



FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES, MARCH 20, 2017  
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 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 (Telephonic)  
Jerry Norum, Seat D (Telephonic)  
Jerry Cleworth, Seat E  
David Pruhs, Seat F

Absent: None

Also Present: Clem Clooten, Building Official  
Mike Meeks, Chief of Staff  
Paul Ewers, City Attorney  
D. Danyielle Snider, City Clerk  
Angela Foster-Snow, HR Director  
Michael Sanders, Housing & Homeless Coordinator  
Jackson Fox, City Engineer  
Donna Gardino, MPO Coordinator  
Eric Jewkes, Police Chief  
Margarita Bell, Controller  
Jim Styers, Fire Chief  
Kurt Allen, Police Officer

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**

Mayor Matherly led the Flag Salutation.

**CITIZEN'S COMMENTS**

Darlene Supplee, 1424 Moore Street, Fairbanks – Ms. Supplee stated she is present to speak on behalf of the Fairbanks Senior Center, and she thanked the Council for the good work that they do. She gave an update on the construction project underway at the facility. She stated that

asbestos was found onsite and that it could increase project costs by \$10,000. She stated that Johnson Rivers, the contractor, has worked very hard to keep the project on budget anyway. Ms. Supplee spoke to some of the other issues they have encountered during the remodel. She stated she would like to communicate the accomplishments of the Meals-on-Wheels program, and she asked the Council for advice as to how the program could continue serving the community.

**Mr. Pruhs** spoke to the importance of getting the stove pipe issue fixed during the summer months. Ms. Supplee agreed that it would have to be fixed or the building would be shut down.

**Mr. Cleworth** asked whether the asbestos in the linoleum could be covered up or if it had to be removed. Ms. Supplee stated the carpet has to be removed and it is attached to the linoleum, so the contractor told her it also needs to be removed.

**Mayor Matherly** stated he took a tour of the facility with Chief of Staff Mike Meeks and that the issues will be discussed at the next Finance Committee meeting.

Frank Turney, 329 6th Avenue, Fairbanks – Mr. Turney thanked Ms. Therrien for introducing a resolution in support of House Bill (HB) 127. He stated the Fairbanks Four should be compensated by the Permanent Fund Office for all of the back Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD) checks. Mr. Turney stated he testified at the Senate Judiciary Committee on the industrial hemp bill that passed earlier in the day. He provided his phone number and told everyone to give him a call if they need help shoveling their sidewalks.

Zachary Mason, 610 Cushman Street, Fairbanks – Mr. Mason stated he is the President and Chairman of the Board of Directors for the North Star Youth Court. He stated the program teaches young members of the community about the legal system and aims to reduce juvenile crime in the community. Mr. Mason stated some of the sentences are given in the form of community work service, essays and grade requirements. He stated if the students complete their sentence for a misdemeanor crime they can go back to having a clean record. He stated that overall the recidivism rate is below 5%, much lower than the adult recidivism rate of 56%.

**Mr. Cleworth** asked Mr. Mason where his office is located; Mr. Mason replied that the office is located inside the Sadler's Building.

**Mr. Pruhs** asked how much time Mr. Mason puts into the program in a typical year. Mr. Mason stated he worked 160 hours last year but that he will be working more in 2017 because he has taken on a bigger workload. **Mr. Pruhs** asked how many cases went through the program last year; Mr. Mason reported that they took 60 cases last year.

**Ms. Rogers** asked each member present to give a brief introduction of themselves.

Brian Eley, Fairbanks – Mr. Eley stated he is the NSYC Treasurer and has been part of the organization for over four years.

Sierra Tisdale, Fairbanks – Ms. Tisdale stated she is the NSYC Vice President and that she is a trained mediator for the program.

Jevon Gordon-Woolf, Fairbanks – Mr. Gordon-Woolf stated he is the NSYC Chief Judge. He stated he is an attorney, and he tries to put as much time as possible into the youth court program.

**Ms. Huntington** asked about the hours of operation; Mr. Mason stated they depend on case load.

Helen Renfrew, 1915 Central Avenue, Fairbanks – Ms. Renfrew stated she is present to speak about the Week of the Arctic, May 8-12, 2017, and she spoke of the various activities that will take place. She spoke about the Arctic Council Ministerial meeting that will be held on May 11, 2017. She reminded everyone about cleanup day scheduled for Saturday, April 29, 2017.

