



**FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES, JUNE 26, 2023
FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
800 CUSHMAN STREET, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA**

The City Council convened at 6:30 p.m. on the above date to conduct a Regular Meeting of the Fairbanks City Council 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
 John Ringstad, Seat F

Absent: None

Also Present: Margarita Bell, Chief Financial Officer
 D. Danyielle Snider, City Clerk
 Thomas Chard, City Attorney
 Michael Sanders, Chief of Staff
 Ron Dupee, Police Chief (remotely)
 Nate Warner, Police Captain
 Rick Sweet, Deputy Police Chief
 Jessica Krier, HR Generalist
 Ana Gomez-Rodriguez, Accounting Specialist (remotely)
 Jennifer Payan, Accounting Specialist (remotely)
 Alejandro Perez Olivares, Legal Intern
 Benjamin VandenBerg, FPD Officer/FPD Union President

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by City Clerk Danyielle Snider.

FLAG SALUTATION

At the request of Mayor Pruhs, Jomo Stewart lead the flag salutation.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Bill Wright, Director of Tourism and Marketing Sales at Explore Fairbanks, 717 Farmers Loop Road – B. Wright gave a report that in May, he and his colleagues, plus four Explore Fairbanks partners, attended the US Travel Association's IPW, the premier international travel tradeshow in the nation. He stated the event included one-on-one meetings with over 80 travel trade buyers and travel media journalists from all over the world. He shared examples of the types of experiences in which these individuals expressed interest. B. Wright reported that since May, Explore

Fairbanks has hosted five familiarization tours for the Midnight Sun season, hosting 31 individual travel agents and tour operators. He was excited to share some of the year-to-date passenger numbers in and out of the Fairbanks International Airport. He reported that from January to April, just under 300,000 individuals came through Fairbanks, which is 99% of 2019 pre-pandemic levels. He stated that all signs indicate record high passenger numbers by the end of the summer season. B. Wright also shared details about record bed tax revenue statistics and stated that the visitor industry in Fairbanks is poised to grow beyond previous heights, thanks to the City's willingness to invest in the community.

Ms. Sprinkle asked how the Governor's recent veto of funding allocated for the tourism industry might impact Explore Fairbanks. B. Wright responded that the primary impact would be instances when Explore Fairbanks shares a space at an event, tradeshow, etc. He commented that often the State will purchase a booth and share space with Explore Fairbanks and other Alaskan groups who pay a small buy-in fee, so if the State makes budget cuts in those areas, Explore Fairbanks would need to pivot to some other activity to continue marketing Fairbanks.

Ms. Rogers asked if there was any interest or plans to hold a conference for the travel industry locally, like the recent Symposium on Opioids. She spoke about outside resources and about "locking arms" with way more people than are in the community. She shared that she asks a similar question to those in the local behavioral health industry when they go to national conferences. B. Wright replied that Explore Fairbanks is an excellent resource for those planning meetings with people from out of town, providing the nuts and bolts for facilities and accommodations to host a successful conference. He stated they encourage people to explore the area during their visit.

Mayor Pruhs called for any additional testimony, in-person and online, and hearing none, declared Citizens' Comments closed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

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

Mayor Pruhs 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 OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) Regular Meeting Minutes of May 22, 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
3965	Republic National Distributing	Wholesale – General	K & L Beverage Company, LLC	945 Elizabeth Street
4504	Venue Fairbanks	Beverage Dispensary	Go Alaska Media, LLC	514 2nd Avenue
4547	Humble Roots Beer Project	Beverage Dispensary	Humble Roots, LLC	314 Wendell Avenue
576	The CrowBar	Beverage Dispensary	Area 51 Properties, LLC	2712 Jessie Street

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

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

Ms. Rogers stated that this group of applicants, particularly Republic National Distributing, has been in contact and communicative.

