

steward and treasurer. He stated that he was a member of the Fairbanks Fire Department's negotiating team at the first labor negotiations with Mr. Wally Droz, former City Manager. He stated that he was a part of those negotiations for about 20 years. He stated that while he has had disagreements with Mayor Cleworth, he cannot say enough good things about what Mayor Cleworth has done for the taxpayers of the City of Fairbanks. He commented that the City is debt-free mostly thanks to him. Mr. Despain remarked that it is very difficult to find debt-free cities in the U.S. and he thanked Mayor Cleworth for his service to the City of Fairbanks.

Sarah Albert, 1216 Stock Road, Fairbanks – On behalf of her and her sister, Ms. Albert publically thanked her father, Mayor Cleworth, for the example he has been to them. She read aloud a personal thank you written by her and her sister and commented on the calm demeanor of Mayor Cleworth whether at work or at home. Ms. Albert recalled that one of Mayor Cleworth's first actions as mayor was to cut his own pay. She stated that she feels very proud and blessed to call him Dad.

Donna Gilbert, 2223 South Cushman Street, Fairbanks – Ms. Gilbert thanked Mayor Cleworth for his service to the City as a Council Member, Mayor and citizen. She commented on Mayor Cleworth's humility and hard work and spoke to the list of goals he had when he became mayor. She asked Mayor Cleworth to repeat the list of goals during his comments and let everyone know how many of them he accomplished in his three-year term. Ms. Gilbert again thanked Mayor Cleworth and stated that the City has never had a better mayor.

Lester Westling, 1582 Taroka Drive, Fairbanks – Mr. Westling stated that he has owned a downtown business for 23 years. He stated that he dropped off some information for the Council earlier in the day and thanked Mayor Cleworth for his service. Mr. Westling stated that he works with a population of the community that is severely mentally ill and commented that recently it has been tough to provide services to them. He stated that much of the housing for the mentally ill in the community is closed and expressed hope that the Council could help. Mr. Westling stated that the number one provider of housing for the mentally ill is the State Department of Corrections. He indicated that housing can be provided at a much lower cost and invited everyone to attend a Community Action Planning Meeting on October 22 at 1:30 P.M. at the Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitor's Center. He stated that the Fairbanks area is on the State of Alaska's radar for housing for the mentally ill.

Walter Jones, 2601 Diggider Lane, Fairbanks – Mr. Jones thanked Mayor Cleworth for all he has done for the City of Fairbanks. He stated that he first met Mayor Cleworth when they played music together. Mr. Jones stated that he has experienced a surplus in his own business as a direct result of the changes that Mayor Cleworth has brought forward. Mr. Jones stated that it will be difficult for anyone to fill Mayor Cleworth's shoes but stated that he believes the citizens have chosen a great man to follow in his steps.

Frank Turney, 329 6th Avenue, Fairbanks – Mr. Turney gave Mayor Cleworth a bag full of hemp food products. He cited a quote that he said was fitting for Mayor Cleworth, "God places the heaviest burden on those who can carry its weight" and stated that Mayor Cleworth has proven that to be true. Mr. Turney stated that he has been observing City mayors since the early 1980's and that Mayor Cleworth is a rare diamond. He thanked the mayor for tolerating him throughout the years, for being a true gentleman and for never libeling other public officials. Mr.

Turney spoke in support of Resolution No. 4590. He congratulated Mayor-Elect Eberhart for his victory in the election and stated that he supports Mr. Eberhart's appointment to the City Council.

Amy Geiger, 4400 Stanford Drive, Fairbanks – Ms. Geiger stated that it has been a pleasure to know Mayor Cleworth and thanked him for his service to the City. She presented the 2013-2014 Fairbanks Convention and Visitor's Bureau (FCVB) Winter Guide and stated that the winter season is growing tremendously. She read aloud a portion of the introduction to the guide and spoke to the incredible activities that attract tourists to Fairbanks during the winter months.

Mayor Cleworth thanked Ms. Geiger for her work in preparing for the upcoming Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) Convention.

