



FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL  
AGENDA NO. 2023-24  
**REGULAR MEETING – DECEMBER 11, 2023**  
MEETING WILL BE HELD VIA [ZOOM WEBINAR](#) AND AT  
FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
800 CUSHMAN STREET, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

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REGULAR MEETING  
6:30 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL
2. INVOCATION
3. FLAG SALUTATION
4. CEREMONIAL MATTERS (Proclamations, Introductions, Recognitions, Awards)
  - a) Reading of the Bill of Rights
  - b) Fairbanks Fire Chief Oath of Office
5. CITIZENS’ COMMENTS, oral communications to the City Council on any item pertaining to City business that is not up for public hearing. The total comment period is 30 minutes, and testimony is limited to three minutes. Any person wishing to speak needs to sign up on the list located in the hallway. Respectful standards of decorum and courtesy should be observed by all speakers. Remarks should be directed to the City Council as a body rather than to any particular Council Member or member of the staff. In consideration of others, please silence all cell phones and electronic devices.
6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Consent agenda items are indicated by asterisks (\*). Consent agenda items are considered together unless a council member requests that the item be returned to the general agenda. Ordinances on the approved consent agenda are automatically advanced to the next regular meeting for second reading and public hearing. All other items on the approved consent agenda are passed as final.
7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS
  - \*a) Regular Meeting Minutes of November 13, 2023

\*b) Regular Meeting Minutes of November 27, 2023

8. SPECIAL ORDERS

- a) The Fairbanks City Council will hear interested citizens concerned with the following marijuana license application for renewal. Public testimony will be taken and limited to three minutes.

Lic. #	DBA	License Type	Licensee	Address
11927	Green Life Supply, LLC	Retail Marijuana Store	Green Life Supply, LLC	511 30th Avenue

9. MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

- a) Special Reports

10. COUNCILMEMBERS' COMMENTS

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) Ordinance No. 6267, as Amended – An Ordinance Amending the 2023 Operating and Capital Budgets for the Fourth Time. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.
- b) Ordinance No. 6268 – An Ordinance Adopting the 2024 Operating and Capital Budgets. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.

12. NEW BUSINESS

- \*a) Resolution No. 5092 – A Resolution Amending the City Schedule of Fees and Charges for Services by Increasing the Tow Fee. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs.
- \*b) Ordinance No. 6269 – An Ordinance Amending Fairbanks General Code Sec. 74-117, Room Rental Tax Purpose and Limitation, by Adding Compliance Requirements to Subsection (e). Introduced by Council Members Marney and Ringstad.

- \*c) Ordinance No. 6270 – An Ordinance Amending the Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the City of Fairbanks and the Fairbanks AFL-CIO Crafts Council. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs.

- 13. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE CITY COUNCIL
- 14. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS
- 15. CITY CLERK'S REPORT
- 16. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT
- 17. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- 18. ADJOURNMENT



FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES, NOVEMBER 13, 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, following a 5:30 p.m. Work Session for the Explore Fairbanks Annual Report and Presentation and a 5:55 p.m. Work Session for the FEDC Annual Report and Presentation, 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 Pruhs presiding and the following Councilmembers in attendance:

Councilmembers 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: D. Danyielle Snider, City Clerk  
Michael Sanders, Chief of Staff  
Thomas Chard, City Attorney  
Margarita Bell, Chief Financial Officer  
Rick Sweet, Deputy Police Chief  
Scott Raygor, Fire Chief  
Andrew Coccaro, Assistant Fire Chief  
Kristi Meredith, Dispatch Manager (remotely)  
Brenda McFarlane, Crisis Now Coordinator

### **INVOCATION**

The invocation was given by City Clerk Danyielle Snider.

### **FLAG SALUTATION**

Mayor Pruhs asked Ms. Rogers to lead the flag salutation.

### **CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

*[Clerk Note: Names of citizens who provide comments may not be spelled correctly if their name was illegible on the physical sign-up sheet.]*

Tom Alexander – T. Alexander shared that he had recently applied for the vacant seat on the Discretionary Fund Committee and wanted to introduce himself to the Council. He stated that he looked forward to potentially working with Mr. Marney and the rest of the Committee.

**Ms. Sprinkle** thanked T. Alexander for coming and introducing himself. She stated they always appreciate meeting someone who has an application for appointment on the agenda. **Mayor Pruhs** also expressed support and appreciation for T. Alexander's willingness to serve.

Victor Buberger – V. Buberger reported on various streetlights that are not in operation on the east side of town. He suggested giving a raise to the employees assigned to maintain the lights so they could fix them correctly. He indicated that most recently he counted 10 lights out of order between The Banks Alehouse and the old Arctic Bar. He recalled hearing, a few years ago, about money being spent to update to special lights and wondered who keeps tabs on those issues. He asked if it was an issue of the City not having enough money or just being negligent, and he suggested letting the public know which of those two was the case. He concluded by commenting that the City always tries to get its hands deeper into taxpayers' pockets, primarily to give raises to union employees, rather than doing more for the general public.

**Ms. Sprinkle** asked V. Buberger to clarify which lights were out. V. Buberger repeated a description of the location along the Old Steese Highway.

Roscoe Britton – R. Britton expressed gratitude for what the Fairbanks Police Department (FPD) has done for him and his organization. He recounted needing clarification on a particular legal matter for his properties and was provided support, although it seems that not all officers are on the same page or are unaware of the various programs his organization offers. He noted some inconsistent interpretations and application of laws or policies as they pertain to situations at his properties but stated that for the most part, he appreciates the help received. R. Britton shared concerns about a particular bus stop for the inbound purple line, which is in a precarious location and is a potential hazard, especially with road conditions during the winter. He suggested moving the stop about 75 feet, which would put it on a safer straight-stretch of road. He also spoke on the topic of the homeless situation in Fairbanks and the need for a cold weather plan.

Upon the expiration of R. Britton's allotted time, **Mr. Cleworth**, without objection from others, invited him to finish his comments on the last topic. R. Britton stated that prior to moving to Fairbanks, he lived in Anchorage, where it took a few years for the organization he was involved with to get a viable cold weather plan enacted. He shared that despite having a plan in place, individuals often would still not utilize available assistance and would end up freezing to death. He recalled six or seven deaths by freezing over the last few years in Fairbanks. He expressed hope to plant a seed, start a conversation, and work towards a plan that would prevent any more community members from passing away in the cold because they do not have anywhere to go.

**Ms. Rogers**, acknowledging that she and R. Britton were already serving on some committees together, asked if he would be willing to start another one strictly focused on the issue he raised. R. Britton responded that he would be and that he is aware of other key community members that would likely be interested. He described ways that other places handle cold weather challenges for homeless people and what that could look like in Fairbanks. **Ms. Rogers** asked R. Britton if he was aware of some other committees, taskforces, etc. already in place and if he thought they were not moving in the right direction. R. Britton confirmed his familiarity with the other groups.

He described efforts in regard to homelessness and expressed hope that there could be more of a focus on cold-weather planning going forward.

Samantha Balanos, CFO, Vicinity (IT) – S. Balanos stated that as a member of the community, a member of the local Chamber of Commerce, and an experienced IT professional, she is concerned about the request for proposals (RFP) that is intended to be awarded by the Council for managed IT services for the City. She asked that the award be reevaluated, and she highlighted how the bid slated to be awarded was double the cost of the next most competitive bid. She added that based on public information, it is also a 50% increase in cost over prior years. She stated she believes the funds can be put to better use and urged the Council to reconsider its decision to award the contract to the selected bidder.

David van den Berg, Executive Director, Downtown Association of Fairbanks – D. van den Berg spoke about the Downtown Plan that was recently published and acknowledged the effort put into it by the City and the Downtown Association (DTA). He shared some of the comments the DTA published regarding its support of the 2040 Plan, referencing positive work done by the City regarding the demolition of the Polaris Building, snow removal, and taking a broad approach to derelict buildings. He indicated that the plan should help progress many of the goals shared by the City and the DTA but that a steering committee would be beneficial, after adoption, to help ensure goals do not fall by the wayside. He acknowledged that this was an idea Mayor Pruhs had also suggested, along with a willingness to host periodic meetings to discuss economic development between the City, Borough, and other entities. He noted that the section of the plan pertaining to the Polaris Building is not overly specific and leaves a lot of trust with the City to develop that parcel. He discussed what the DTA views as priorities, such as snow removal and public safety, and that implementation of such a massive plan is much more realistic with the City doing such a good job at holding itself accountable.

**Mr. Cleworth** reported having attended the last meeting on the Downtown Plan and noted his surprised that Mayor Pruhs' suggestion to meet every six months was not well-received. He asked D. van den Berg if he was in favor of adding that. D. van den Berg stated that he would very much support it. **Mayor Pruhs** indicated that, one way or another, they will be doing that.

Brenda McFarlane, Crisis Now Coordinator – B. McFarlane thanked Explore Fairbanks for the recent fundraiser which raised over \$4,000 for the Mobile Crisis Team at Alaska Behavioral Health (AKBH). She noted that AKBH often serves individuals that the hospital is not able to accept and does so without payment. She acknowledged Julie Jones with Festival Fairbanks who she credits for saving the life of a gentleman in a dire situation at the plaza downtown; she stated that J. Jones went out of her way to contact her and Housing Coordinator Brynn Butler. B. McFarlane explained that the individual had refused care multiple times, but B. Butler was able to convince him to accept assistance, and an ambulance took him to the hospital. She shared that there was a meeting earlier in the day with many community members and various organizations, both local and state-level, to discuss stabilization and services for those experiencing mental health challenges. She listed various parameters that individuals are faced with as they seek assistance and how a stabilization center and community plan could help address those issues.

**Ms. Rogers** asked B. McFarlane if she was able to receive funds for the City’s program through community donations like this fundraiser. B. McFarlane stated that she believes it is an option but that funds from the fundraiser were advertised as going towards the type of program AKBH has. She explained that the \$4,000 went to the AKBH since the City does not yet have a stabilization center project officially underway, and she did not want those funds to sit unused in the meantime. She stated she would defer to CFO Bell for any further details and that it would be beneficial to continue advocating for support of a local stabilization center with state legislators.

**Mr. Marney** asked for B. McFarlane’s opinion on the community paramedic approach. B. McFarlane expressed strong support for such an effort and shared that she participated in a ride-along with an Anchorage team. She noted that many situations fail to achieve a true stabilization response because there is often a combination of issues with mental and/or behavioral health, medication, and living conditions. She gave examples of mobile crisis response teams’ efforts being bolstered by calling upon community paramedics during specific situations they encounter.

