



FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES, JULY 13, 2020
FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
800 CUSHMAN STREET, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

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 (telephonically) and with the following Council Members in attendance:

Council Members Present: Shoshana Kun, Seat A (telephonic)
 June Rogers, Seat B (telephonic)
 Valerie Therrien, Seat C
 Aaron Gibson, Seat D (telephonic)
 Jerry Cleworth, Seat E
 David Pruhs, Seat F (telephonic)

Absent: None

Also Present: Paul Ewers, City Attorney
 D. Danyielle Snider, City Clerk
 Jeff Jacobson, Public Works Director (telephonic)
 Mike Meeks, Chief of Staff
 Nancy Reeder, Police Chief
 Bob Pristash, City Engineer
 Tod Chambers, Fire Chief (telephonic)

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

INVOCATION

The Invocation was given by City Clerk Danyielle Snider.

FLAG SALUTATION

Mayor Matherly asked everyone to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CEREMONIAL MATTERS

Police Chief Nancy Reeder swore in Lt. Amy Davis and Ofc. Alexandra Cebula to the Fairbanks Police Department. Chief Reeder welcomed them both to the City of Fairbanks.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Mystiek Lockery, 703 Betty Street, Fairbanks -- Ms. Lockery stated she has heard about people wanting to abolish the police department, and she indicated that it is a bad idea. She stated citizens and government need to stand with a strong backbone. She stated the Black Lives Matter movement only makes noise when a White police officer kills a Black person. She stated that

every man, woman, and child should be equally important. She encouraged everyone to not get pulled into racism.

Sue Ann Santhalisouk, 1601 Marika Road, Fairbanks – Ms. Santhalisouk stated that the Wembley Avenue construction has created several problems due to the loss of the natural barrier. She stated the noise of the traffic is unbelievable, and dust is settling all over homes. She spoke to her concerns with safety and stated that may also affect property owners' ability to sell. Ms. Santhalisouk stated the neighborhood needs a barrier, and she spoke in support of Resolution No. 4924. She stated she feels she is paying doubly because she is a property tax payor, and the project has decreased the value of her home.

Janice Haman, 1605 Marika Road, Fairbanks – Ms. Haman stated she and her husband live on Marika Road, and they would like a fence all the way down Wembley Avenue. She stated she has lived there for 40 years, and now it is stressful to be at home. She stated there is no privacy, and there has been an increase of crime in the neighborhood.

Ms. Therrien asked Ms. Haman what length of fence she is asking requesting. Ms. Haman stated she understood that the fence would be like the fence along Peger Road, and it would run the whole length of Wembley Avenue. She stated it does not seem safe to have breaks in the fence.

Chris Miller, 413 Cowles Street, Fairbanks – Mr. Miller stated that the nuisance property ordinance seems toothless, and he criticized the number of calls per year specified in the ordinance. He stated there needs to be a more aggressive response from the City. He stated property owners do not always know when calls are made, and the ordinance does not protect owners from bad actors. He stated the ordinance only deals with residential – not commercial – property, and he hopes there is plans for a future ordinance relating to commercial property.

Mr. Cleworth stated it is hard to craft an ordinance that could capture all the things needed to address places like Walmart. Mr. Miller stated he has owned commercial property for 10 years and that, to his knowledge, there have never been any police calls to his property. He stated that things would have to be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

State Senator Scott Kawasaki, 2008 Carr Avenue, Fairbanks – Sen. Kawasaki stated he grew up in Aurora Subdivision when Wembley Avenue did not even exist. He spoke of the many changes in that neighborhood and shared his concern for the private property owners. He spoke in support of the fence. He stated there was an agreement penned, and the City needs to step up and cover the maintenance for the fence.

Ms. Therrien asked Sen. Kawasaki whether he would be satisfied if the City were to take over the maintenance. Sen. Kawasaki stated the folks who live there have experienced a major change, and it would make him happy if the City would step up; he stated, however, that the City should ultimately discuss a resolution with the property owners.