Juanita Akins, 379 Division Street, Fairbanks – Ms. Akins stated that she has been a massage therapist in Fairbanks for about 16 years and spoke in support of Ordinance No. 5931. She expressed her appreciation specifically for the section of Code that speaks to the separation between massage therapy and prostitution. Ms. Akins stated that she is the chair of the genetically modified organism (GMO) group in Fairbanks. She stated that GMO products are manufactured by Monsanto, an umbrella company that places genes from pesticides in food products. She stated that even 85 – 90% of soy products are genetically modified. She spoke in support of labeling GMO products and urged the Council to approve Resolution No. 4591. She thanked Mayor Cleworth for his service to the City of Fairbanks.

Victor Buberger, PO Box 58192, Fairbanks – Ms. Buberger thanked Mayor Cleworth for his service and dedication to the City of Fairbanks and to the Fairbanks community. Mr. Buberger stated that there are potholes that need repair on 10th and Noble Street. He commented that the new roundabout near Sam's Club needs better signage to direct traffic. He stated that he is glad to see so many people present at a City Council Meeting. He congratulated Mr. Eberhart on his new position as City Mayor.

Floyd Terry, PO Box 73514, Fairbanks – Mr. Terry expressed his hope that the downtown area can become more organized and commented on the number of businesses that have closed. He shared a photo of the hot air balloons that used to be seen over Fairbanks and stated that the hot air balloon business no longer exists. Mr. Terry spoke to the need for town meetings and to getting back to family values. He stated that he has been working as a promoter to get a roller skating rink in the community.

Judy Anderson, 1509 Southfield Road, Fairbanks – Ms. Anderson spoke in support of Resolution No. 4591 and stated that based on the research she has seen, GMO's may be the downfall of the human species. She asked the Council to support the labeling of foods containing GMO's.

Mr. Hilling asked Ms. Anderson to speak to the most compelling research that comes to mind.

Ms. Anderson stated that there are many physicians around the world that are seeing a rise in autism and cancer. She stated that toxins are building up in human bodies and commented that "we are what we eat."

Stacy Pearson, 379 Division Street, Fairbanks – Ms. Pearson stated that there have been two marches against Monsanto with many participants in support of GMO labeling. She stated that there have not been enough studies done on the health effects of GMO's to the human body. She spoke to a French study that was performed on rats where in a very short time the rats developed giant tumors. She stated that in less than three generations, the test rats were unable to reproduce. Ms. Pearson indicated that GMO food products are banned in over 60 countries. She stated that crops containing GMO's cannot be contained as they cross-pollinate and contaminate organic crops. Ms. Pearson stated that she strongly supports Resolution No. 4591. She announced that there is an upcoming summit online at www.gmosummit.org.

Mr. Hilling asked for the source of the French study Ms. Pearson referred to.

Ms. Pearson stated that she does not have the name of the scientist who performed the study, but recommended that Mr. Hilling Google “French study on GMO's.”

Randy Griffin, PO Box 73653, Fairbanks – Mr. Griffin thanked Mayor Cleworth for his exemplary service to the City of Fairbanks and the community. He spoke to the Public Safety Employer-Employee Cooperation Act that was introduced in Washington in 2009. He explained that the Act would have taken collective bargaining powers away from the state and transferred them to the federal government. Mr. Griffin stated that Mayor Cleworth's administration with the expertise of Pat Cole wrote a letter to the Alaska Senate delegation expressing concerns with the Act. He stated that the legislation was narrowly defeated in the Congressional session of 2009 and expressed his gratefulness to the City of Fairbanks for taking a stand on the issue.

Jay Hill, 28 Glacier Avenue, Fairbanks – Mr. Hill gave his best wishes to outgoing Mayor Cleworth and incoming Mayor Eberhart. He stated that many people know GMO's are bad but may not know why. He explained that GMO's are bad because of how the genetic engineering is done. Mr. Hill stated that they use viruses and bacterial plasmids—things that normally make humans very sick—to cut the deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) and splice in the sections that they are looking for. He suggested that some of the DNA they are using has not been fully identified as to the effects it may cause. He explained that small pieces of proteins called prions can attach to cells in the human body and cause all kinds of harm including mad cow disease and cancer. Mr. Hill stated that genetic engineering has potentially harmful effects and that the GMO industry is spending billions of dollars to fight labeling efforts. He stated that the industry's opposition indicates that they have something to hide. Mr. Hill stated that he believes in labeling so that the public can make informed decisions about the products they buy and expressed his support for Resolution No. 4591.

