



FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES, APRIL 24, 2023  
FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
800 CUSHMAN STREET, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

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

Council Members Present:        Jerry Cleworth, Seat A  
   June Rogers, Seat B  
   Sue Sprinkle, Seat C  
   Crystal Tidwell, Seat D  
   Lonny Marney, Seat E (remotely)  
   John Ringstad, Seat F

Absent:                                        None

Also Present:                                Margarita Bell, Chief Financial Officer (remotely)  
   D. Danyielle Snider, City Clerk  
   Thomas Chard, City Attorney  
   Michael Sanders, Chief of Staff  
   Kristi Merideth, FECC Manager (remotely)  
   Ron Dupee, Police Chief (remotely)  
   Rick Sweet, Deputy Police Chief (remotely)  
   Scott Raygor, Fire Chief  
   Andrew Coccaro, Assistant Fire Chief  
   Nick Clark, Firefighter/FFU President

**INVOCATION**

The Invocation was given by City Clerk Danyielle Snider.

**FLAG SALUTATION**

At the request of Mayor Pruhs, **Ms. Sprinkle** lead the flag salutation.

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

Scott McCrea, President and CEO of Explore Fairbanks – S. McCrea stated he is relieved to be speaking about what is happening in the industry versus speaking on an ordinance or resolution. He stated that the tourism industry is about two weeks away from kicking off the summer season, although Mother Nature may be dictating otherwise. He shared that there is much optimism for the upcoming season, and the cruise industry is set to have a record season. S. McCrea stated that with gas prices being lower than the previous year, the industry anticipates more highway travelers; and with the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions, they expect to see a stronger return of the international market. He shared that Condor Airlines, Delta Airlines, and United Airlines will

return with service to Fairbanks. S. McCrea stated that hotel occupancy rates were at 63% in the first quarter of the year, and average daily rates are still growing. He stated that the Fairbanks International Airport saw an increase of 15% in combined arrivals and departures over the first quarter of 2022, and the Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitors Center has seen an increase of 34% more visitors over the previous year. S. McCrea shared that Explore Fairbanks recently held its awards banquet and gave the following awards: the Golden Heart Award for hospitality was given to Julie Jones with Festival Fairbanks; the Aurora Award was given to Senator Lisa Murkowski; the Jim and Mary Binkley Award was awarded to Jim and Mary Gower with the Golden North Inn; the Raven Award was given to the Denakkanaaga program; and Dr. Syun-Ichi Akasofu was inducted into the Tourism Hall of Fame.

**Mayor Pruhs** asked S. McCrea when the Alaska Salmon Bake and Denali opens. S. McCrea stated that the Salmon Bake tends to open closer to Memorial Day, and Denali attractions usually open after Memorial Day.

David van den Berg, 332 Slater Drive, Fairbanks – D. van den Berg stated that he is speaking as the Executive Director of the Downtown Association of Fairbanks. He invited listeners to attend a meeting of “The Downtowners” on April 26 at the Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitors Center from 5:30 to 7 p.m.; he shared that they would discuss the upcoming season at the meeting, and he listed various leaders in the community who will be in attendance. D. van den Berg stated that Resolution No. 5062 is a welcomed surprise, and he would like to add some “yes, ands” to the resolution.

Victor Buberger – V. Buberger stated that of all the facilities in Fairbanks, he uses the Mary Siah Recreation Center the most; he acknowledged that it is a Borough-owned facility. He stated that the showers at other facilities are umbrella-style. He stated that there have been recent upgrades at Mary Siah, but staff at the facility has told him that they are having difficulty finding employees. He suggested that the City somehow work with the Borough to keep the Mary Siah facility open to the public. He thanked the Council and told them to keep up the good work.

**Ms. Rogers** stated she understands that more people were returning to Mary Siah after the recent renovations. She asked Mr. Buberger if he sees good attendance when he visits the facility. Mr. Buberger stated that there were several men in the shower area when he was there earlier in the afternoon. He spoke to the advantages the facility offers for disabled individuals.