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

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

NAYS: None

Mayor Pruhs declared the MOTION CARRIED.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

Mayor Pruhs stated that Building Official Clem Clooten was not available to discuss the topic of abatements, but he should have a report from Mr. Clooten soon, with an accompanying list of properties being reviewed and their statuses. He shared that the Polaris Building project is coming along and that the surrounding area was cleared and open for the Midnight Sun Festival the previous weekend. He reported that the request for proposals (RFP) for demolishing the tower went out the previous Monday, which kicks off a required 30-day process. **Mayor Pruhs** stated there is a large hole where the annex used to be, and he believes that within a week the contractor will start to backfill that area. He stated that once the hole is filled, the temporary plan for the space is for food trucks. **Mayor Pruhs** reported that the Golden Heart Plaza (GHP) has looked nice this summer. He indicated that the plan implemented by the City seems to be working out well, with officer presence and multiple walkthroughs each day. He stated it is common to see 40-60 visitors enjoying lunch with multiple buses parked on the curb in that area. He complimented Chief of Staff Sanders for the plan that was put in place.

Ms. Rogers asked whether there was a connective statement of support for the concerts that take place at the GHP. She wondered if they could be announced to get more word out via radio. She commented that what is being done to enhance the environment downtown is very positive, and she believes that those who are working to elevate the atmosphere need to be supported. **Mayor Pruhs** stated that he will talk with Julie Jones from Festival Fairbanks. He affirmed that the City would stay diligent, regarding the Plaza, throughout the rest of the summer and into the fall.

COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Mr. Ringstad stated he had no comments.

Mr. Marney concurred with the positive status of the GHP. He commented that he drives past often, and it seems there are more people present there than he can recall in past years.

Ms. Tidwell stated she had no comments.

Ms. Sprinkle asked whether salvaging the birch trees atop the Polaris Building, perhaps to be sold as a fundraiser, could be included in the overall plan for demolition. **Mayor Pruhs** replied that he plans to go up there himself and cut one down. He stated he has been dreaming of that moment for eight years. He stated he is also considering contacting an arborist to see about transplanting at least two of the trees into the front lawn at City Hall. **Ms. Sprinkle** continued by stating that the Midnight Sun Festival was a fantastic success and commended those who helped make the city look good. She stated the crowds were awesome, everything felt safe, and Public Works did an amazing job dealing with issues that arose. She concluded with simply "Bravo Fairbanks!"

Ms. Rogers stated she had no comments.

Mr. Cleworth stated he had no comments.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) Ordinance No. 6249 – An Ordinance Amending Fairbanks General Code Section 2-260(c)(2) by Increasing the Exposure Limit on BBB-Rated Securities in the City Permanent Fund Investment Policy. Introduced by Council Member Ringstad. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.

Mr. Ringstad, seconded by **Mr. Cleworth**, moved to ADOPT Ordinance No. 6249.

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

Mr. Ringstad explained that the intent behind the ordinance is to provide more flexibility to those managing the City's investments. He stated that, in the larger scheme of things, BBB-rated securities is a small portion of the overall portfolio.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 6249 AS FOLLOWS:

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

NAYS: None

Mayor Pruhs declared the MOTION CARRIED and Ordinance No. 6249 ADOPTED.

- b) Ordinance No. 6250 – An Ordinance Amending Fairbanks General Code Chapter 74, Article V, Room Rental Tax, to Change the Allocation to the Fairbanks Economic

Development Corporation (FEDC). Introduced by Council Members Ringstad and Marney. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.

Ms. Tidwell, seconded by **Mr. Marney**, moved to ADOPT Ordinance No. 6250.

Mayor Pruhs called for public testimony.

Jomo Stewart, President of Fairbanks Economic Development Corporation (FEDC) – Mr. Stewart conveyed to the Council and Mayor, on behalf of himself and his board, their appreciation for the work that has gone into the ordinance.

Ms. Sprinkle asked Mayor Pruhs for clarity on her status of a potential conflict of interest and whether she would be permitted to vote on the ordinance. **Mayor Pruhs** stated that she may vote. He stated he does not believe that Ms. Sprinkle’s revenue from the FEDC goes over 1% of her operational income. J. Stewart confirmed that the FEDC do not currently have any active contracts with or outstanding payments owed to Ms. Sprinkle.