Mr. Matherly asked what a GMO label would say.

Mr. Hill stated that a food label could simply say “not from genetically modified organisms.” He stated that if legislation is passed requiring GMO products to be labeled, the labeling would likely depend on how GMO's are defined in that legislation.

Mr. Hilling commented that Mr. Hill's testimony is enough to give anyone pause. He asked Mr. Hill to cite a study that has proven the harmful effects of GMO products.

Mr. Hill stated that he does not have the names of the studies on hand, but offered to send Mr. Hilling links to peer reviewed articles. He commented on the difference between the way young people looked in yearbooks when he was a kid and how they look now.

Tim Staton, 4636 Fairchild Avenue, Fairbanks – Mr. Staton congratulated Mr. Eberhart and welcomed him as the new mayor. He commended Mayor Cleworth for doing such a great job as the City Mayor. Mr. Staton spoke to the need for parking meters in the downtown area stating that it would take the onus off of Golden Heart Parking Services (GHPS) and place it back on the violator. He stated that although he serves on the GHPS board, he is not speaking on their behalf. Mr. Staton commented that the two-hour parking that has been in place since the 1980's does not work in the downtown area. He stated that he works with Public Works Director Mike Schmetzer on the GHPS board and that Mr. Schmetzer has spoken about the City's work in regard to road maintenance and improvements within the City. He commended Mayor Cleworth for the many improvements he has helped bring about in Fairbanks. Mr. Staton stated that the City is probably more fiscally healthy now than it has been in about 30 years. He expressed hope that the prudent methods of the City would continue.

Svetlana Nuss, 875 Babe Court, Fairbanks – Ms. Nuss asked who sponsored Resolution No. 4591.

Mayor Cleworth explained that Council Members may not comment or answer questions until later in the meeting under Council Members' Comments.

Ms. Nuss stated that she would like to shake the sponsor's hand and express her deepest gratitude for stepping out on behalf of the citizens in the community. She stated that she did a presentation to children on the effects that GMO's have on humans, animals and the environment. She stated that the percentage of major U.S. crops that are genetically modified is staggering. Ms. Nuss indicated that on average, 60% of people believe that they have never consumed a food containing a GMO. She spoke in support of Resolution No. 4591 and thanked the Council for introducing and considering the legislation.

Mayor Cleworth stated that Mr. Gatewood is the sponsor of Resolution No. 4591.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Matherly, seconded by **Mr. Gatewood**, moved to APPROVE the Agenda and Consent Agenda.

Mayor Cleworth pointed out that item 11(a), Appointment to Council Seat F / Oath of Office, should be on the General Agenda instead of the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Hilling pulled Resolution No. 4591 from the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Gatewood pulled Resolution No. 4590 from the Consent Agenda.

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

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

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

- a) Regular Meeting Minutes of August 19, 2013.

