



FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES, JUNE 5, 2017
FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
800 CUSHMAN STREET, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

The City Council convened at 7:00 p.m. on the above date, following a 6:00 p.m. Work Session for a presentation on the American Medical Team System, Healthcare in the U.S., 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
Jerry Norum, Seat D
Jerry Cleworth, Seat E
David Pruhs, Seat F (Telephonic)

Absent: None

Also Present: JB Brainerd, Deputy City Attorney
D. Danyielle Snider, City Clerk
Jim Styers, Fire Chief
Angela Foster-Snow, HR Director
Christina Rowlett, HR Admin
Michael Sanders, Housing & Homeless Coordinator
Mike Meeks, Chief of Staff
Pat Smith, Development Manager
Jackson Fox, City Engineer

At Mayor Matherly's request, City Clerk Danyielle Snider read aloud the Mission Statement of the City of Fairbanks.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was given by City Clerk Danyielle Snider.

FLAG SALUTATION

Ms. Huntington led the Flag Salutation.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Brittany Smart, 907 Terminal Street, Fairbanks – Ms. Smart spoke about Eielson Air Force Base's Growth Management Plan and the need to prepare for the 5,000+ personnel that will be transferred to the base. She stated the program will help the community to prepare.

Mr. Cleworth thanked Ms. Smart for sending the email regarding the mill rate.

Helen Renfrew, 101 Dunkel Street, Fairbanks – Ms. Renfrew gave an update on the Arctic Ministerial Council Alliance meetings and Explore Fairbanks' involvement in the events. She thanked the City and the Borough for the help they provided during the events. She spoke to a variety of meetings that will take place during the Week of the North.

Mayor Matherly congratulated Ms. Renfrew and Explore Fairbanks for putting on the well-organized events. He stated he especially enjoyed the very Alaskan event that was held in an airplane hangar.

Frank Turney, 329 6th Avenue, Fairbanks – Mr. Turney spoke to discrimination and harassment in the workplace. He stated that the grounds at the Clay Street Cemetery on Memorial Day were not acceptable; he stated that the grounds are sacred and should have been better maintained for the ceremony. He stated he was embarrassed by the poor landscaping, and he made it known that he no longer maintains the grounds. He stated he was happy to see Mr. Nourm.

Floyd Terry, P.O. Box 73514, Fairbanks – Mr. Terry presented old photographs of Fairbanks. He spoke about the first Kentucky Fried Chicken on South Cushman Street.

Arlette Lavelle, 828 8th Avenue, Fairbanks – Ms. Lavelle thanked the Council for allowing her to have outside service at the Taphouse. She stated she is enjoying being a part of the revitalization of the downtown core area.

Mr. Pruhs thanked Ms. Lavelle for the positive feedback.

Ms. Rogers stated she appreciates Ms. Lavelle's ability to meet a challenge with a good, positive response.

Darlene Herbert, 906 Woodlawn Road, Fairbanks – Ms. Herbert stated she did not come with anything to speak about. She questioned where the police put drug addicts when they kick them out of buildings. She spoke in support of police using non-lethal means instead of deadly force. She spoke against Fairbanks Police Department's (FPD) lateral hiring bonus and commented that VIPs could be used. She stated that President Donald Trump is picking on Indians and that grant funding is going to go away. She stated that hard times are coming.

Victor Buberger, P.O. Box 58192, Fairbanks – Mr. Buberger stated he was a landscape contractor in Fairbanks for 20 years and that the City never intended for the Clay Street contract to be awarded to anyone in the private sector. He stated the City is going to give the work to their union buddies. He stated the City has plenty of money and they can always find funding when they want to get something done. Mr. Buberger asked what road projects are happening inside the City. He spoke about the rocks that get thrown off of the traffic diverters on the Southside. He stated the City needs to let the public know what they are working on.

Judah Christian, 1461 Gillam Way, Fairbanks – Mr. Christian stated he came to the meeting to commend the Council because they are approving things that uplift the Southside. He thanked the Council and Mayor for the work that they do to improve his neighborhood.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

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

Mr. Cleworth pulled Resolution No. 4796 and Ordinance No. 6050 from the Consent Agenda.

