



FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES, MARCH 25, 2019  
FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
800 CUSHMAN STREET, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

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The City Council convened at 6:30 p.m. on the above date to conduct a Regular Meeting of the Fairbanks City Council at the City Council Chambers, 800 Cushman Street, Fairbanks, Alaska, with Mayor Jim Matherly presiding and with the following Council Members in attendance:

Council Members Present:        Shoshana Kun, Seat A  
   June Rogers, Seat B  
   Valerie Therrien, Seat C  
   Kathryn Ottersten, Seat D  
   David Pruhs, Seat F

Absent:                                    Jerry Cleworth, Seat E (excused)

Also Present:                            Clem Clooten, Building Official  
   Paul Ewers, City Attorney  
   D. Danyielle Snider, City Clerk  
   Mike Meeks, Chief of Staff  
   Kristi Merideth, Dispatch Center Manager  
   Angela Foster-Snow, HR Director  
   Eric Jewkes, Police Chief  
   Jim Styers, Fire Chief

City Clerk Snider read the Mission Statement of the City of Fairbanks.

**INVOCATION**

The Invocation was given by City Clerk Snider.

**FLAG SALUTATION**

At the request of **Mayor Matherly**, everyone joined in the Flag Salutation.

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

Ed Dailey, 327 Glacier Avenue, Fairbanks – Mr. Dailey stated he would have been in weeks ago, but there was too much going on at the City at that time. He stated he would like the City to regulate the use of vehicle headlights and taillights during the winter. He asked the Council to take the residents' safety into consideration and to mandate lights be used during winter months. He stated he contacted Scott Kawasaki, but it was suggested that he get started on the local level.

Victor Buberger, P.O. Box 58192, Fairbanks – Mr. Buberger displayed a Fairbanks Police Department (FPD) Operations Manual and stated he would like a copy of the most current

manual. He stated the LGBTQ folks are not as discriminated against as the Indians and Eskimos and compared the City of Fairbanks to the Wild West. He stated that FPD has never had an Indian or Eskimo police officer and questioned why it is so difficult to become an FPD officer.

Sam Hachey, Fairbanks – Mr. Hachey spoke in favor of onsite consumption in the City and spoke to ventilation for a smoking room. He thanked the Council for listening to his concerns.

Frank Turney, 1434 Lacey Street, Fairbanks – Mr. Turney stated he had never heard anything bad about The Big I before a Council member had horrible things to say about the establishment. He stated he supports onsite consumption of cannabis. He stated a tour bus would be good for travelling to and from retail locations.

John Jackovich, 122 N. Turner Street, Fairbanks – Mr. Jackovich stated he is back for retribution because after he left the last meeting, he heard some comments made that were concerning to him. He stated that many of the things listed on the REDDI report are not related to his liquor license, and nobody should be making slanderous comments about his establishment.

Carla Mangum, Fairbanks – Ms. Mangum stated The Venue applied for a liquor license, and she believes the call report from FPD caused her location to be looked at in a negative way.

Hearing no more requests for Citizens' Comments, **Mayor Matherly** declared comments closed.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA**

**Mx. Ottersten**, seconded by **Ms. Kun**, moved to APPROVE the Agenda and Consent Agenda.

**Mayor Matherly** pulled Resolution No. 4872 from the Consent Agenda.

**Mr. Pruhs** pulled Ordinance No. 6098 and Ordinance No. 6101 from the Consent Agenda.

**Mayor Matherly** called for objection and, hearing none, so ORDERED.

City Clerk Snider read the Consent Agenda, as Amended, into the record.

