



FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES, JUNE 27, 2022
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 for a 2021 Audit Presentation by Alliance CPAs, LLC, 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: Jerry Cleworth, Seat A
June Rogers, Seat B
Valerie Therrien, Seat C
Aaron Gibson, Seat D
Lonny Marney, Seat E
Jim Clark, Seat F (*arrived at 6:56 p.m.*)

Absent: None

Also Present: Margarita Bell, Chief Financial Officer
D. Danyielle Snider, City Clerk
Paul Ewers, City Attorney
Michael Sanders, Chief of Staff
Kristi Merideth, FECC Manager
Angela Foster-Snow, HR Director (remotely)
Ron Dupee, Police Chief
Rick Sweet, Deputy Police Chief
Teal Soden, Communications Director (remotely)
Scott Raygor, Fire Chief
Clem Clooten, Building Official (remotely)
Jeff Jacobson, Public Works Director
Katie McConnachie, City Controller
Nick Clark, FFD
Julie Ritchie, FECC
Patsy Bernier, Finance Dept.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was given by City Clerk Danyielle Snider.

FLAG SALUTATION

Mayor Matherly led the Flag Salutation.

CEREMONIAL MATTERS

Mayor Matherly recognized Patsy Bernier for her five years of employment with the City Finance Department, highlighting some of her accomplishments. He noted that she had graciously organized a City-wide Easter egg hunt each year, and he congratulated her on her upcoming business venture. He presented her with a City of Fairbanks gold pan in appreciation of her service.

Mayor Matherly congratulated Julie Ritchie on her retirement after serving 23 years with the City of Fairbanks as a Dispatcher in the Fairbanks Emergency Communications Center (FECC). He highlighted some of the many successful programs that she had led. **Mayor Matherly** thanked her for her support of the City's emergency services and for her service to the community. He asked FECC Manager Kristi Merideth to present J. Ritchie with a City of Fairbanks gold pan.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Christine Robbins, Fairbanks – C. Robbins spoke in favor of Resolution No. 5018, supporting the Fairbanks Independence Day parade. She added that it would be the second year for the event and that they were now operating as a non-profit. She noted that it would start at 10:00 a.m. at the Carlson Center and end at Barnette Street at approximately 11:30 a.m. on July 4, 2022. She provided her contact information for last-minute entries.

Steve Hovenden, Fairbanks – S. Hovenden spoke regarding Kinross' proposition to haul ore from the Manh Choh mine to its facility at Fort Knox. He expressed concerns, including Kinross' failure to submit a transportation plan for the past 20 months. He stated that there would be added congestion, air quality issues, and drastically increased chances of injury and death. He asked the Council to act.

Mr. Marney asked about the number of school bus stops on the proposed route. S. Hovenden stated there are 188.

Victor Buberger, Fairbanks – V. Buberger noted the many improvements happening throughout the City but asked when attention would be paid to the existing roads and the numerous potholes. He spoke to the lack of public restrooms in Fairbanks and questioned the amount of money spent on wages for workers cleaning up the downtown area. He added that tourists would likely appreciate a public restroom as much as the members of the community.

Chris Miller, Fairbanks – C. Miller recognized the efforts to patch potholes on Cowles Street and the work done to clean up the downtown area prior to the Midnight Sun Festival, adding that the festival had been a great experience. He noted that street sweeping, which when neglected, leads to a lot of street damage, seems to be lower on the priority list for Public Works. He stated that there had been some exposed electrical along Cushman Street and assumed that those lines were not live. C. Miller shared that he had observed the City Surveyor in the Clay Street Cemetery and expressed his appreciation for the City's support of the Clay Street Cemetery Commission.

Hearing no more requests for in-person comment, individuals on Zoom were heard next.

Amanda Kelley, Fairbanks – A. Kelley gave a land acknowledgement and thanked the Council for the opportunity to speak.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

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

Ms. Therrien pulled item 12(c), Resolution No. 5020, from the Consent Agenda. **Mr. Gibson** pulled item 12(a), Resolution No. 5018, from the Consent Agenda.