Mayor Pruhs called for additional comment and, hearing none, declared Public Testimony closed.

Mayor Pruhs stated that the Council had been working on the issue since last August, and Ordinance No. 6250 was the final piece.

Mr. Ringstad recalled a lesson shared from an experienced politician: “When you’ve got the votes, you vote. When you don’t, you talk!”

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 6250 AS FOLLOWS:

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

NAYS: None

Mayor Pruhs declared the MOTION CARRIED and Ordinance No. 6250 ADOPTED.

- c) Ordinance No. 6251 – An Ordinance Amending Fairbanks General Code Chapter 50 Personnel Section 50-209 Training Reimbursement, Section 50-281 Personal Leave, and Section 50-285 Health Insurance Coverage. Introduced by Council Member Cleworth. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.

Ms. Sprinkle, seconded by **Mr. Ringstad**, moved to ADOPT Ordinance No. 6251.

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

Mr. Cleworth thanked CFO Bell for her hard work in drafting the ordinance. He also expressed appreciation to Attorney Chard and Clerk Snider for their contributions and input, much of which was incorporated. He stated that the ordinance can always be changed in the future, if needed. He explained that the ordinance is an effort to bring some of the exempt staff into conformity with other employees of the City. He encouraged both Clerk Snider and Attorney Chard, should they

have any concerns with the ordinance, to voice them now. **Mayor Pruhs** echoed appreciation to the same individuals, plus Mr. Cleworth, for the efforts on the ordinance.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 6251 AS FOLLOWS:

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

NAYS: None

Mayor Pruhs declared the MOTION CARRIED and Ordinance No. 6251 ADOPTED.

- d) Ordinance No. 6253 – An Ordinance Establishing a Permanent Life Insurance Plan for Commissioned Officers Within the Fairbanks Police Department to Enhance Recruitment and Hiring. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.

Ms. Sprinkle, seconded by **Mr. Marney**, moved to ADOPT Ordinance No. 6253.

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

Mayor Pruhs spoke to the ordinance being an opening and indicated that there will be a more comprehensive plan later to outline implementation. He stated that there is an RFP out, which will likely be revised. He shared that he introduced CFO Bell to a friend of his, Sterling Gallagher, who was the Commissioner of Revenue under former Governor Hammond. He stated that S. Gallagher had experience with insurance-related items and the State's Permanent Fund. He stated that S. Gallagher has an exceptional financial mind and has offered to review the RFP for the plan at no cost to the City; he added that some suggested changes have already been communicated. **Mayor Pruhs** assured the Council that the plan itself would come back to the Council to review, but, in the meantime, he would suggest changing the vesting period in the ordinance from thirteen years to ten years.

Ms. Sprinkle, seconded by **Mr. Ringstad**, moved to AMEND Ordinance No. 6253 by changing the eligibility requirement in Section 3 from thirteen years to ten years.

Mr. Ringstad reviewed the various lengths of service amongst current Fairbanks Police Department (FPD) staff. He stated his understanding is that about half of them are in the five-year range, and a thirteen-year mark may be too far in the future to feel like a realistic benefit. He shared that in his young adult years, he was not as concerned about retirement as he was about his wages. But indicated he does not have a reason to not support the amendment.

Ms. Sprinkle stated that her recall was that thirteen years was proposed because of the psychological hurdle in pushing employees in staying longer, like twenty years. She questioned what difference it makes for those officers, to see a ten-year vesting period versus thirteen. **Mayor Pruhs** replied that for those who have been with the City for just a few years, getting them to ten years will be easier than getting them to thirteen.

Mr. Cleworth outlined a suggestion regarding renaming the ordinance. **Mayor Pruhs** clarified that the Council is still discussing the amendment regarding the vesting period.

Mr. Marney shared that he has had many recent conversations with officers. He stated when he was young, he was not concerned with retirement, but that may not be the same now. He stated that younger officers are becoming more mindful of such. He spoke in support of the amendment.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 6253 BY CHANGING THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT IN SECTION 3 FROM THIRTEEN YEARS TO TEN YEARS AS FOLLOWS:

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

NAYS: None

Mayor Pruhs declared the MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Cleworth, seconded **Mr. Ringstad**, moved to AMEND Ordinance No. 6253, as Amended, by adding the words “Retirement and” after the words “Establishing a” in the title.