**Mayor Pruhs**, hearing no additional requests, declared Citizen’s Comments closed.

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

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

**Mr. Ringstad** pulled Resolution No. 5091 and Ordinance No. 6266, items 12(b) and 12(d) of New Business, 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 OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

a) Regular Meeting Minutes of October 9, 2023

APPROVED on the Consent Agenda

b) Regular Meeting Minutes of October 23, 2023

APPROVED on the Consent Agenda

### **SPECIAL ORDERS**

a) The Fairbanks City Council heard interested citizens concerned with the following marijuana license applications for renewal:

Lic. #	DBA	License Type	Licensee	Address
10589	Nature's Releaf, LLC	Retail Marijuana Store	Nature's Releaf, LLC	503 7th Avenue
14467	Tanana Herb Company, LLC	Standard Marijuana Cultivation Facility	Tanana Herb Company, LLC	1200 Well Street
15814	Tanana Herb Company, LLC	Retail Marijuana Store	Tanana Herb Company, LLC	1200 Well Street
16091	Tanana Herb Company, LLC	Marijuana Concentrate Manufacturing Facility	Tanana Herb Company, LLC	1200 Well Street
10230	Pakalolo Supply Company, Inc.	Standard Marijuana Cultivation Facility	Pakalolo Supply Company, Inc.	1851 Fox Avenue
10131	Pakalolo Supply Company, Inc.	Retail Marijuana Store	Pakalolo Supply Company, Inc.	1851 Fox Avenue
10869	Grass Station 49	Retail Marijuana Store	The Grass Station, LLC	1326 Cushman Street

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

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

**Ms. Sprinkle** asked about the timing of these kinds of license renewals and why it seems that so many come before the Council at the end of the year. **Mayor Pruhs** explained that when the law to legalize marijuana passed in October 2015, they saw many applications the following month.

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

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

NAYS: None

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

b) The Fairbanks City Council heard interested citizens concerned with the following marijuana license application for transfer of controlling interest:

Type/License: Retail Marijuana Store, License #12325

DBA: GOOD Cannabis

Applicant: Good, LLC (transfer of controlling interest only)

Location: 356 Old Steese Highway, Fairbanks

**Mr. Ringstad**, seconded by **Ms. Sprinkle**, moved to WAIVE PROTEST on the marijuana license application for transfer of controlling interest.

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

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO WAIVE PROTEST ON THE MARIJUANA LICENSE APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF CONTROLLING INTEREST AS FOLLOWS:



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

NAYS: None

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

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

**Mayor Pruhs** referenced R. Britton's earlier comments regarding the dangerous bus stop and stated that he would share that information with Borough Mayor Ward. He thanked V. Buberger for bringing to the City's attention the issue of streetlights and explained that the maintenance is handled by a contractor. He acknowledged that the responsibility falls upon him, and he committed to drive around to see for himself and to discuss any relevant issues with the City Engineer. He noted the five inches of snow that they received earlier in the day and stated that snow removal crews are hard at work. He thanked Explore Fairbanks and FEDC for their annual presentations earlier in the evening. He noted the limited time during work sessions but stated he was glad that organization representatives and City officials were able to speak after the work session. **Mayor Pruhs** gave a recap on the City Hall Halloween event, which saw an estimated 1,200 kids coming through the building. He stated there were a couple emergency candy runs, and City staff and Councilmembers came together to make it a wonderful community event. **Ms. Sprinkle** stated that she would love for the Council to be involved in the following year.

**Mayor Pruhs** shared that on Friday, when City Hall was closed for Veterans Day, he visited the Fairbanks Emergency Communications Center (FECC, aka Dispatch). He stated he spent time with the five employees on duty and got a photo of them. He expressed pride that the FECC's ranks being filled and in the camaraderie that was evident in the employee's interactions.

### **COUNCILMEMBERS' COMMENTS**

**Mr. Ringstad** stated that he heard many good things about the Halloween event at City Hall.

**Ms. Sprinkle** shared that she had the honor of being involved with the Festival Fairbanks Women Veterans Affair event at The Venue, as well as a veterans event at the Westmark Hotel; she stated that they both were amazing experiences. She thanked the Mayor for attending also.

**Ms. Rogers** reiterated her earlier comments about starting something new to work towards the creation of a stabilization center. She suggested that perhaps additional facilities need to be added to the hospital to assist with mental health crisis needs.

**Mr. Marney** thanked Scott McCrea from Explore Fairbanks and Jomo Stewart from FEDC for the presentations. He suggested that the Council should consider extending the five-minute Q&A session at the end but was glad he had the opportunity to visit with them after the work session.

**Ms. Tidwell** thanked J. Stewart and S. McCrea for the presentations and noted how much both organizations do for the community. She shared having spent the weekend in Anchorage, which currently is dealing with more snow than the Interior. She noted that Fairbanks does a much better job with snow removal and commended the Public Works Department. She spoke well of

the progress being made for the City Hall childcare facility, with Public Works soon to begin renovation work. She shared that at the previous Borough Assembly meeting, she learned that they are pursuing something similar, and she likes to think that they got the idea from the City.

**Mr. Cleworth** indicated that having several streetlights in proximity go out at the same time is not uncommon and recalled instances in his own neighborhood where that occurred. He asked to confirm that the City still contracts that type of work out. Chief of Staff Sanders responded that it is still contracted out, but that the particular lights referenced by V. Buberger are out due to a supply chain issue. He noted that City Engineer Bob Pristash was surprised that any of those lights were working, considering the specific parts they are waiting on. **Mr. Cleworth** explained that, to his understanding, the contractor would typically be called after a certain number of lights were out, rather than having work orders for every single occurrence.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a) Resolution No. 5089 – A Resolution Clarifying the Fee for “Fire Inspection, Investigation, and Technical Services” and “Routine Safety Checks, Response to Safety Complaints.” Introduced by Mayor Pruhs and Council Member Cleworth. POSTPONED from the Regular Meeting of October 23, 2023.

*At the October 23, 2023 regular meeting, **Mr. Cleworth**, seconded by **Mr. Ringstad**, moved to APPROVE Resolution No. 5089. The motion remained on the floor.*

**Mr. Cleworth**, seconded by **Ms. Rogers**, moved to AMEND Resolution No. 5089 by substituting an amended, proposed version.

**Ms. Sprinkle** indicated that she would like to understand the financial impact of the change by offering a free service to those who want it.

**Mr. Cleworth** indicated that the substituted version is to take care of some of the criticism at the last meeting; he added that some felt the language was unclear, especially with the final sentence. He stated that the proposed version clears that up and ensures that the associated language will be added to the fee schedule, rather than being lost in a resolution.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO AMEND RESOLUTION NO. 5089 BY SUBSTITUTING AN AMENDED, PROPOSED VERSION AS FOLLOWS:

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

NAYS: None

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

**Mr. Cleworth** recounted that the Council has discussed the matter at length, and it has been made clear that the types of inspections that are required, whether by the state or due to investigations, have seen an increase in the associated fee. He stated that he does not believe it is right to go beyond that and have random businesses selected for inspections when they did not request them. He stated that businesses would be invoiced for those inspections, but they already

pay property taxes and business licensing fees. He stated that businesses can and should be doing regular, routine safety checks on their own as responsible business owners. He suggested that if businesses want the City to do an inspection, then they should be able to request and pay for it.

**Ms. Sprinkle** reiterated that the Finance Committee recommended the fee to the Council. She stated that it looks unfair that some business types will get inspected while others will not. She admitted that it is ultimately about safety, but she is unsure what businesses will actually request inspections if it is optional and will cost them money.

Fire Chief Raygor indicated that a large part of his department's job is to keep the public safe through fire prevention. He shared that most owners are trying to do good business, but many are negligent either because of ignorance or a deliberate effort to cut corners and ignore certain safety practices. He gave the example of a business owner running an extension cord under carpet to prevent tripping, which led to a fire after the foot traffic damaged the cord and caught the carpet on fire in the middle of the night. **Ms. Sprinkle** asked if the department has the staff to do what is wanted as far as inspections. Chief Raygor replied that currently they do not.

**Ms. Tidwell** recalled that part of the reasoning in approving a new position at the Fairbanks Fire Department (FFD) a few months prior, was that the revenue from fire inspection fees would help offset the cost of the position. She expressed concern that significant changes to these fees might negate what has already been done, and she would hate to see the reasoning for the position go away. She stated that she also would not mind the matter going back to the Finance Committee.

**Mr. Marney** asked what an inspection entails. Assistant Chief Andrew Coccaro stated that it depends on various details, such as the type of business, structure, systems involved, applicable ordinances, the reason for the inspection, etc. He explained that background work is done in preparation, including a site visit and research in order to build an appropriate inspection checklist. He described the process of coordinating with the owner to schedule the inspection and how they work with the owner to address any items that need correcting, including any necessary follow up in an agreed-upon timeframe. He noted that follow-up visits do not incur an inspection fee, as the goal is to give the owner a learning curve on the primary inspection and focus on making things right with any further interactions. He agreed that most businesses are trying to do what is right, but many do not know what they need to do to be fully compliant.

**Mayor Pruhs** asked for clarification on whether alcohol and marijuana businesses would still incur a fee for things like kitchen area inspections. AC Coccaro responded that the State of Alaska charges those businesses a fee, which encompasses FFD's inspections, but other aspects of the business, such as a kitchen, fall under a different license. He added that those types of inspections are not reimbursed by the State. He explained that FFD would not charge an owner for an inspection related to the alcohol side of their business, but if a kitchen were part of the establishment, they would inspect that area and invoice the business for the fee.

**Mr. Ringstad** stated that from a money perspective, it does not seem like the fee will generate significant revenue and that most of the inspections the FFD is currently doing will continue as-is. He described his concern that they would now be doing more inspections they previously did not have the manpower to perform. He stated he is unsure of the financial impact of making the

change, whether it would pay for itself, and how much revenue it would generate. CFO Bell stated that year-to-date, fire inspection fees have totaled \$6,302, with \$24,000 in 2022 and \$13,955 in 2021. She acknowledged that she was unsure how much of those totals were tied to inspections that would be considered required versus not required. Chief Raygor asserted that about 90% of the figures the CFO provided were from required inspections and that even with the added position, the FFD is over a year from being able to address anything more than obligatory inspections. **Mr. Ringstad** concluded that the City would not see a decline in revenue in the near future as a result of the resolution. Chief Raygor concurred and stated that they would not anticipate an increase in the revenue amounts for 2024 either. **Mr. Ringstad** asked how many businesses might get inspected in the future that have not been inspected in the past. Chief Raygor shared that there are about 1,400 buildings in the FFD's records system, but they would have to do some serious digging to determine how many fell into each of the various categories of complexity. **Mr. Ringstad** reiterated that it does not seem to be a huge amount of money, one way or the other. **Mayor Pruhs** added that the fee might stop, but the service will not. Chief Raygor confirmed that the FFD would still have to do inspections but would not charge for them.

