



FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES, MAY 21, 2018  
FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
800 CUSHMAN STREET, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

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The City Council convened at 7:00 p.m. on the above date, following a 6:15 p.m. Work Session for a FNSB VISTA Program Update, to conduct a Regular Meeting of the Fairbanks City Council at the City Council Chambers, 800 Cushman Street, Fairbanks, Alaska, with Mayor Jim Matherly presiding and with the following Council Members in attendance:

Council Members Present: Joy Huntington, Seat A  
June Rogers, Seat B  
Valerie Therrien, Seat C  
Jonathan Bagwill, Seat D  
Jerry Cleworth, Seat E  
David Pruhs, Seat F

Absent: None

Also Present: Paul Ewers, City Attorney  
Emily Braniff, Deputy City Clerk  
Jeff Jacobson, Public Works Director  
Mike Meeks, Chief of Staff  
Angela Foster-Snow, HR Director  
Eric Jewkes, Police Chief  
Ron Templeton, Assistant Fire Chief  
Christina Rowlett, Risk Manager/Purchasing Agent

Deputy City Clerk Emily Braniff read the Mission Statement of the City of Fairbanks.

**INVOCATION**

The Invocation was given by Deputy Clerk Braniff.

**FLAG SALUTATION**

Mayor Matherly asked the Council to join him in the Flag Salutation.

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS ON CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA**

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

Mr. Pruhs pulled Resolution No. 4833 from the Consent Agenda.

**Mr. Cleworth** pulled Resolution No. 4835 from the Consent Agenda.

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

Deputy Clerk Braniff read the Consent Agenda, as Amended, into the record.

### **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

- a) Regular Meeting Minutes of April 9, 2018.

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

### **SPECIAL ORDERS**

- a) The Fairbanks City Council heard interested citizens concerned with the following Liquor License Application for Transfer of Ownership, Location, Name Change, and Restaurant Designation Permit:

Type: Restaurant/Eating Place, License #4344  
DBA: Bahn Thai Restaurant  
Applicant: Somnuk, LLC  
Location: 541 Third Avenue, Fairbanks  
From: Thai and Asian Cuisine/Chiang Mai Restaurant, LLC  
Location: 338 Old Steese Highway, Fairbanks

**Mr. Pruhs**, seconded by **Mr. Bagwill**, moved to WAIVE PROTEST on the Liquor License Application for Transfer of Ownership, Location, Name Change and Restaurant Designation Permit.

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

**Mr. Pruhs** stated he would vote in favor of the license because they run an exemplary business.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO WAIVE PROTEST ON THE LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP, LOCATION, NAME CHANGE, AND RESTAURANT DESIGNATION PERMIT AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Cleworth, Pruhs, Rogers, Huntington, Bagwill, Therrien  
NAYS: None

**Mayor Matherly** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

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

**Mayor Matherly** stated that school is out, and the kids are happy. He spoke to the success of the Third Thursday event with lots of vendors and people out enjoying the activities. He thanked

Julie Jones for changing out the flags on the Cushman Street Bridge. **Mayor Matherly** reported the many activities the Mayor's Office has been involved with since the last Council meeting.

a) Special Reports

Public Works Director Jeff Jacobson stated that his department is on a campaign to get citizens to trim their own trees; he explained that his crew will be trimming trees later in the summer. He reported that the previous owner of the Reflections building has finally finished removing items from the property and that he is looking into demolition costs. Mr. Jacobson stated they are working on securing the building so that nobody can gain access and potentially get hurt.