Mr. Cleworth explained that he feels the title could be confusing to a reader, and it may be unclear what exactly the City is buying for \$10,000. **Mayor Pruhs** agreed with Mr. Cleworth and stated that the City is doing something it has not done before. He reminded the Council that nothing will be implemented without the Council being provided with a more detailed plan.

Ms. Sprinkle asked for clarification that the program would be outside of the labor contract and that if it does not seem to be working in coming years, the Council could change it. **Mayor Pruhs** answered that the ordinance is part of an effort to retain officers and is one of three efforts to help solve the law enforcement staffing challenge.

Mr. Ringstad expressed confusion with the proposed title amendment, stating that the wording seems to compound the confusion rather than rectify it.

Mr. Cleworth stated that he is assuming the plan will be like a whole life insurance plan, where one sees benefits at the end. He stated if that is not accurate, the current title would not be correct.

Mayor Pruhs clarified that the officers, through their union, already have a retirement plan. He stated that the ordinance would establish a separate one through the City of Fairbanks.

Mr. Ringstad explained how the wording of the title gives a different impression.

Mr. Cleworth, with the concurrence of the Second, revised his motion to AMEND Ordinance No. 6253, as Amended, by adding the words “Supplemental Retirement Plan and a” after the words “Establishing a” in the title.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 6253, AS AMENDED, BY ADDING THE WORDS “SUPPLEMENTAL RETIREMENT PLAN AND A” AFTER THE WORDS “ESTABLISHING A” IN THE TITLE AS FOLLOWS:

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

NAYS: None

Mayor Pruhs declared the MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Cleworth stated that the plan is predicated on the fact that the City will reduce the department by seven positions. He indicated that the only way to make it work is by paying for it outside of the labor contract. He stated that the pitch is to fund the plan through salary savings as a result of staff reduction, and he asked CFO Bell if future budgets will demonstrate the staff reduction. He commented that it feels like an odd way to arrange the finances of such a significant proposal. CFO Bell answered that the next budget will show a reduction of staffing, with the funds for those positions shifted to the line item for benefits, which would include the cost of the plan. **Mr. Cleworth** explained that this raises concerns for potential problems in the future. He stated that many police chiefs in the past have strived to get to the national staffing level, which for the City would be about 42 positions. He explained that over the years, the Council has protected the number of FPD positions by funding them each year, even if it was known that vacancies would remain. **Mr. Cleworth** commented that it is one thing to use current year savings to pay for hiring incentives, bonuses, etc., but this plan involves permanently eliminating positions. He asked what would happen in a few years when there is pressure on the Council to increase staffing because the City is far below the national average. He questioned whether the Council would then need to consider eliminating the program in order to afford more staff. He stated that if he were an FPD officer, he is not sure if this would be the incentive that keeps him with the City. He stated that, under the proposed ordinance, an officer hired in 2020 would not see much benefit right away. **Mr. Cleworth** stated that the Council is voting on something it does not know the mechanics of, which he indicated is difficult for him. However, he acknowledged and appreciated that, if the ordinance passes, the City would be more competitive with Juneau and way ahead of North Pole, which are the two agencies often used for comparison. He commented that he would almost prefer that the union weigh in on the issue before moving forward and questioned whether the Union may prefer a bonus system or a stopgap measure until the collective bargaining agreement (CBA) is reopened. **Mayor Pruhs** responded that he has spoken to the Union, and they are in agreement with the spirit of the ordinance. He stated that the premise is retention, with a goal of a ten-year commitment from officers, fueled by the incentive of this benefit. He stated that with a bonus, officers can leave the City the following year. He emphasized that long-term retention is the goal, and a bonus does not accomplish that. **Mr. Cleworth** asked if the next step would be for the Council to review details on the mechanics of the plan and vote it up or down. **Mayor Pruhs** stated that the next ordinance in the pipeline would outline the details of the plan. He stated that if that plan is not approved, the City would seek another option, but the benefit program would still be authorized by the current ordinance. He commented that the proposed ordinance is separate from a specific plan so that the administration has the approval to proceed, which has already begun with the RFP.