Mayor Matherly called for objection to the APPROVAL of the Agenda, as Amended and, hearing none, so ORDERED.

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

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
4268	Food Factory	Beverage Dispensary	CNR Enterprise, LLC	275 Bentley Trust Road
1059	Raven Landing Center	Beverage Dispensary	Retirement Community of Fairbanks	1222 Cowles Street
999	Oaken Keg #3410	Package Store	Safeway, Inc.	30 College Road
995	Oaken Keg #2754	Package Store	Safeway, Inc.	3627 Airport Way
4174	Big Daddy's Bar-B-Q & Banquet Hall	Beverage Dispensary	RTG, LLC	107 Wickersham Street

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

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

Mr. Marney asked for a staff report regarding citations for theft, noting the high number of calls at one of the Safeway locations. Police Chief Dupee shared that the process to issue citations rather than arresting offenders has saved the responding officers a great deal of time, and he felt that the number of calls regarding theft have decreased.

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

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

NAYS: None

Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION CARRIED.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

Mayor Matherly stated that the recent and upcoming hot weather required that everyone be more aware of animals left in hot vehicles, noting that temperatures would be climbing into the 80s. He mentioned the low visibility caused by the wildfire smoke and asked those that fly small airplanes to be especially careful. He spoke about the evacuations happening in surrounding communities, noting the importance of being careful and aware of the high fire danger. **Mayor Matherly** drew the Council's attention to the newly mounted Land Acknowledgment outside of the Chambers. He spoke to the improved situation at the Golden Heart Plaza (GHP) and thanked the Fairbanks Police Department (FPD) for its part in it. He expressed his disappointment that the Cushman Street Bridge construction was yet to be completed, adding that the downtown area was quite congested with the arrival of tourists. He thanked C. Robbins for organizing the Independence Day Parade. **Mayor Matherly** noted that the Work Session regarding the Manh Choh Mine had to be rescheduled due to conflicts with the other parties and asked the Council to consider holding the meeting on July 11, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.

a) Special Report: Public Works Director Jeff Jacobson

J. Jacobson shared that each season presented its own challenges, noting that spring and summer had proven to be just as busy as the incredibly difficult winter season. He stated that the department had used cameras in a crushed culvert in the storm water system that had caused drainage issues. He spoke to the extreme cost of providing snow removal over the winter, including the need to use outside contractors. J. Jacobson thanked the Council for the newly purchased side dump, adding that it had saved a great deal of money in time and man hours; he stated he believed the department could benefit from a second one. He spoke about the upcoming City surplus auction and provided documentation on the equipment to be sold. He spoke to the constant homeless camp issues and stated that the City had recently come to an agreement to help the State remove a homeless camp in the Gaffney-Airport-Richardson-Steese (GARS) area in exchange for street painting.

Mr. Gibson asked about the availability of a side dump trailer without a cab; J. Jacobson replied that he was uncertain. **Mr. Gibson** asked if the department had a cab they could use if they obtained the trailer, and J. Jacobson stated that they did.

J. Jacobson went on to speak to the many upcoming community events and to the City's permitting process for those. He noted that the current fee schedule does not cover the City's cost to provide barricading services for events, adding that the language on the permit application could provide better clarification on when barricades should be requested.

Mr. Clark asked about the previous plan to remove shrubbery between the Cushman Street Bridge and the Yukon Quest cabin. J. Jacobson stated that he had contacted the contractor and reported that it would be addressed soon.

Ms. Therrien asked about the price difference between two events on the list provided. J. Jacobson clarified that some events do not require laborers or barricade packages, and those events are significantly less expensive.

Mayor Matherly shared that he had met with the President and CFO of the Alaska Railroad; he stated they spoke about the changes since COVID and the various ports now open.

COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Mr. Gibson shared that he could attend a special meeting on July 11. He noted that there had been some community-wide confusion regarding the GARS intersection, clarifying that it would not be a round-about but an entirely new type of traffic pattern.