Aaron Lojewski, 1600 Washington Drive, Unit 11, Fairbanks – A. Lojewski stated that he is speaking in representation of himself. He spoke in favor of Resolution No. 5061, the resolution encouraging the passage of Senate Bill 128, and stated that he worked with Council Member Marney to draft the resolution. He spoke about and expressed concern for the salmon runs being low for the last few years and stated that the Board of Fisheries has pretty much closed the fisheries in the Yukon River to allow the populations to replenish, but that has not seemed to be enough. A. Lojewski stated that the bill may help more escapement which may replenish the salmon population.

**Mr. Ringstad** asked A. Lojewski whether there will be a similar resolution before the Borough Assembly. A. Lojewski stated that there will be a nearly identical resolution introduced to the

Assembly, and he would be willing to speak to the resolution if the Mayor allows him to speak under Mayor's Comments and Report.

**Ms. Sprinkle** asked A. Lojewski asked whether the federal government is involved with the fisheries mentioned in the resolution. A. Lojewski replied that, to the best of his knowledge, the Alaska Board of Fisheries has authority over the fisheries addressed in Resolution No. 5061, and the authority was delegated to them by the State Legislature.

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

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

**Ms. Sprinkle**, seconded by **Ms. Tidwell**, moved to APPROVE the Agenda and Consent Agenda.

**Ms. Sprinkle** pulled Resolution No. 5060 and Resolution No. 5062 from the Consent Agenda.

**Mr. Cleworth** pulled Resolution No. 5063 from the Consent Agenda.

**Mayor Pruhs** 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.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

a) Regular Meeting Minutes of March 13, 2023

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

a) Regular Meeting Minutes of March 27, 2023

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                 |
|--------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 5585   | Jazz Bistro on 4th      | Restaurant/Eating Place | Bluenote Create, Inc. | 527 4th Avenue, Suite B |
| 4216   | Speedway Express #60115 | Package Store           | AK, Inc.              | 99 College Road         |
| 2512   | Speedway Express #60114 | Package Store           | AK, Inc.              | 2110 Peger Road         |
| 4565   | Speedway Express #60101 | Package Store           | AK, Inc.              | 3569 S. Cushman Street  |

**Mr. Ringstad**, seconded by **Ms. Rogers**, moved to WAIVE PROTEST on the Liquor License applications for renewal.

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

**Ms. Sprinkle** stated that she does not know the businesses well, but she expressed some concern with the associated call reports. She questioned whether the calls were typical of the businesses.

**Mayor Pruhs** stated that people are trespassed from those types of businesses. He called upon **Kristi Merideth**, Fairbanks Emergency Communications Center (FECC) Manager, to speak to the issue.

K. Merideth stated that most of the businesses are located on a busy corner or main street. She stated that calls near the business might have the business address listed because it is the nearest property to the incident.

**Mayor Pruhs** asked Mr. Ringstad to comment, since one of the businesses is near his property. **Mr. Ringstad** shared that he does not see much regarding the calls listed, but he questioned how much time City staff is put towards dealing with the calls in the report. He stated that he does not know how to fix the problem.

**Ms. Sprinkle** reiterated her concern, especially since there is only one call reported for the Jazz Bistro downtown. She stated, however, that she has no issue with the businesses.

**Ms. Rogers** commented that concern by the Council is necessary, and the City needs to be supportive of the businesses located in areas on the forefront of that kind of activity. She stated that if the Council does not receive the information, it would not be aware of the issues occurring in those areas.

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

YEAS: Tidwell, Cleworth, Ringstad, Marney, Sprinkle, Rogers

NAYS: None

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

- b) The Fairbanks City Council heard interested citizens concerned with the following Marijuana License applications for renewal:

| Lic. # | DBA                                     | License Type                             | Licensee              | Address              |
|--------|---|--|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 10113  | Great Alaskan Bud Company               | Retail Marijuana Store                   | SP&C Enterprises, LLC | 195 Livengood Avenue |
| 10278  | GoodSinse, LLC                          | Retail Marijuana Store                   | GoodSinse, LLC        | 2604 Davis Road      |
| 10279  | GoodSinse, LLC                          | Standard Marijuana Cultivation Facility  | GoodSinse, LLC        | 2604 Davis Road      |
| 14874  | GoodSinse, LLC                          | Marijuana Product Manufacturing Facility | GoodSinse, LLC        | 2604 Davis Road      |
| 17250  | Pipe and Leaf: Premium Alaskan Cannabis | Retail Marijuana Store                   | Pipe and Leaf, LLC    | 3546 Airport Way     |