**Mr. Cleworth** stated that this does not prevent the FFD from doing inspections, it only dictates under what circumstances the City may charge for inspections. He expressed that this is much simpler than it is being portrayed and that the City should consider this a service covered through existing taxes and license fees. He explained that the question of the cost to perform the work is also simple, as the associated staff are already employed. He pointed out that they already have the position budgeted for, so he does not see why there is effort to turn it into another revenue stream. He recalled years ago that fire engine crews would occasionally stop by and ask if businesses would like an informal walkthrough to identify potential safety issues, and it was a positive experience. He stated he does not believe it would be well-received if a business owner would have no choice but to submit to the inspection and get billed for it.

**Ms. Rogers** pointed out that, as Ms. Tidwell and Ms. Sprinkle had expressed, the Council could send the issue back to the Finance Committee and suggested that perhaps that is what the Council should do.

**Mr. Marney** stated that he spent one third of his life talking about preventative maintenance for his health, home, vehicles, etc. and that this is a matter of being a good neighbor. He suggested that some businesses might go 10 to 20 years without being inspected if inspections were not required and their business would be charged if they initiated it.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 5089, AS AMENDED, AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Ringstad, Rogers, Cleworth, Pruhs

NAYS: Marney, Sprinkle, Tidwell

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED and Resolution No. 5089, as Amended, APPROVED.

## NEW BUSINESS

- a) Resolution No. 5090 – A Resolution Authorizing the City of Fairbanks to Accept Funds from the Alaska Division of Homeland Security for the FFY2023 State Homeland Security Program. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs.

PASSED and APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- b) Resolution No. 5091 – A Resolution Awarding a Contract to AlasConnect, LLC for Managed Information Technology Services, RFP 23-13. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs.

**Mr. Cleworth**, seconded by **Mr. Marney**, moved to APPROVE Resolution No. 5091.

**Mr. Ringstad** shared that he received a couple of phone calls earlier in the day from individuals concerned about the decision to award the contract. He admitted to knowing very little about the matter and would not be comfortable moving forward until he has more information. He stated he has heard good things about the company of the individual who spoke during Citizens' Comments and is unsure why the City chose the company it did, noting the significant difference in cost between the two bidders.

**Mayor Pruhs** asked Chief of Staff Mike Sanders to walk the Council through the process that led to the resolution to award the contract. COS Sanders shared that the City had an IT consultant assist with the drafting of the RFP, but he had not expected that consultant to move their business to one of the (non-awarded) companies who bid. He added that would have been a concern had the panel not already scored the bids. He explained that the City received three bids, which were reviewed by a panel of three individuals, including himself, who were not permitted to see the prices until after their initial evaluation. He indicated that the first question the panel had to answer was whether all three companies seemed capable of performing the required work. He reported that one bidder was unanimously determined to not have the ability to fulfill the scope of work. He explained that for the second bidder (which was not selected), two of the three reviewers did not feel the company would be able to meet the scale of the required work for the City. He noted that that company is one he already works with on other smaller-scale projects, and he intends to continue working with them as long as they are interested. He reported that after completing the scoring process, Ampersand (AlasConnect, LLC) had won by a considerable margin, and it was only then that the panelists were informed of any dollar amounts. COS Sanders stated that they were all shocked to see that the company they were on the fence about had submitted a bid that was half the amount of the other. He indicated that this was a red flag to the reviewers and was not viewed as a bargain; rather, it was a confirmation of their concerns that the company was not suited to handle the full scale of IT services for the City. He shared that he went back through his notes to ensure he could stand by the panel's conclusions, and he believes it would be a huge mistake to not go with the recommendation – especially since the City does not directly employ IT staff. He recapped that one bid was thrown out right away for being unable to meet the City's needs. He stated the other was vague, had come in at half the cost of the remaining bidder, and ultimately seemed like they would be in way over their head with the City's scale of work.

**Mr. Ringstad** asked if there was a process by which certain issues could be communicated with bidders regarding the decisions made. COS Sanders indicated that he would have talked to any of the bidders had he known there was an issue, that he has a good relationship with members of all three companies, that all were notified of the selection as well as the scores, and that he is the person they could reach out to with any concerns.

City Attorney Chard reminded the Council that there is a prescribed process in the Fairbanks General Code (FGC) that allows bidders who are not awarded a bid to protest within a period of ten days. He reported that the issue was just brought to his attention earlier in the day; however, the ten-day period has lapsed, so any protest to the decision to award the contract would not be timely. **Mayor Pruhs** asked if all bidders had the timeframe to make a protest and if any protest had been made. COS Sanders indicated that there was a protest, but the first he heard of it was earlier that day, the same time as Attorney Chard. **Mayor Pruhs** asked when the ten-day period of protest would have ended. COS Sanders stated that it ended on November 6.

**Ms. Rogers** asked if bidders are made aware of the ten-day protest period. COS Sanders stated that he would have to check the communications that are sent out, but he is confident they are. He shared details about the scores: 69 for the company that panelists agreed would not be able to do the work, 80 for the company that two of the three panelists had concerns about, and 86 for the company that was selected. Attorney Chard explained that the Purchasing Agent handles those kinds of communications and, to his understanding, around October 27, all three bidders were notified of the decision of the evaluation committee. He asserted that the email would likely have included details about protesting the decision. He noted that the fact that a company replied to that email two-and-a-half weeks later and stated they were filing a protest, suggests that they were provided the instructions for that option, either in the original RFP or in subsequent communications. He confirmed that the protest came a week after the end of the ten-day period of the decision and notification thereof, so it is not considered timely. **Mayor Pruhs** asked if the procurement code had been followed. COS Sanders affirmed that, to the best of his knowledge, it had and that CFO Bell witnessed him explicitly request that panelists not be told of the dollar amounts until after the scoring process had been completed.

**Mr. Cleworth** stated that the Council may either approve awarding the contract to the selected company or reject it. He asked what would happen if it was rejected. Attorney Chard explained that an offer has been extended and accepted, contingent upon Council approval. He indicated that the issue would likely go back to the purchasing agent and potentially go back out to bid. **Mr. Cleworth** asked who was on the evaluation committee. COS Sanders stated it was him, FECC Manager Kristi Meredith, and Chief of Police Ron Dupee.

**Mayor Pruhs** asked who wrote the RFP. COS Sanders responded that he, Purchasing Agent Christina Rowlett, and another individual, a non-City employee present in the room, wrote the RFP. **Mayor Pruhs** asked if it was similar to the RFP put forth before, which was now expiring. COS Sanders replied that it was not, as that one had not been revised since 2016; he added that there was a lot of content that no longer made sense. **Mayor Pruhs** asked whether there would be any gap in IT services if the RFP went back out to bid, given that the current contract expires December 31. COS Sanders indicated that perhaps the City could work out some kind of extension with the current provider, but he believes that would be a horrible idea.

**Ms. Sprinkle** asked if the primary issue is whether bidders had sufficient information about the process to protest in the prescribed timeframe. COS Sanders reiterated that the second highest ranking bidder was nearly eliminated as two of the three reviewers did not believe the company could handle the scale of work.

**Mr. Ringstad** suggested that, to his understanding, the issue is that one bidder stated they could handle the work, but the evaluation committee disagreed, which left only one realistic option. **Ms. Sprinkle** indicated that it is not uncommon to have bids disqualified for a variety of reasons. COS Sanders clarified that none were disqualified, and all three bids were still reviewed.

**Ms. Tidwell** asked if the Council could further discuss why some bidders were considered unlikely to be able to perform the scale of work, or if the Council is not privy to that information. Attorney Chard cautioned the Council against second-guessing the process, since it is set forth in detail in the FGC. He reminded the Council that bidders had a prescribed timeframe in which to protest, and he recommended that the Council avoid getting too deep into the process. He indicated that if the result was not acceptable to the Council, the resolution could be rejected.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 5091 AS FOLLOWS:

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

NAYS: None

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED and Resolution No. 5091 APPROVED.

- c) Ordinance No. 6265 – An Ordinance to Accept Board of Adjustment Duties from the Fairbanks North Star Borough to Hear and Decide Appeals of Certain Land Use Decisions for Land Located Within the City of Fairbanks. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs and Council Members Cleworth, Rogers, Sprinkle, Tidwell, Marney, and Ringstad.

ADVANCED on the Consent Agenda

- d) Ordinance No. 6266 – An Ordinance Establishing a Hiring Incentive Bonus Program for the Recruitment and Hiring of First-Time Law Enforcement Officers at the Fairbanks Police Department. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs.

**Ms. Tidwell**, seconded by **Ms. Sprinkle**, moved to ADVANCE Ordinance No. 6266.

**Mr. Ringstad** stated that he does not have a problem with the concept, but he has concerns about the timing and priority of the ordinance. He recalled how much the Council did for the FPD over the last six months and concurred that those actions were the right thing to do at the time. He noted that some of those efforts appear to be working, and he would prefer to focus attention on the FECC's needs. He cited that 20% of the positions at FECC are vacant and another 20% are filled by people who live out of state. He stated the Council's attention should be on the FECC, and they should let the other newly implemented programs at FPD have time to work.

**Mr. Cleworth** indicated that he likes the idea of the ordinance, as it would help increase new police officers instead of stealing them from other agencies, although he acknowledged the urgency of enticing lateral hires. He expressed that his only problem was with the attachment to the ordinance and the timing of the hiring bonus. He described the significant investment the City puts into a recruit, from the Sitka academy all the way through field training. He noted that the way the attachment reads, a recruit would receive the entire bonus after nine months, when they become a full-fledged police officer. He stated he would like to see the bonus split to give more incentive to stay other than just avoiding a prorated payback of a bonus, while limiting the liability to the City should someone choose to leave after only a short time, which has happened.

**Mr. Cleworth**, seconded by **Ms. Sprinkle**, moved to AMEND Attachment A, Section 1 of Ordinance No. 6266 by revising the last sentence to read, “The City will pay \$10,000 in the Employee’s first paycheck following completion of field training and \$10,000 after 24 months.”

**Mr. Ringstad** commented that the Council needs to be mindful that the change will spread the financial impact over multiple years. **Mayor Pruhs** pointed out that the incentive would only be in place for one year unless extended by the Council. **Mr. Cleworth** noted that the ordinance cites that the bonuses will be funded through salary savings, so the incentive would go away if there was no salary savings. **Mr. Ringstad** asked if it would legally go away if the FPD no longer had salary savings. **Mayor Pruhs** reiterated that the bonus would only be in effect for one year, and he is quite confident the FPD would have salary savings for that timeframe. Attorney Chard confirmed that it is very unlikely that payment of the incentive would exhaust salary savings within the short span it covers, and if it did, it would trigger the multi-year funding provisions in the FGC. **Mayor Pruhs** reminded the Council of theory vs. reality and that if the FPD had twenty new applicants tomorrow, not only does the hiring process take time, but they have limited capacity for training new officers. He reassured Mr. Ringstad that salary savings in 2024 would be sufficient to cover the cost of the hiring incentive.