Ms. Sprinkle discussed the numbers of the overall plan, as presented. She stated that the current budget includes 44 positions, and the plan would cut positions to 37. She pointed out, however, that only 29 positions are currently filled. She stated that the City has space to absorb some of the costs. **Mayor Pruhs** confirmed that as the fiscal note shows, without anything else done, the annual savings to the City would be around \$620,000 a year.

Mr. Ringstad spoke well of S. Gallagher who Mayor Pruhs referenced earlier as someone offering to provide advice for the program at no cost to the City. He shared that he has known S. Gallagher for 40 years and has never had a negative comment about his professional ethics. He joked that he

would probably help out for fun, given how his mind works. **Mayor Pruhs** echoed Mr. Ringstad's high praises of S. Gallagher.

Ms. Rogers thanked Mr. Ringstad for his endorsement of S. Gallagher and for his comments regarding his ethics. She asked if it is permissible for the City to seek his help without making the offer available to others. **Mayor Pruhs** clarified that what S. Gallagher will do is provide input to CFO Bell on the RFP and make suggestions for the future as the program evolves.

Ms. Rogers asked Mr. Marney if he could share anything he learned from the conversations he mentioned having had recently with officers. **Mr. Marney** shared the sentiment from one particular discussion that occurred earlier in the day. He stated that the City has a short-term retention bonus for dispatchers, where employees receive a substantial bonus for staying on with a commitment of one year. He stated that younger police officers, who may not be thinking of long-term benefits such as retirement, might prefer something like that. He stated, however, that he trusts FPD management and the Union that they have spoken with younger officers.

Mr. Cleworth expressed uneasiness with the plan. He stated he does not mind voting in favor of the ordinance, because he understands it will come back to the Council later with more specifics. He commented that he does not like the idea of permanently reducing the department by seven positions to fund the plan, because if they want to add staff later, there is no funding source. He indicated that there would be pressure on future Councils to fund the program. **Mr. Cleworth** commented that elsewhere, police departments are shifting more to a system that relies on civilians to perform clerical and statistical work, especially in detective departments, and that the "business is changing." He indicated that he does not want to see the Council locked into something that it cannot revisit, but he acknowledged that the Council has time to continue to hear from the Union and command staff.

Ms. Rogers spoke against using labels for group of people and generalizing comments about how certain groups think, what their perceived priorities are, and so on. In reference to an earlier comment by a Council member, she stated she does not necessarily believe that 40 years of age is when a person starts thinking about certain things, such as retirement. She stated that everyone has individual thoughts and opinions and, while they may agree on certain terms and band together to accomplish something, she does not like the practice of labeling people or making assumptions.

Ms. Sprinkle asked the Mayor to confirm that he has had specific discussions with the FPD leadership and the Union about the program. **Mayor Pruhs** affirmed that the idea came from them.

Ms. Rogers spoke about the individuals in the room and about their diverse backgrounds and experiences. She referenced Mr. Cleworth's comment about other struggling communities that are seeing a shift towards community members and civilians taking over certain duties within police departments. She stated she is confident that those in the audience are great examples of folks working together and coming up with solutions.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 6253, AS AMENDED, AS FOLLOWS:

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

NAYS: None

Mayor Pruhs declared the MOTION CARRIED and Ordinance No. 6253, as Amended, ADOPTED.

DISCUSSION ITEMS (Information and Reports)

a) Committee Reports

Ms. Tidwell stated that she had no committee reports.

Mr. Cleworth reported that FAST Planning met recently and adopted a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) plan. He shared that the City was referenced on two items: funding for snow removal equipment, with attachments and several improvements, enhancements, and upkeep items for the downtown parking garage. He stated that the addition of a charging station for electric vehicles at the parking garage is in another part of the CMAQ.