Lance Roberts, P.O. Box 83449, Fairbanks – Mr. Roberts reported a problem with the traffic light at Gaffney and Cushman; he stated that there is no reason to have a red arrow for a left turn onto a one-way street. He stated he is happy with the rest of the work done on Cushman Street.

Michael Sanders, 800 Cushman Street, Fairbanks – Mr. Sanders introduced Scott Weiser, the new VISTA Volunteer that will be working with the him, the Housing & Homeless Coordinator.

Scott Weiser, 800 Cushman Street, Fairbanks – Mr. Weiser expressed his hopes of making a difference in the community through his work with the Housing & Homeless Coalition.

Megan Sheerer, 1845 Caribou Way, Fairbanks – Ms. Sheerer stated she represents Access Alaska. She stated she is very pleased to welcome Mr. Weiser because she has worked with him before. She spoke to the mission of Access Alaska and to their goals for the community.

Christine Charron, 1214 20th Avenue, Fairbanks – Ms. Charron stated she is an Americore VISTA, and her job is partnership in the community and helping introduce youth to the workforce.

Kara Carlson, 782 7th Avenue, Fairbanks – Ms. Carlson spoke highly of Mr. Sanders and Mr. Weiser. She commended the Council for looking carefully at liquor license applications. She stated that April is sexual assault awareness month and spoke to the violence in the community. She encouraged everyone to get involved in preventing violence in the community.

Victor Buberger, P.O. Box 58192, Fairbanks – Mr. Buberger thanked Public Works Director Jeff Jacobson and his department for snow removal efforts. He spoke to the importance of getting public restrooms in the downtown area. Mr. Buberger complained that the City comes up with money for all sorts of things when necessary but that it will not fund a public restroom. He stated the Polaris Building is more of a priority to the Council than public restrooms.

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

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

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

Mr. Pruhs pulled Ordinance No. 6043 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.

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

- a) Regular Meeting Minutes of January 23, 2017.

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

**SPECIAL ORDERS**

- a) The Fairbanks City Council, Sitting as a Committee of the Whole, heard interested citizens concerned with the following Liquor License Applications for Renewal:

Lic #	DBA	License Type	Licensee	Premises Address
3050	Gambardella's Pasta Bella	Restaurant/ Eating Place	Gambardella's II, Inc.	No Premises
3965	K & L Beverage Company	Wholesale – General	K & L Beverage Company, LLC	945 Elizabeth Street
1966	Loyal Order of Moose #1392	Club	Fairbanks Lodge #1392	98 10th Avenue

Mr. Pruhs, seconded by Ms. Huntington, moved to WAIVE PROTEST on the Liquor License Applications for Renewal.

Frank Turney, 329 6th Avenue, Fairbanks- Mr. Turney asked the Council how much City revenue comes from alcohol tax.

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

Ms. Huntington asked about the police department call report that stated “no match found.”

Mr. Cleworth stated there would not be police callouts to a wholesale distributor, and that is why there is nothing to report.

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

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

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 application for a new Marijuana Cultivation Facility License:

Type: Marijuana Cultivation Facility, License #11051  
DBA: Northlink, LLC  
Licensee/Applicant: Northlink, LLC  
Physical Location: 1550 Cushman Street, Fairbanks, Alaska

**Mr. Pruhs**, seconded by **Ms. Huntington**, moved to WAIVE PROTEST on the Marijuana Cultivation Facility License.

Francis Furrow, 1617 Mary Ann Street, Fairbanks – Mr. Furrow stated she spoke at the Borough Assembly meeting but that it got him nowhere. He stated he did not understand what legalizing marijuana was going to do for society. He stated Northlink is close to a daycare facility and Housing First, a rehabilitation center. He stated the new US President does not agree with legal marijuana and will write an executive order that takes federal funds from the City and State.

Frank Turney 329 6th Avenue, Fairbanks – Mr. Turney spoke in favor of the Northlink license and stated that the real problem in the City is alcohol.

Lance Roberts, P.O. Box 84339, Fairbanks – Mr. Roberts stated there is a youth facility within 500 feet of the Northlink business, which is in violation of State law. He stated the area in which Northlink is proposing to operate its business does not need the destructive influences of a cultivation facility. He asked the City Council to protest the license.