PASSED and APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

Mayor Cleworth stated that the City held a potluck earlier in the evening in one of City Hall's restored classrooms. He stated that it is an honor to have his family present at the meeting. He thanked everyone for coming and for the comments made during public testimony. **Mayor Cleworth** stated that one of the best mayors he remembers was Wayne Nelson who was a bit of an anomaly because he was not a long-time Fairbanks resident before running for mayor. He stated that even though times were tough during his term, Mayor Nelson would always remind everyone of what a joy it was to live in the City of Fairbanks. **Mayor Cleworth** stated that he has tried to use that as his own motto—that no matter how bad things get, we should try to remember all the good reasons why we live in Fairbanks. He thanked the City Council for their support and dedication over the past three years and included former Council Members Emily Bratcher, Chad Roberts and Vivian Stiver. He commented that the Council has worked well as a team and stated that he has always tried to keep the Council informed and have an open door policy. **Mayor Cleworth** spoke to the capital monies the City has received from the state legislature and the \$15 million in state grant dollars. He stated that with the funding the City has procured land next to the fire station to build a fenced-in parking lot, expanded the police department, and acquired a platform truck. He stated that the City has also completed many road construction projects such as Taku, Executive Park, Aurora and Bentley Trust. He commended the engineering department for their hard work. He spoke to the long-awaited reconstruction of South Cushman Street and stated that the project is slated for 2014 and 2015. **Mayor Cleworth** spoke to the importance of and the struggle in obtaining snow dumps in Fairbanks and stated that the City has recently added two snow dumps. He commented that the City has set aside funds to improve Lemeta and Council Subdivisions. **Mayor Cleworth** stated that with the help of City Clerk Hovenden, City Attorney Ewers and Chief of Staff Pat Cole, the administration has done a great deal of clean-up to the City Code. He stated that one of his goals during his term was to eliminate unnecessary Code. **Mayor Cleworth** spoke to the huge loss to the City's Permanent Fund in 2008 and commended the Council for loosening some of the restrictions on investing to help bring it back up. He stated that the City's Permanent Fund set a record high in 2013 of \$110 million. **Mayor Cleworth** stated that the earnings on the Fund help keep the City's mill rate low. He commented that the City has been able to purchase several pieces of equipment over the past few years and that the City now has a capital fund set up to plan ahead for equipment replacement and maintenance. **Mayor Cleworth** expressed his satisfaction that the City is now independent of the AS-400 system for data and processing. He stated that there has been talk of doing so since the Municipal Utility System (MUS) days and that he made it a goal at the beginning of his term. He commended City staff for their help in accomplishing the goal.

Mayor Cleworth stated that the City has liquidated several properties such as the Southside Community Center and the Chena Building. He indicated that Old City Hall is currently on the market and that it benefits the City more to sell older properties and get them back on the tax roll than to serve as a landlord. He thanked the Council for helping the Fairbanks Youth Advocates get their new facility started. **Mayor Cleworth** thanked Mike Schmetzer for his hard work on the City's street projects and for dealing with all the complaints that come through for the Public Works Department. He thanked Fire Chief Warren Cummings for serving the City of Fairbanks since 1972 and for his dedication and advice over the years. He thanked Police Chief Zager for his innovation and prudent use of resources within the police department. **Mayor Cleworth** commended Dispatch Manager Stephanie Johnson for her incredible knowledge of dispatch and thanked her for keeping the City on the cutting edge of technology within her department. He recognized City Clerk Janey Hovenden for keeping the City's elected officials out of trouble. He stated that Ms. Hovenden has one of the more difficult jobs in the City in that she has seven bosses: the entire City Council. He stated that part of Ms. Hovenden's job is to keep the City Code up to date and to serve as the City's records manager. **Mayor Cleworth** stated that he spends more time in the Finance Department than in any other City department. He commended Chief Financial Officer Jim Soileau, Controller Carmen Randle and Grants Administrator Margarita Bell for their conservative approach to the City's finances. He spoke to City Attorney Paul Ewers' sound advice and good sense of humor and spoke highly of the City Attorney staff. **Mayor Cleworth** expressed his deepest gratitude to Chief of Staff Pat Cole for his institutional knowledge of the City of Fairbanks and for always performing at a high level of professionalism. **Mayor Cleworth** referred to Human Resources Director Tony Shumate as the glue that keeps everything together and expressed appreciation for his leadership and advice. He thanked Executive Coordinator Amber Courtney for her hard work in the Mayor's Office and for being willing to take on any task she is given. He stated that Ms. Courtney serves on various boards on behalf of the City and indicated that her position has blossomed and evolved throughout his administration. **Mayor Cleworth** thanked his family and those close to him for making the sacrifices and providing the support for him to be Mayor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) Ordinance No. 5930 – An Ordinance Ratifying a Labor Agreement Between the City of Fairbanks and the AFL-CIO Crafts Bargaining Unit. Introduced by Mayor Cleworth. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.