Ms. Rogers thanked Mr. Marney for trading borough meeting nights with her recently and stated that, since he had already attended all his required assembly meetings, he went above and beyond to attend for her. She stated that if any other Council members need to trade an assembly meeting, they can contact her. She shared that she attended the Paul Butler presentation at the Hering Auditorium the previous week and indicated that it was a well-attended and excellent event. She stated she is grateful for the sense of caring that is present in the community and on the Council.

Mr. Marney stated he had no committee reports but that the Explore Fairbanks Board of Directors would meet towards the end of the summer.

Mr. Ringstad stated he had no committee reports.

Ms. Sprinkle shared that the FNSB Chena Riverfront Commission would be visiting the Moose Creek Dam the following day. She announced that the borough has decided to eliminate the Commission's monthly meetings and move to a quarterly meeting schedule. She expressed displeasure about the change and the lack of notice to the Commission; she indicated that other commissioners were also displeased. She stated that two borough commissions will continue to meet monthly, but the frequency for most other commission meetings has been changed to quarterly. **Ms. Rogers** echoed Ms. Sprinkle disappointment with the change made by the borough.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE CITY COUNCIL

a) Chena Riverfront Commission Meeting Minutes of April 26, 2023

ACCEPTED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Ringstad, in response to Ms. Rogers' earlier comment regarding the topic of age, joked, "June, I think the problem is, we still think you're 40."

Mr. Marney stated he is glad that the Council has completed two of the three items in regard to support for the FPD. He stated that he hopes the third item will pass quickly.

Ms. Tidwell expressed appreciation for everyone who had a hand in the Midnight Sun Festival. She stated the turnout was great, and the experience was a wonderful display of the community.

Mr. Cleworth requested that solar panels at Public Works be added as a topic for the next work session.

Ms. Rogers stated she had no comments.

Ms. Sprinkle stated that she looks forward to the report the Mayor will be giving on abatements and asked if any questions the Council has in the meantime should be given to Building Official Clooten. **Mayor Pruhs** replied affirmatively.

Mayor Pruhs shared that he will be out of town for the second regular meeting in August and requested that Mr. Cleworth fill in for him at that meeting.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk Snider reminded everyone that the candidate filling period for the two Council seats with terms ending this year will open in July.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Chard stated that he had nothing to report but thanked everyone for their service.

Mayor Pruhs, seconded by **Ms. Sprinkle**, moved to ENTER Executive Session to discuss direction to be given to the bargaining team on wage changes to the current Collective Bargaining Agreement between the PSEA and the City to address recruitment and retention challenges; to discuss the Roberts, et al. v. City of Fairbanks Settlement; and to discuss the IBEW Labor Negotiation Strategy.

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

Mayor Pruhs called for a brief recess. The Council reconvened in Executive Session following the brief recess.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a) Direction to the bargaining team on wage changes to the current Collective Bargaining Agreement between the PSEA and the City to address recruitment and retention challenges
(Executive Session entered at 7:45 p.m. Attendees: Mayor Pruhs, all Council members, Attorney Chard, Clerk Snider, CFO Bell, Chief of Staff Sanders, Chief Dupee, Legal Intern Perez Olivares)

- b) *Roberts, et al. v. City of Fairbanks Settlement Discussion (Executive Session entered at 8:43 p.m. Attendees: Mayor Pruhs, all Council members, Attorney Chard, Clerk Snider, Chief of Staff Sanders, Legal Intern Perez Olivares)*
- c) *IBEW Labor Negotiation Strategy (Executive Session entered at 9:00 p.m. Attendees: Mayor Pruhs, all Council members except Ms. Rogers, Attorney Chard, Clerk Snider, CFO Bell, Chief of Staff Sanders, Legal Intern Perez Olivares)*

The City Council met in Executive Sessions to discuss the above items. Each item was discussed and direction was given, but no action was taken. The regular meeting resumed at 9:11 p.m.

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

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

Mayor Pruhs declared the meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.



DAVID PRUHS, MAYOR

ATTEST:



D. DANYELLE SNIDER, MMC, CITY CLERK

Transcribed by: CC