



FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES, OCTOBER 11, 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 on the Employee Retention Benefit, 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 (remotely)  
   D. Danyielle Snider, City Clerk  
   Mike Meeks, Chief of Staff  
   Kristi Merideth, FECC Manager (remotely)  
   Angela Foster-Snow, HR Director  
   Ron Dupee, Police Chief  
   Rick Sweet, Deputy 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 Danyielle Snider.

**FLAG SALUTATION**

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

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

Andrew Wixon, FPD – Mr. Wixon spoke in his role as a Fairbanks Police Department (FPD) officer and as the union president. He shared that the union supports the Employee Capital Incentive Program (ECIP) ordinance, adding that members and families recognize it as a sign of the Council's appreciation for the dedication and overtime they have been working.

David Pruhs, Fairbanks – Mr. Pruhs gave an update on the Polaris Building, including the change in funding. He explained that the funding that was previously in the infrastructure bill would now be included in the operating budget for \$10MM. Mr. Pruhs went onto address the ordinances

regarding the Firefighters labor agreement, paid family leave, and the ECIP, suggesting that the latter two be postponed until the newly elected Council members can vote.

**Mr. Clark** asked for clarification regarding the funding for the Polaris Building. Mr. Pruhs stated that he has been told by Senator Murkowski that the funds have been put into the State's operating budget. He went on to speak to the idea of a vertical garden being created in the existing building, stating that while it may be a physical possibility, it would be nearly impossible fiscally. Mr. Pruhs expressed appreciation for the good work of the Council and recognized Ms. Kun for her part.

Nick Clark, Fairbanks – Mr. Clark spoke in support of Ordinance No. 6185 regarding the CBA between the Fairbanks Firefighters Union (FFU) and the City of Fairbanks, adding that it has been in process since February. He expressed appreciation for all the time, hard work, and compromise that had gone into the negotiations. He also spoke in favor of the paid family leave ordinance.

Robert Shields, Fairbanks – Mr. Shields shared that the Economic Development Act grant application is due the following week and asked the Council to provide a letter of support. He went on to share that Mr. Pruhs has continually prevented him from sharing his ideas to the Polaris Working Group, adding that vertical farming is a growing industry. Mr. Shields went on to speak about how to engage eco-district protocols in the economic development of the community. He read an excerpt from an eco-district article and encouraged the Council to do their own research regarding eco-districts. He concluded by stating that the Council is doing its best job with the tools they have, and he is simply trying to increase their toolset.

**Mr. Clark** asked why Mr. Shields has not considered any of the other vacant properties within the community for his vertical garden idea. Mr. Shields stated that the Polaris Building is ideal because it represents what Fairbanks used to be, it has a prime location, and the City owns the property. He added that, if the City was willing, he would inquire as to alternate solutions.

Victor Buberger, Fairbanks – Mr. Buberger spoke against the changes in the College Road intersection. He asked if the City had a say in those plans and inquired about the cost. He spoke to the lack of Alaska Native representation on the police force and asked if that was due to the wages or other reasons. He suggested that a garden be installed in one of the other many vacant properties; he spoke to making the Polaris Building into something useful.

Cameron Gladowski, Fairbanks – Mr. Gladowski stated that he is an FPD officer and that he supports the Employee Capital Incentive Program (ECIP), adding that it has not gone unnoticed and is appreciated by the staff at FPD. He added his support for the FFU labor agreement, noting the many months it had been under negotiation. He thanked the Council members who have taken the time to reach out to individual officers to learn about the needs of the department.

**Mayor Matherly** called for citizens comments to be heard over Zoom.

Jerry Evans, Explore Fairbanks – Mr. Evans stated that he is the Public Relations Manager of Explore Fairbanks and talked about the different travel journalists they have hosted recently. He added that *Good Housekeeping* recently published an article mentioning Fairbanks as a great place to take your family, and the December issue of *Women's Day Magazine* will list North Pole, Alaska as one of the best Christmas towns. He emphasized that by hosting these journalists they can get Fairbanks in articles in magazines where advertising is cost prohibitive. He mentioned the Aurora

City Sweepstakes that was created to promote the Aurora Season and noted that the winner was from North Carolina. He concluded by noting the many publications that have been in contact with Explore Fairbanks to learn more about the Fairbanks area.