David van den Berg, 332 Slater Drive, Fairbanks – Mr. van den Berg stated the Downtown Association supports revitalizing the downtown area, and he supports the nuisance property ordinance. He stated the Borough is addressing nuisance properties in their COVID-19 recovery

plan. He suggested that assessing a lien against a property may not be the best way to get an owner to pay and suggested a flat rate fine in its place.

Randy Griffin, P.O. Box 73653, Fairbanks – Mr. Griffin shared his fear for the return of Ordinance No. 6093 if leftwing Council members take over the City Council. He spoke against the ordinance and encourage people to run for City Council. He stated that if he lived within City limits, he might run for office.

City Clerk Danyielle Snider read aloud written testimony from the following three individuals:

Allison Carr, 1926 Kittiwake Drive, Fairbanks – Ms. Carr expressed her concern for mental health patients being treated as criminals and suggested the Council take more time to work on Ordinance No. 6133.

Arleigh Hitchcock, Fairbanks – Ms. Hitchcock expressed concerns that, in the wake of the George Floyd tragedy, officers may not understand when someone is having a mental health crisis. She stated it might be better to dispatch a mental health professional to deal with the problem person. Ms. Hitchcock urged the City Council to create a mental health team that can deal with issues not from a law enforcement standpoint.

Sue Sprinkle, 211 5th Avenue, Fairbanks – Ms. Sprinkle questioned why commercial properties are not included in the ordinance and indicated that it is self-serving of the City to eliminate itself from property concerns. She spoke in support of keeping the language in the ordinance that would include areas within 200 feet of a specific address. She spoke in support of holding the “bad actors” themselves accountable for the fine for excessive police responses.

Hearing no more requests for comment, **Mayor Matherly** declared Citizens’ Comments closed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Cleworth, seconded by **Ms. Therrien**, moved to APPROVE the Agenda and Consent Agenda.

Mr. Cleworth pulled Ordinance No. 6137, Ordinance No. 6138, and Resolution No. 4924 from the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Gibson pulled Resolution No. 4925 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 June 29, 2020.

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

Mayor Matherly paid honor to the late Maxine Whitney who lived in Fairbanks and was an important community member. He spoke to the importance of masking when out in public and shared that he and the other two local mayors signed a proclamation encouraging masking throughout the borough. He read the proclamation into the record.

a) Special Reports

Jerry Evans, Explore Fairbanks – Mr. Evans spoke to the struggles in the tourism industry and to how Explore Fairbanks is working to address those challenges. He spoke to their online campaign that will help bring visitors to the City in the future. He stated there is an emphasis on creating desire to visit Fairbanks by Fairbanksans, and advertisements are being published all over the state.

b) Update from the Chief of Police

Police Chief Reeder provided an update on training at the Fairbanks Police Department (FPD) and discussed the department's challenge in getting to a full staffing level. She spoke briefly about the number of retirements at FPD recently and to the current staffing levels. She stated they are creating a more diverse workforce. She spoke about the honor of FPD being asked again to escort soldiers from the airport who are returning from overseas. She spoke positively about the future of FPD and shared that with the support of the community, the Administration, and the City Council, positive things are coming.

Mayor Matherly commended Chief Financial Officer Margarita Bell and her staff for coordinating the CARES Act relief funds. He thanked LOVE, Inc., as well, the organization that has been processing applications from individuals. He spoke about how much the community needs the funds. He echoed Mr. Griffin's comments encouraging people to run for elected office.

COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Ms. Rogers thanked Mayor Matherly for the joint proclamation encouraging masking.

Ms. Kun stated she had no comments.

Mr. Gibson stated he had no comments.

Mr. Pruhs thanked Chief Reeder for her report and for her efforts; he encouraged her to keep up the good work.

Ms. Therrien thanked Chief Reeder for prioritizing hiring and asked about sensitivity training. Chief Reeder spoke about the "verbal judo" training that all officers will participate in during August; she stated the training will focus on de-escalation. She stated she hopes to have staff also participate in implicit bias training in October, but that training is dependent on COVID. **Ms. Therrien** spoke about the importance of letting the community know about the training officers are taking and asked if a press release was the best way get the word out. Chief Reeder stated that

it is her goal once everyone has been trained to send two officers out of state to train as instructors. She stated that will save training funds in the future. She stated it will be a continuing education program that can grow in the community.