Mr. Marney stated that July 11 would work for him regarding the Manh Choh Work Session. He acknowledged the amount of experience the City was losing with the recent retirements. He thanked Public Works for its efforts in cleaning up the property at 707 Cowles Street.

Mr. Clark stated that he would be available July 11 and apologized for his tardiness.

Ms. Therrien stated that she could attend July 11 if it began at 5:15 p.m. She congratulated P. Bernier and J. Ritchie on their retirements.

Ms. Rogers recognized P. Bernier and J. Ritchie, adding her appreciation that accomplishments are recognized during Council meetings. She added that she has noticed a decrease in accidents where roundabouts have been installed. She expressed her delight to see the sidewalks painted in the downtown area as well as the dumpsters being decorated using the leftover paint. She shared that she had lost two important people in her life, Mary Kay Barsdate and Jeff Weltzin and that both had been important members of the community. **Ms. Rogers** confirmed that she would be available for a work session on July 11.

Mr. Cleworth stated that he is available July 11 and recognized Public Works for getting the striping done on the downtown streets; he noted the great deal that J. Jacobson made with the State. He shared that he had attended the service for former City Mayor Jim Hayes and expressed his appreciation for his ability to listen to public testimony and lead the City.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) Ordinance No. 6207 – An Ordinance Amending the 2022 Operating and Capital Budgets for the Second Time. Introduced by Mayor Matherly. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.

Mr. Gibson, seconded by **Ms. Therrien**, moved to ADOPT Ordinance No. 6207.

Mayor Matherly called for testimony.

Chris Miller, Fairbanks – C. Miller spoke in support of the proposed substitute that added funding for the patrolling of Golden Heart Plaza (GHP), noting the positive difference the FPD presence had already made this summer. C. Miller stated his support for the added Polaris Building funding.

Ms. Rogers asked if C. Miller visited the GHP often; C. Miller stated that he visits daily.

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

Ms. Therrien, seconded by **Mr. Marney**, moved to AMEND Ordinance No. 6207 by substituting Ordinance No. 6207, as Amended.

Ms. Therrien spoke in favor of the proposed substitution, noting the change in the allotted amount for security at GHP. She added that the FPD is doing a great job but felt that their services could be better utilized elsewhere.

Chief of Staff Mike Sanders clarified that the \$47,000 proposal had come from Julie Jones at Festival Fairbanks, not from the City.

Mr. Gibson, seconded by **Ms. Therrien**, moved to AMEND the motion to amend by adding \$80,000 to the Capital Fund for the purchase a new side dump trailer without a cab.

Mr. Cleworth noted that there would be a work session to discuss the details of the GHP, and he expressed agreement with COS Sanders' communications to the Council.

Mayor Matherly called for a point of order to bring the discussion back to the motion to amend the amendment.

Mr. Cleworth gave his support for the amendment regarding the side dump.

Mr. Clark suggested that the purchase of an additional side dump could be put off until the following year based on the already high expenses of the Public Works Department.

Mr. Gibson stated that the annual cost of renting the machine was extreme, considering the cost of a new trailer was nearly the same. He added that availability and lead time could be crucial in obtaining the equipment in time for winter.

Mr. Marney addressed the surplus auction and the funds that would be available to put towards the new equipment; he inquired about the purchase of the used rentals when they are sold. J. Jacobson stated that he could ask the rental companies about the possibility of selling one of them.

Ms. Rogers spoke in support of the amendment.

Ms. Therrien agreed that it would be wise to purchase the equipment now.

Mr. Clark stated that he would support the amendment.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO AMEND THE MOTION TO AMEND BY ADDING \$80,000 TO THE CAPITAL FUND FOR THE PURCHASE A NEW SIDE DUMP TRAILER WITHOUT A CAB AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Gibson, Cleworth, Clark, Therrien, Rogers

NAYS: Marney

Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Cleworth stated that he would prefer to address the GHP security issues after the scheduled work session was held, noting that there were many options to consider. He shared his admiration for seeing the FPD, including Deputy Chief Sweet, working the area, and he acknowledged the issue as a downtown business owner. He asked that the Council take more time to consider the issue carefully.