Victor Buberger, P.O. Box 58192, Fairbanks – Mr. Buberger stated he visited the cultivation facility off of Davis Road, and it did not bother him at all. He said the only thing that bothered him while he was there was that they are charging \$20 per gram for their product.

Travis Frasier, P.O. Box 10974, Fairbanks – Mr. Frasier stated that he is the owner of both the building and the business that is being discussed. He stated the business is not in a residential area; he clarified that it is near a daycare, not a youth facility. He stated that he has spent a lot of time and money to be compliant with regulations and bring legal marijuana to local citizens.

**Ms. Rogers** asked Mr. Frasier to share his thoughts on Housing First being across the street from his facility. Mr. Frasier stated there were a lot of people who were opposed to his business but that he has invested heavily into security cameras and monitoring services. He stated he thought it would help clean up the neighborhood, and as a local business owner that is his main goal.

**Mr. Pruhs** pointed out that the application is for only a cultivation facility, not a retail business. Mr. Frasier stated he has applied for the retail license as well as a cultivation facility. He stated he is concerned about the different buffer distances that the State and Borough require. Mr. Frasier stated he has spent a lot of time and money, and he has had lawyers go over his paperwork to make sure he complies with all laws before investing in the building.



**Ms. Huntington** observed that the AMCO office states that a daycare is a youth facility; she stated that they seem to have gone back and forth on the issue.

Christine Nelson, 907 Terminal Street, Fairbanks – Ms. Nelson stated that she had provided everyone with two memos, one dated March 3 and one dated March 20. She stated that the one she wrote earlier in the day has the more recent interpretation from the AMCO office. She stated that Mr. Frasier's facility meets all the requirements of the Borough Zoning Department. Ms. Nelson stated that she was advised by the legal department at the Borough that they could not interpret State regulations and statutes. She stated there is a proposed Borough ordinance that would change how buffer zones are measured.

**Mayor Matherly** stated that when Goodsense came to the Council there was some back and forth about the church and day care in close proximity. Ms. Nelson stated that the Borough measures as the crow flies and that they are opposed to the shortest pedestrian path measurement that the State later adopted.

**Mr. Pruhs** stated he read Mr. Roberts' letter which states that a church is within 485' feet of the proposed facility. **Mr. Pruhs** spoke to the exhibits that Ms. Nelson provided the Council relating to buffer zones. He spoke to the AMCO office changing the definition regarding day care facilities. Ms. Nelson stated that the State had not definitively included a day care before in the youth center definition but is specifically calling it out on this particular license.

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

**Mr. Cleworth** asked Police Chief Eric Jewkes to come forward for a Staff Report; he spoke to his concern about the activity on Stacia Street near the facility. Chief Jewkes stated there is a high call volume down South Cushman, and he shared that he is less concerned with the cultivation license. He stated that he does have concern about a retail facility.

**Ms. Huntington** asked what percentage of all of the problems over the years was related to marijuana. Chief Jewkes stated that it is likely not a very high percentage but that there is a paradigm shift with the legalization of marijuana. He stated issues most often are caused by alcohol use but that there are a number of factors that go into police call outs.

**Mayor Matherly** asked Chief Jewkes about his thoughts on Mr. Frasier having cameras all around the facility. Chief Jewkes stated that without visiting the facility to observe the span of camera range and control he could not speak to the issue. He stated his application appeared to meet the requirements, but outside cameras could not hurt anything.

**Mr. Cleworth** asked if there are any other cultivation licenses that will be coming before the Council. Chief Jewkes stated they are flowing in at a relatively steady rate, and he worries about saturation. **Mr. Cleworth** stated the location is the worst possible location that he can think of because it is next to Stacia Street and across from Housing First.

**Ms. Huntington** stated the Council has been careful in the past in differentiating between cultivation and retail licenses. She reminded the Council that at the present time, they are only discussing the cultivation license.

**Mr. Pruhs** stated he does not agree with the State's definition of a youth facility and suggested that the battle should be fought at the State level.

**Mr. Cleworth** asked City Attorney Paul Ewers if the license complies with State law. Mr. Ewers stated per the memo, the State is taking the position that the Little Thinkers daycare is a youth Facility. He again shared his concern with the area of the cultivation facility because the applicant will want to also open a retail facility.