### **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

a) Regular Meeting Minutes of October 8, 2018

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

### **SPECIAL ORDERS**

a) The Fairbanks City Council heard interested citizens concerned with the following Liquor License Applications for Renewal:

Lic. #	DBA	License Type	Licensee	Premises Address
4547	No DBA	Beverage Dispensary	North Star Dining, LLC	No Premises
4504	Gold Rush Deli	Beverage Dispensary	Upriver, Inc.	3399 Peger Road, #C
4845	Brewsters	Beverage Dispensary	Restaurant Concepts, LLC	354 Old Steese Highway
3965	K & L Beverage Company	Wholesale – General	K & L Beverage Company, LLC	945 Elizabeth Street

**Ms. Therrien**, seconded by **Ms. Kun**, moved to WAIVE PROTEST on the Liquor License Applications for Renewal.

**Mayor Matherly** called for Public Testimony and, hearing none, declared Public Testimony closed.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO WAIVE PROTEST ON THE LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS FOR RENEWAL AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Pruhs, Therrien, Kun, Ottersten, Rogers

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Cleworth

**Mayor Matherly** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

**MAYOR’S COMMENTS AND REPORT**

**Mayor Matherly** stated that the call-out reports included with liquor license renewals do not reflect on business owners; he stated it is not often that the Council votes against a license and thanked Mr. Jackovich for bringing his concerns to the Council. He stated the Police Chief addresses issues on a case-by-case basis, and they all want businesses to thrive. He thanked everyone for attending the City Council meeting and offered prayers for the Cleworth family.

a) Special Reports

Helen Renfrew, Explore Fairbanks – Ms. Renfrew reported on the activities Explore Fairbanks has been involved with over the past year. She thanked Mayor Matherly for helping at the Golden Heart Volunteer event. She spoke to upcoming meetings that will occur within the next year in Fairbanks. She spoke about Fairbanks hosting hockey championships in 2020 and 2021, and she thanked the Council for reinvesting bed tax dollars into destination marketing.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS’ COMMENTS**

**Mx. Ottersten** stated Ordinance No. 6093 included all Native Alaskans and stated that the Police Department has discussed the lack Native Alaskan applicants for police officer positions.

**Mr. Pruhs** thanked Mr. Jackovich for testifying and for being involved in the process. He commended Ms. Mangum on her business and for trying to revitalize Downtown Fairbanks. He stated the Transit Center has a security guard to increase security of the downtown area.

**Ms. Therrien** stated when she gets the public safety report for each license she understands some of the issues are not reflective of the ownership of the business.

**Ms. Rogers** agreed with Mr. Pruhs and Ms. Therrien in regard to FPD call-out reports and stated it is better to have the information because it never used to be included in the agenda packet.

**Ms. Kun** thanked Mr. Jackovich for attending the meeting and stated she would like to speak further with him about public concerns. She thanked everyone for testifying and sharing their concerns. She stated she enjoys The Venue and that is where she held campaign meetings.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a) Ordinance No. 6097 – An Ordinance Ratifying a Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the City of Fairbanks and the Public Safety Employees Association. Introduced by Mayor Matherly. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.

**Ms. Therrien**, seconded by **Mx. Ottersten**, moved to ADOPT Ordinance No. 6097.

**Mayor Matherly** called for Public Testimony and, hearing none, declared Public Testimony closed.

**Mr. Pruhs**, seconded by **Mx. Ottersten**, moved to REOPEN public comment.

**Mayor Matherly** called for objection, and hearing none, so ORDERED.

Frank Turney, 1434 Lacey Street, Fairbanks – Mr. Turney stated he would like to see transparency because there is too much nepotism in the Police Department. He spoke to problems that nepotism creates with awkward interactions between employees.

Hearing no more requests for comments, **Mayor Matherly** declared Public Testimony closed.

Chief of Staff Mike Meeks stated he is available for any questions.

**Mr. Pruhs** stated he understood that the labor contract would be funded through a reduction of FPD personnel from 47 to 43 officers, and he did not see that reflected in the ordinance. Chief Financial Officer Carmen Randle stated she did not receive formal direction to remove the positions from the budget. Mr. Meeks stated that his understanding of the Council's direction was to leave the four positions unfilled in 2019. **Mr. Pruhs** stated the intent was to fund the labor contract by non-funding the four positions in the 2019 budget; he stated the positions should be removed from the budget. He requested that the discussion be brought up at the next Finance Committee Meeting. Mr. Meeks clarified that the intent is for the positions to be non-

funded but still on the books. **Mr. Pruhs** confirmed that the funding should be reduced from the amount required to fund 47 officers to the amount required to fund 43 officers.