Robert Hall, FPD – Mr. Hall shared that he is from Fairbanks and is raising his family locally, adding that he has served the City for 12 years and is nearing the completion of his master’s degree. He provided a visual equation: dissatisfaction, multiplied by vision, multiplied by first steps, is greater than resistance (d×v×fs>r) and explained the meaning behind it. He went on to state that management does not appear to be satisfied with the City’s current course. He ended by stating that it is time to stop talking about the past and move forward.

City Clerk Snider confirmed that there were no more comments to be heard in person or over Zoom and proceeded to read the following written comments into record:

Thomas Brody, Fairbanks – Mr. Brody stated that he has been in law enforcement for over seven years, with the last three-and-a-half years at the FPD. He shared that he is currently at home recovering from COVID-19, which he contracted while working. He went on to state that he has had many conversations with employees from other agencies over the years, and rarely has he heard concerns regarding their employment comparative to the concerns of FPD employees. He added that other agencies offer more money, have less hard work, service less-violent populations, and have less forced overtime. Mr. Brody stated that citizens are not being well served, and FPD officers are suffering from burnout. He added that the ECIP is a good start in showing employees that the Council cares and is working to fix retention issues. He thanked the other FPD members who have come forward and encouraged the Council to reach out with questions.

David van den Berg, Fairbanks – Mr. van den Berg spoke on behalf of the Downtown Association of Fairbanks and thanked the Administration and City Council for continuing to enforce policies regarding nuisance properties, most recently at the properties located on Timberland Drive and Front Street. He stated that the Association recognizes that it is not an easy or a lighthearted thing to do but believes that these actions benefit the Fairbanks community and open the way to renewal.

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

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

**Ms. Kun**, seconded by **Mr. Clark**, moved to APPROVE the Agenda and Consent Agenda.

**Mayor Matherly** called for objection to the APPROVAL of 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 September 13, 2021

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

## SPECIAL ORDERS

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

Lic. #	DBA	License Type	Licensee	Address
17250	Pipe and Leaf: Premium Alaskan Cannabis	Retail Marijuana Store	Haley Essig	3546 Airport Way
10131	Pakalolo Supply Company, Inc.	Retail Marijuana Store	Pakalolo Supply Company, Inc.	1851 Fox Avenue
10230	Pakalolo Supply Company, Inc.	Standard Marijuana Cultivation Facility	Pakalolo Supply Company, Inc.	1851 Fox Avenue
22809	Airport Way Best Bud	Retail Marijuana Store	Airport Way Trade Center, LLC	3598 Airport Way

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

**Mayor Matherly** called for Public Testimony.

Cole Hollister, Pakalolo Supply Company, Inc. – Mr. Hollister shared that they were coming up on their 5th anniversary, reminding the Council that their cultivation license had been issued in July of 2016. He added that the store's first retail sale was to a cancer patient. He stated that his business has been stable and viable while contributing a lot of money to the government. He shared that his cultivation company has expanded, and they have since opened a store in Anchorage. He pointed out that all the calls noted on the FPD report were related to false alarms, and since then they have revamped their security system, which has resulted in zero calls to the FPD.

**Ms. Rogers** stated that she had questions regarding the multiple calls and thanked Mr. Hollister for his explanation. She expressed appreciation for Mr. Hollister's cooperation and communication with the Council regarding his licenses.

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

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

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

NAYS: None

**Mayor Matherly** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

## MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

**Mayor Matherly** stated that he often receives calls regarding Borough issues, noting the shortage with school bus drivers. He shared that the company hired by the school district, Durham, is still understaffed and is only charging the district for the routes that are actively running. He went on to thank Mr. van den Berg for his comments regarding nuisance properties, adding a brief explanation of the abatement process. **Mayor Matherly** recognized City Building Official Clem