**Ms. Sprinkle**, seconded by **Ms. Tidwell**, moved to WAIVE PROTEST on the Marijuana License applications for renewal.

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

**Ms. Rogers** raised the issue of the notice of violation for one of the licensees reported by the Clerk. She commented that they did not respond to the violation, there was no action taken by the board, and the violation will stay in the licensee's file. She pointed out that the correspondence with the State reported by the Clerk indicates that a marijuana licensee does not have to respond to a violation, which she finds to be interesting. She stated she is perplexed by that.

**Ms. Sprinkle** asked Mayor Pruhs whether he has spoken with the business owner about the odor issue. **Mayor Pruhs** stated that he has not, but he expressed his intent to do so.

**Mr. Ringstad** questioned that the State allows a licensee to "blow it off" when a Notice of Violation is issued.

**Ms. Sprinkle** questioned what the "no match found" paperwork in the packet indicates. Clerk Snider explained that if there were no calls within the past year reported to a specified business, a "no match found" printout is included in the agenda packet.

**Ms. Rogers** called attention to the fact that the details of one of the violations was that the applicant used cartoon characters in its advertising. She commented that that is disappointing.

**Mr. Cleworth** stated that he recalls the last time the license in question was up for renewal, there were reports of complaints regarding odor; he asked the City Clerk to verify that was the case. Clerk Snider stated that she does not recall. **Mr. Cleworth** stated that he has received complaints about the business from the Surgery Center in the past, stating that their facility is inundated with the unwanted odor of marijuana. He asked the City Clerk whether it would affect the City's allowable response time to postpone the item. Clerk Snider stated that the Council would still have the May 8 meeting to address the item within the allowable response time if the Council were to postpone. She reported, however, that she contacted the licensee prior to the meeting to inform them that the Council would be reviewing the information about the advisory notice and the notice of violation, but she did not see the licensee present.

**Mr. Cleworth**, seconded by **Mr. Ringstad**, moved to POSTPONE the Council's consideration of all three GoodSinse, LLC licenses.

**Mr. Cleworth**, with the concurrence of the Second, moved to WITHDRAW the motion to postpone.

Chief of Staff Mike Sanders reported that the applicant was present. **Mayor Pruhs** invited the applicant to speak.

Danielle Peters, GoodSinse, LLC – Danielle Peters stated that the building is old and repairs were being done at the time of the complaint. She indicated that there has been no direct contact with the owners regarding the complaints. She stated that the business has been operating from that location for about six years and that her husband would be arriving shortly.

Dan Peters, GoodSinse, LLC, 2604 Davis Road, Fairbanks – Dan Peters stated he has been in communication with the Alaska Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office (AMCO). He stated that one of the ozone emitters was unplugged, which he corrected, and since then he has not heard of any more complaints. He stated that he has been in contact AMCO regarding the issues.

**Ms. Rogers** raised the issue of using cartoon characters for advertising; she asked Dan Peters whether he had corrected those issues. Dan Peters stated that one of the media agents on staff mishandled the advertisement, and once he was aware he had them remove it. He indicated that he had been in contact with the State regarding that particular issue, and he is in touch with them regularly. Dan Peters questioned who specifically from the State indicated they had not been in contact with him.

Clerk Snider clarified that her correspondence with the State was with Gabriel Gonzales, the Local Government Specialist at AMCO, in regard to the Notice of Violation from May of 2022. Dan Peters indicated that he last communicated with AMCO in December 2022, and there was no indication that any follow-up was necessary.

**Mayor Pruhs** thanked the applicants for being in touch with their neighbors regarding the smell and for rectifying the situation. Dan Peters stated that he reached out to the Surgery Center last summer, but he did not receive a call back, although there have been complaints since then. **Mayor Pruhs** cautioned the applicant that he would be driving by the area to see if there is an odor. Dan Peters commented that his building is a pipeline-era building, and he is working to make improvements; **Mayor Pruhs** reminded the applicant that he has a duty to rectify the issue.