**Ms. Therrien** stated she recalls the conversation about 2019 non-funding, but she does not recall a budget amendment being discussed.

**Mr. Pruhs** thanked Chief Jewkes for the work he has put into PSEA labor negotiations.

**Ms. Therrien** stated this is an important issue to her and that one of her goals as a Council member was to get the Police Department a contract.

Chief Jewkes thanked everyone involved in the negotiation of the contract. Ms. Foster-Snow recognized former Dispatch Manager Stephanie Johnson for her work on the contract.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 6097 AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Therrien, Rogers, Pruhs, Ottersten, Kun

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Cleworth

**Mayor Matherly** declared the MOTION CARRIED and Ordinance No. 6097 ADOPTED.

### NEW BUSINESS

- a) Resolution No. 4870 – A Resolution Requesting the State Legislature to Support Alaska Pioneer Homes, Educational Funding, and the University of Alaska in Its FY2020 Budget. Introduced by Mayor Matherly and Council Members Therrien, Kun, Rogers, and Pruhs.

PASSED and APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- b) Resolution No. 4871 – A Resolution Approving a Four-Year Extension of the Lease with the Yukon Quest International, Ltd., for Lots 1 and 2, Block 4, Fairbanks Townsite. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

PASSED and APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- c) Resolution No. 4872 – A Resolution Clarifying the Contract Award for an Aerial Platform Fire Apparatus. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

**Ms. Therrien**, seconded by **Mr. Pruhs**, moved to APPROVE Resolution No. 4872.

**Ms. Therrien**, seconded by **Mx. Ottersten**, moved to SUBSTITUTE Resolution No. 4872, as Amended, for Resolution No. 4872.

**Mayor Matherly** called for objection, and hearing none, so ORDERED.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 4872, AS AMENDED, AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Rogers, Ottersten, Therrien, Pruhs, Kun

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Cleworth

**Mayor Matherly** declared the MOTION CARRIED and Resolution No. 4872, as Amended, APPROVED.

- d) Resolution No. 4873 – A Resolution Authorizing the City of Fairbanks to Accept Funds from the Alaska Municipal League Ballistic Vest Reimbursement Program. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

PASSED and APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- e) Ordinance No. 6098 – An Ordinance Amending the 2019 Operating and Capital Budgets for the First Time. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

**Ms. Kun**, seconded by **Mx. Ottersten**, moved to ADVANCE Ordinance No. 6098.

**Mayor Matherly** stated that Mr. Pruhs pulled the item from the Consent Agenda and asked if he still had issues to address. **Mr. Pruhs** replied that the concerns were cleared up with the earlier discussion about the PSEA contract.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADVANCE ORDINANCE NO. 6098 AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Pruhs, Rogers, Kun, Ottersten, Therrien

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Cleworth

**Mayor Matherly** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

- f) Ordinance No. 6099 – An Ordinance Amending the 2015 City of Fairbanks Administrative Code, Table 3-A Building Permit Fees, to Add Fees for Review of Fire Plans, Exterior Accessibility, and Change in Occupancy. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

ADVANCED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- g) Ordinance No. 6100 – An Ordinance Amending the Additional Responsibilities of the Chena Riverfront Commission to Match the Amendments Made by the Borough Assembly. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

ADVANCED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

h) Ordinance No. 6101 – An Ordinance Amending FGC Sec. 14-213, Restrictions on Marijuana Establishments, to Allow Onsite Consumption in Accordance with State Law. Introduced by Council Member Kun.

**Ms. Kun**, seconded by **Mx. Ottersten**, moved to ADVANCE Ordinance No. 6101.

**Mr. Pruhs** requested a Work Session on the ordinance before it goes to a vote.

**Ms. Kun** stated she does not think that a Work Session is necessary because all the ordinance will do is state that state law must be followed.