Clooten for his hard work in making the abatement at 530 Front Street successful, and he added that he has received multiple calls of gratitude from neighboring property owners. He recognized Mr. Shields' tenacity for an issue he obviously cares very strongly about, adding that he would consult with the Chief of Staff regarding a letter of support. He went on to clarify that he does not have any control over the actions of the Polaris Working Group, but he sincerely hopes the Polaris Building will be demolished. He suggested that the property could then be sold to a private entity to develop and improve the downtown area. He emphasized that he does not wish for the City to develop that land in any way. **Mayor Matherly** congratulated the Council Member candidates on their campaigns and thanked Ms. Kun and Ms. Rogers for their service. He updated the Council on the budget process, noting the many meetings he has had with the Chief Financial Officer to present the Council with a balanced budget before the deadline. He thanked everyone who spoke in support of the ECIP and clarified to Mr. Buberger that the project on College Road is being managed by the State of Alaska, and the City has no say in the process. He added that he has a breakdown of all the State road projects and would be posting something on Facebook to help inform citizens. **Mayor Matherly** mentioned the school district's mandate on wearing masks and thanked the students and staff for their compliance, noting that the number of COVID-19 cases in the schools has declined. He added that the district is doing its best to keep kids in school, noting that many kids struggle with the online platform. He mentioned the issues that COVID-19 is creating statewide, such as Anchorage's struggles with public meetings. He expressed thanks that the City has been open and available to the public.

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

**Ms. Kun** thanked everyone for their comments and emails.

**Ms. Rogers** thanked those that took time to speak, emphasizing the importance of public comment. She went on to recognize the potential for a perceived conflict of interest regarding Ordinance No. 6181; she withdrew her sponsorship of the ordinance and stated that she would abstain from voting.

**Ms. Therrien** thanked Mr. Hall for his testimony, adding that the City is listening and that the Council appreciates hearing from employees and their families. She went on to stress the importance of employee retention. She stated she did not feel the Council was afraid of trying something different and is on the verge of making quite a few changes.

**Mr. Clark** stated he had no comments.

**Mr. Marney** thanked officers for their comments as well as Nick Clark for his input on the FFU contract. He added that Mr. Shields is thinking outside of the box, and it could be a good idea.

**Mr. Gibson** stated he had no comments.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a) Request for Reconsideration by Council Member Gibson of the Motion to Adopt Ordinance No. 6178, as Amended, An Ordinance to Amend FGC Chapter 78, Article XXII Motor Vehicle Impoundment and Forfeiture, to Remove Driving While License Suspended and No Insurance Convictions. Introduced by Council Member Gibson.



NOTE: The motion to adopt Ordinance No. 6178, as Amended, was passed at the Regular Meeting of September 27, 2021. The written request for reconsideration was filed with the City Clerk on September 28, 2021.

**Mr. Gibson**, seconded by **Ms. Kun**, moved to RECONSIDER the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 6178, as Amended.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO RECONSIDER THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 6178, AS AMENDED, AS FOLLOWS:

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

NAYS: None

**Mayor Matherly** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

*The motion to ADOPT Ordinance No. 6178, as Amended, made by Mr. Gibson and seconded by Mr. Clark, was made at the August 9 Regular Meeting and was back on the floor.*

**Mr. Gibson** stated that the Council's intent did not match the action that was taken and referred to City Attorney Paul Ewers for further clarification.

Mr. Ewers stated that the Council had effectively reduced an impound period for violations that, according to the ordinance, would no longer require impounding; he stated that the change resulted in language that was illogical. He stated that it appeared that the intent of the Council was to keep the impoundment period for those violations but reduce it from 30 days to 10 days.

**Mr. Gibson**, seconded by **Ms. Therrien**, moved to AMEND Ordinance No. 6178, as Amended, by substituting the proposed version of the ordinance.

Mr. Ewers explained the proposed substitution and the changes it contained, adding that the impoundment period for DWSOL and no insurance violations was put back into the ordinance but with a 10-day impoundment period instead of 30 days. He added that the forfeiture portion of the ordinance for second violations of DUI and Refusal violations would not change.

**Mr. Gibson** stated that there would be more time to read through and discuss the substitution prior to voting as he understood it would require another public hearing.

City Clerk Snider clarified that the changes were substantial enough to warrant postponement to allow for another public hearing.

**Mayor Matherly** called for objection to the motion to AMEND Ordinance No. 6178, as Amended, by substituting the proposed version of the ordinance, and hearing none, so ORDERED.