**Ms. Sprinkle** voiced her support for the amendment and expressed appreciation for the effort to use the incentive for both recruitment and retention of new officers.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO AMEND ATTACHMENT A, SECTION 1 OF ORDINANCE NO. 6266 BY REVISING THE LAST SENTENCE TO READ, “THE CITY WILL PAY \$10,000 IN THE EMPLOYEE’S FIRST PAYCHECK FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF FIELD TRAINING AND \$10,000 AFTER 24 MONTHS” AS FOLLOWS:

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

NAYS: None

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

**Mayor Pruhs**, in response to Mr. Ringstad’s earlier concerns, affirmed that the ordinance would not take away from efforts the Council would like to pursue regarding the FECC. He explained the ordinance is a standalone effort and does not reprioritize work for other departments.



**Ms. Tidwell** expressed appreciation for the explanation and affirmation of support for the FECC. She stated that she loves the ordinance, as it encourages community members to consider a career in local law enforcement. She asked to be added as sponsor to the ordinance.

**Mr. Marney** stated that he is aware of some issues with local hires over the last eight years and expressed hope that the ordinance would help change that. **Mayor Pruhs** shared that one of the target audiences for the effort would be individuals who are preparing to leave the military but would like to remain in Alaska. He explained that they could qualify at the Sitka academy then have a very easy transition into a position at FPD. He stated that the ordinance adds a powerful recruitment tool for the FPD.

**Mr. Ringstad** requested clarification on the specifics of focusing on local hires and any legal implications that may carry. **Mayor Pruhs** explained that previous recruitment efforts have been focused on lateral hires, and this ordinance is for everyone else, whether or not they are already local. He reiterated that anyone interested in making Fairbanks their home and working for the FPD who is not already a police officer could now have a greater incentive to join the FPD and remain there. Attorney Chard concurred that there is no legal issue with language regarding hiring locally, since the definition applies broadly to include anyone interested in living and working in Fairbanks and does not include any stipulations on how long someone must live in the community in order to be eligible for the bonus.

Clerk Snider noted that while Mr. Cleworth's amendment revised the language of Attachment A, there is corresponding language in the ordinance that would also need updated. **Mayor Pruhs** responded that the Council can deal with that item at the next meeting.

**Ms. Sprinkle** asked to be added as a sponsor to the version that will be drafted for the next meeting. All other Councilmembers also requested to be added as sponsors to the ordinance.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADVANCE ORDINANCE NO. 6266, WITH AMENDED ATTACHMENT A, AS FOLLOWS:

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

NAYS: None

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

### **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE CITY COUNCIL**

a) Reappointment to the Finance Committee

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA

b) Appointment to the Permanent Fund Review Board

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA

c) Appointment to the Discretionary Fund Committee

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA

- d) Recommendation for Appointment to the Borough Planning Commission

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA

- e) Permanent Fund Review Board Meeting Minutes of July 12, 2023

ACCEPTED on the CONSENT AGENDA

- f) Clay Street Cemetery Commission Meeting Minutes of October 4, 2023

ACCEPTED on the CONSENT AGENDA

- g) Memorandum Regarding Donation of Two Police Vehicles

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA

- h) Approval of the 2024 City Council Regular Meeting Schedule

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS AND COUNCILMEMBERS' COMMENTS**

**Ms. Rogers** stated that the many committees she serves on seem to merge in their own ways, with solutions to a variety of problems seeming to flow together naturally. She emphasized recognizing the continuum of need that exists among the various groups in the community and making sure they are always moving forward with possibilities. She thanked the many individuals who have supported those kinds of efforts over the years, ensuring that no one falls through the cracks. She acknowledged that some issues are not comfortable to hear about, but it is a disservice to those in need in the community to not embrace them.

**Ms. Sprinkle** reported that she has seen real progress on the Polaris Building demolition, with large bags of debris being staged for removal. She stated that there is power inside the building, and work will continue. She stated they will likely take a break until spring once temperatures drop low enough to make progress unrealistic. She reported that the communication between contractors, the City, and landowners is going well, with demolition work occurring like a reverse jigsaw puzzle. She stated that by October 2024 there should be a large empty lot where the building once was. She shared that a thoughtful process is currently underway to draft an RFP that will focus on economic development downtown. She reported that the Chena Riverfront Commission has a special meeting scheduled for the end of the month. She concluded by sharing that Thanksgiving is her favorite holiday and expressed gratitude in working together.

**Mr. Cleworth** noted that earlier in the evening, during the annual reports of Explore Fairbanks and FEDC, one organization provided details of their employee salaries and wages while the

other did not. He stated he was under the impression that all entities that receive discretionary funds were obligated to provide that information, but as he reviewed the FGC, it was unclear whether that requirement applied to all recipients or only those applying for the grant. He recalled some controversy 15 years ago when an organization refused to provide its salary information and asked the City Attorney could look into the applicability of that portion of the FGC to all fund recipients. He indicated that if it does not apply to all recipients, it is an oversight, because that was the original intent. He noted that one of the memos in the agenda packet included a donation of two police department vehicles. He recalled a past situation where a former Fire Chief wanted to donate a fire engine to a smaller municipality, rather than send it to the City's public auction. He remembered struggling with the desire to be philanthropic while acknowledging that items have real value. He explained that proceeds from real property sales must be deposited into the City's Permanent Fund, but the FGC is vague on the sale of other property; he added that donating equipment can get tricky. He suggested including a discussion on the topic in the next Council work session.

**Mr. Ringstad** reported that the Permanent Fund Review Board met recently and had some conversation with those who oversee the fund about the rate of return. He stated that in the new year the Board will likely have more discussion on the topics of investment policies and expectations for a rate of return. He referenced Mr. Cleworth's comments about discretionary fund recipients' disclosure of salary information and stated that perhaps the Council should also include a discussion about requiring audits for those that receive over a certain amount of funds. He spoke to similar requirements for those that receive state and federal grants and stated that he is unsure why the City is not also requiring that for its larger recipients.

**Mr. Marney** echoed Mr. Ringstad's thoughts on discretionary fund recipients. He reported that the Discretionary Fund Committee's preliminary meeting occurred the prior week and established that the presentation and distribution meetings would be December 1 and December 13, respectively.

**Ms. Tidwell** indicated that she had no reports or comments.

**Mr. Cleworth** referenced the 2024 Council Regular Meeting Schedule included in the agenda packet. He mentioned that the meeting scheduled for December 23, 2024, is close to Christmas Day and asked whether there were any other meeting dates in question. Clerk Snider stated that she wanted to call attention to the December 23 meeting and pointed out that certain underlined dates on the calendar denote a deviation from the FGC due to holidays.

**Mayor Pruhs** indicated that the 2024 meeting calendar should be included as a discussion item at the next work session. He also conveyed support for the suggestion of a Code change to require entities receiving large amounts of discretionary funds to show proof of an annual audit.

## **CITY CLERK'S REPORT**

Clerk Snider wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

**CITY ATTORNEY’S REPORT**

Attorney Chard thanked everyone for their service.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Mr. Ringstad**, seconded by **Ms. Sprinkle**, moved to ENTER an Executive Session for an update and guidance concerning *Roberts et al. v. City of Fairbanks*.

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

**Mayor Pruhs** called for a brief recess, after which the Council reconvened in Executive Session.

a) *Roberts et al. v. City of Fairbanks* Update and Guidance (entered at 8:35 p.m.)

The City Council met in Executive Session to discuss the above item. An update was provided to the Council, and guidance was given to the City Attorney; no action was taken. The regular meeting resumed at 9:14 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

Hearing no objection, **Mayor Pruhs** declared the meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

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DAVID PRUHS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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D. DANYIELLE SNIDER, MMC, CITY CLERK

Transcribed by: CC



FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES, NOVEMBER 27, 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 Pruhs presiding and the following Councilmembers in attendance:

Councilmembers Present: Jerry Cleworth, Seat A  
June Rogers, Seat B  
Sue Sprinkle, Seat C  
Crystal Tidwell, Seat D  
Lonny Marney, Seat E

Absent: John Ringstad, Seat F

Also Present: D. Danyielle Snider, City Clerk  
Michael Sanders, Chief of Staff  
Thomas Chard, City Attorney  
Margarita Bell, Chief Financial Officer  
Ron Dupee, Police Chief  
Nathan Werner, Police Captain  
Scott Raygor, Fire Chief  
Andrew Coccaro, Assistant Fire Chief  
Angela Foster-Snow, Human Resources Director (remotely)  
Jessica Krier, Human Resources Generalist  
Brynn Butler, Housing Coordinator

### **INVOCATION**

The invocation was given by City Clerk Danyielle Snider.

### **FLAG SALUTATION**

Mayor Pruhs asked Attorney Thomas Chard to lead the flag salutation.

### **CEREMONIAL MATTERS (Proclamations, Introductions, Recognitions, Awards)**

Addressing Human Resources (HR) Director Angela Foster-Snow, whose employment with the City would end on November 30, **Mayor Pruhs** stated that it is with a sense of great loss but also appreciation that they recognize her nearly nine years of service to the City of Fairbanks as HR Director. He highlighted A. Foster-Snow's professionalism and deep care for the City, which left an indelible mark on City employees and the community. He stated that her tenure has been characterized as one that fosters inclusivity, fairness, and growth. On behalf of the Council, City staff, and the entire community, he expressed sincere gratitude for A. Foster-Snow's service and

extended best wishes for her future. He presented an inscribed gold pan to her to commemorate her career with the City. A. Foster-Snow's son, Ryker Snow, accepted the gold pan on her behalf.

## **CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

*[Clerk Note: Names of citizens who provide comments may not be spelled correctly if their name was illegible on the physical sign-up sheet.]*

Julie Jones, Executive Director, Festival Fairbanks – J. Jones wished the City a happy birthday, noting that Fairbanks was founded 120 years ago this month. She reported on an electrical issue for the light cylinders on the downtown bridge, where a faulty switch in the ground occasionally surges and turns the lights off. She confirmed that an electrician has been hired to correct the issue and stated that the lights should be operational soon. She spoke in favor of establishing permanent, public restroom facilities at the Golden Heart Plaza (GHP) and cited restroom access as a basic human right as well as a solution to many health concerns. She noted that there are very basic, efficient designs which could be cleaned and maintained by staff of an organization like her own. She indicated that a permanent facility would be a much better solution than the portable, plastic restrooms that get delivered each summer. She also spoke to the urgent health crisis of hazmat materials being discarded in public places and how her staff frequently is required to clean up and dispose of such items. She shared that in the past summer, the GHP saw over 7,000 visitors during lunch hours alone that were dropped off by tour buses, and she commented that the limited and inadequate public restroom facilities was an area that could be improved upon to elevate the tourism experience. She concluded by speaking against Senate Bill 150, which pertains to gaming regulations, and indicated that it will hurt a lot of nonprofit organizations.