**Ms. Rogers** thanked the applicants for being present, and indicated she was initially disappointed to see the violations without representation by the owners.

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

YEAS: Rogers, Tidwell, Ringstad, Marney, Sprinkle, Cleworth

NAYS: None

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

## **MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT**

### a) Special Reports

**Mayor Pruhs** invited Dan Britton forward to provide a report on the Interior Gas Utility (IGU).

Dan Britton reported on the recent activities of the IGU, including the signing of the Gas Sale and Purchase Agreement with Hillcorp North Slope and a liquefied natural gas (LNG) manufacturing agreement with Harvest Alaska LNG on January 17. He stated that Hillcorp currently supplies over 80% of the LNG demand in the Cook Inlet and that the contracts are for a term of 20 years with two 5-year options for extension. D. Britton stated that Hillcorp has already applied for and been granted an easement for a pad location and has applied for an air permit, which is currently under review. He reported that the targeted commencement date for LNG delivery from that



facility is October 1, 2024. D. Britton stated that IGU issued an RFP regarding a new fleet, and additional trailers will likely be purchased as the demand grows. He reported that in 2022, the IGU had a goal for 600 new service lines, and they completed 635; he stated they also installed approximately three miles of main line extensions in 2022. D. Britton commented that one of the biggest installs was across the Chena River at the Wendell Street Bridge. He spoke briefly to IGU's plans and goals for 2023 and stated that they hope to begin the construction season by June 15. D. Britton talked about Fort Wainwright's plans to convert to Distributed Natural Gas Boilers, which would result in a substantial use of natural gas in the community; he spoke to the next steps in that project, which has a targeted completion date of 2026. He spoke to the upcoming open houses IGU has scheduled and talked about the resources available at the events.

**Ms. Sprinkle** asked if IGU has plans to do any residential distribution in the downtown area. D. Britton stated the IGU gets frequent requests for service in the downtown area, and he provided a few examples of the expansion so far. He stated there are plans to continue to slowly expand in the downtown area.

**Ms. Rogers** commented on the previous tour she took of the facility and the information she learned at that time; she stated it was a memorable experience.

**Mr. Cleworth** asked D. Britton if there are any legal hurdles with the North Slope project that he anticipates might slow it down. D. Britton replied that the air permit could hold up the project. **Mr. Cleworth** asked when construction might begin on the pad if the air permit is approved. D. Britton stated that the 15-acre gravel pad is in place already, and they would begin the concrete work this summer if everything went according to plan.

**Mayor Pruhs** thanked D. Britton for his work in bringing the gas utility to fruition. D. Britton stated that it has been a great journey, and he shared that he will retire at the end of September. He commented that the Board recently selected his replacement.

**Mayor Pruhs** stated he is hoping to hold a Polaris Work Group meeting the following week to start working on the development plans. He shared that he had a good trip to Juneau and was able to speak with legislators before they finalized the State's capital budget.

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

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

**Ms. Rogers** stated she had no comments.

**Ms. Sprinkle** mentioned the special achievement awards that were written about in the newspaper for the EMS folks who helped save a little girl's life. She commended the emergency workers.

**Mr. Ringstad** stated that he has received several positive comments from people about how quickly and professionally emergency responders dealt with the hoax call at Monroe High School.

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

**Ms. Tidwell** stated she had no comments.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a) Ordinance No. 6242 – An Ordinance Amending Fairbanks General Code Section 46-4(e)(2) to Change the Value of Community Work in Lieu of Fine. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.

**Ms. Tidwell**, seconded by **Ms. Sprinkle**, moved to ADOPT Ordinance No. 6242.

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

**Mr. Marney** asked how old the \$3.00/hour wage rate is. He stated he recalls working for \$1.25/hour. **Mayor Pruhs** guessed that the wage rate is likely from the 1982-1984 range. Other Council Members commented on the earliest wage rate they recall earning.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 6242 AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Ringstad, Rogers, Cleworth, Marney, Sprinkle, Tidwell

NAYS: None

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED and Ordinance No. 6242 ADOPTED.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Resolution No. 5060 – A Resolution to Extend the Sunset Date Included in Ordinance No. 6227, as Amended, Amending the Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the City of Fairbanks and the Fairbanks Firefighters Union IAFF Local 1324 (FFU). Introduced by Council Member Tidwell.