**Mayor Matherly** thanked everyone for helping with clean-up day; he reported it was a success.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Resolution No. 4833 – A Resolution to Apply for and Accept Funds from the Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management for the FFY2018 Emergency Management Performance Grant. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

**Ms. Therrien**, seconded by **Mr. Pruhs**, moved to APPROVE Resolution No. 4833.

**Mr. Pruhs** asked Assistant Fire Chief Ron Templeton about the purpose of the grant; Mr. Templeton explained that under the grant, some staff could bill time to the grant program when they are working on emergency management projects. **Mr. Pruhs** asked if that would mean an increase to the budget; Mr. Templeton replied that it would not affect the budget because it would only be activated if something catastrophic happened.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 4833 AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Bagwill, Cleworth, Rogers, Huntington, Therrien, Pruhs

NAYS: None

**Mayor Matherly** declared the MOTION CARRIED and Resolution No. 4833 APPROVED.

- b) Resolution No. 4834 – A Resolution to Accept Funding from the Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management for the SFY2019 Local Emergency Planning Committee Grant. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

PASSED and APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- c) Resolution No. 4835 – A Resolution to Apply for Funds from the Alaska Highway Safety Office for the FFY2019 DUI Traffic Enforcement Unit. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

**Mr. Pruhs**, seconded by **Ms. Therrien**, moved to APPROVE Resolution No. 4835.

**Mr. Cleworth** stated he pulled the resolution because he had questions for the Police Chief; **Mayor Matherly** stated Chief Jewkes was unable to attend the meeting. **Mr. Cleworth** asked

Chief Financial Officer Carmen Randle whether the grant funds were for overtime; Ms. Randle explained that the grant funds would fund the DUI traffic enforcement unit.

A ROLL CALL VOTE ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 4835 AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Rogers, Bagwill, Therrien, Pruhs, Cleworth, Huntington

NAYS: None

**Mayor Matherly** declared the MOTION CARRIED and Resolution No. 4835 APPROVED.

- d) Resolution No. 4836 – A Resolution to Apply for and Accept Funds from the United States Department of Justice for the FFY2018 Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

PASSED and APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- e) Ordinance No. 6074 – An Ordinance Repealing Fairbanks General Code Section 1-19. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

ADVANCED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- f) Ordinance No. 6075 – An Ordinance Authorizing and Directing Retention of the Property Known as the Polaris Building for Public Purpose Upon Tax Foreclosure. Introduced by Mayor Matherly and Council Member Pruhs.

ADVANCED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- a) Committee Reports

Golden Heart Parking Services – **Mr. Cleworth** thanked the staff – the ticket writers – at the Transportation Center for doing such a good job in keeping the Parking Garage clean.

Legislative Priorities Committee – **Ms. Therrien** stated that she was happy to report that the State changed its tune on revenue sharing, and the City of Fairbanks will receive a payment.

### **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL**

- a) Reappointment to the Hotel/Motel Discretionary Fund Committee

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

### **CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

Sarie Gresehover, 126 2nd Avenue, Fairbanks – Ms. Gresehover stated that she owns and manages the former Smith Apartments located next to the old dairy. She stated that since taking

ownership seven years ago, they have greatly improved the property; she spoke to some of the housing programs available to her tenants. She stated the old dairy is a nuisance and is now in such disrepair that she is losing good tenants. Ms. Gresehover asked the Council allocate money to or pressure the owner to erect a seven-foot fence around the structure. She stated that the property has caused a big strain on City resources over the last three weeks, and the average response time for the Fairbanks Police Department (FPD) has been about nine hours. Ms. Gresehover stated tenants have been threatened by people living at the old dairy property; she stated tenants have had their tires slashed by people inhabiting the old dairy. She stated she is erecting a fence along her property line, and she would like the owner or the City to do the same.

Victor Buberger, P.O. Box 58192, Fairbanks – Mr. Buberger complimented the City for how good Noble Street looks. He spoke to the potholes in other streets throughout the City. He spoke to the need for public restrooms and suggested the City apply for a grant to pay for the project.

Frank Turney, 329 6th Avenue, Fairbanks – Mr. Turney stated the old dairy is an eyesore that the City should have taken care of a long time ago. He stated the property is a nuisance and that there are always people trying to live there. He complained that Lavelle's Taphouse was serving alcohol outside at the Third Thursday event and spoke against serving alcohol on the street.

### COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS

**Mr. Cleworth** stated he has debated whether the City has the right to abate the old dairy property; he added that something needs to be done. He commented that the painting on Noble Street looks great, but they are now waiting to find out if the City and DOT can partner to complete the painting at a lower cost. He asked City Attorney Paul Ewers if he has made any headway in getting other agencies' cooperation in sharing the cost of the water contamination. Mr. Ewers stated that other agencies are not stepping up with open checkbooks, and he added that the City is working on identifying usage records of the Fire Training Center by other agencies. He stated that the tricky part is identifying when the foam was used in the fire pit. **Mr. Cleworth** stated that the City should be aggressive in recovering some of the cost from other agencies because it is unfair to City taxpayers to have to bear the entire cost.

**Mr. Pruhs** stated it is time to see some progress with holding other agencies responsible for the contamination issue; he asked Mr. Ewers to have it wrapped up within 90 days. **Mr. Pruhs** spoke to the strain being put on the Fire Department by calls involving incapacitated persons; he asked whether the CSP could take over those calls. He suggested a penalty be charged to nuisance property owners as an incentive to get their property in good condition.

**Ms. Therrien** asked Mr. Ewers if there is a statute of limitation for going after other agencies that should be held accountable for the water contamination. Mr. Ewers stated the City has six years from the date it became aware of the contamination. **Ms. Therrien** stated she attended the Candidate Open House, and she was impressed with how well-attended it was.

**Ms. Rogers** agreed with Mr. Cleworth and Mr. Pruhs that the City should go after other agencies that contributed to the contamination. She stated she would like to see the complaint relating to Lavelle's Taphouse and drinking on the street. **Mayor Matherly** stated he did not receive a written complaint.

**Ms. Huntington** stated she is happy to hear that the State will fund revenue sharing. She thanked Mr. Pruhs for all the work he does in regard to the Polaris Building.

**Mr. Bagwill** thanked Ms. Smart for the introduction to the VISTA volunteers and for being present at Council meetings. He encouraged people to take part in public service.

**Mr. Bagwill**, seconded by **Mr. Pruhs**, moved to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Gavora, Inc. v. City of Fairbanks, 4FA-16-01898CI, Settlement Offers; FFU Labor Negotiations; and IBEW Labor Negotiations.

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

**Mayor Matherly** called for a brief recess.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- a) Gavora, Inc. v. City of Fairbanks, 4FA-16-01898CI, Settlement Offers
- b) FFU Labor Negotiations
- c) IBEW Labor Negotiations

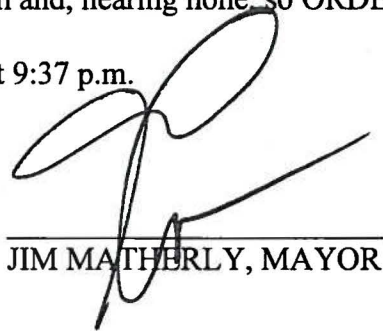
The City Council met in Executive Session to discuss Gavora, Inc. v. City of Fairbanks, 4FA-16-01898CI, Settlement Offers; FFU Labor Negotiations; and IBEW Labor Negotiations. Direction was given to the legal team and the negotiating team, respectively, and no action was taken.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. Bagwill**, seconded by **Ms. Therrien**, moved to ADJOURN the meeting.

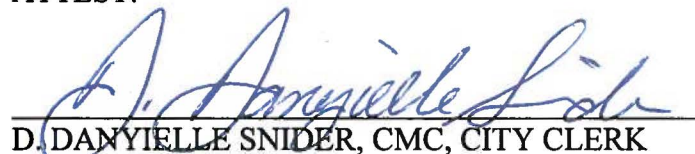
**Mayor Matherly** called for objection and, hearing none, so ORDERED.

**Mayor Matherly** declared the meeting adjourned at 9:37 p.m.



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JIM MATHERLY, MAYOR

ATTEST:



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D. DANYIELLE SNIDER, CMC, CITY CLERK

Transcribed by: EB