**Ms. Rogers** suggested postponing discussion on the license.

**Ms. Huntington** stated that she agreed with Ms. Rogers that the discussion of the license should be postponed until the applicant has time to discuss the issue with the AMCO board.

**Mr. Cleworth** stated that it is a State issue and that postponing would not help the applicant.

**Mr. Pruhs** stated the applicant deserves to have the item postponed so he has the ability to discuss it with the AMCO board. He stated if the Council protests or rejects it, it would carry a lot of weight.

**Mr. Pruhs**, seconded by **Mr. Norum**, moved to POSTPONE the Marijuana Cultivation Facility License to the April 3, 2017, Regular City Council Meeting.

**Ms. Therrien** stated that Northlink does not have a Certificate of Occupancy for the property.

**Mr. Pruhs** suggested that someone should contact the State to ask whether they would allow the Council more time to consider the Northlink, LLC license. Mr. Pruhs stated the Council owes careful consideration to Mr. Frasier because their decision could determine his livelihood.

**Mayor Matherly** directed City Clerk Snider to contact the AMCO office to see if they would allow for an extension of time to receive the City Council's recommendation. He asked Mr. Ewers if it would be legal to do so; Mr. Ewers stated it would not be an issue from a legal standpoint.

**Mayor Matherly** stated that cultivation facility locations matter to him and that he has concerns with the South Cushman location. He stated that the Council should consider the location because it is in a very populated area that already has criminal problems.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO POSTPONE THE MARIJUANA CULTIVATION FACILITY LICENSE TO THE APRIL 3, 2017, REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING AS FOLLOWS:

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

**Mayor Matherly** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

**Mayor Matherly** called for a five minute recess.

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

**Mayor Matherly** stated that the Tanana Chief Conference annual meeting took place recently and that he was honored to speak at the opening ceremony. He commended Mike Sanders for jumping into his position with both feet and reported that he had already visited some homeless camps. **Mayor Matherly** stated he would speak with Donna Gardino and Jackson Fox regarding Mr. Roberts' issue with the Cushman intersection. He stated he cannot afford to build a public restroom with the budget shortfalls. He stated he has spoken with many downtown businesses who do not seem to find public restrooms a very high priority. **Mayor Matherly** asked Police Chief Eric Jewkes to come forward to give a Staff Report on recruitment at the Fairbanks Police Department (FPD).

Chief Jewkes stated three new recruits are in the Police Academy in Sitka and one officer is already working a swing shift on his own. He stated the Investigations Division just arrested a suspect in the Bojangles homicide. Chief Jewkes reported that Deputy Chief Dan Welborn graduated the FBI academy and would return to work the following week.

**Mayor Matherly** commended Chief Jewkes for the wonderful job his is doing at the FPD. He stated there was an article in the Anchorage Daily News about the Polaris Building that was spot on. He spoke to the health hazard that the Polaris Building has become and shared his hopes that progress can be made.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a) Resolution No. 4768 – A Resolution Adopting a City of Fairbanks Diversity Action Plan. Introduced by Mayor Matherly. POSTPONED from the Regular Meeting of February 27, 2017.

**Mr. Pruhs**, seconded by **Ms. Rogers**, moved to APPROVE Resolution No. 4768.

**Ms. Rogers** asked Human Resource Director Angela Foster-Snow to speak to the evolution of the Diversity Action Plan (DAP).

Ms. Foster-Snow spoke briefly to the drafting process of the DAP and stated that the document serves as marching orders for the Diversity Council.

**Mr. Cleworth** stated he appreciates all of the time taken in creating the DAP.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 4768 AS FOLLOWS:

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



**Mayor Matherly** declared the MOTION CARRIED and Resolution No. 4768 ADOPTED.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Resolution No. 4782 – A Resolution Authorizing the City of Fairbanks to Accept Funds from the AMLJIA Ballistic Vest Reimbursement Program. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

PASSED and APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA

- b) Resolution No. 4783 – A Resolution Authorizing Execution of a Maintenance Agreement for 3rd Street in Exchange for Local Matching Funds for the Minnie Street Upgrade Project. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

**Ms. Therrien**, seconded by **Mr. Norum**, moved to APPROVE Resolution No. 4783.

**Mr. Cleworth** requested a Staff Report from MPO Director Donna Gardino. Ms. Gardino stated 3rd Street has been under development for many years and recently the City was tasked with creating the utility design for the project. She spoke to the Minnie Street reconstruction in 2020.