**Ms. Tidwell**, seconded by **Ms. Sprinkle**, moved to APPROVE Resolution No. 5060.

**Mr. Cleworth** expressed frustration with the issue. He stated that there will effectively be no sunset clause because the language will become a part of the contract which will be up for negotiation the following year. He stated that of all the union contracts with the City, the Fairbanks Firefighter Union (FFU) contract is the most complicated and difficult. He spoke to his past experience in negotiating that contract and talked about the struggle when a contract goes to mediation or arbitration. **Mr. Cleworth** cautioned the Council that once language is inserted into the contract, it is difficult to remove. He commented that minimum manning provisions are not in place for the police or dispatch workers; rather, it is up to management to work within their budgets to ensure that there is adequate staff per shift. He stated that the FFU contract has always had a minimum manning provision, which is currently at nine. **Mr. Cleworth** shared that his frustration lies in the fact that the former letter of agreement was never brought to the Council, and when it went away, the Council was again unaware. He questioned why the negotiating team would limit the City's ability to run three ambulances, and he commented that the problem should be fixed with the people who were in the negotiating room at that time. He stated that the new letter of



agreement will lock the City into a minimum staffing level of 13 per shift at the Fire Department, and there will inevitably be overtime incurred.

**Ms. Sprinkle** interjected by calling a point of order. She stated that Mr. Cleworth's comments are not relevant to Resolution No. 5060.

**Mayor Pruhs** asked Attorney Chard whether Mr. Cleworth's discussion was germane to Resolution No. 5060. Attorney Chard stated that Resolution No. 5060 aims to merely extend the date provided previously in Ordinance No. 6227. He advised that the point of order to keep the discussion focused on the date is pertinent. He stated that to the degree that Mr. Cleworth's comments are in regard to the staying power of extending the date, his comments are appropriate. Attorney Chard clarified, however, that the point of order is appropriate.

**Mr. Cleworth** continued by saying that once language becomes embedded in the contract, it is difficult to remove; he added that it also creates a fairness issue for other bargaining units. He commented that the minimum staffing provision also ties the City's hands in making cuts to the department if budget cuts were to become necessary. He stated that four positions were added to the Fairbanks Fire Department (FFD) just over a year ago, and he shared that FFD's overtime cost for the first quarter of 2023 was \$259,000 of the \$890,000 total annual overtime budget for FFD. **Mr. Cleworth** indicated that is three times more than that of the Fairbanks Police Department (FPD). He commented that the Fire Chief should be able to manage the department as he sees fit, and when there is a crisis, he should be able to delegate resources and staff as necessary.

**Mr. Ringstad** expressed some confusion regarding the negotiating process. He stated that his understanding of the process is that when a negotiated item comes before the Council, the Council's role is to vote it up or down – not amend the item. Attorney Chard stated that there is a collective bargaining agreement (CBA) currently in place with the FFU. He spoke about the process for letters of agreement: negotiated by the bargaining team, tentatively agreed upon by both parties, then presented to the Council and the bargaining unit for ratification. Attorney Chard stated that when a letter of agreement comes before the Council, the Council has three options: 1) vote to approve, 2) vote to reject, or 3) vote to send it back to the bargaining team for further negotiation. He explained that when Ordinance No. 6227 was adopted, the Council added a sunset date that differed from the end date of the contract and that Resolution No. 5060 corrects that procedural oversight. **Mr. Ringstad** asked whether the union had ratified the letter of agreement; Attorney Chard stated he did not believe that they had. Attorney Chard clarified, however, that the issue before the Council is only in regard to the sunset date – not the letter of agreement itself. **Mr. Ringstad** questioned the legal grounds of the Council to amend a tentative agreement.