Ms. Therrien stated that any solution, including a room rental tax solution, would not be viable until much later, and this would provide a good stopgap measure to cover 2022.

Mr. Clark stated he would like to see more information on where the funds would be spent before approving a blanket sum. J. Jacobson explained that the J. Jones quote was significantly less than the quote given to the City, as it was based on a smaller number of patrol hours.

Mayor Matherly stated that the FPD responded quickly to his request to increase its presence, and it is making a big difference in the area. He added that additional security could only help to support those efforts and asked if there was a start date included with the quote. COS Sanders stated that he would need to contact Festival Fairbanks for that answer as they were the ones who negotiated the contract.

Ms. Rogers spoke in support of the amendment, recognizing Ms. Therrien's use of the term stopgap. She added that Festival Fairbanks has been entrusted with the GHP for many decades and deserved the City's trust in negotiating a security contract.

Mr. Cleworth noted that the proposed contract from J. Jones included 16 weeks of service, which would not be necessary at this point. He stated that the amount could be reduced by about \$12,000 but asked that the Council wait on this issue until after the work session is held.

Ms. Therrien, seconded by **Mr. Clark**, moved to AMEND the motion to amend by reducing Golden Heart Plaza funds to \$35,481.60.

Ms. Rogers supported the reduced amount.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO AMEND THE MOTION TO AMEND BY REDUCING GOLDEN HEART PLAZA FUNDS TO \$35,481.60, AS FOLLOWS:

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

NAYS: None

Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Cleworth asked Police Chief Dupee if he thought the private security would be helpful or if he thought a better solution could come from waiting and discussing it more thoroughly.

Chief Dupee stated that Phoenix Security has been very mindful to only call the FPD for assistance when it is truly needed, adding that their presence could be helpful. He added that the FPD presence has made big improvements in the area and that public safety assistant (PSA) positions could be implemented quickly as well, providing the Council with another security option.

Mr. Cleworth asked about the timeliness of implementing PSAs for the area. Chief Dupee stated it could be done within three weeks.

Mr. Clark asked if the three-week time was realistic, and Chief Dupee confirmed that it was possible.

Ms. Rogers spoke to the long-term benefit of having the FPD presence in the downtown area and how it positively impacts the relationship between the officers and the citizens.

Ms. Therrien asked about the cost difference between hiring a contractor and using PSAs, expressing concern that it would be vastly more expensive to use City employees. Chief Dupee stated that he had not had the opportunity to run the cost estimates.

Mr. Marney asked about the possible recruitment tool PSA positions could provide for the FPD. Chief Dupee stated that it can provide recruitment opportunities as well as the ability for interested citizens to serve in a lesser capacity than a full law enforcement officer.

Mr. Cleworth argued that PSA positions do not have to be full time, and the number of benefits is not necessarily determined. He noted that there was an obvious need for greater discussion on the issue and asked that the Council wait for a work session to come up with a solid plan.

Chief Dupee shared that Captain Nate Warner (a former City employee) has accepted the offer to come on board and help establish either a PSA program or train officers on aspects of foot patrol.

Mr. Clark stated that the information provided by Chief Dupee convinced him that the PSA option would better serve the City than an outside contractor.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 6207 BY SUBSTITUTING ORDINANCE NO. 6207, AS AMENDED, AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Rogers, Therrien
NAYS: Clark, Marney, Cleworth, Gibson
Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION FAILED.

Mr. Gibson, seconded by **Mr. Clark**, moved to AMEND Ordinance No. 6207 by increasing Capital Funds by \$80,000 to purchase a side dump trailer without a cab.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 6207 BY INCREASING CAPITAL FUNDS BY \$80,000 TO PURCHASE A SIDE DUMP TRAILER WITHOUT A CAB AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Clark, Gibson, Rogers, Therrien, Marney, Cleworth
NAYS: None
Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION PASSED.