**Ms. Rogers** and **Ms. Therrien** expressed support for the project.

**Mr. Cleworth** spoke to the history of how projects were done with DOT in the past. He spoke against Resolution No. 4783, stating that it is not a good deal for City taxpayers.

**Ms. Rogers** asked about the history of State roads inside City limits and how they are maintained.

**Mr. Cleworth** stated that the State would build a road, then turn maintenance over to the City after its completion. He stated they want to pass State roads on to the City so they will not have to maintain them.

City Engineer Jackson Fox spoke to how developer agreements work if roads are built according to City standards. He stated the City gets reimbursed via tax revenue when a new subdivision is built.

**Mr. Cleworth** questioned what would happen if the City did not get the tax dollars; he commented that the DOT has duped the City before.

**Ms. Huntington** asked for Ms. Gardino and Mr. Fox to speak to the compelling arguments that **Mr. Cleworth** was making.

Ms. Gardino stated that when a new road is built it saves the City money because the maintenance costs decrease. She stated the City would not be responsible for the entire cost of the road replacement and that FMATS would help out.

**Mr. Cleworth** stated there is no way to know if FMATS would be around for another 20 years and that the City should go along with the plan they have on the books already.

**Mayor Matherly** asked if the State maintains Third Street according to City standards or if they do a better job. Mr. Fox stated he has not heard complaints about Third Street and that the State spends \$32,000 per year in maintenance costs on for the street, \$6,000 of which is the electric bill for the street lights. Mr. Fox stated maintenance costs will go down by switching to LED lights. He stated the State has asked for many years for the City to take over the maintenance of Third Street but the deal has never been so good.

**Ms. Therrien** asked City Controller Margarita Bell to go over the memo from Chief Financial Officer Carmen Randle relating to capital projects. Ms. Bell spoke to the obligations for Capital projects in the City.

Mr. Fox spoke to various matching fund projects that are projected out over the next five years.

**Mr. Cleworth** stated the City would be creating an expense with no offsetting revenue source.

**Mr. Norum** asked Mayor Matherly if he was in favor of the resolution. **Mayor Matherly** stated he had mixed feeling on the issue because he can see why it should be funded and also why it should not be funded. **Mr. Norum** spoke in favor of Resolution No. 4783.

**Ms. Huntington** stated she is struggling with the decision; she stated that she will not be voting in favor of the resolution.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 4783 AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Therrien, Norum, Rogers  
NAYS: Pruhs, Huntington, Cleworth, Matherly  
**Mayor Matherly** declared the MOTION FAILED.

c) Resolution No. 4784 – A Resolution Authorizing Matching Funds and Execution of a Maintenance Agreement for the Minnie Street Upgrade Project. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

**Mr. Pruhs**, seconded by **Ms. Huntington**, moved to APPROVE Resolution No. 4784.

Mr. Fox explained the match requirement in Resolution No. 4784 for the Minnie Street project. He stated the tasks would take a half a year to complete, and survey work is included.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 4784 AS FOLLOWS:

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

**Mayor Matherly** declared the MOTION CARRIED and Resolution No. 4784 APPROVED.

- d) Resolution No. 4785 – A Resolution in Support of HB 127, an Act Relating to Permanent Fund Dividends for an Individual Whose Conviction Has Been Vacated, Reversed, or Dismissed. Introduced by Council Member Therrien.

PASSED and APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA

- e) Ordinance No. 6043 – An Ordinance to Amend Fairbanks General Code Chapter 2, Article VIII, Financial Disclosure. Introduced by Mayor Matherly.