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

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

SPECIAL ORDERS

- a) The Fairbanks City Council, Sitting as a Committee of the Whole, heard interested citizens concerned with the following Liquor License Application for Transfer of Ownership (Stock Only):

Type: Beverage Dispensary, License #4174
To: Big Daddy's Bar-B-Q & Banquet Hall / RTG, LLC
107 Wickersham Street, Fairbanks, Alaska
From: Big Daddy's Bar-B-Q & Banquet Hall / RTG, LLC
107 Wickersham Street, Fairbanks, Alaska

Ms. Huntington, seconded by **Mr. Cleworth**, moved to WAIVE PROTEST on the Liquor License Application for Transfer of Ownership.

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

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO WAIVE PROTEST ON THE LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP (STOCK ONLY) AS FOLLOWS:

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

Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION CARRIED.

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

Type: Beverage Dispensary, License #1059
To: Raven Landing Center/Retirement Community of Fairbanks, Inc.
1222 Cowles Street, Fairbanks, Alaska
From: No DBA / Gary Falls and Howard Thies
No Premises

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

Mike Fisher, 1621 Baylor Boulevard, Fairbanks – Mr. Fisher stated he is a member of the Raven Landing Board of Director and is attending on the behalf of Karen Parr. He stated that his group caters to the seniors that live on the property but that they also cater special events. He explained that they would like to expand their catering services and offer liquor at special events. He stated the facility would continue the tradition of responsibly serving patrons.

Ms. Rogers thanked Mr. Fisher for making Raven Landing a gem in the Fairbanks community.

Ms. Huntington stated she has attended many great events at Raven Landing, and she asked about the considerations for the safety of the residents. Mr. Fisher stated that the safety of residents is of the utmost importance and that he would speak to the general manager about their safety plan.

Frank Turney, 329 6th Avenue, Fairbanks – Mr. Turney stated he would like to know how much alcohol tax revenue the City received in 2016.

Mr. Cleworth reported \$2.3 million was brought in during 2015 and \$2.2 million in 2016.

Peggy Pollen, 1606 Heather Drive, Fairbanks – Ms. Pollen stated she is a board member at Raven Landing, and she was asked by Board President Kthy Ellingson to read aloud a letter in support of the full beverage dispensary license. She read aloud the letter.

Susan Motter, 1087 Coppet Street, Fairbanks – Ms. Motter applauded the things happening in the downtown area. She addressed safety at Raven Landing and shared that there have been no major issues to date. She stated that from a business perspective it is exciting for Raven Landing to have a liquor license.

Darlene Herbert, 906 Woodlawn Road, Fairbanks – Ms. Herbert asked what the facility is for. **Mr. Cleworth** replied that it would change from a beer and wine license to a full service bar. Ms. Herbert stated there are more and more liquor establishments coming into the City; she stated she thought the City was trying to decrease the amount of liquor establishments. **Mayor Matherly** explained the facility is used for special events, and it is not a liquor store or walk-in bar.

Bryan Sehmel, 907 Terminal Street, Fairbanks – Mr. Sehmel stated the Borough has issued a zoning permit to Raven Landing, and they are compliant with all zoning regulations.

Victor Buberger, P.O. Box 58192, Fairbanks – Mr. Buberger testified in favor of the license and stated he hopes they give the seniors discounts on their drinks.

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

Ms. Therrien stated that only three transfers between municipalities are allowed in a decade, and this will be the last one until April 2020.

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: Pruhs, Therrien, Huntington, Cleworth, Norum, Rogers

NAYS: None

Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION CARRIED.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

Mayor Matherly asked City Engineer Jackson to come forward for a Staff Report on the construction happening in South Fairbanks. Mr. Fox stated there is a major excavation taking place on 15th Avenue; he stated that Gateway and Rickert are both being worked on. He stated he has not heard any complaints from residents in Gateway, but he has heard from a few residents in Rickert. Mr. Fox reported the complaints were related to pavement on the driveway approaches; he shared that the paving has begun. He spoke to the art projects on Gillam Way and shared that the neighborhood loves the project; he stated that the art helps educate about river pollution.

Mr. Cleworth asked if the 23rd Avenue to 26th Avenue project was part of a grant-funded project; Mr. Fox stated it is part of a grant.