Mr. Cleworth expressed his support for the ordinance but noted that it was adding more expenditures than revenues. He expressed his desire for the Council to be made privy to potential overspending prior to its occurrence, adding his appreciation for the efforts of COS Sanders and Fire Chief Raygor in attempting to find solutions to the overtime issues at the Fairbanks Fire Department (FFD). **Mr. Cleworth** stated that many of the current issues could have been avoided with more discussion and time spent on contract negotiations. He asked the Council to consider the current budget situation had the City not received the unexpected tax revenue. He reiterated his support of the ordinance but again cautioned the Council to be mindful of the expenditures.

COS Sanders stated that he would continue to keep the Council as informed as possible.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 6207, AS AMENDED, AS FOLLOWS:

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

NAYS: None

Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION CARRIED and Ordinance No. 6207, as Amended, ADOPTED.

- b) Ordinance No. 6208 – An Ordinance Amending FGC Section 74-36, Economic Development Property Tax Exemption or Deferral, and Adding FGC Section 74-37, Tax Incentive for Housing. Introduced by Council Member Therrien. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.

Ms. Therrien seconded by **Mr. Marney**, moved to ADOPT Ordinance No. 6208.

Mayor Matherly called for testimony.

Chris Miller, Fairbanks – C. Miller. spoke in favor of the exemption, adding that it was a positive statement for the Council to make regarding development. He stated that the potential loss of funds was minimal and would go a long way towards improving the downtown area.

Mr. Gibson asked C. Miller whether an additional tax exemption of \$5,000 would make a difference to a developer. C. Miller stated that it is not a lot for the developer but makes a large difference to those who are trying to avoid higher taxes. **Mr. Gibson** pointed out that it does not forgive the total property tax. C. Miller stated that he believed it took care of most of the taxes, adding that more exemptions and incentives are always better; he understood the City's limitations.

Ms. Therrien asked if C. Miller understood that the land taxes would still be owed and that the exemption would only apply to the improvements; C. Miller confirmed that he understood.

Brittany Smart, Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) Mayor's Office – B. Smart shared FSNB Mayor Ward's support of the ordinance, adding that it was in line with the Borough's efforts to encourage development in the area. She went on to speak from her own perspective as a point of contact with the military and the extreme housing demands in the area. She spoke to the loss of housing in the Birchwood Homes development and the high rental rates. She noted that the housing

and infrastructure in place is aging and inefficient, making housing costs extremely high. B. Smart stated that safe, affordable housing is a community-wide priority.

Mr. Gibson asked how a fourplex exemption would work within service areas. B. Smart stated that there are limits on how and where the program works, noting that many service areas are voted on by the residents and would not likely be included in the exemptions.

Mr. Clark asked about exemptions on single-family homes. B. Smart stated that it was done for the purpose of increasing multifamily housing, which would use the land to the greatest benefit while minimizing costs. She explained that the exemption is higher for those units that house five or more families to encourage the development of apartment complexes.

Mr. Clark asked if she would prefer to live in an apartment or a home. B. Smart stated that while her preference would be a home, the surveys and research indicate that affordability, accessibility, and cost are the largest driving factors in the community.

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

Mr. Marney asked for clarification on page two, item (b)(1), asking if it was reasonable to assume that all property within the City has been taxed at one time. City Attorney Ewers noted that the section in question was already codified and not included in the proposed changes.

Mr. Cleworth stated that the FNSB exemptions extend to improvements within the City limits, noting that service areas have not relinquished their taxes along with those exemptions. He likened the City to other service areas, adding that he did not believe an additional exemption provided by the City would be a deciding factor for development within the City. He noted that the Council may be facing other revenue issues without the additional strain of a tax exemption, adding that the current cap within the cap makes it very difficult for the City to increase its revenues.

Ms. Therrien spoke in favor of the ordinance, adding that no one has testified against the exemption. She added that the incentive would only be available for a two-year period with a tax break for a maximum of five years, noting that the continued need for safe and affordable housing needed serious attention.

Ms. Rogers spoke in favor of the ordinance, adding that forward motion towards increasing affordable housing was important, and this would be a good incentive to encourage development.