Mr. Cleworth stated he had no comments.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) Ordinance No. 6133 – An Ordinance Amending FGC Chapter 46, Article IV, by Enacting Division 6 Fees for Excessive Police Responses. Introduced by Council Members Gibson and Therrien. POSTPONED from the Regular Meeting of June 29, 2020; public hearing was held at that time.

A motion to ADOPT Ordinance No. 6133 was made by Ms. Therrien, seconded by Ms. Rogers, at the Regular Meeting of June 29, 2020. The motion was still on the floor.

Ms. Rogers, seconded by **Ms. Kun**, moved to SUBSTITUTE Ordinance No. 6133, as Amended, for Ordinance No. 6133.

Mr. Gibson stated the biggest change in the substitute is to the portion addressing the number of calls for multi-unit residential properties.

Ms. Therrien stated that City Attorney Ewers provided a list of police calls made from large apartment complexes in Fairbanks during 2019, and she read the list. She posed the question of whether the Council wants to include vacant land in the definition of *property*. Attorney Ewers stated that leaving out vacant land may or may not have been intentional when the definition of *property* was changed. He stated that the definition could be amended.

Mr. Pruhs stated he would like to postpone the ordinance again, because he believes it needs more tweaking. He stated he would like to meet with Attorney Ewers and the ordinance sponsors to discuss some possible changes that would include commercial properties.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO SUBSTITUTE ORDINANCE NO. 6133, AS AMENDED, FOR ORDINANCE NO. 6133 AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Therrien, Rogers, Gibson, Cleworth

NAYS: Pruhs, Kun

Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Pruhs, seconded by **Ms. Therrien**, moved to POSTPONE Ordinance No. 6133, as Amended, to the next Regular Council Meeting.

Ms. Rogers stated the ordinance is a work in progress, and since the two sponsors of the ordinance want to continue to work on it, she is supportive of postponement.

Mr. Cleworth brought up some issues he would like the sponsors to work through before the next meeting, two of which were how to address party houses and public intoxication. He suggested lowering the number of allowable calls for single family residences.

Ms. Kun stated she supports postponement.

Ms. Rogers stated she supports postponement.

Ms. Therrien shared she looks forward to continued work on the ordinance.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO POSTPONE ORDINANCE NO. 6133, AS AMENDED, TO THE NEXT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Gibson, Cleworth, Rogers, Kun, Therrien, Pruhs

NAYS: None

Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION CARRIED.

- b) Ordinance No. 6135 – An Ordinance Ratifying a Labor Agreement Between the City of Fairbanks and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1547 and Amending the 2020 City Operating Budget. Introduced by Mayor Matherly. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.

Mr. Pruhs, seconded by **Mr. Gibson**, moved to ADOPT Ordinance No. 6135.

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

Mr. Pruhs, **Ms. Therrien**, and **Ms. Rogers** expressed support for the ordinance.

Mr. Cleworth reminded the Council that Ms. Rogers has a conflict of interest and cannot vote on the ordinance. The conflict was acknowledged.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 6135 AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Gibson, Therrien, Pruhs, Cleworth, Kun

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Rogers

Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION CARRIED and Ordinance No. 6135 ADOPTED.

- c) Ordinance No. 6136 – An Ordinance Amending the 2020 Operating and Capital Budgets for the Second Time. Introduced by Mayor Matherly. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.

Ms. Rogers, seconded by **Ms. Therrien**, moved to ADOPT Ordinance No. 6136.

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

Mr. Cleworth stated he supports the original ordinance but not the proposed substitute.

Ms. Therrien moved to SUBSTITUTE Ordinance No. 6136, as Amended, for Ordinance No. 6136. The motion died for lack of a second.