**Mr. Gibson**, seconded by **Ms. Therrien**, moved to POSTPONE Ordinance No. 6178, as Amended, to the next regular meeting and to hold a public hearing at that time.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO POSTPONE ORDINANCE NO. 6178, AS AMENDED, TO THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING AND TO HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING AT THAT TIME AS FOLLOWS:

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

NAYS: None

**Mayor Matherly** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

- b) Ordinance No. 6181, as Amended – An Ordinance to Amend Fairbanks General Code Chapter 50, Article VIII, to Add Paid Family Leave and Paid Funeral Leave. Introduced by Mayor Matherly and Council Members Therrien, Kun, and Marney. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING

**Ms. Kun**, seconded by **Mr. Marney**, moved to ADOPT Ordinance No. 6181, as Amended.

**Mayor Matherly** called for Public Testimony. City Clerk Snider proceeded to read the following comments into the record:

Moira Townsend, Fairbanks Fire Department (FFD) – Ms. Townsend spoke in favor of the ordinance, stating that she was happy in her position as Deputy Fire Marshal. She added, however, that planning to have a family without the support of family leave is extremely stressful, noting the medically advised 6-week healing period and how important that time is for mother-infant bonding. She went on to state that currently she would have to work 18 months without using any annual leave to afford to take that amount of time off with a new baby and stated that it is not a reasonable expectation. She implored the Council to consider approving a full 6-week maternity leave, adding that she believed it would go a long way towards retaining valuable employees.

Jennifer Winkler, FFD – Ms. Winkler shared that in 2019 she had become the first female firefighter at the FFD to have a child. She stated that she had tried to accumulate 750 hours of leave to be able to afford to take 12 weeks of paid time off with her newborn, but unfortunately, she had encountered other issues that took away from that time. She stated that her family could not afford for her to take any more than 7 weeks of accrued paid time off and, while it was physically and emotionally demanding for her to return to duty after 7 weeks, she did. Ms. Winkler noted that the proposed 2-4 weeks is not enough time for a woman to recover from pregnancy and that, depending on the circumstances, it can take 6 weeks to months to be back up to pre-birth capabilities. She added that the time spent on light duty when an employee returns only creates an extra burden on the crew. She asked that the Council approve Ordinance No. 6181.

Fabienne Munoz – Ms. Munoz stated she recently left the FFD for a new employer that valued her as a career employee. She spoke in favor of Ordinance No. 6181, stating that it was a step in the right direction to show employees that the City values their commitment. She criticized the 5-year requirement to qualify for full benefits, stating that it puts the City in control of a family's choices; she added that by not having those benefits readily available, it makes the City an unattractive place to work. She added that by adopting the ordinance the City will start to improve their attraction and retention of valuable employees.

Sarah Fuerst, City Finance Department – Ms. Fuerst shared that she has worked for the City for two years and is expecting her first child in March of 2022. She stated had not planned for this

pregnancy and therefore did not hesitate to use 2 weeks of annual leave recently to visit her elderly grandparents. She explained that since then, she has had to use multiple hours of leave to cover doctor appointments and sick days due to episodes of severe morning sickness. She added that she also recently lost her grandmother and needs to out of state to attend funeral services. Ms. Fuerst supported the Council's attempt at taking on a few of the issues that have largely gone unaddressed. She added a suggestion for tiers in the family leave, suggesting that a 4-year employee could receive 4 weeks of leave; she added that 4 years of experience would be a substantial loss to the City. She also requested that the City consider providing paid funeral leave outside of the definition of immediate family. She concluded by thanking the Council for the opportunity to provide input.

Erin Kitchin – Ms. Kitchin shared that she accepted a job opportunity in another town primarily due to the lack of support she has received from the City. She stated her desire to build her family and spoke to the City's lack of support to do so by not providing what she believes is basic medical leave. Ms. Kitchin went on state that she believes the lack of paid family leave is a leading cause in the City's retention problem, adding that family is very important to all members of the FFD. She stated that it is equally important for employees to be able to earn wages while supporting their families during these crucial times. She criticized the Council, stating that while this was a step in the right direction, it would take constant pushing for something better. She added her hope that the approval of the ordinance would result in better job satisfaction for City employees.

Kelsey Kelly, City Building Department – Ms. Kelly thanked the Administration and the Council for recognizing the value in retaining City employees. She went on to state that many employees are forced to choose between bonding with their new child or returning to work, and she was happy to see the City taking a more family-friendly approach. Ms. Kelly stated that the City is likely to gain more loyalty from its employees in return. She emphasized that the leave policy does not allow for an employee to take advantage of the City and that time spent recovering from giving birth is not a vacation. She noted that the Building Department has had 5 administrative assistants in the past 3 years and that each time there is turnover the City and the citizens suffer. She concluded by stating that she will have a child in the next year and, by having this leave time, she will be able to return to work more physically and mentally healthy. She added that the adoption of the ordinance is very important to her, her family, her department, and the community.

