



FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES, JULY 12, 2021
FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
800 CUSHMAN STREET, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

The City Council convened at 6:30 p.m. on the above date, following a 5:30 p.m. Work Session to discuss the City Council's Review of Liquor and Marijuana License Applications, to conduct a Regular Meeting of the Fairbanks City Council via Zoom webinar and 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
 Aaron Gibson, Seat D
 Lonny Marney, Seat E
 Jim Clark, Seat F

Absent: None

Also Present: Margarita Bell, Chief Financial Officer (remotely)
 Paul Ewers, City Attorney
 D. Danyielle Snider, City Clerk
 Kristi Merideth, FECC Manager (remotely)
 Angela Foster-Snow, HR Director
 Ron Dupee, Police Chief
 Tod Chambers, Fire Chief

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

INVOCATION

The Invocation was given by City Clerk Snider.

FLAG SALUTATION

Mayor Matherly asked **Mr. Clark** to lead the Flag Salutation.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Victor Buberger, Fairbanks – Mr. Buberger spoke about the history of the Polaris Building ownership, adding that many citizens do not mind it sitting vacant. He suggested that the City dress it up and develop the first floor into a rest center with public restrooms. He went on to suggest that the City consider a riverboat casino to provide a new revenue stream, adding that the City may be able to provide better maintenance with the extra revenue.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Kun, seconded by Ms. Therrien, moved to APPROVE the Agenda and Consent Agenda.

Mayor Matherly called for objection to APPROVING the Agenda and, hearing none, so ORDERED.

City Clerk Snider read the Consent Agenda into the record.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

a) Regular Meeting Minutes of May 24, 2021

PASSED and 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	Address
4548	Brewsters	Beverage Dispensary	Restaurant Concepts, LLC	354 Old Steese Highway

Ms. Kun, seconded by Mr. Marney, moved to WAIVE PROTEST on the Liquor License Application for Renewal.

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

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

YEAS: Rogers, Marney, Therrien, Clark, Gibson, Kun

NAYS: None

Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION CARRIED.

Clerk Snider pointed out to the Mayor that Ms. Lisa McEnulty, who had signed up for Citizens' Comments over Zoom, had joined the Zoom meeting. Mayor Matherly, with the concurrence of the Council, reopened Citizens Comments to hear testimony from Ms. McEnulty.

Lisa McEnulty, Fairbanks – Ms. McEnulty stated that she has been hosting a protest in Fairbanks and is interested in hearing updates made to Fairbanks Police Department (FPD) policies, outside of the implementation of Crisis Now. She went on to list several policies she would like to see implemented, including a prohibition of the use of chokeholds.

Mr. Gibson asked if Ms. McEnulty has had the opportunity to speak with the Chief of Police or the Mayor regarding current policies and procedures. Ms. McEnulty stated that she had met with the Mayor and would like the opportunity to meet with the Chief.

Ms. Kun asked Ms. McEnulty to email the Council a list of the policies she is interested in.

Ms. Rogers asked if Ms. McEnulty was aware that some of the policies she mentioned already exist at the FPD. Ms. McEnulty stated that she was not aware.

Mayor Matherly declared Public Testimony closed.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

Mayor Matherly offered his support for the firefighters working on the Munson Creek fire, emphasizing the dangerous conditions. He cautioned individuals on throwing out cigarette butts and lighting fireworks, adding that the Fairbanks Fire Department (FFD) has been responding to these types of incidents. **Mayor Matherly** shared that he has had good conversations with Ms. McEnulty multiple times over the past eight weeks, adding that the request for the prohibition of chokeholds is currently a national campaign. He stated that he would send Ms. McEnulty a link to email the Council, and he would have Chief Dupee contact her.

COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Clark stated he had no comments or committee reports.

Mr. Marney shared that he had attended the Fourth of July parade, and he hoped the City could be involved next year. He commented that there had been a very large turnout.

Mr. Gibson shared that FAST Planning would be meeting the following week.

Ms. Kun provided a land acknowledgment and asked that the Council provide a land acknowledgment at future meetings. She went on to share that tourism is increasing, but businesses are having a hard time finding employees. She provided the Care Line.

Ms. Rogers shared updates from various committee meetings, including the Opioid Work Group. She shared that opioid use is starting a significant downward trend in the community. She stated she also attended meetings of the following groups: Suicide Prevention Committee, Reentry Coalition, Stars of Gold Readers, Crisis Now, and Housing and Homeless. **Ms. Rogers** expressed her appreciation for Ms. Kun's land acknowledgement suggestion and thanked the Mayor for arranging a meeting with Ms. McEnulty and Chief Dupee. She commented on the good conversation from the Work Session and expressed her gratitude for being able to attend the meeting in person. She shared that, as a member of the most vulnerable population, she was thankful for the ability to meet remotely.

Ms. Therrien shared that the Permanent Fund Review Board would be meeting on July 21, 2021, at 1:30 p.m. She added that she had been traveling with family and was sorry to have missed the parade. She expressed curiosity regarding the option for using the Polaris Building for

public restrooms and offered her hopes that Chief of Staff Mike Meeks recovers quickly from his surgery.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL

- a) Reappointments to the Clay Street Cemetery Commission

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- b) Reappointment to the Hotel/Motel Discretionary Fund Committee

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- c) Appointment to the Fairbanks Diversity Council

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT

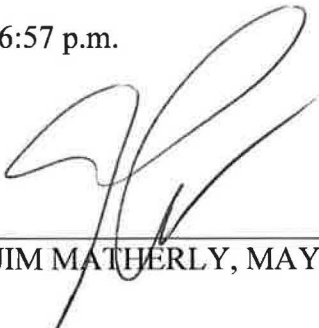
City Clerk Snider reported that candidate filing would open on Thursday, July 15, 2021, and continue through Thursday, July 29, 2021, for the City of Fairbanks, Fairbanks North Star Borough, and the City of North Pole elections. She added that the local Clerks will be hosting a booth at the Golden Days Street Fair on July 24, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

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

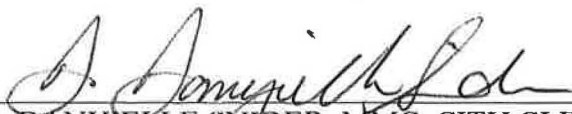
Mayor Matherly called for objection and, hearing none, so ORDERED.

Mayor Matherly declared the meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.



JIM MATHERLY, MAYOR

ATTEST:



D. DANYIELLE SNIDER, MMC, CITY CLERK
Transcribed by: RR