Mr. Gatewood, seconded by **Mr. Walley**, moved to ADOPT Ordinance No. 5930.

Mayor Cleworth called for Public Testimony.

Lake Williams, 221 Glacier Avenue, Fairbanks – Mr. Williams stated that he is the Business Agent for the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) Local 302 and the President of the AFL/CIO Crafts Council. He indicated that AFL/CIO has already ratified the agreement. He thanked Mayor Cleworth for his honesty and openness and for being a joy to work with. Mr. Williams recognized Mike Schmetzer, Amber Courtney and Pat Cole for their work and service to the City. He stated that although AFL/CIO members sacrificed a little during this negotiation, the bargaining was done fairly and in good faith. Mr. Williams stated that he is proud to represent the members of the AFL/CIO.

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

Mr. Gatewood, seconded by **Mr. Eberhart**, moved to SUBSTITUTE Ordinance No. 5930, as Amended, for Ordinance No. 5930.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO SUBSTITUTE ORDINANCE NO. 5930, AS AMENDED, FOR ORDINANCE NO. 5930 AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Gatewood, Walley, Eberhart, Matherly, Staley, Hilling

NAYS: None

Mayor Cleworth declared the MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor Cleworth stated that negotiations with the AFL/CIO do not feel like labor contract negotiations. He stated that the bargaining group understands the future financial situation of the City with things getting tougher the next few years. He stated that the Crafts Council also understood the City's position on having a wage re-opener after one year. **Mayor Cleworth** commented that it was a joy to work with Mr. Williams and the other AFL/CIO negotiators.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 5930, AS AMENDED, AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Eberhart, Gatewood, Staley, Hilling, Matherly, Walley

NAYS: None

Mayor Cleworth declared the MOTION CARRIED and Ordinance No. 5930, as Amended, ADOPTED.

- b) Ordinance No. 5931 – An Ordinance to Amend Fairbanks General Code Chapter 14 Businesses, Article VII Massage Practitioner Licenses. Introduced by Mayor Cleworth. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.

Mr. Gatewood, seconded by **Mr. Matherly**, moved to ADOPT Ordinance No. 5931.

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

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 5931 AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Matherly, Hilling, Walley, Staley, Gatewood, Eberhart

NAYS: None

Mayor Cleworth declared the MOTION CARRIED and Ordinance No. 5931 ADOPTED.

- c) Ordinance No. 5932 – An Ordinance to Amend Fairbanks General Code Chapter 14 Businesses, Article IV Private Detective Licenses. Introduced by Mayor Cleworth.
SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.

Mr. Gatewood, seconded by **Mr. Walley**, moved to ADOPT Ordinance No. 5932.

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

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 5932 AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Walley, Matherly, Gatewood, Hilling, Eberhart, Staley

NAYS: None

Mayor Cleworth declared the MOTION CARRIED and Ordinance No. 5932 ADOPTED.

2013 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

- a) Certification of the 2013 Municipal Election Results

Clerk Hovenden asked Council Members to pass around and sign the Official Certification of Election. She read the Certification for the 2013 Municipal Election into the record as follows:

That **John Eberhart**, having received the majority number of votes cast for CITY MAYOR, for a three-year term ending October 2016, is hereby declared elected the Mayor of the City of Fairbanks.

That **Bernard Gatewood**, having received the majority number of votes cast for COUNCIL SEAT C, for a three-year term ending October 2016, is hereby declared elected as a Member of the Fairbanks City Council.

That **Jim Matherly**, having received the majority number of votes cast for COUNCIL SEAT D, for a three-year term ending October 2016, is hereby declared elected as a Member of the Fairbanks City Council.

That **Proposition A**, on the question of holding the regular City elections annually on the first Tuesday of October, passed by a total of 2,651 “YES” votes to 212 “NO” votes.

Mr. Gatewood, seconded by **Mr. Hilling**, moved to CERTIFY the 2013 Municipal Election Results.