Mayor Matherly stated that residents can get irritated during construction but that the Engineering Department is doing good work. He stated he would take the heat for the Clay Street Cemetery lawn maintenance and explained that Public Works had to wait to hire temporary staff due to the amount of money that was used for snow removal. **Mayor Matherly** stated he was honored to speak at Veteran's Memorial Park on Memorial Day. He stated he received a report from Police Chief Eric Jewkes that the FPD would not be fully staffed until 2020. He stated that the \$20,000 lateral hire bonus would help entice outsiders which would save money on training.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) Ordinance No. 6049 – An Ordinance Ratifying a Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the City of Fairbanks and the AFL-CIO Crafts Council and Amending the 2017 General Fund Operating Budget. Introduced by Mayor Matherly. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.

Deputy City Attorney JB Brainerd stated he provided additional backup to the ordinance to give a visual of the changes in the AFL-CIO wages, pension and healthcare.

Mr. Cleworth, seconded by **Ms. Therrien**, moved to ADOPT Ordinance No. 6049.

Lake Williams, 3002 Lathrop Street, Fairbanks – Mr. Williams thanked the negotiation team for bargaining with the AFL-CIO. He stated it is a fair deal, and the membership is pleased. He stated that the temporary hires will benefit from the changes made.

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

Mr. Cleworth complimented Mr. Williams for his cooperation during negotiations. He stated he would be happy to vote for the contract. He expressed appreciation for Public Works and stated they are a joy to work with.

Mr. Pruhs stated that intentions of the negotiation team were good and that he is glad the way the contract turned out.

Ms. Huntington echoed Mr. Cleworth and Mr. Pruhs' sentiments and thanked Mr. Williams for the fair negotiations.

Ms. Rogers stated she appreciated the comradery of how the contract was approached.

Mr. Norum stated everyone at Public Works is appreciated; he thanked them for their hard work

Ms. Therrien stated thanked Public Works employees for the job that they do.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 6049 AS FOLLOWS:

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

NAYS: None

Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION CARRIED and Ordinance No. 6049 ADOPTED.

Mr. Pruhs, seconded by **Ms. Therrien**, moved to TAKE FROM THE TABLE Resolution No. 4791.

The Resolution was laid on the table at the Regular Meeting of May 22, 2017. The motion to APPROVE Resolution No. 4791 was made by Mr. Pruhs, seconded by Ms. Huntington, at the Regular Meeting of May 22, 2017.

Resolution No. 4791 – A Resolution Approving the Real Estate Appraiser's Valuation for the Sale of City Property to Tanana Chiefs Conference. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO TAKE FROM THE TABLE RESOLUTION NO. 4791 AS FOLLOWS:

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

NAYS: None

Mayor Matherly declared the motion CARRIED.

Mr. Pruhs, seconded by **Ms. Therrien**, moved to SUBSTITUTE Resolution No. 4791, as Amended, for Resolution No. 4791.

Mayor Matherly called for objection to the motion to SUBSTITUTE and, hearing none, so ORDERED.

Mayor Matherly requested a Staff Report from Development Manager Pat Smith. Mr. Smith stated that the land has a greater-than-market value to the City because it is used as a snow dump. He stated that he was instructed by the Council to renegotiate the sale, and the substituted version of the resolution increases the sales price back to what the City originally anticipated. He stated that Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) asked for first right of refusal if the City sells any property adjacent to the property being sold.

Ms. Therrien commended Mr. Smith for negotiating an increased price for the property.

Mr. Cleworth stated that in the beginning he did not want to sell the property because he did not want to lose the valuable snow dump acreage; he stated that he is now on board with the transaction. He expressed concern that the City has not yet received the title on the Bentley snow storage site, and he asked Mr. Smith if that is in the works. Mr. Smith stated that issue would be resolved with this real estate exchange.

Ms. Huntington asked if TCC had approached Mr. Smith since the last meeting. Mr. Smith stated he sat down with the Mayor and Victor Joseph to discuss changes to the land transaction. **Ms. Huntington** asked if he would share what was discussed in the meeting; Mr. Smith stated the resolution is the embodiment of that meeting.

Mayor Matherly stated the meeting was professional and respectful, and all parties got what they wanted out of the deal.

Ms. Huntington expressed concern for the City charging TCC so much money for the land sale, because they are a non-profit and could use the funds for other things.

Mr. Norum expressed appreciation for the negotiations that were done and to the Council for the discussion on Resolution No. 4791.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 4791, AS AMENDED, AS FOLLOWS:

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

NAYS: None

Mayor Matherly declared the MOTION CARRIED and Resolution No. 4791, as Amended, APPROVED.