Mayor Matherly called for any additional comments from the public.

Nick Clark, Fairbanks – Mr. Clark spoke in support of the ordinance, pointing out the powerful response that has been garnered from the Fire Department and other employees. He noted that four female firefighters have left in the past year, which makes it harder for the remaining females to stay; he stated those employees have a strong bond between them. He stated that the ordinance is a good start to showing the Council values City employees. He reinforced the idea that the time it takes for a mother to heal is something far from a vacation and should not be considered as such.

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

**Mr. Clark** stated that the written comments have been very discouraging. He added that he has supported the ordinance, but it is frustrating to be told the Council is not ever doing enough. He added that people choose between career and family life all the time – not just at the City. He made it clear that his responsibility as a Council Member is primarily to the citizens of Fairbanks, emphasizing his disappointment with the attitudes expressed by some City employees.



**Mr. Gibson** stated that there has been a lot of criticism. He stated that the impression that the ordinance is okay, but there will be a request for more to soon follow is discouraging. He questioned when and what would be good enough for employees. He expressed concern that the ordinance is listed as a \$0 fiscal impact, stating that it does cost money or at least time. He stated that there is incentive pay in labor contracts for employees who fill in while others are out, and that will have a real fiscal impact. He concluded by sharing his support for the ordinance but noting his frustrations.

**Ms. Therrien** stated she felt that the testimony was not completely negative and appreciated those who thanked the Council for introducing the ordinance. She added that she may see it from a different perspective as a woman. She stated that this is a good first step and encouraged the Council to approve the ordinance.

**Mayor Matherly** noted that many of the employees who submitted comments are ones who do not often address the Council, and, as such, have included a lot of emotion in their testimonies. He pointed out that there was some negative mixed with a lot of gratitude. He shared that as a father he was limited to two days of time off with his children and felt that the City was offering a good benefit to its employees. He asked HR Director Angela Foster-Snow to provide input.

Ms. Foster-Snow reminded the Council that Ordinance No. 6181, as Amended, addresses three different types of leave, including medical maternity leave, which most of the comments tonight have been directed towards. She added that there has been a lot of feedback off the record from other departments expressing gratitude, including but not limited to the FPD and Public Works. She went on to address the parental leave that many have expressed will be a huge benefit to employees moving forward. She touched on the funeral leave, stating that she has never worked for an organization that did not offer at least one day of bereavement leave. She stated there is a lot of stress for employees like Ms. Fuerst who must manage their leave to do what they feel is right for their families. She concluded by stating that the ordinance covers three very important facets of employees needs. She asked the Council to consider that only a handful of people have made public comments, and the percentage of dissatisfaction is small. She thanked the Mayor for the opportunity to address the Council.

**Ms. Kun** shared her support for the ordinance, adding that the testimony makes it very clear that this issue is very important to employees. She asked for clarification on the fiscal note.

Chief Financial Officer Margarita Bell stated that in the fiscal note there is a value; however, it is unknown based on which employee uses leave or how long that employee is on leave. She stated that the values listed for parental leave and funeral leave is based on the lowest- and highest- paid employee for the maximum length of time.

**Mr. Clark** asked how many firefighters have left the City within the past 12 months. Fire Chief Tod Chambers stated that 6 employees have left.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 6181, AS AMENDED, AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Clark, Gibson, Therrien, Marney, Kun

NAYS: None  
ABSTAIN: Rogers

**Mayor Matherly** declared the MOTION CARRIED and Ordinance No. 6181, as Amended, ADOPTED.

- c) Ordinance No. 6182 – An Ordinance Amending the 2021 Operating and Capital Budgets for the Fourth Time. Introduced by Mayor Matherly. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.

**Mr. Marney**, seconded by **Ms. Therrien**, moved to ADOPT Ordinance No. 6182.

**Ms. Kun**, seconded by **Mr. Marney**, moved to AMEND Ordinance No. 6182 by substituting Ordinance 6182, as Amended.

**Mayor Matherly** called for objection to the motion to AMEND by substituting Ordinance No. 6182, as Amended, and hearing none, so ORDERED.

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

Ms. Bell gave an update on the substitution, explaining that two items were added to the Capital Fund Property Repair and Replacement expenditure line item. She went on to state that \$79,500 had been added based on the bids received for the FPD sprinkler system and \$100,000 had been added for the purchase of two police vehicles.