**Ms. Tidwell** stated that the Council passed the ordinance and letter of agreement with a change to the sunset date, and Resolution No. 5060 corrects that procedural error. She stated that if the Council does not approve Resolution No. 5060, it could cause a problem in the future that could result in an unfair labor practice.

**Mr. Ringstad** expressed concern with amending the date again. **Mayor Pruhs** stated that the resolution would rectify the date issue. Attorney Chard further clarified that Resolution No. 5060 would not amend the letter of agreement, and he read the section of Ordinance No. 6227, which states that the sunset date may be extended if agreed to by both parties. **Mr. Ringstad** asked about

the legal difference between the two sunset dates. Attorney Chard stated that Mr. Cleworth correctly brought forth the concern with the “evergreen clause” in the CBA. He stated that Resolution No. 5060 allows the term of the letter of agreement to coincide with the expiration date of the CBA. **Mr. Ringstad** asked what happens with a contract when an agreement cannot be reached. Attorney Chard replied that if both parties are bargaining in good faith, an agreement is usually reached. He stated that if the parties are not bargaining in good faith, that is another issue.

**Mr. Cleworth** stated that he has never witnessed the procedure that is before the Council. He stated that the letter of agreement has some flaws, and there is no sunset date specified in the letter of agreement. He again cautioned the Council and provided an example of when an evergreen clause in a police contract extended for a long period of time.

**Ms. Sprinkle** stated that she sees the letter of agreement as temporary, because the contract will soon be renegotiated. She stated that the resolution before the Council corrects an error that was made.

**Mr. Cleworth** stated that the Council did not make a mistake by changing the CBA to eliminate the third ambulance, which is the crux of the problem. **Ms. Sprinkle** clarified her argument that the Council changed the date of the letter of agreement, which has caused the current issue.

**Mr. Ringstad** asked for clarification on what will happen at the December 31 date as it stands. Attorney Chard stated that it would be only Ordinance No. 6227 that would expire at that time. He stated that if the issue is not rectified, he is concerned that not only will the Council need to deal with the sunset date at that time, but there would also be potential for the FFU to file a grievance against the City. He stated that the resolution before the Council would help avoid those issues.

**Mayor Pruhs** recounted the journey of Ordinance No. 6227 and stated that the Council has already discussed and made a decision on the letter of agreement. He stated that the only remaining issue lies with the sunset date.

**Mr. Cleworth** asked Attorney Chard if the Council’s previous action on Ordinance No. 6227 would be moot if Resolution No. 5060 was not approved. Attorney Chard explained that Section 1 of Ordinance No. 6227 ratified the letter of agreement; he stated that Section 2 of Ordinance No. 6227, where the effective date is addressed, is where there is a problem. Attorney Chard advised that Section 1 would likely stand. He stated that the improper procedure was not in regard to the ordinance itself; rather, it was related to the CBA and the bargaining process.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 5060 AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Sprinkle, Ringstad, Tidwell, Marney, Rogers  
NAYS: Cleworth

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED and Resolution No. 5060 APPROVED.

- b) Resolution No. 5061 – A Resolution Supporting Increased Escapement Out of Area M to Improve the Health and Sustainability of Chum and Chinook Salmon in the Yukon River Drainage and In Support of Alaska Senate Bill 128 Version A. Introduced by Council Member Marney.

PASSED and APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- c) Resolution No. 5062 – A Resolution Supporting Economic Development in Downtown Fairbanks. Introduced by Council Member Tidwell.

**Ms. Sprinkle**, seconded by **Ms. Tidwell**, moved to APPROVE Resolution No. 5062.

**Ms. Sprinkle** stated she is excited to see economic development in the downtown area. She asked the sponsor to speak to how the resolution came about.

**Ms. Tidwell** stated that Kerry Gronewold and Robert Shields had previously spoken to the Council in regard to the interest by investors in downtown development. She stated there has been a request that the Council would support economic development in the downtown area, and she believes the Borough Assembly will be considering a similar resolution. She commented that Resolution No. 5062 is a very general letter of support that can be included when working with investors.

**Mayor Pruhs** reminded the Council that any plans to redevelop the Polaris Building site would come to the Council for consideration.