**Mr. Cleworth** recalled past discussions about a public restroom facility in the GHP area and stated that the primary concern always came back to maintenance and cleaning. He asked J. Jones if her organization was truly prepared to take on that responsibility. J. Jones responded affirmatively and stated that they already check the portable restrooms seven days a week, cleaning and mopping them each morning. She reported that they also replenish the toilet paper at their own expense. She noted that she already has staff on-site attending to plants, so throughout the day the individuals could check on the restrooms and address any issues. She explained that permanent, stainless-steel facilities are much easier to clean and have a better aesthetic, noting the lessened visual appeal of brightly colored, plastic restroom near the iconic First Family statue and fountain.

**Mr. Marney** asked J. Jones to confirm the bill she referenced at the end of her comments. J. Jones stated that it was SB 150.

**Ms. Rogers** spoke to all the work J. Jones does and asked how they could clone her.

**Mayor Pruhs** notified attendees that the internet was currently down, so the meeting was not being broadcast via all typical methods.

Victor Buberger – V. Buberger called attention to the loss of Frank Turney, who passed away four years ago. He noted that it has been six weeks since he informed the Council about the lights outage on the Old Steese Highway and how almost all of them are still not working. He questioned

whether the City would wait to repair them until springtime or summertime when they are not needed. He also noted a few lights out on Cushman Street and asked what happened to the old tree pots that used to be located in that area. He asked if they had gone to auction or if City employees or Councilmembers had taken them home, stating that if the latter were the case, he would like one for his own yard. He expressed gratitude that someone had addressed the need for public restroom facilities downtown and encouraged the Council to do something like that for tourists and the community. **Mayor Pruhs** reported that there are supply chain issues with the parts ordered to fix the streetlights.

Hearing no additional requests for comment, **Mayor Pruhs** declared Citizen's Comments closed.

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

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

**Ms. Sprinkle** requested to pull Ordinance No. 6268, item 12(b) under New Business, from the Consent Agenda. **Mayor Pruhs** stated that with the absence of Mr. Ringstad, he would prefer that the item not be pulled for discussion; he declined the request. **Ms. Sprinkle** indicated she would like to talk more about the ordinance. **Mayor Pruhs** confirmed that it will be on the Council's agenda at the next meeting. **Ms. Sprinkle** indicated that was satisfactory.

**Mr. Cleworth** requested to pull Ordinance No 6267, item 12(a) under New Business, 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.

### **SPECIAL ORDERS**

- a) The Fairbanks City Council heard interested citizens concerned with the following marijuana license applications for renewal:

Lic. #	DBA	License Type	Licensee	Address
11503	True Dank	Retail Marijuana Store	True Dank, LLC	1550 Cushman Street, Ste. A
30593	Pipe and Leaf: Premium Alaskan Cannabis	Retail Marijuana Store	Pipe and Leaf, LLC	899 Old Steese Highway
10112	Great Alaskan Bud Company	Standard Marijuana Cultivation Facility	SP&C Enterprises, LLC	1905 Livengood Avenue

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

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

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

YEAS: Cleworth, Sprinkle, Tidwell, Marney, Rogers

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Ringstad

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

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

**Mayor Pruhs** noted a recent article in the News-Miner which nicely highlighted the 28-year career of Fire Chief Raygor, who is retiring, and expressed appreciation for his service. He asked Housing Coordinator Brynn Butler, also the subject of a recent newspaper article, to give a report.

B. Butler acknowledged that she is approaching the one-year mark of serving in her role and provided a report on housing and homelessness issues from the past year, along with plans for the future. She shared about successfully housing dozens of individuals and also spoke to registrations within the Homeless Management Information System, a program that allows better tracking of the needs of those seeking assistance. She provided details about regular, in-person outreach tasks she does on a weekly basis, often with the assistance of certain Councilmembers and the Mayor. She stated that although they are not always well-received, their efforts are to ensure individuals do not fall through the cracks. She shared details about a new nonprofit organization, HopeLink, which is making progress towards opening an overnight warming station. B. Butler noted that a button has been added to the City website for citizens to click to report unauthorized encampments. She concluded by sharing that there was approval to receive funds through the Ray of Hope grant, which will help prevent homelessness through assistance with past-due rent.

**Ms. Sprinkle** asked B. Butler if she had an update on the individual that she and Julie Jones were reported to have helped out of a dire situation recently. B. Butler stated that due to HIPAA constraints, she does not have anything to share at this time. She reported that the person has not been seen since which, given the situation, can be interpreted as good news.

**Mr. Marney** thanked B. Butler for doing a great job.

**Ms. Rogers** echoed the commendations for B. Butler's performance in her role.

**Mr. Cleworth** extended kudos for the great article in the newspaper and stated that reading it was a nice way to start his morning. He asked B. Butler if she is limited in what services she can offer or suggest to individuals she encounters who may have a past felony conviction. B. Butler stated that such a conviction often allows for more assistance to individuals, particularly if they have recently been released, as there are State-allocated funds available for reentry programs. She noted that the primary challenge for individuals in that situation is if they have an open case, as many landlords are apprehensive to enter into a rental agreement with someone in limbo.

**Mayor Pruhs** recognized recent advancements at the FPD, with Officers Caleb Reuter and Stephen Hancock being promoted to the rank of sergeant and Officers Jason Pace and Mayra Reyes



being promoted to detective. He thanked Police Chief Dupee for sharing the information with them, commended the hard work of the FPD, and noted the filling of ranks taking place as new officers are in the queue to join the department in the coming months. He referenced the late Frank Turney's desire to have the Bill of Rights read annually at Council meetings in the month of December and indicated that he will do something to continue the tradition in the next month.

Clerk Snider reported that the internet feed was still down, but they had established a phone line for individuals to call in. She established a connection with the radio station over the phone line.

### **COUNCILMEMBERS' COMMENTS**

**Mr. Marney** stated that he hates to see A. Foster-Snow leave the City but appreciates her service. He also thanked Chief Raygor for his excellent career and stated that he was the man for the job and will be missed.

**Ms. Tidwell** echoed sadness for the departure of Chief Raygor, praised his leadership, and shared excitement for his new endeavors.

**Mr. Cleworth** thanked A. Foster-Snow for her service, noting that in the past she would fill in as Acting Chief of Staff in their absence. He spoke of his own history with Chief Raygor, particularly with contract negotiations, citing his sense of humor during often tense situations. He wished the best to him and his family.

**Ms. Rogers** repeated many of the previous comments about both departing staff members. She spoke highly of A. Foster-Snow's support of various groups, such as the Fairbanks Diversity Council. She noted the empathy and professionalism that she exuded during difficult situations, bringing joy to those around her. She acknowledged not knowing Chief Raygor as well as others but stated that her memories of him include excellent communication and an ever-present smile.

**Ms. Sprinkle** admitted to not knowing A. Foster-Snow well but wished her the best. She stated that she does know Chief Raygor well and will not wish him goodbye, but rather "see you around." She stated he is liked by the community and that he will be missed; she wished him luck.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a) Ordinance No. 6265 – An Ordinance to Accept Board of Adjustment Duties from the Fairbanks North Star Borough to Hear and Decide Appeals of Certain Land Use Decisions for Land Located Within the City of Fairbanks. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs and Council Members Cleworth, Rogers, Sprinkle, Tidwell, Marney, and Ringstad. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.

**Mr. Cleworth**, seconded by **Ms. Sprinkle**, moved to ADOPT Ordinance No. 6265.

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

**Mr. Cleworth** expressed appreciation to those on the Borough Assembly who helped make the change happen. He stated he did not think he would ever see Board of Adjustment duties come back to the City. He recalled many City staff, particularly those in the Engineering and Public Works departments, being frustrated about losing the delegation of appeal authority in 2015. He explained that City staff often had opinions based in knowledge and expertise beyond what some Borough commissioners and staff had in regard to the subject of appeals. He added that City staff was usually right.

**Ms. Rogers** stated the ordinance demonstrates the reality of working together.

**Ms. Sprinkle** thanked Mr. Cleworth for spearheading the effort and stated she believes that in the long run it will benefit both the City and the Borough. **Mr. Marney** and **Ms. Tidwell** agreed.

**Mayor Pruhs** concluded that the best government is often the one closest to the citizens it impacts. He noted that the ordinance puts an important item of authority back where it belongs and expressed appreciation for Mr. Cleworth's efforts on the matter.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 6265 AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Rogers, Cleworth, Marney, Sprinkle, Tidwell

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Ringstad

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED and Ordinance No. 6265 ADOPTED.

- b) Ordinance No. 6266 – An Ordinance Establishing a Hiring Incentive Bonus Program for the Recruitment and Hiring of First-Time Law Enforcement Officers at the Fairbanks Police Department. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.

**Mr. Cleworth**, seconded by **Ms. Sprinkle**, moved to ADOPT Ordinance No. 6266.

**Mr. Cleworth**, seconded by **Ms. Sprinkle**, moved to AMEND Ordinance No. 6266 by substituting an amended, proposed version.

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

**Ms. Rogers** thanked Mayor Pruhs for sharing his thoughts on the ordinance in its earlier stages.

**Mayor Pruhs** thanked the Council for working through various efforts to help the FPD in 2023. He noted that this ordinance fills one missing piece: providing an incentive for brand new officers – not just for those transferring. He stated that the ordinance ultimately gives FPD's community outreach lead, Teal Soden, a more complete recruitment toolkit. He shared that there are indications that they should see several new officers in the coming months.

**Mayor Pruhs** called for objection to the motion to AMEND Ordinance No. 6266 by substituting the amended, proposed version and, seeing none, declared the MOTION CARRIED.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 6266, AS AMENDED, AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Tidwell, Cleworth, Marney, Sprinkle, Rogers

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Ringstad

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED and Ordinance No. 6266, as Amended, ADOPTED.

### NEW BUSINESS

- a) Ordinance No. 6267 – An Ordinance Amending the 2023 Operating and Capital Budgets for the Fourth Time. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs.

**Mr. Cleworth**, seconded by **Ms. Sprinkle**, moved to ADVANCE Ordinance No. 6267.

**Mr. Cleworth** noted that during the 2024 budgeting process, the Council discussed two new pieces of equipment for Public Works and that one of them, a truck with a snowplow, had been eliminated.

**Mr. Cleworth**, seconded by **Ms. Rogers**, moved to AMEND Ordinance No. 6267 by adding \$84,000 under Public Works expenditures in the Capital Budget to fund the purchase of a truck with a snowplow before the year ends.