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

b) Council Members' Comments

Ms. Staley stated that her past year serving on the Council has been a great learning experience. She thanked Mayor Cleworth for his guidance, for always being available and for including her in the Tiger Team meetings when the F-16's at Eielson were in jeopardy. She commented that she has had fun serving on the GHPS Board and has enjoyed attending Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) Assembly Meetings. **Ms. Staley** expressed her anticipation in working with Mr. Eberhart as the new Mayor. She commented that the Council works well as a team.

Mr. Walley expressed his appreciation to Mayor Cleworth for his historical knowledge of the City of Fairbanks as a fairly new Council Member. He stated that he also enjoys hearing the stories he would tell about his father, Bill Walley. **Mr. Walley** stated that Mayor Cleworth has served the citizens of the City well. He read Mayor Cleworth a poem he revised that was first written by his father.

Mr. Gatewood stated that, with no disrespect to incoming Mayor Eberhart, he had hoped Mayor Cleworth would serve another term. He expressed appreciation for Mayor Cleworth's leadership and fiscal responsibility. He stated that although he and Mayor Cleworth have not always agreed, he enjoys listening to what he has to say. **Mr. Gatewood** stated that no matter what, he knows that Mayor Cleworth is always looking out for the best interest of the City of Fairbanks.

Mr. Matherly stated that he has known Mayor Cleworth for a long time and stated that it has been great serving on the Council under him. He expressed his appreciation for Mayor Cleworth with a few words: unassuming, fair, approachable, accessible and helpful. He stated that Mayor Cleworth's demeanor reminds him of the old actor, Jimmy Stewart. **Mr. Matherly** stated that he greatly respects Mayor Cleworth and his family and commented that it has been an honor to serve on the Council that Mayor Cleworth helped build. He stated that he also looks forward to serving under incoming Mayor Eberhart. **Mr. Matherly** thanked his own family for the sacrifices they make so that he can serve on the City Council.

Mr. Hilling spoke to Mayor Cleworth's honesty and integrity and stated that he always acts on principle. He commended Mayor Cleworth for being led by what he believes is right and not always by what the people want. He mentioned Ms. Gilbert's request for Mayor Cleworth to provide a list of the goals he accomplished during his term and expressed his satisfaction with Mayor Cleworth's endeavors. **Mr. Hilling**, referring to Mayor Cleworth as "Jerry," stated that he went into Jerry's coin shop 10 – 12 years ago to sell some silver coins. He said that Jerry did not count or weigh the bag of coins at the time, but simply handed him the money. **Mr. Hilling** stated that his point is that the interaction was a testament to Mayor Cleworth's integrity. He stated that Mayor Cleworth "walks softly but carries a big stick," meaning that he is not afraid to speak up when necessary.

Mayor Cleworth offered his congratulations to Mr. Eberhart, Mr. Matherly and Mr. Gatewood for their success in the election. He thanked them for their willingness to continue to serve the City of Fairbanks. **Mayor Cleworth** commented that according to City Code, the incoming mayor must have a budget to present to the Council by October 31, which is a tall order. He stated that incoming Mayor Eberhart has been working with him over the past few weeks to help prepare the 2014 budget. He asked the Council to be patient with the new mayor.

Mr. Eberhart stated that he first met Mayor Cleworth in 1995 when he came to work in the City Attorney's Office. He expressed his admiration for Mayor Cleworth's quiet and reasonable approach and stated that while they have not always agreed on issues, he enjoys the civility and mutual respect in working together. **Mr. Eberhart** stated that he has some huge shoes to fill. He commented that Mayor Cleworth is admired by the public and Council for his historical knowledge of the City of Fairbanks and expressed his appreciation for Mayor Cleworth's knowledge of finance and help in preparing the 2014 budget. **Mr. Eberhart** stated that the City is currently in very good financial shape and commented that the Council should keep a positive outlook on future years.

Mayor Cleworth called for a five-minute transition recess.

After the recess, **Mayor Cleworth** called the meeting back to order.

c) Oaths of Office

City Clerk Hovenden swore in newly-elected Mayor Eberhart and re-elected Council Members Bernard Gatewood and Jim Matherly.