Mr. Cleworth, seconded by **Ms. Therrien**, moved to AMEND Ordinance No. 6136 by increasing the Fire Department budget by \$92,000 to fund the Firefighters Union Labor Agreement.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 6136 BY INCREASING THE FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET BY \$92,000 TO FUND THE FIREFIGHTERS UNION LABOR AGREEMENT AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Pruhs, Therrien, Kun, Cleworth, Gibson, Rogers

NAYS: None

Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Cleworth, seconded by **Ms. Rogers**, moved to AMEND Ordinance No. 6136, as Amended, by increasing the Capital Fund by \$30,000 for the D Street Project.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 6136, AS AMENDED, BY INCREASING THE CAPITAL FUND BY \$30,000 FOR THE D STREET PROJECT AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Therrien, Rogers, Pruhs, Gibson, Kun, Cleworth

NAYS: None

Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION CARRIED.

Ms. Therrien, seconded by **Ms. Rogers**, moved to AMEND Ordinance No. 6136, as Amended, by adding on page 6, item 7 the language, "Letter of Agreement to offer alternate work schedule. This agreement increases annual hours from 2,080 to 2,184 for an additional cost of \$5,200 per employee. This cost will be covered by salary savings."

Ms. Therrien stated Chief Reeder is trying to find creative ways to fully staff FPD; she stated the Council should support her efforts.

Mr. Cleworth stated he has never seen an amendment to the budget that has no bottom line; he likened it to a 5 to 6 percent increase outside of the collective bargaining agreement. He shared his concern with adopting the two-week work schedule, because it will inevitably lead to overtime and liability to the City for staffing a tired police officer. He indicated that he would not support the amendment.

Mr. Pruhs stated he does not think that working a police officer for two straight weeks will be good for their mental health; he stated he will not support the amendment.

Ms. Rogers stated she can see both sides of the issue and that, ultimately, she supports the Chief; she stated, however, that she has a hard time with the financial impact.

Chief Reeder thanked everyone for their concerns. She stated that many other departments offer a two-week-on, two-week-off schedule, and some officers like it because it allows them more time with their families. She stated officers may maintain the regular schedule, but this provides an opportunity for quality officers from out of town to work at the department. She stated this could get her to a full staffing level, something that has not been accomplished in many years. Chief Reeder spoke about a “shots fired” call FPD took earlier that day and stated that the only three officers on shift had to respond. She stated that having a full staff is so important, and she would appreciate this tool to help with hiring efforts.

Mayor Matherly stated jobs on the North Slope are two-weeks-on and two-weeks-off, and people maintained that for years.

Ms. Rogers stated that hearing Chief Reeder’s word that the schedule has been tested and is appreciated by others makes her very comfortable in supporting the amendment.

Ms. Therrien stated she would be supporting Chief Reeder, and she sees this as a good thing.

Mr. Cleworth stated the Fire Department has tried all sorts of shifts. He stated that officers cannot leave if they are in the middle of an incident, which leads to overtime and lengthy shifts. He stated he has spoken with officers who have broken down about not having any time off; he indicated that two straight weeks is too stressful. He stated he is worried about the future budget, and unless they cut staff at the department, funds will dry up due to deficit spending.

Mayor Matherly stated this is the best time to offer this amendment because police officers all over the country are taking a beating; he added that the City needs to show its appreciation and to officers. He stated that this is about the “human factor” for him, and it is of utmost importance to support the FPD.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 6136, AS AMENDED, BY ADDING ON PAGE 6, ITEM 7 THE LANGUAGE, “LETTER OF AGREEMENT TO OFFER ALTERNATE WORK SCHEDULE. THIS AGREEMENT INCREASES ANNUAL HOURS FROM 2,080 TO 2,184 FOR AN ADDITIONAL COST OF \$5,200 PER EMPLOYEE. THIS COST WILL BE COVERED BY SALARY SAVINGS.” AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Kun, Therrien, Rogers, Matherly

NAYS: Gibson, Pruhs, Cleworth

Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION CARRIED.

Ms. Therrien, seconded by **Ms. Rogers**, moved to AMEND Ordinance No. 6136, as Amended, by increasing the Mayor’s Office budget by \$15,600 to hire a temporary administrative assistant for Human Resources.

Mayor Matherly stated HR Director, Angela Foster-Snow, is currently traveling, so he asked Chief of Staff Mike Meeks for a staff report. Mr. Meeks stated there is a backlog of filing and paperwork in HR that needs to be caught up so they can return to business as usual.