**Ms. Sprinkle** expressed confusion with the amendment. **Mayor Pruhs** explained that the amendment would authorize the purchase of a new piece of equipment for Public Works that was not included in the 2024 budget. He added that it would increase the 2023 Capital Budget.

**Mr. Marney** asked for Mr. Cleworth to expound upon the need for the amendment. **Mr. Cleworth** explained that during the Council's budget discussions, the piece of equipment was eliminated with an intent to address it in a different way; however, it was left unresolved. He stated he believes there is no reason not to take care of it in the current budget, noting that 2023 funds are available.

**Ms. Tidwell** shared that her recollection was that Public Works Director Jeff Jacobson stated that the department would make do with what it had. She noted that, to her understanding, the bigger challenge at Public Works is maintaining personnel for snow removal. She indicated that if additional funds are available, the Council should use the funds elsewhere.

**Mayor Pruhs** clarified that the equipment in question was originally included in the 2024 Capital Budget, but the Public Works Director requested that it be exchanged for something else, as another piece of machinery had broken down. **Mayor Pruhs** affirmed that the amendment does not take away from any operational budget or funds for future considerations. He acknowledged that he had not done as well as he could have in explaining that distinction previously.

**Ms. Sprinkle** recalled that the Public Works Director indicated that the equipment would be purchased locally, which she is pleased with.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 6267 BY ADDING \$84,000 UNDER PUBLIC WORKS EXPENDITURES IN THE CAPITAL BUDGET TO FUND THE PURCHASE OF A TRUCK WITH A SNOWPLOW BEFORE THE YEAR ENDS AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Marney, Cleworth, Rogers, Sprinkle, Tidwell

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Ringstad

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

**Mr. Cleworth** discussed another piece of equipment the Council recently considered, an older platform at the Fire Department that needed an estimated \$225,000 in repairs. He stated that a new platform is about \$1.5MM and that, just like new fire engines, the only way the City can afford such large purchases is through deliberate budgeting of certain amounts each year. He expressed concern only about \$300,000 will be carried forward from the 2023 budget and asked how old the platform in question is. Fire Chief Raygor stated that is in its 13th year in what they typically consider a 20-year lifecycle. **Mr. Cleworth** indicated that he is not a fan of pouring money into older equipment, citing the challenges of finding parts for repairs in most machines after they reach a certain age. He wondered if the Council should use some of the available Capital funds to plan for a new platform purchase in coming years, rather than spend money to upgrade a 13-year-old piece of equipment. He noted that if the City does not receive grants for such a large purchase, it is on its own. Chief Raygor recommended inviting the mechanic foreman, Jeremiah Record, to the next meeting to discuss the pros and cons of updating versus replacing the platform.

**Mayor Pruhs** recommended sticking with the plan to fix the platform. He noted that the Council has already gone through its budget process and the platform needs repaired immediately. He stated it should last for many more years. Chief Raygor added that a rebuild of the ladder could extend the lifecycle beyond 20 years. **Mayor Pruhs** stated he wants to hold off on overloading the December 11 agenda, as it will already be lengthy with other budget-related discussions expected. **Mr. Cleworth** indicated he could talk to the appropriate staff on his own before the next meeting.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADVANCE ORDINANCE NO. 6267, AS AMENDED, AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Sprinkle, Cleworth, Marney, Tidwell, Rogers

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Ringstad

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

b) Ordinance No. 6268 – An Ordinance Adopting the 2024 Operating and Capital Budgets. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs.

ADVANCED on the Consent Agenda

**WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE CITY COUNCIL**

- a) Appointment of Fairbanks Fire Chief

**Ms. Sprinkle**, seconded by **Mr. Cleworth**, moved to CONCUR with the Appointment of the Fairbanks Fire Chief.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO CONCUR WITH THE APPOINTMENT OF THE FAIRBANKS FIRE CHIEF AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Marney, Cleworth, Tidwell, Rogers, Sprinkle  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Ringstad  
**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

- b) Reappointments to the Permanent Fund Review Board

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA

- c) Reappointment to the Finance Committee

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA

- d) Appointment to the Fairbanks Diversity Council

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA

- e) Discretionary Fund Committee Meeting Minutes of January 11, 2023

ACCEPTED on the CONSENT AGENDA

- f) Approval of Revised 2024 City Council Meeting Schedule

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA

**COMMITTEE REPORTS AND COUNCILMEMBERS' COMMENTS**

**Ms. Tidwell** indicated that she had no report or comments.

**Mr. Marney** reported that the Discretionary Fund Committee would hold its presentation meeting on December 1. He stated he will also attend Explore Fairbanks' Board meeting on November 29.

**Ms. Sprinkle** stated that she will attend a Chena Riverfront Commission meeting November 29.

**Ms. Rogers** reported that she has several meetings in the coming week, including the Opioid Work Group as well as coalitions for Housing and Homeless and the Behavioral Health Community.

**Mr. Cleworth** shared that he received a phone call from a citizen asking him to share a concern with the Council about certain airlines that serve the bush communities allegedly maintaining a “no-fly list” and decline to transport individuals back to their home communities when they are caught for offenses such as attempting to transport alcohol to dry communities. He reported that the citizen’s concern was that Fairbanks was thus becoming a “dumping ground” for these kinds of people. He indicated that he had never heard of such a thing but that the police may be aware of the issue. He stated he was unsure if it was something the City should look into and was seeking input from fellow Councilmembers or staff.

**Mayor Pruhs** indicated that he was also not aware of this practice but that he would ask the City Attorney to review the matter; he indicated that he could speak directly with some of the carriers. He expressed disgust that this kind of thing could be happening and committed to looking into it.

**Mr. Cleworth** addressed the issue with a particular house on 5th Avenue where the street had been torn up and water access was supposed to be restored, but never was. He asked why that was so. **Mayor Pruhs**, with confirmation from Ms. Sprinkle, explained that the owner failed to pay the water bill from Golden Heart Utilities (GHU). **Mr. Cleworth** stated he is puzzled why the City has not put plywood over the doors. He thanked the Mayor and Ms. Sprinkle for the information.

**Ms. Rogers**, in response to the first issue Mr. Cleworth addressed, shared outrage that people might be prohibited from returning to their homes and stated it should be their right to do so.

**Mayor Pruhs** thanked the Council for confirming the appointment of the Fairbanks Diversity Council member and reported that the only remaining vacant seat is Borough-appointed.

### **CITY CLERK’S REPORT**

Clerk Snider stated that it has been a great opportunity to work with both Chief Raygor and A. Foster-Snow and wished them both well.

### **CITY ATTORNEY’S REPORT**

Attorney Chard echoed Clerk Snider’s comments and thanked Councilmembers for their service.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Mr. Cleworth**, seconded by **Ms. Tidwell**, moved to ENTER an Executive Session to discuss two items: Fairbanks Firefighters Union Labor Negotiation Strategy and *Roberts v. City of Fairbanks, et al.* Settlement Discussion.

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

**Mayor Pruhs** called for a brief recess, after which the Council reconvened in Executive Session.

- a) Fairbanks Firefighters Union Labor Negotiation Strategy (*entered at 7:44 p.m.*)
- b) *Roberts v. City of Fairbanks, et al.* Settlement Discussion (*entered at 9:04 p.m.*)

The City Council met in Executive Sessions on the two items. Guidance was given to the negotiator and the City Attorney; no action was taken. The regular meeting resumed at 9:17 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

Hearing no objection, **Mayor Pruhs** declared the meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

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DAVID PRUHS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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D. DANYIELLE SNIDER, MMC, CITY CLERK

Transcribed by: CC



800 Cushman Street  
Fairbanks, AK 99701

Telephone (907) 459-6702  
Fax (907) 459-6710

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Pruhs and City Council Members

FROM: D. Danyielle Snider, City Clerk



SUBJECT: Marijuana License Renewal

DATE: December 6, 2023

Notice has been received from the State Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office (AMCO) for the following marijuana license renewal application:

Lic. #	DBA	License Type	Licensee	Address
11927	Green Life Supply, LLC	Retail Marijuana Store	Green Life Supply, LLC	511 30th Avenue

Pursuant to FGC Sec. 14-214 and 3 AAC 306.060, the Council may determine whether to protest a marijuana license renewal application after holding a public hearing. The 60-day deadline for response to AMCO on the above-listed renewal is January 6, 2024.

Pursuant to FGC Sec. 14-215(b)(12), I have inquired about complaints filed within the past 12 months with the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) and AMCO in regard to the above-listed marijuana establishment. FNSB responded that they have no complaints on file for this license within the past year. AMCO reported two complaints in regard to this license within the past year. Please see the attached summary.

The Police, Fire, and Building Departments are not recommending protest of this renewal application, and the Police Department has included a call report for the establishment. **The Finance Department is recommending protest of this license renewal application due to outstanding retail taxes owed to the City of Fairbanks.**



Date		Enforcement				Assisting		Disposition	Notes
Date of Incident	assigned case #	What	Priority/Statistics	License #	DBA	Investigator	Investigator		
<b>1/12/23</b>	1/12/23	Marijuana Odor Complaint	Odor Complaints - Checks	10958 & 11927	Green Life Supply	P. Moses		CLOSED	Email 1/12/2023 complaint from Jarrod Welsh jarrod.d.welsh@gmail.com regarding marijuana odor at the transition of Mitchel Expressway and Richardson Highway. Inv. Moses conducted drive by of the area on 1/12/23 @ about 11:00 AM, no discernable odor was detected. Green Provided consumer complaint form to Jasmyne Galvin - jasmynegalvin23@icloud.com Customer complained of false advertising and not proper package seal.
<b>7/12/23</b>	7/12/23	Complaint	General Complaints	11927	Green Life Supply	J. Davies	P. Moses	CLOSED	

# CITY OF FAIRBANKS PUBLIC SAFETY

## Event List with Report Numbers

Green Life Supply, LLC

Report #	Call Time	Nature	Location	Prime Unit	Disp.	Close Time
	05/21/2023 00:58:21	SHOTS FIRED - HEARD -	511 THIRTIETH AVE	O20	NRP	05/21/2023 01:12:18
	03/14/2023 08:52:57	ALARM BURGLARY -	511 THIRTIETH AVE	O33	FAN	03/14/2023 09:08:05
	02/24/2023 09:06:09	ALARM BURGLARY -	511 THIRTIETH AVE	O6	FAB	02/24/2023 09:32:16
	01/04/2023 09:05:34	ALARM BURGLARY -	511 THIRTIETH AVE	O6	NRP	01/04/2023 09:19:40
	12/16/2022 11:00:09	ALARM BURGLARY -	511 THIRTIETH AVE	O27	FAB	12/16/2022 11:10:30
	12/13/2022 07:53:37	ALARM BURGLARY -	511 THIRTIETH AVE	O2	NRP	12/13/2022 08:11:13