Mr. Eberhart assumed his seat as City Mayor.

d) Incoming Mayor's Comments

Mayor Eberhart thanked Mayor Cleworth again for his service to the City of Fairbanks. He commended Vivian Stiver for running against him in the 2013 election. He expressed a special thank you to Rev. and Mrs. Blackburn and the family and Mount Pleasant Baptist Church. **Mayor Eberhart** thanked Fairbanks residents for electing him and stated that he hopes to win the trust and confidence of those that did not support him. He recognized his wife Sylvia and Ms. Shirley Lee who were both in attendance. He thanked Shellie Severa, Captain Kevin Haywood and Ken Mayfield. He thanked others that have supported him: Robert Kinnard, Barbara Sunday and Candise Pulice. He commended City employees for providing excellent services to Fairbanks residents and stated that he would like everyone to continue working as a team in the best interest of the community. **Mayor Eberhart** stated that the slogan of his campaign was "Stronger Together." He indicated that there is much diversity in culture, ideas and beliefs within the community, but stated that teamwork is the key to being stronger together. He stated that he has enjoyed working with each Council Member, whether or not they have always agreed on issues. **Mayor Eberhart** spoke to some of the benefits of living in Fairbanks, such as the small population and plenty of land that is rich in resources. He spoke to the recent issues that the community has overcome such as Eielson, Fort Wainwright, energy and pollution. He stated that the road before him will be challenging juggling two jobs with the 2014 budget deadline approaching and labor negotiations soon to commence. **Mayor Eberhart** stated that his priorities as City Mayor will be to improve public safety and services, reduce energy costs, continue the prudent management of City finances, be fair and equitable to City employees, emphasize greater cultural awareness and respect for diversity by creating a Diversity Council, increase the focus on youth in the community, provide support for the local homeless population, and build an internship/work study program for students at the City of Fairbanks. **Mayor**

Eberhart stated that he would like to see the continued support of senior citizens within the community through housing and assisted care. He stated that he has been working on the Fairbanks Transportation Work Group which looks at improving transportation options for senior citizens and individuals with disabilities. **Mayor Eberhart** stated that he would like to see increased cooperation with other local governments which may improve advocacy for Interior Alaska both at state and federal levels. He stated that he feels privileged, honored and humbled to be the Mayor of the City of Fairbanks and extended thanks to everyone. He announced that the Public Safety Commission (PSC) will meet on October 29, 2013 at City Hall and will be reviewing the its recommendations to the Mayor regarding some public safety task reassignments.

NEW BUSINESS

a) Appointment to Council Seat F / Oath of Office

Mayor Eberhart asked Chris Anderson to come forward. He apologized that the Council did not have more time to review Mr. Anderson's resume. **Mayor Eberhart** stated that he first met Mr. Anderson about nine years ago when he began working for the Fairbanks Native Association (FNA) and Mr. Anderson was serving on the Board of Directors. He stated that Mr. Anderson has served on the City Council before. He asked Mr. Anderson to provide a brief summary of his work and community experience.

Chris Anderson, 1606-9 Marika Road, Fairbanks – Mr. Anderson congratulated Mayor Eberhart on winning the 2013 race for mayor. He thanked former Mayor Cleworth for his many years of dedication to the City of Fairbanks. Mr. Anderson stated that he was born in Fairbanks in 1948 and attended Fairbanks schools and the University of Alaska, Fairbanks (UAF). He stated that he served on the City Council from 1979 to 1985 and remarked that he remembers Clerk Hovenden as a new City employee during that time. He indicated that he has background in local government and has been well-known for his management of the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics (WEIO) and his work at Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC). Mr. Anderson stated that he also had a part in the start of Doyon Limited and is a big proponent for the visitor industry in Fairbanks.

Mayor Eberhart stated that it is his pleasure to nominate Mr. Chris Anderson to the City Council.

Mr. Hilling expressed concern that he has not had much time to review Mr. Anderson's resume and credentials. He stated that he would have liked more time to talk to others and find out more about Mr. Anderson and indicated that he does not feel comfortable casting his vote on the appointment with such short notice. He suggested that more than one nominee would have provided the Council with greater latitude and autonomy. He deferred discussion to his fellow Council Members. **Mr. Hilling** asked Mr. Anderson to speak to his definition of fair compensation for labor.