Mr. Gibson shared that he had spoken with developers who had projects planned within the City and while they would appreciate the extra break, it would not affect their decision to develop. He noted that there could be a negative impact on revenue when buildings that are currently taxed are demolished and replaced with new buildings that will not be taxed for several years. He stated that the Council had also discussed removing the tax cap within the cap and felt that providing an exemption while also effectively requesting to raise taxes could provide a mixed message to voters.

Mr. Clark stated that he knew someone who had purchased an older hotel in the City, renovated it, and was providing affordable housing; he stated that was done without a tax incentive.

Mr. Cleworth asked for the ordinance's fiscal note. City Clerk Snider apologized that it had been omitted, and she displayed the fiscal note on the projector screen. **Mr. Cleworth** stated that there would be lingering effects of an exemption, and it would be complicated by the cap within the cap. He reiterated that developers would receive a 70% discount on taxes without a City exemption, and the additional relief would not make a difference in their choice to develop City property.

Ms. Rogers requested that the item be postponed for further discussion.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 6208 AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Therrien, Rogers
NAYS: Cleworth, Marney, Clark, Gibson
Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION FAILED.

- c) Ordinance No. 6209 – An Ordinance to Apply to the State of Alaska to Designate the City of Fairbanks as a Military Facility Zone. Introduced by Mayor Matherly and Council Member Therrien. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.

Mr. Cleworth seconded by **Ms. Therrien**, moved to ADOPT Ordinance No. 6209.

Mayor Matherly called for testimony.

Brittany Smart, FNSB Mayor's Office – B. Smart shared FNSB Mayor Ward's support of the ordinance, adding that MFZs provide a great opportunity to support and incentivize businesses that support nearby military installations.

Mr. Clark asked what it means to be designated as an military facility zone (MFZ). B. Smart clarified that it is simply a financing tool which opens additional funding opportunities.

COS Sanders shared that the State offers a low-interest loan through the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) within an MFZ.

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

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 6209 AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Marney, Cleworth, Clark, Gibson, Rogers, Therrien
NAYS: None
Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION CARRIED and Ordinance No. 6209 ADOPTED.

NEW BUSINESS

- a) Resolution No. 5018 – A Resolution Supporting the Fairbanks Independence Day Parade. Introduced by Council Member Marney.

Mr. Gibson, seconded by **Mr. Marney**, moved to APPROVE Resolution No. 5018.

Mr. Gibson asked to be a co-sponsor of the resolution. **Ms. Rogers** asked to add all Council members names to the Resolution.

Mayor Matherly called for objection to adding all Council Members as sponsors to the resolution and, hearing none, so ORDERED.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 5018 AS FOLLOWS:

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

NAYS: None

Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION CARRIED and Resolution No. 5018 APPROVED.

- b) Resolution No. 5019 – A Resolution to Authorize a Sponsor Agreement with AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

PASSED and APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- c) Resolution No. 5020 – A Resolution Amending the City Schedule of Fees and Charges for Services by Amending the Fee for Planting in Public Spaces and by Updating Fairbanks General Code References. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

Ms. Therrien, seconded by **Mr. Marney**, moved to APPROVE Resolution No. 5020.

Ms. Therrien, seconded by **Mr. Cleworth**, moved to AMEND Resolution No. 5020 by changing the language under “Topic” in Section 70-162 to read “Regulating Planting in Public Place.”

Ms. Therrien stated that the original language could be interpreted that the City would charge fees to people who plant in public spaces, which did not appear to be the intent of the ordinance.

Mr. Gibson asked for clarification around the enforcement and what it entailed.

City Attorney Ewers clarified the rules regarding planting in public places, adding that it does not prevent planting in the City of right-of-way but puts onus on the property owner to ensure their vegetation does not pose a hazard to the public by blocking line of sight, creating obstructions, or interfering with utilities. He added that the fee is only imposed when the property owner has been asked to take care of an issue and they fail to do so, requiring the Public Works department to act.