**Ms. Therrien** expressed her delight in seeing the increase in the room rental tax, adding that it helps the bottom line as well as the tourism industry.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 6182, AS AMENDED, AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Therrien, Rogers, Kun, Marney, Clark, Gibson  
NAYS: None

**Mayor Matherly** declared the MOTION CARRIED and Ordinance No. 6182, as Amended, ADOPTED.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Resolution No. 4988 – A Resolution Amending the City Schedule of Fees and Charges for Services by Increasing the Towing Fee for City Impounds. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

PASSED and APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- b) Ordinance No. 6183 – An Ordinance to Amend Fairbanks General Code Sec. 2-181 Advertising Vacancies on City Boards and Commissions. Introduced by Council Member Rogers.

ADVANCED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- c) Ordinance No. 6184 – An Ordinance Creating an Employee Capital Incentive Program (ECIP) at the City of Fairbanks. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

ADVANCED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- d) Ordinance No. 6185 – An Ordinance Ratifying a Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the City of Fairbanks and the Fairbanks Firefighters Union, IAFF Local 1324. Introduced by Mayor Matherly

ADVANCED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

### WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL

- a) Chena Riverfront Commission Meeting Minutes of July 28, 2021

ACCEPTED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- b) Chena Riverfront Commission Meeting Minutes of August 25, 2021

ACCEPTED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

### DISCUSSION ITEMS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS

- a) Committee Reports

**Mr. Clark** stated he did not have any committee reports. He thanked Mr. Pruhs for his update on the Polaris Building. He stated that he does not know of any companies that allow employees to treat them so poorly, adding that he is curious to see if the retention in the FFD improves over the next year. He acknowledged the increase in the room rental tax, sharing that they had just opened an Air BnB at their home which was booked the first day they listed it.

**Ms. Kun** stated she had no committee reports and went on to give a land acknowledgment. She thanked everyone who voted and gave the CARE line number for anyone who may be in need.

**Ms. Rogers** shared that she had attended the Opioid Task Force and Reentry Coalition meetings, adding that a visitor from the Alaska Mental Health Trust came for an annual visit. She went on to share that a visitor from Deschutes County, Oregon had attended the Crisis NOW meeting and explained that Fairbanks provided a good model for them. She expressed appreciation for Chief Chambers' participation in the Crisis NOW meetings, noting the importance of groups working together. **Ms. Rogers** shared a quote, "Don't let perfect be in the way of good," and voiced her hope that everyone can take that to heart and keep it in mind.

**Ms. Therrien** shared that she had attended the Polaris Work Group meeting and would distribute the minutes to the Council soon; she recognized the great job Andrew Ackerman is doing there. She reported that she also attended the AML Board meeting and that no changes have been made to policy statements, but they did receive three resolutions to be considered. She noted that the

Opioid Task Force was seeking an appointment to the statewide group from Fairbanks and suggested that Ms. Rogers be considered for it. **Ms. Therrien** shared that the Permanent Fund Review Board would be meeting Wednesday at 3:00 p.m. and would be asking for input regarding equity percentages changing from 60-70%. She explained that by doing so, it would create a larger benefit with bigger capital gains; she added that bonds are currently performing very poorly.

**Mr. Marney** stated that he would not have a committee report until the following month. He asked that the Council be kept up to date with the progress at the nuisance property on Cowles Street.

**Mr. Gibson** stated he had no comments.

### CITY CLERK'S REPORT

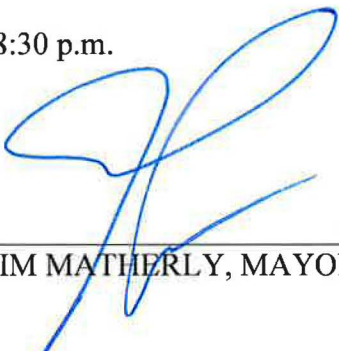
City Clerk Snider reported that the final count on absentee and questioned ballots, including special needs ballots, would take place the following day at the FNSB Assembly Chambers at 3:00 p.m. She added that she would be absent from the next regular Council meeting and that Deputy Clerk Rodak would be acting Clerk during her absence.

### ADJOURNMENT

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

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


**Mayor Matherly** declared the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.



---

JIM MATHERLY, MAYOR

ATTEST:



---

D. DANYIELLE SNIDER, MMC, CITY CLERK

Transcribed by: RR