verizon structural analysis and recommended that it be reviewed by an engineer for the City. Ramsey motioned to accept the lease subject to the approval of the structural analysis. Wetherton seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

AT&T is asking to increase the load of their equipment. They are to submit a structural analysis to the City.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Sign Variance for Owl Creek Country Club**

Vice President of Owl Creek Country Club (OCCC), Paul Jackson, presented a request for 1 banner and three signs for the OCCC membership drive. Jackson withdrew his request to hang two banners on-site at the Club instead opting for one banner downtown. Council approved a variance to allow the Club to hang a banner in downtown Anchorage for up to 90 days, with a maximum of 30 consecutive days at a time. Major will revise the permit and mail a copy to Jackson.

### **Compensating Tax Rate**

City Council was presented with the calculations for the 2018 Compensating Tax Rate. A public meeting is required if the proposed City real and/or personal property tax rate (\$.366) is more than

the calculated compensating rate but less than the compensating rate plus 4%. Anchorage will hold a public meeting on Monday, April 9<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

### **Ordinance Establishing Tax Rate**

Hagan conducted the first reading of the Ordinance to Establish the Anchorage Tax Rate on Real Estate and Personal Property for the Tax Year 2017 – 2018.

### **Executive Session**

At 6:39 p.m. Hagan motioned to go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation. Cook seconded, and the motion carried.

At 7:20 p.m. Executive Session ended with no action being taken. O’Connell motioned to adjourn the meeting. Ramsey seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

W. Thomas Hewitt  
Mayor

Reneé M. Major  
City Clerk