NEW BUSINESS

- a) Resolution No. 4792 – A Resolution Awarding a Contract to Exclusive Paving for the 1st Avenue and Hilton Avenue Storm Drain and Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitations ITB-17-03 in the Amount of \$384,881. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

PASSED and APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- b) Resolution No. 4793 – A Resolution Fixing the Rate of Tax Levy for Municipal Purposes for the 2017 Real Property Tax of the City of Fairbanks. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

PASSED and APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- c) Resolution No. 4794 – A Resolution Authorizing the City of Fairbanks to Apply for Funds from the Alaska Division of Homeland Security for the FFY2017 Emergency Management Performance Grant. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

PASSED and APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- d) Resolution No. 4795 – A Resolution to Accept Funding from the Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Management for the SFY2018 Local Emergency Planning Committee Grant. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

PASSED and APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- e) Resolution No. 4796 – A Resolution Authorizing the City of Fairbanks to Apply for Funds from the Alaska Highway Safety Office for the FFY2018 DUI Traffic Enforcement Unit. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

Mr. Cleworth, seconded by **Ms. Therrien**, moved to APPROVE Resolution No. 4796.

Mr. Cleworth, seconded by **Ms. Therrien**, moved to SUBSTITUTE Resolution No. 4796, as Amended, for Resolution No. 4796.

Mayor Matherly called for objection to the motion to SUBSTITUTE and, hearing none, so ORDERED.

Mayor Matherly asked Police Chief Eric Jewkes and Grants Administrator Carrie Peterson to come forward for a Staff Report.

Chief Jewkes stated that one position was pulled from the substituted version of Resolution No. 4796, because one position fulfills the grant requirements. He stated that there is one officer that is focused only on impaired driving traffic enforcement. He stated that the grant match requirement is fulfilled through the administration and oversight of the traffic unit.

Mr. Norum spoke in support of the substituted resolution.

Mr. Cleworth asked how often these types of grants are offered. Ms. Peterson stated they are granted on an annual basis. **Mr. Cleworth** asked if the City could go back and ask for more money if the City put two officers on patrol for impaired driving traffic enforcement. Ms. Peterson stated the City could ask for more funds, but the funds would not be guaranteed.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 4796, AS AMENDED, AS FOLLOWS:

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

NAYS: None

Mayor Matherly declared the motion CARRIED and Resolution No. 4796, as Amended, APPROVED.

- f) Ordinance No. 6050 – An Ordinance Establishing an Incentive Bonus Program within the Fairbanks Police Department for Recruitment and Hiring. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

Mr. Cleworth, seconded by **Mr. Norum**, moved to ADVANCE Ordinance No. 6050.

Mr. Cleworth asked Chief Jewkes to come forward. **Mr. Cleworth** stated he has given a great deal of thought to the ordinance. He asked what would happen if someone moved to Alaska to work for FPD, received the hiring bonus, then changed their mind and moved away without having the money to repay the City the prorated bonus amount. He spoke against giving the entire bonus up front. Chief Jewkes stated it is unlikely that situation would occur. Chief Jewkes stated that many recruits drop out of the program after the City has already paid for the academy training, which costs the City as much money as the lateral hire bonus. **Mr. Cleworth** stated he just wants to protect the City against someone not being able to pay the bonus back.

Chief of Staff Mike Meeks stated moving to Alaska is a significant cost. He suggested that spreading out the bonus payment over time may decrease the incentive to apply.

Mr. Norum spoke in favor of the bonus for lateral hire officers.

Ms. Therrien stated oral argument on the PSEA appeal will be held in September, and she asked Chief Jewkes if he had any ideas for dealing with the high cost of healthcare. Chief Jewkes stated he hopes the bonus will attract people who want to come to Fairbanks to stay permanently. He stated the City wants to train high quality employees that will stay at the department.

Human Resource Director Angela Foster-Snow stated it costs the City \$40,000 to train a new recruit and that the bonus would set Fairbanks apart from all the other police departments in the state. She stated with the bonus, FPD may be at full staffing sooner rather than later.

Ms. Rogers commended City staff for coming up with a plan to attract officers while saving the City money.

Ms. Huntington commented that only five recruits can be in training at one time, so the lateral hire bonus would help the department get to full staff faster. She spoke in favor of the ordinance.

Mayor Matherly stated FPD is staffed with great employees and has great leadership. He stated he is happy that Eric Jewkes is the Chief; he stated he has spent a lot of time with Chief Jewkes and that it is an honor to serve with him.