Total Number of Events Listed: **6**

**ORDINANCE NO. 6267, AS AMENDED**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2023 OPERATING  
AND CAPITAL BUDGETS FOR THE FOURTH TIME**

**WHEREAS**, this ordinance incorporates the changes outlined on the attached fiscal note to amend the 2023 operating and capital budget.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRBANKS, ALASKA, as follows** [amendments shown in **bold** font; deleted text in ~~striketrough~~ font]:

**SECTION 1.** There is hereby appropriated to the 2023 General Fund and Capital Fund budgets the following sources of revenue and expenditures in the amounts indicated to the departments named for the purpose of conducting the business of the City of Fairbanks, Alaska, for the fiscal year commencing on January 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2023 (see pages 2 and 3):

## GENERAL FUND

<u>REVENUE</u>	APPROVED COUNCIL APPROPRIATION	INCREASE (DECREASE)	PROPOSED COUNCIL APPROPRIATION
Taxes (all sources)	\$ 26,725,210	\$ 500,000	\$ 27,225,210
Charges for Services	6,175,618	300,000	6,475,618
Intergovernmental Revenues	3,254,080	(215,700)	3,038,380
Licenses and Permits	2,206,050	161,500	2,367,550
Fines and Forfeitures	526,000	(100,000)	426,000
Interest and Penalties	1,765,000	-	1,765,000
Rental and Lease Income	151,818	-	151,818
Other Revenues	220,000	17,000	237,000
Other Financing Sources	1,606,467	185,500	1,791,967
Total revenue appropriation	<u>\$ 42,630,243</u>	<u>\$ 848,300</u>	<u>\$ 43,478,543</u>
 <u>EXPENDITURES</u>			
Mayor Department	\$ 773,020	\$ -	\$ 773,020
Legal Department	243,300	-	243,300
Office of the City Clerk	477,255	-	477,255
Finance Department	979,990	-	979,990
Information Technology	2,683,612	-	2,683,612
General Account	6,944,525	487,500	7,432,025
Police Department	8,323,156	90,000	8,413,156
Communications Center	3,410,296	-	3,410,296
Fire Department	8,770,404	-	8,770,404
Public Works Department	10,644,403	(150,000)	10,494,403
Engineering Department	1,044,350	-	1,044,350
Building Department	725,620	-	725,620
Total expenditure appropriation	<u>\$ 45,019,931</u>	<u>\$ 427,500</u>	<u>\$ 45,447,431</u>
2022 unassigned fund balance	\$ 17,521,835	\$ -	\$ 17,521,835
Prior year encumbrances	(229,747)	-	(229,747)
Transfers to other funds	(3,500,000)	-	(3,500,000)
Other changes to the budget	1,340,059	420,800	1,760,859
2023 estimated unassigned balance	<u>\$ 15,132,147</u>	<u>\$ 420,800</u>	<u>\$ 15,552,947</u>
Minimum unassigned fund balance requirement is 20% of budgeted annual expenditures but not less than \$10,000,000.			<u>\$ 9,089,486</u>

## CAPITAL FUND

REVENUE	APPROVED COUNCIL APPROPRIATION	INCREASE (DECREASE)	PROPOSED COUNCIL APPROPRIATION
Transfer from Permanent Fund	\$ 685,683	\$ -	\$ 685,683
Transfer from General Fund	3,250,000	-	3,250,000
Property Repair & Replacement	145,000	-	145,000
Public Works	250,000	-	250,000
Garbage Equipment Reserve	279,000	-	279,000
IT	65,000	-	65,000
Police	210,000	90,000	300,000
Communications Center	140,000	-	140,000
Fire	290,000	-	290,000
Building	10,000	-	10,000
Total revenue appropriation	<u>\$ 5,324,683</u>	<u>\$ 90,000</u>	<u>\$ 5,414,683</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Property Repair & Replacement	\$ 5,510,721	\$ 250,000	\$ 5,760,721
Public Works Department	1,705,099	<b>84,000</b>	1,789,099
Garbage Equipment Reserve	593,659	-	593,659
IT Department	226,920	-	226,920
Police Department	584,844	90,000	674,844
Fire Department	1,124,611	225,000	1,349,611
Road Maintenance	1,455,169	-	1,455,169
Total expenditure appropriation	<u>\$ 11,201,023</u>	<u>\$ <b>649,000</b></u>	<u>\$ 11,850,023</u>
Estimated capital fund unassigned balance	\$ 6,795,343	\$ <b>(559,000)</b>	\$ 6,236,343
Estimated capital fund assigned balance	4,081,080	-	4,081,080
2023 estimated fund balance	<u>\$ 10,876,423</u>	<u>\$ <b>(559,000)</b></u>	<u>\$ 10,317,423</u>

**SECTION 2.** This ordinance also appropriates the use of emergency snow removal funds in the amount of \$250,000 as designated by the Mayor.

**SECTION 3.** All appropriations made by this ordinance lapse at the end of the fiscal year to the extent they have not been expended or contractually committed to the departments named for the purpose of conducting the business of said departments of the City of Fairbanks, Alaska, for the fiscal year commencing on January 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2023.

**SECTION 4.** The effective date of this ordinance shall be the 11th day of December 2023.

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**David Pruhs, Mayor**

AYES:  
NAYS:  
ABSENT:  
ADOPTED:

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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D. Danyielle Snider, MMC, City Clerk

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Thomas A. Chard II, City Attorney

**FISCAL NOTE**  
ORDINANCE NO. 6267, AS AMENDED  
AMENDING THE 2023 OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGETS  
FOR THE FOURTH TIME

**GENERAL FUND**  
**\$848,300 Increase in Revenue**  
**\$427,500 Increase in Expenditures**

**Revenue**

1. Tax Revenue
  - \$500,000 increase to room rental taxes
2. Charges for Services
  - \$200,000 increase to ambulance services
  - \$100,000 increase to engineering recovery grants
3. Intergovernmental Revenues
  - (\$25,500) decrease to municipal assistance program
  - (\$25,200) decrease to electric and phone
  - (\$200,000) decrease to PERS on behalf payment
  - \$35,000 increase to SART exam reimbursement
4. License and Permits
  - \$26,500 increase to business license
  - \$62,000 increase to engineering right of way permit
  - \$20,000 increase to commercial permits
  - \$30,000 increase to mechanical permits
  - \$23,000 increase to electrical permits
5. Fines and Forfeitures
  - (\$100,000) decrease to vehicle forfeitures
6. Interest and Penalties
7. Rental and Lease Income
8. Other Revenues
  - \$17,000 increase to miscellaneous revenue

9. Other Financing Sources

- \$185,500 increase to sale of assets

**Expenditures**

1. Mayor's Office

2. City Attorney's Office

3. City Clerk's Office

4. Finance Department

5. Information Technology

6. General Account

- \$50,000 increase to professional service for the Polaris building historical project
- \$250,000 increase to heating fuel
- \$387,500 increase to room rental distribution
- (\$200,000) decrease to PERS on behalf payment

7. Police Department

- \$90,000 increase to equipment replacement

8. Communications Center

9. Fire Department

10. Public Works

- (\$250,000) decrease to fuel, oil, and grease
- \$100,000 increase to garbage collection

11. Engineering

12. Building Department



**CAPITAL FUND**  
**\$90,000 Increase in Revenue**  
**\$649,000 Increase in Expenditures**

**Revenue**

1. Other Financing Sources
  - \$90,000 transfer from general fund to police

**Expenditures**

1. Property Repair & Replacement
  - \$250,000 increase for city hall security project
2. Public Works
  - **\$84,000 increase for truck with snowplow**
3. Garbage Equipment Reserve
4. IT Department
5. Police Department
  - \$90,000 increase for police vehicles
6. Communications Center
7. Fire Department
  - \$225,000 increase for platform upgrades
8. Road Maintenance

**ORDINANCE NO. 6268**

**AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE 2024 OPERATING  
AND CAPITAL BUDGETS**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to City Charter Section 5.2, on October 27, 2023, Mayor Pruhs presented a recommended annual operating and capital budget estimate for 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed budget was reviewed by the City Council with Department Directors, and the City Council suggested changes to the Mayor's recommended budget are disclosed in the increase (decrease) columns.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRBANKS, ALASKA, as follows** [amendments shown in **bold** font; deleted text in ~~font~~]:

**SECTION 1.** There is hereby appropriated to the 2024 General Fund and Capital Fund budgets the following sources of revenue and expenditures in the amounts indicated to the departments named for the purpose of conducting the business of the City of Fairbanks, Alaska, for the fiscal year commencing on January 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2024 (see pages 2 and 3).

## GENERAL FUND

REVENUE	MAYOR PROPOSED BUDGET	REVIEW PERIOD INCREASE (DECREASE)	PROPOSED COUNCIL APPROPRIATION
Taxes (all sources)	\$ 27,555,026	\$ 200,000	\$ 27,755,026
Charges for Services	6,669,500	140,000	6,809,500
Intergovernmental Revenues	2,920,580	-	2,920,580
Licenses and Permits	2,202,760	-	2,202,760
Fines and Forfeitures	551,000	-	551,000
Interest and Penalties	1,665,000	-	1,665,000
Rental and Lease Income	138,559	-	138,559
Other Revenues	225,000	-	225,000
Other Financing Sources	5,281,938	(16,800)	5,265,138
Total revenue appropriation	<u>\$ 47,209,363</u>	<u>\$ 323,200</u>	<u>\$ 47,532,563</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Mayor Department	\$ 777,300	\$ 2,730	\$ 780,030
Legal Department	262,480	(15,130)	247,350
Office of the City Clerk	613,905	-	613,905
Finance Department	1,042,900	(1,000)	1,041,900
Information Technology	2,615,117	-	2,615,117
General Account	6,676,000	84,000	6,760,000
Police Department	8,515,530	-	8,515,530
Communications Center	3,674,420	-	3,674,420
Fire Department	9,844,320	191,900	10,036,220
Public Works Department	10,039,325	125,000	10,164,325
Engineering Department	1,145,170	(15,000)	1,130,170
Building Department	791,590	-	791,590
Total expenditure appropriation	<u>\$ 45,998,057</u>	<u>\$ 372,500</u>	<u>\$ 46,370,557</u>
Estimated general fund balance	\$ 15,552,947	\$ -	\$ 15,552,947
Increase (Decrease) to fund balance	1,211,306	(49,300)	1,162,006
2023 estimated unassigned balance	<u>\$ 16,764,253</u>	<u>\$ (49,300)</u>	<u>\$ 16,714,953</u>

Minimum unassigned fund balance requirement is 20% of budgeted annual expenditures but not less than \$10,000,000.