Mr. Pruhs stated the amendment does not seem critical, and he would not vote in favor of it.

Mr. Cleworth stated the Council just keeps adding to the deficit, and he suggested that the Mayor's travel funds be used if an admin is needed.

Ms. Rogers asked Mayor Matherly if he has budget funds available to pay for a temporary HR admin. **Mayor Matherly** stated if the Council does not pass the amendment, he may consider funding the position with his budgeted funds.

Ms. Therrien suggested that since some of the work would be collection of medical records related to the COVID-19 virus, perhaps some costs could be reimbursable. She stated that getting the filing squared away could result in a cost savings to the City.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 6136, AS AMENDED, BY INCREASING THE MAYOR'S OFFICE BUDGET BY \$15,600 TO HIRE A TEMPORARY ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT FOR HUMAN RESOURCES AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Rogers, Therrien
NAYS: Cleworth, Pruhs, Kun, Gibson
Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION FAILED.

Ms. Therrien moved to AMEND Ordinance No. 6136, as Amended, by reclassifying regular wages and benefits in the Building Department in the amount of \$15,600 to hire a temporary administrative assistant to train staff. The motion died for lack of a second.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 6136, AS AMENDED, AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Gibson, Therrien, Pruhs, Cleworth, Rogers
NAYS: Kun
Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION CARRIED and Ordinance No. 6136, as Amended, ADOPTED.

- d) Ordinance No. 6137 – An Ordinance Amending Fairbanks General Code Chapter 74, Taxation, by Adding a New Article VII, Gasoline Excise Tax. Introduced by Council Members Cleworth, Therrien, Kun, and Rogers. First Reading was POSTPONED from the Regular Meeting of June 29, 2020. Public Hearing will be held at the Second Reading.

A motion to ADVANCE Ordinance No. 6137 was made by Ms. Kun, seconded by Mr. Cleworth, at the Regular Meeting of June 29, 2020. The motion was still on the floor.

Mr. Cleworth stated the Council should be good stewards of taxpayer dollars and spoke of the roadblocks that will come up in the next budget cycle. He stated he cannot support the way funds are being spent and shared his concern for the 2021 budget. He expressed concern that all the new revenue generated by the tax, if approved, would go toward funding labor contracts.

Ms. Therrien stated the City is in desperate times, and she hopes the ordinance passes so that City services can continue as usual.

Mr. Pruhs stated he has a problem with increasing costs to the City residents and community members that the City is supposed to be helping.

Mr. Gibson asked whether it is wise to exclude diesel fuel from the tax and suggested revisiting that issue.

Ms. Rogers asked Mr. Pruhs to clarify his earlier statement. **Mr. Pruhs** stated the Council should watch expenses; he added that nothing has been done to try to decrease operating costs.

Mayor Matherly stated all departments at the City have been encouraged to cut budgets, and everyone has sacrificed. He argued that the City has taken cost-cutting measures.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADVANCE ORDINANCE NO. 6137 TO THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Therrien, Rogers, Gibson, Kun, Cleworth

NAYS: Pruhs

Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

- a) Resolution No. 4924 – A Resolution Authorizing Execution of a Maintenance Agreement Between the City of Fairbanks and the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities for the Wembley Avenue Fence. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

Mr. Gibson, seconded by **Ms. Therrien**, moved to APPROVE Resolution No. 4924.

Mr. Cleworth asked City Engineer Bob Pristash for a staff report. Mr. Pristash stated the City of Fairbanks designed the project, the State DOT administered the construction, and FAST Planning passed the funding through. **Mr. Cleworth** asked whether clearing the trees in the right-of-way was the City's call or DOT's call; he asked for more information on how that came to be. Mr. Pristash stated he has emails from residents requesting that cottonwood trees be cleared because they were causing problems. He stated that direction was given to clear trees from the right-of-way. He stated that, in the end, residents got what they wanted, but it is not what they envisioned. **Mr. Cleworth** stated this is the first he has heard about the ten-foot fence with slats, and the real kicker is that DOT will not maintain the fence. Mr. Pristash stated they have been working with the residents, DOT, and Sen. Kawasaki's Office, but there has not yet been a solution.