**Mr. Pruhs** stated he would like to hold a Work Session to include the Building Department and discussion on City building codes. He stated he does not want to delay the issue but that he would like to have a Work Session to ensure everything advances in the right direction. **Mx. Ottersten** stated they support a Work Session, but they do not want to delay the ordinance. **Ms. Rogers** stated she supports a Work Session, and the Council should take the issue very seriously. **Ms. Therrien** stated she would like to hold a Work Session because it will change the Council’s decision on smoking indoors within the City.

**Mx. Ottersten** requested to be added as a sponsor of the ordinance.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADVANCE ORDINANCE NO. 6101 AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Pruhs, Therrien, Kun, Ottersten, Rogers  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Cleworth  
**Mayor Matherly** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

a) Committee Reports

Legislative Committee – **Ms. Therrien** stated the Committee met and discussed the state budget and was warned of pending budget cuts. She stated she attended a meeting where she represented the City and spoke against budget cuts to education and senior care. She stated there will probably be a lower Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD) and that the Governor would likely veto any taxes brought forward to increase revenue.

Sister City Committee – **Ms. Rogers** stated the Fanano hockey tournament will not be taking place this year, but they are hoping for one in the future. She spoke to the many meetings she attended since the last Council meeting. She stated that suicides rate in the community is a significant issue that needs to be discussed. She stated she went to the Fire Training Center earlier in the day and met with City staff to better understand fire safety.

## WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL

- a) Board of Plumber Examiner Meeting Minutes of December 18, 2018

ACCEPTED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- b) Fairbanks Diversity Council Meeting Minutes of February 12, 2019

ACCEPTED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- c) Memorandum Regarding Procedures for Citizens' Comments

ACCEPTED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

## COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS

**Mr. Pruhs** thanked the Council for passing Resolution No. 4870 and for the work Ms. Rogers and Ms. Therrien put into it.

**Mx. Ottersten** stated they would like to see Public Works out chipping away at the storm drains and getting them ready for drainage.

**Ms. Kun** gave a land acknowledgement. She thanked the Public Works Department for picking up all the trash throughout the City. She thanked Mr. Ewers for all the work he does for the Council that may not receive acknowledgement.

**Ms. Rogers** thanked the Public Works crews for keeping the streets clear. She thanked Chief Jewkes for his service to the community during his years at FPD. She stated she has chatted with him many times, and she is always amazed at his studied responses. She stated she is happy he will continue to reside in Fairbanks.

**Ms. Therrien** stated her grandchild attends Barnette School, and she asked why the stoplight is always blinking. Mr. Meeks stated the City has already addressed the issue.

**Mr. Pruhs**, seconded by **Mx. Ottersten**, moved to ENTER Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the Roberts v. City of Fairbanks, AMLJIA Coverage Appeal; Fairbanks Firefighter Union (FFU) labor negotiations and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) labor negotiations.

**Mayor Matherly** called for objection and, hearing none, so ORDERED.

**Mayor Matherly** called for a brief recess. The Council reconvened in Executive Session following the brief recess.



**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- a) Roberts v. City of Fairbanks, AMLJIA Coverage Appeal
- b) FFU Labor Negotiations
- c) IBEW Labor Negotiations

The City Council met in Executive Session to discuss Roberts v. City of Fairbanks, AMLJIA Coverage Appeal and FFU and IBEW Labor Negotiations.. Direction was given to legal counsel and the negotiating teams, respectively, and no action was taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. Pruhs**, seconded by **Ms. Kun**, moved to ADJOURN the meeting.

**Mayor Matherly** called for objection and, hearing none, so ORDERED.

**Mayor Matherly** declared the meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.



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JIM MATHERLY, MAYOR

ATTEST:



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D. DANYIELLE SNIDER, CMC, CITY CLERK

Transcribed by: EB