Ms. Rogers asked how the City notifies property owners of the need to trim the trees and bushes. J. Jacobson stated that they use a variety of methods. **Ms. Rogers** asked if they are personally notified or if they receive a written notification. J. Jacobson stated that he felt written notices often require more administrative time than it is worth.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO AMEND RESOLUTION NO. 5020 BY CHANGING THE LANGUAGE UNDER “TOPIC” IN SECTION 70-162 TO READ “REGULATING PLANTING IN PUBLIC PLACE” AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Marney, Cleworth, Therrien, Clark, Gibson

NAYS: Rogers

Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION CARRIED.

Ms. Therrien stated that the language in the ordinance reflects the changes to the resolution.

Ms. Rogers stated that she did not think the term correctly related to the description provided by the Public Works director.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 5020, AS AMENDED, AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Therrien, Cleworth, Clark, Marney, Gibson

NAYS: Rogers

Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION CARRIED and Resolution No. 5020, as Amended, APPROVED.

- d) Ordinance No. 6211 – An Ordinance Amending the Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the City of Fairbanks and the Fairbanks Firefighters Union IAFF Local 1324 (FFU) to Change the Daily Staffing Rules, Administrative Officer Schedule, and Promotions and Probationary Periods. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

ADVANCED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- e) Ordinance No. 6212 – An Ordinance Amending FGC Section 22-9 by Adding Provisions for Candidate Biographical Information and Non-Partisan Position Statement. Introduced by Council Member Cleworth.

ADVANCED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE CITY COUNCIL

- a) Memorandum Regarding Administrative Corrections to ROW Permitting System Attachment to Ordinance No. 6205

ACCEPTED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- b) Fairbanks Diversity Council Meeting Minutes of May 10, 2022

ACCEPTED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS & COMMITTEE REPORTS

With no objection from the Council, Members' Comments and Committee Reports were combined.

Mr. Gibson stated he had no comments.

Mr. Marney shared his conflict regarding the tax incentive, adding that he saw the need to provide encouragement to develop the downtown area. He asked that the Council be open to consider other ways to incentivize development.

Mr. Clark shared that he thought increasing the FPD presence in the downtown area would go a long way in encouraging more development, adding that he was heartened to hear that Chief Dupee believed he could have people ready to fill the PSA role in as little as three weeks.

Ms. Therrien stated she had no committee reports. She suggested that Mr. Marney move to reconsider Ordinance No. 6208 if he would like to keep the discussion open.

Ms. Rogers shared that she had attended the last FNSB Assembly, Housing and Homeless, and ITC Council meetings. She stated that she would be attending the Arbinger training provided at the FPD the following week.

Mr. Cleworth reference the Fairbanks Diversity Council (FDC) meeting minutes and the mention of the "Seven Points for a Safer Fairbanks." He asked that there be agreement between the FDC and the FPD prior to bringing a recommendation to the Council.

Ms. Rogers apologized for not addressing the FDC report, noting that the "Seven Points for a Safer Fairbanks" has been an ongoing discussion; she stated she felt that it was moving in a positive direction.

Mr. Cleworth asked about the FAST Planning Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) funds and the current planned projects.

Mr. Gibson stated that the Cushman Street Bridge resurfacing had been the biggest project, and the TIP would be revisited in the fall where he hoped the Lacey Street project would be prioritized.

Mr. Cleworth asked for greater clarification, noting that the bridge was State-maintained. **Mr. Gibson** replied that originally Barnette Street was to benefit but was pushed out due to the rising construction costs.

Mr. Cleworth noted that pothole repair had begun on 8th Avenue, which also needed resurfacing.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT

City Clerk Snider reported that the FDC moved the "Seven Points for a Safer Fairbanks" issue to a subcommittee for further work.

Mr. Gibson, seconded by **Mr. Marney**, moved to ENTER Executive Session to discuss AFL-CIO Labor Negotiation 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) AFL-CIO Labor Negotiation Strategy

The City Council met in Executive Session to discuss AFL-CIO Labor Negotiation Strategy. Direction was given to the negotiating team, and no action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Gibson, 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 9:54 p.m.



JIM MATHERLY, MAYOR

ATTEST:



D. DANYIELLE SNIDER, MMC, CITY CLERK

Transcribed by: RR