Mayor Matherly stated he brought the issue forward because the residents have spent so much time and energy on the issue. He stated the fence would be installed and paid for by the DOT. He stated that this is the first he has heard that the 1000-foot fence may not be enough. He stated he does not feel that the residents will stop asking for help, so he felt he should introduce a resolution.

Mr. Cleworth stated he believes it is FAST Planning's problem and spoke against tasking Public Works with the additional maintenance responsibilities. He stated lots of citizens live on busy streets, and the City does not provide sound mitigation for them. He stated the best solution would be for the vegetation to grow back to create a natural sound barrier. **Mr. Cleworth** stated the City should not be throwing money at a problem that they did not create, and DOT and FAST Planning should identify a solution. He stated that the residents asked to have the vegetation removed, and that request was accommodated. He stated the City should not be penalized for it.

Mayor Matherly asked whether FAST Planning may take over maintenance if the City does not. Mr. Pristash stated he has never known FAST Planning to take care of maintenance.

Ms. Rogers stated she is not certain this resolution will satisfy the residents, and she suggested going back to the drawing board.

Ms. Kun stated she would like the fence to resemble the fence along Peger Road, but she would support the resolution as a starting point.

Mayor Matherly stated that installing a fence like the one along Peger Road is not likely; he stated he does not believe the State would pay for that type of fence.

Ms. Therrien referenced the aerial photo of Wembley Avenue attached to the resolution and asked Mr. Pristash for more information about the fence. Mr. Pristash stated the fence will run from one property owner's existing fence to another property owner's fence. He stated the fence along Peger Road was analyzed by the DOT and was found not warranted in the Wembley Avenue case. He stated the sound barrier was dismissed by the DOT at the time of project design.

Ms. Therrien suggested that the resolution may need more work because it does not specifically say that the City will perform maintenance on the fence.

Mayor Matherly stated the length of the fence has not been discussed in past meetings.

Mr. Pruhs stated that the Council is "damned if they do, and damned if they don't," and nothing is going to be enough. He stated he would vote in favor of the fence, but the ball needs to be put back in the State's court. He stated the Peger Road fence was a "one and done" kind of thing that went up in the 1970s. He stated that the other entities need hold up their end of the deal.

Mr. Gibson stated he heard from people who are upset about the noise issue, but the fence will do nothing to solve that problem. Mr. Pristash stated it is kind of ironic, because this project scored highly as it filled in a gap for pedestrian needs. He explained that Aurora Drive and Danby Street have pedestrian facilities, but Wembley Avenue did not until the new bike/pedestrian facility was installed, which caused residents to complain that people walking on the path have access to their back yards. Mr. Pristash stated that during one of the meetings, it was discussed that building the fence would increase property security. Mr. Pristash stated the fence will have slats, and that was the best solution that was reached.

Mayor Matherly stated the fence will make the residents happy.

Ms. Rogers stated she understood the cottonwood trees were taken down at the request of the residents; she asked about the likelihood of those trees growing back. Mr. Pristash stated the trees were cut at ground level, and roots were not removed. **Ms. Rogers** stated she thinks they will grow back quickly, and that would make everyone happy.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 4924 AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Gibson, Kun, Therrien, Pruhs
NAYS: Cleworth, Rogers
Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION CARRIED and Resolution No. 4924 APPROVED.

- b) Resolution No. 4925 – A Resolution Urging the State of Alaska to Return Fairbanks City Bus 142 to Fairbanks. Introduced by Council Member Gibson.

Mr. Gibson, seconded by **Mr. Cleworth**, moved to APPROVE Resolution No. 4925.

Mr. Gibson stated he introduced the resolution because he thought it would be good for the City of Fairbanks. He stated the bus is an old City bus, and it would be a great tourist attraction. He stated somewhere like Pioneer Park or the Auto Museum would be a great place to house it.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 4925 AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Rogers, Gibson, Therrien, Pruhs, Cleworth, Kun
NAYS: None
Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION CARRIED and Resolution No. 4925 APPROVED.