**Mr. Ringstad** interpreted the resolution as meaning that the City would work with people who are willing to invest and do business in downtown Fairbanks. He stated he is willing to consider any and all ideas.

**Ms. Rogers** reiterated Mr. Ringstad’s comments about the Council being willing to work with those who seek to invest in the community. She spoke in support of progress and commented that she would like to see a tighter definition for an “economic development district.”

**Mr. Marney** requested to have his name added as a sponsor to Resolution No. 5062.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 5062 AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Marney, Sprinkle, Rogers, Cleworth, Tidwell, Ringstad

NAYS: None

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED and Resolution No. 5062 APPROVED.

- d) Resolution No. 5063 – A Resolution Urging the State Legislature to Reject Proposals for a Statewide General Sales Tax. Introduced by Council Members Cleworth, Marney, Rogers, Ringstad, and Tidwell.

**Mr. Ringstad**, seconded by **Ms. Tidwell**, moved to APPROVE Resolution No. 5063.

**Ms. Sprinkle** requested to have her name added as a sponsor to Resolution No. 5063.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 5063 AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Sprinkle, Cleworth, Ringstad, Marney, Tidwell, Rogers

NAYS: None

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED and Resolution No. 5063 APPROVED.

- e) Resolution No. 5064 – A Resolution Authorizing the City of Fairbanks to Apply for and Accept Funds from the Alaska Highway Safety Office for FFY24 DUI Traffic Enforcement Unit. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs.

PASSED and APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- f) Ordinance No. 6243 – An Ordinance Amending the Incentive Bonus Program with the Fairbanks Emergency Communications Center for Recruitment and Hiring. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs.

ADVANCED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS (Information and Reports)**

- a) Committee Reports

**Mr. Ringstad** stated that he had nothing to report.

**Mr. Marney** stated that he had nothing to report.

**Ms. Tidwell** stated that she had nothing to report.

**Ms. Sprinkle** shared that she recently helped celebrate the demolition of the Polaris Building.

**Ms. Rogers** stated that she had nothing to report.

**Mr. Cleworth** shared that the FAST Planning bids for the 5th Avenue reconstruction project exceeded the Engineer's estimate by about \$900,000. He stated that FAST Planning was looking for alternative funding options, such as delaying the Minnie Street project, seeking funding from the City of Fairbanks, or delaying other projects. He commented that a decision was made to take funding from the Minnie Street project, which will cause that project to be delayed once again. He expressed hope that funding for the Minnie Street project could be rectified in the coming year.

#### **COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

**Mr. Cleworth** commended Public Works for temporarily repairing potholes with a cold mix.

**Ms. Rogers** thanked Dan and Danielle Peters for attending the whole council meeting and she spoke to their close relationship with the Council over the years.

**Ms. Sprinkle** stated she had no comments.

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

**Mr. Marney** thanked Attorney Chard and Clerk Snider for assisting him in quickly drafting Resolution No. 5061. He also thanked the Peters for attending the meeting.

**Ms. Tidwell** shared that she will be travelling during the next council meeting. She stated that she would attend remotely if she had access to Wi-Fi.

**Ms. Sprinkle**, seconded by **Ms. Rogers**, moved to EXCUSE Ms. Tidwell from the Regular Meeting of May 8, 2023.

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

### **CITY CLERK'S REPORT**

City Clerk Snider stated that her written quarterly report was sent to the Council.

### **CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

City Attorney Chard stated he had nothing to report.

**Ms. Sprinkle**, seconded by **Mr. Ringstad**, moved to ENTER Executive Session to discuss IBEW Labor Negotiation Strategy.

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

**Mayor Pruhs** called for a five-minute recess. The Council, with the exception of Ms. Rogers who was excused at 8:15 p.m., reconvened in Executive Session following the brief recess.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

a) IBEW Labor Negotiation Strategy

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

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Ms. Sprinkle**, seconded by **Mr. Ringstad**, moved to ADJOURN the meeting.

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

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.



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DAVID PRUHS, MAYOR

ATTEST:



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D. DANIELLE SNIDER, MMC, CITY CLERK

Transcribed by: DS