\$ 9,274,111

## CAPITAL FUND

<u>REVENUE</u>	MAYOR PROPOSED BUDGET	REVIEW PERIOD INCREASE (DECREASE)	PROPOSED COUNCIL APPROPRIATION
Transfer from Permanent Fund	\$ 709,992	\$ -	\$ 709,992
Transfer from General Fund	-	-	-
Property Repair & Replacement	145,000	-	145,000
Public Works	250,000	-	250,000
Garbage Equipment Reserve	288,000	16,800	304,800
IT	25,000	-	25,000
Police	210,000	-	210,000
Communications Center	140,000	-	140,000
Fire	700,000	-	700,000
Building	10,000	-	10,000
Total revenue appropriation	<u>\$ 2,477,992</u>	<u>\$ 16,800</u>	<u>\$ 2,494,792</u>
 <u>EXPENDITURES</u>			
Property Repair & Replacement	\$ 1,060,000	\$ -	\$ 1,060,000
Public Works Department	1,266,000	3,000	1,269,000
Garbage Equipment Reserve	848,000	-	848,000
IT Department	100,000	-	100,000
Police Department	210,000	-	210,000
Communications Center	1,316,960	-	1,316,960
Fire Department	900,000	-	900,000
Road Maintenance	1,189,100	-	1,189,100
Total expenditure appropriation	<u>\$ 6,890,060</u>	<u>\$ 3,000</u>	<u>\$ 6,893,060</u>
Estimated capital fund unassigned balance	\$ 3,410,235	\$ (3,000)	\$ 3,407,235
Estimated capital fund assigned balance	2,579,120	16,800	2,595,920
2023 estimated fund balance	<u>\$ 5,989,355</u>	<u>\$ 13,800</u>	<u>\$ 6,003,155</u>

**SECTION 2.** This ordinance also appropriates the use of emergency snow removal funds in the amount of \$250,000 as designated by the Mayor.

**SECTION 3.** This ordinance increases the Council stipend from \$500.00 to \$650.00 per month effective January 1, 2025.

**SECTION 4.** All appropriations made by this ordinance lapse at the end of the fiscal year to the extent they have not been expended or contractually committed to the departments named for the purpose of conducting the business of said departments of the City of Fairbanks, Alaska, for the fiscal year commencing on January 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2024.

**SECTION 5.** The effective date of this ordinance is five days after adoption.

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**David Pruhs, Mayor**

AYES:  
NAYS:  
ABSENT:  
ADOPTED:

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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D. Danyielle Snider, MMC, City Clerk

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Thomas A. Chard II, City Attorney

**RESOLUTION NO. 5092**

**A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE CITY SCHEDULE OF FEES AND CHARGES FOR SERVICES BY INCREASING THE TOW FEE**

**WHEREAS**, in September 2021 the City executed a new towing contract with Interior Towing and Salvage, Inc.; and

**WHEREAS**, the original contract expired September 2023 and Interior Towing and Salvage, Inc. has requested a one-year extension; and

**WHEREAS**, Interior Towing and Salvage, Inc. has made a case to increase their tow fee from \$175 to \$225 based on the costs of doing business; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Fairbanks, through the terms of the original contract with Interior Towing and Salvage, Inc., will pass the fee directly to vehicle owners, therefore, eliminating any increased cost to the City.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRBANKS, ALASKA**, to approve the attached version of the *Schedule of Fees and Charges for Services* relating to Towing Services, effective January 1, 2024.

**PASSED and APPROVED** this 11th day of December 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**David Pruhs, Mayor**

AYES:  
NAYS:  
ABSENT:  
APPROVED:

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
D. Danyielle Snider, MMC, City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas A. Chard II, City Attorney

**City of Fairbanks Schedule of Fees and Charges for Services**

**As of Resolution No. 5092 - Effective January 1, 2024**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Code Sec.</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Current Fee</b>	<b>Proposed Fee</b>	<b>Description</b>	
<b>Vehicle Impound Fees</b>	78-971; 78-972	Admin Fee	\$ 500.00			
		Vehicle Bail Schedule (1st offense)	\$ 500.00		Note: Set by 78-972(c)	
		Vehicle Bail Schedule (previously convicted)				
		Vehicle Age:				
		20 years or older	\$ 1,000.00			
		15 - 19 years	\$ 2,000.00			
		10 - 14 years	\$ 3,000.00			
		5 - 9 years	\$ 4,000.00			
	0 - 4 years	\$ 10,000.00				
			Tow Fee	<del>\$ 175.00</del>	<b>\$225.00</b>	Flat tow charge
	78-973	Storage fees	\$ 20.00		Per day	
		Access Fee	\$ 75.00		Per hour, one-hour minimum per trip	

**ORDINANCE NO. 6269**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING FAIRBANKS GENERAL CODE SEC. 74-117, ROOM RENTAL TAX PURPOSE AND LIMITATION, BY ADDING COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS TO SUBSECTION (e)**

WHEREAS, Fairbanks General Code Sec. 74-117(e) provides requirements to assure compliance with the room rental tax purpose and limitations; and

WHEREAS, the City Council would like to add compliance requirements to provide wage and salary information and financial statements that have been independently reviewed by a certified public accountant.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRBANKS, ALASKA**, as follows:

**SECTION 1.** Fairbanks General Code Sec. 774-117(e) is hereby amended as follows [new text in **bold/underlined** font; deleted text in ~~striketrough~~ font]:

**Sec. 74-117. Room rental tax purpose and limitation.**

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(e) Any recipient of funding under this article must execute a contract with the city setting forth terms and conditions deemed necessary to enable the city to assure compliance with the purposes and limitations under this section. In addition, Explore Fairbanks and the Fairbanks Economic Development Corporation board of directors and/or director must remit complete and fully detailed budget documents and a plan outlining projected goals and objectives directly to the city council before November 1st of each year for presentation and review as a condition of funding. At the same time each of these agencies must submit a complete and detailed report of current year's progress and accomplishments; **wage and salary information for employees for current and upcoming year; and financial statements that have been independently reviewed by a certified public accountant.**

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**SECTION 2.** The effective date of this ordinance is January 1, 2024.

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**David Pruhs, Mayor**



AYES:  
NAYS:  
ABSENT:  
ADOPTED:

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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D. Danyielle Snider, MMC, City Clerk

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Thomas A. Chard II, City Attorney

**ORDINANCE NO. 6270**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF FAIRBANKS AND THE FAIRBANKS AFL-CIO CRAFTS COUNCIL**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Fairbanks and the Fairbanks AFL-CIO Crafts Council ratified a Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) effective February 16, 2023 through December 31, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Council of Carpenters Local #1243 is represented in the City's CBA with the AFL-CIO Crafts Council; and

**WHEREAS**, changes to the CBA require City Council approval; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Fairbanks and the Fairbanks AFL-CIO Crafts Council realize the value of hosting carpenter apprentices; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Fairbanks employs a highly skilled carpenter, capable of mentoring an apprentice; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Fairbanks has carpentry projects an apprentice could assist with.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRBANKS, ALASKA, as follows:**

**SECTION 1.** The Letter of Agreement amending the current CBA between the City of Fairbanks and Fairbanks AFL-CIO Crafts Council, attached, is approved and ratified.

**SECTION 2.** The effective date of this Ordinance is five days after adoption.

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**David Pruhs, Mayor**

AYES:  
NAYS:  
ABSENT:  
ADOPTED:

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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D. Danyielle Snider, MMC, City Clerk

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Thomas A. Chard II, City Attorney

# Letter of Agreement

By and between the

**United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America,  
Western States Regional Council of Carpenters  
and its affiliated Local Union 1243**

and the

**City of Fairbanks**

This Letter of Agreement (LOA) between the City of Fairbanks (Employer) and the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, Western States Regional Council of Carpenters and its affiliated Local 1243 (Union) for all work and hours that fall under the current effective Collective Bargaining Agreement (AFL-CIO Crafts Council Agreement).

The parties agree that the Employer may utilize up to two (2) apprentices registered in the Alaska Carpenters Training Trust federally registered apprenticeship program at any given time, but that at no time shall the ratio of Journeyman to Apprentice be greater than three to one (3:1).

The Employer agrees to participate as an Employer in the Union's Training Trust Fund established by the Union's Trust Agreements. It is understood and agreed that the Employer shall submit an apprenticeship training contribution of two dollars (\$2.00) per hour worked for all carpenter apprentices. The two dollars (\$2.00) will be reflected in a lowered Pension contribution rate for apprentices. All remaining fringes follow the Union's current wage and benefit schedule. The Union agrees that the City may pay a reduced hourly rate of pay, which is calculated as a percentage of Journeyman pay according to the individual Apprentice's hours worked in the ACTT Apprenticeship program.

It is further agreed that an individual carpenter apprentice may not be employed by the City of Fairbanks for more than three hundred (300) hours in any twelve (12) month period.

The parties agree that this letter of agreement shall not set precedence and either party may terminate the LOA with sixty (60) days written notice.

Effective: \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR THE UNION**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Antonio Acosta, Regional Manager

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR THE EMPLOYER**

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Pruhs, Mayor

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

# Carpenter Apprentice Schedule A

Apprentice Level Calculation:

Journeyman rate multiplied by appropriate percentage.

- Level 1: = 80%
- Level 2: = 82.5%
- Level 3: = 85%
- Level 4: = 87.5%
- Level 5: = 90%
- Level 6: = 92.5%
- Level 7: = 95%
- Level 8: = 97.5%

\*Rates based on the 2023 Journeyman rate of \$32.65 per hour.

<b>Classifications:</b>		Base Pay	**Supp Dues	<b>Total Taxable Wages</b>	Pension	Health	Appr	CAF	<b>TOTAL PACKAGE</b>
8th Period Apprentice	97.5%	30.56	1.27	<b>31.83</b>	5.85	10.35	2.00	0.10	<b>\$50.13</b>
7th Period Apprentice	95%	29.78	1.24	<b>31.02</b>	5.85	10.35	2.00	0.10	<b>\$49.32</b>
6th Period Apprentice	92.5%	28.99	1.21	<b>30.20</b>	5.85	10.35	2.00	0.10	<b>\$48.50</b>
5th Period Apprentice	90%	28.21	1.18	<b>29.39</b>	5.85	10.35	2.00	0.10	<b>\$47.69</b>
4th Period Apprentice	87.5%	27.43	1.14	<b>28.57</b>	5.85	10.35	2.00	0.10	<b>\$46.87</b>
3rd Period Apprentice	85%	26.64	1.11	<b>27.75</b>	5.85	10.35	2.00	0.10	<b>\$46.05</b>
2nd Period Apprentice	82.5%	25.86	1.08	<b>26.94</b>	5.85	10.35	2.00	0.10	<b>\$45.24</b>
1st Period Apprentice	80%	25.08	1.04	<b>26.12</b>	5.85	10.35	2.00	0.10	<b>\$44.42</b>

\*\*Dues Check-Off: 4% of Total Taxable Wage