- c) Ordinance No. 6138 – An Ordinance Ratifying a Labor Agreement Between the City of Fairbanks and the Fairbanks Firefighters Union, IAFF Local 1324, and Amending the 2020 City Operating Budget. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

Ms. Therrien, seconded by **Ms. Rogers**, moved to ADVANCE Ordinance No. 6138.

Mr. Cleworth stated he pulled the ordinance because he would like to know whether the ordinance would approve any contract language changes, and, if so, he would like to see the changes. Mr. Meeks stated the last page of the attachment addresses propays, and if there are any changes, he would be sure to include them in the next agenda packet.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADVANCE ORDINANCE NO. 6138 AS FOLLOWS:

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a) Committee Reports

Mayor Matherly combined Committee Reports with Council Members' Comments below.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL

- a) Reappointment to the Clay Street Cemetery Commission

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Fairbanks Diversity Council (FDC) – **Ms. Rogers** invited everyone to attend the FDC meeting on Tuesday, July 14 at 5:30 p.m.

Ms. Kun stated she had no comments or report.

Ms. Rogers expressed interest in looking into the CAHOOTS program being used in Oregon.

Ms. Therrien stated there will be a Permanent Fund Review Board meeting the following week, and she will bring a report to the Council at the next meeting. She congratulated the two new police officers and shared how pleased she is that they both happen to be women.

Mr. Gibson stated he had no comments or report.

Mr. Cleworth asked for an update on CARES Act grants. Mr. Meeks stated he does not have all the numbers with him, but funds are not going as quickly as anticipated. He stated that business applications can be submitted through July 31. **Mr. Cleworth** thanked Mayor Matherly for honoring Maxine Whitney and shared some history about her. He stated he received a complaint letter from a citizen about a tall hedge on Ivy Street, and he asked the Chief of Staff to work with Public Works to investigate the issue. **Mr. Cleworth**, in reference to the City Clerk's quarterly report, asked the Council to take the Clerk's suggestion and look at revising the business license penalty. He stated he understands the complaint of the resident on Trainer Gate Road regarding train noise, and he asked the Mayor if he has had any contact with the resident. **Mayor Matherly** stated he has spoken with the resident. He stated that this is the first time he has heard such a complaint from a resident in that area, and the resident is passionate about the issue.

Mr. Pruhs thanked Ms. Therrien and Mr. Gibson for allowing Ordinance No. 6133 to continue being worked on. He thanked the City Clerk's Office for getting caught up on meeting minutes.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT

City Clerk Snider reported that candidate filing opens Wednesday, July 15, 2020 at 8:00 a.m.

Mr. Cleworth, seconded by **Ms. Therrien**, moved to ENTER Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Roberts et al v. City of Fairbanks Litigation Strategy.

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 et al v. City of Fairbanks Litigation Strategy

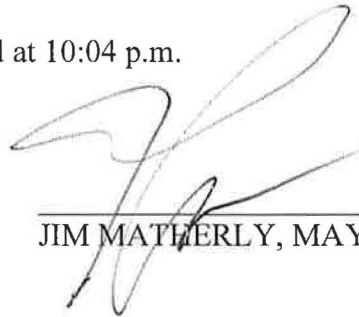
The City Council met in Executive Session to discuss Roberts et al v. City of Fairbanks Litigation Strategy. Direction was given to legal counsel, and no action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Rogers, seconded by **Ms. Therrien**, moved to ADJOURN the meeting.

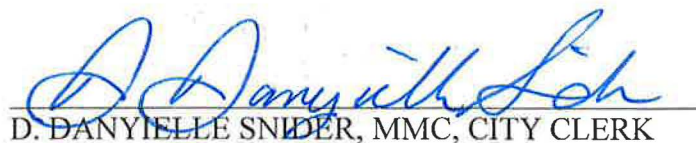
Mayor Matherly called for objection and, hearing none, so ORDERED.

Mayor Matherly declared the meeting adjourned at 10:04 p.m.



JIM MATHERLY, MAYOR

ATTEST:



D. DANYELLE SNIDER, MMC, CITY CLERK

Transcribed by: EB