**Mr. Cleworth**, seconded by **Ms. Huntington**, moved to ADVANCE Ordinance No. 6043.

**Mr. Pruhs** spoke in favor of Resolution No. 6043.

City Clerk Danyielle Snider explained that the ordinance takes away a redundant financial disclosure requirement. Ms. Snider stated that now Council Members will only be required to file a financial disclosure once a year.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADVANCE ORDINANCE NO 6043 AS FOLLOWS:

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

NAYS:           None

**Mayor Matherly** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

*Ms. Therrien signed off of the telephone at 10:13 p.m.*

a)       Committee Reports

Legislative Group – **Mr. Pruhs** stated the Legislative Group met and discussed the Transportation Network Company (TNC) bills that will likely pass at the State level. He spoke to the rules that are included in House Bill (HB) 132 for TNC drivers and the company they will be working for. He stated he believes cheaper transportation will be good for City residents but may not be so good for City coffers. **Ms. Rogers** expressed concern that municipalities were not included in the process so far.

Polaris Group – **Mr. Pruhs** reported that the Polaris Group will be holding a summit with FEMA, HUD, GSA and others on Saturday, April 29, 2017, to discuss the demolition of the Polaris Building. He stated there would be a reception put on by Lisa Murkowski's Office in order to continue the conversation.

Fairbanks Diversity Council – **Mayor Matherly** stated that he recently attended an FDC meeting and that they will be working to streamline meetings in the future.

FMATS Policy Committee – **Mr. Cleworth** stated the group recently took a field trip to the Cushman Street Bridge and are looking at ideas for reconstruction. He stated it is an exciting project because there is lots of room since the bridge was widened when it was reconstructed.

### COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL

- a) Memo Approving Workers' Compensation Settlement (W. Cummings)

**Mr. Pruhs**, seconded by **Ms. Huntington**, moved to APPROVE the Memo Approving the Workers Compensation Settlement of former Fire Chief Warren Cummings.

City Attorney Paul Ewers provided a history on the settlement and advised that it was a reasonable settlement amount. He commended Zane Wilson for representing the City's interest in a fair and reasonable way.

**Mayor Matherly** echoed Mr. Ewers comments relating to Mr. Wilson.

**Ms. Huntington** asked if there was a process which determined Chief Cummings' cancer was caused on the job.

Mr. Ewers stated the Workers' Compensation Board tends to be employee-friendly, so the City decided to not risk going before the Board to contest the settlement.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MEMO APPROVING THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION SETTLEMENT OF FORMER FIRE CHIEF WARREN CUMMINGS AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Cleworth, Pruhs, Rogers, Huntington, Norum

NAYS: None

**Mayor Matherly** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

- b) Memo Regarding Lead Spokesperson for Labor Negotiations

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- c) Fairbanks Diversity Council Meeting Minutes of January 10, 2017

ACCEPTED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

### COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS

**Mr. Norum** was attending telephonically, and his comments were inaudible.

**Mr. Cleworth** stated he noticed Public Works crews on Second Avenue cleaning areas by the Marriott Hotel that were privately-owned. He stated he stopped to speak to them to ask why they were cleaning in the area, and they stated they were cleaning it because it is a safety hazard. **Mr.**

**Cleworth** asked the Mayor to contact the property owner and request that they clean up their own mess rather than using City resources. **Mr. Cleworth** spoke to the need for the sobering center, and he spoke of the substance abuse problems in Fairbanks.

**Mr. Pruhs** thanked members of the City Council, Staff and the Mayor for the hard work they do for the City. He expressed appreciation that the City has not had a fight regarding the invocation at Council meetings. **Mr. Pruhs** thanked Ms. Snider for reading invocations at each meeting.

**Ms. Rogers** stated she agrees with Mr. Pruhs and that she is glad to be part of a body that respects one another.

**Ms. Huntington** echoed Mr. Pruhs' and Ms. Rogers' sentiments regarding the invocation. She stated the Council should start working on rules to regulate marijuana density.

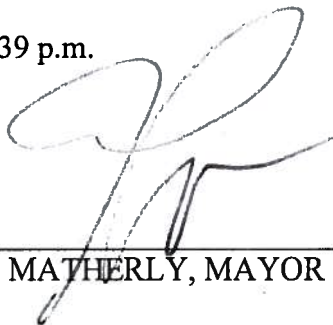
**Mr. Cleworth** stated that the Borough spent a lot of time defining what a vocational school is, then the ordinance was ultimately voted down.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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


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

**Mayor Matherly** declared the meeting adjourned at 10:39 p.m.



JIM MATHERLY, MAYOR

ATTEST:



D. DANYIELLE SNIDER, CMC, CITY CLERK

Transcribed by: EB