Mr. Norum stated he is troubled in the same way Mr. Cleworth is, but he is comforted with Chief Jewkes' assurances about lateral recruits. He stated he thought he may be opposed to the bonus, but he is happy to see that it is underway.

Chief Jewkes stated it is challenging to be competitive in the current police hiring market.

Mr. Cleworth stated the City is competing with other departments around the state, and those departments' losses will be the City's gain. He stated he does not take comfort in stealing employees from other departments. Chief Jewkes stated he was not happy about poaching either but that there are good officers that may not fit where they are, and Fairbanks could be an option. **Mr. Cleworth** stated that he believes the bonus should be paid out in a two-step process.

Ms. Rogers thanked staff for thinking outside the box and coming up with the bonus program for lateral hires. She stated that Fairbanks is a unique community with so many positive aspects and that the Council needs to take advantage of the marketing opportunity they have. She shared community aspects that might encourage families to move to Fairbanks.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADVANCE ORDINANCE NO. 6050 AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Therrien, Rogers, Pruhs, Norum, Huntington, Cleworth
NAYS: None
Mayor Matherly declared the motion CARRIED.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a) Committee Reports

COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL

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

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA

COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Mr. Pruhs thanked Chief Jewkes for leading from the front. He expressed thanks that the Chief came out of the most recent hazardous situation safely.

Ms. Huntington thanked Officer Elzey for staying on the force and for stopping by her office when he is on patrol in the downtown area. She reported she was able to spend Memorial Day with her 94-year-old grandfather in Missouri who served in World War II (WWII). She stated she would be attending the upcoming Borough Assembly meeting, and she asked Council Members to let her know if they had anything they would like her to report.

Mayor Matherly spoke to the importance of holding property owners accountable for chronic problems on their property.

Ms. Rogers thanked Officer Elzey for staying on with FPD. She stated he will be attending the July Diversity Council meeting because the group wants to thank him for his service. She stated she is happy to hear that John Kohler has been appointed to the Hotel/Motel Discretionary Fund Committee, and she spoke to his past experience. She stated she would like to recognize Karen Parr for all that she has done for the community.

Ms. Therrien announced that the Golden Heart Rotary Club got a \$1,000 grant for the Homeless Coalition. She reminded everyone about the golf tournament in August. She mentioned a letter she recently received from a property owner in the Fire Training Center contamination area requesting that the City pay for water service; she wanted to ensure that the City is addressing the issue. **Mayor Matherly** indicated that he has not had an opportunity to speak with the City Attorney about the issue.

Mr. Cleworth spoke to the great loss of Buzz Otis and Sam Brice and extended condolences to their families. He requested an Executive Session at the next Council meeting to discuss IBEW labor negotiations. He stated his father was a prisoner of war (POW) during WWII after his plane was shot down over Italy. He stated that his daughter and son-in-law used a propeller from the same kind of airplane as a ceiling fan in their new home. He stated that his 93-year-old father will be able to visit soon.

Ms. Therrien stated that her father is also a WWII veteran and will turn 100 years old in August.

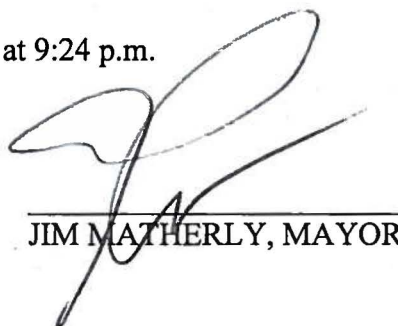
Mr. Norum thanked everyone for a wonderful meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Huntington, seconded by **Mr. Norum**, moved to ADJOURN the meeting.

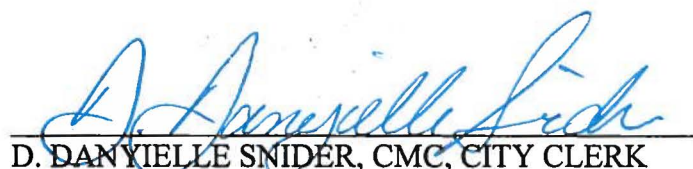
Mayor Matherly called for objection and, hearing none, so ORDERED.

Mayor Matherly declared the meeting adjourned at 9:24 p.m.



JIM MATHERLY, MAYOR

ATTEST:



D. DAN YIELLE SNIDER, CMC, CITY CLERK

Transcribed by: EB