

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

**Monday, March 08, 2021**

**6:00 p.m.**

**(With a Zoom teleconference option for attending)**

Council members in attendance were Diane Cook, Matt Delehanty, Patrick McMahon, Jason Walters, Hunter Wilson, and Bill Wetherton. Also, in attendance were Mayor Neil Ramsey, Attorney John McGarvey, Assistant City Attorney Richard Edwards, City Administrator René Major, Police Chief Dean Hayes, Public Works Director Gary Burkhead, Clerk/Receptionist Angie Chick, Anchorage Forestry Board Chairperson Lucy Spickard. Zoom guests were Elizabeth Farc, Elizabeth Schiller, Mikela Gerry, Wendall Harris, and unidentified participants.

Mayor Ramsey called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**GUESTS**

Elizabeth Farc, Transportation Planner with KIPDA (Kentuckiana Regional Planning and Development Agency), Elizabeth Shillers, and Mikela Gerry presented the Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update. A federally-mandated transportation update is required every four years. The new plan is called Connecting Kentuckiana 2050. KIPDA is asking for public input on transportation issues via an online survey and interactive map.

Mayor Ramsey asked about traffic on Evergreen Road and LaGrange Road coming from Old Henry Road and English Station Road. Farc said the English Station Road project is currently funded for construction in 2021 with an estimated completion date in 2024. This project will widen English Station Road from two to three lanes from Aiken Road to Avoca Road. The third lane will be a center turn lane. Major asked for an update on the Louisville Loop, specifically what phase is the project in and where will it be located in proximity to Anchorage. Farc said one possible route goes along LaGrange Road then north on Old Harrods Creek Road. She will follow up with Major on this.

Councilmember Markus Winkler, Metro Council District 17, provided updates for the district. He discussed traffic in and around Anchorage, CSX improvements at Lucas Lane, a May 22<sup>nd</sup> bulk junk pick up event, MSD work on Nutwood Road, crime rates, and Brightside's street clean up. Major asked about Metro's plans for allowing ADU (additional dwelling units) on residential properties. Winkler said ADUs are common in other places and that Anchorage can have additional regulations that prohibit them. He recommends signing up for his weekly e-newsletter.

**MINUTES**

Wilson motioned to approve the minutes. Delehanty seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

There were no questions or comments on the Treasurer's report.

**POLICE REPORT**

Chief Hayes said the police department is continuing its accreditation process. He also discussed plans for covering for the Metro Police Department if their officers are called downtown for possible riots. He confirmed that Anchorage officers would not cover downtown. He also reported a majority of the officers have had COVID-19 vaccinations.

## **HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

The Historic Preservation Commission did not meet in February.

## **FORESTRY BOARD REPORT**

Spickard said the Spring Tree Giveaway will be drive-through pickups, the same as last year.

Mayor Ramsey proclaimed March 17, 2021 as Arbor Day in Anchorage.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Sign Ordinance Update**

Wetherton said the committee of McGarvey, McMahan, and himself is working on recommendations for five changes to the sign ordinance. One possible change is the size limit on real estate signs. McGarvey is checking with an attorney at KLC (Kentucky League of Cities) regarding a current court case on political signs. The committee will submit recommendations to City Council following the decision on political signs.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Declare 2015 Ford Taurus and 2014 Ford Explorer as Surplus**

Wilson motioned to declare the 2015 Ford Taurus and the 2014 Ford Explorer as surplus vehicles. McMahan seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

### **Compensating Rate**

The annual compensating rate calculation allows for a 4% increase before a public vote is required. The proposed tax rate on real and personal property for the tax year 2020-2021 will require a public hearing with notices sent first-class in the City's newsletter. Ramsey stated the tax rate is decreasing from \$.336 to \$.329, which is in the acceptable range and can be set with the public hearing notice and an ordinance.

### **Real and Personal Property Tax Rate Ordinance – First Reading**

Major pointed out the discount rate remains the same at 10%. Ramsey conducted the first reading of the 2020-2021 tax rate ordinance. He noted that, if needed, the discount rate can be changed by ordinance next year.

### **Tax Appeal Extension**

Tax Assessor Lee Bailey provided a database of 2021 assessed values. The assessed values of six properties were inadvertently placed in the wrong database column. The true intention is to assess properties at fair market value. The six properties were underassessed by a total of \$1,287,000 collectively. The underassessments did not affect the compensating rate. Mayor Ramsey extended the appeal window to March 18, 2021.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Arbor Day is March 17<sup>th</sup> and the Tree Giveaway is March 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>.

### **Executive Session**

An executive session was not needed.

Wilson motioned to adjourn the meeting. Cook seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

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Neil Ramsey, Mayor

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Reneé M. Major, City Clerk