Mr. Anderson replied that fair compensation depends on the parity of other wages within the municipality. He spoke to the importance of City employees to the community and stated that he believes the AFL/CIO agreement is a good example of fair compensation. Mr. Anderson

commented that, under Mayor Cleworth's administration, labor negotiations seemed to go very smoothly.

Mayor Eberhart stated that he recalls the procedure that Mayor Cleworth used for nominating a new Council Member. He explained that City Code states that the Mayor will nominate and the City Council will confirm the appointment of a new member to the Council. He stated that he felt it necessary to present the appointment as quickly as possible with the upcoming labor negotiations and 2014 budget. **Mayor Eberhart** apologized for the short notice.

Mr. Gatewood stated that he understands and respects Mr. Hilling's position on the appointment but commented that he knows Mr. Anderson and will support the appointment. He explained that he met Mr. Anderson in 2001 when he began working with youth in the Fairbanks area. **Mr. Gatewood** stated that if appointed, Mr. Anderson would likely bring a diverse dynamic to the City Council.

Mr. Matherly stated that although he has lived in Fairbanks his whole life, he has never had the opportunity to meet Mr. Anderson. He acknowledged Mr. Hilling's concerns with the short-notice. He asked Mr. Anderson if he initially approached Mayor Eberhart about the appointment or if Mayor Eberhart approached him.

Mr. Anderson stated that he received a voicemail from Mayor Eberhart several days ago and was just able to speak with him on the phone a day or two ago.

Mr. Matherly asked Mr. Anderson what his priorities for the City of Fairbanks would be.

Mr. Anderson stated that right before he first served on the City Council, former Mayor Ruth Burnett and some of the other cities in the Alaska Municipal League (AML) made a deal with the state legislature that if the state would give the cities more revenue sharing, the cities would cut sales tax. Mr. Anderson stated that at the time, the City of Fairbanks was doing well financially but was still cautious about expenditures. He stated that in the short-term, his priority will be the City Budget and his long-term priority will be sustainability, even if state revenues decline. He spoke to the importance of the City to work together with the community and unions.

Mr. Matherly spoke to the importance of being fiscally prudent and fair and stated that just because there is money in the bank, the City does not have to spend it.

Mr. Anderson stated that he believes that it would be fiscally prudent for the City not to touch permanent funds.

Mr. Walley thanked Mr. Anderson for coming forward. He commented that he is impressed with Mr. Anderson's resume and stated that he must have served the City along with his father, Bill Walley. He asked Mr. Anderson to give an example of a time serving on the Council when he may have accomplished a difficult task or helped solved a problem for the City.

Mr. Anderson stated that former Mayor Bill Walley appointed him to Chair the Blue Ribbon Committee on Alcoholism for the City of Fairbanks. He explained that the Committee was made

up of members of the public from fields of law, medicine and public safety. Mr. Anderson indicated that the Committee decided to clean up 2nd Avenue to help improve the alcohol problem in Fairbanks. He stated that the problem still exists and suggested that it is something that the City needs to look at through the support of agencies that deal with the problem directly.

Mr. Walley asked Mr. Anderson if he supports the tax cap.

Mr. Anderson replied that he does support the tax cap and commented that it is a good tool.

Mayor Eberhart called for a vote on the appointment of Mr. Chris Anderson to Seat F on the City Council.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. CHRIS ANDERSON TO SEAT F ON THE CITY COUNCIL AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS:	Hilling, Staley, Matherly, Gatewood, Walley
NAYS:	None

City Clerk Hovenden swore in newly-appointed Council Member Chris Anderson.

- b) Resolution No. 4589 – A Resolution Re-designating Check Signing Authority for Banking and Investment Accounts of the City of Fairbanks, Alaska. Introduced by Mayor Eberhart.

PASSED and APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- c) Resolution No. 4590 – A Resolution Authorizing the City of Fairbanks to Accept Funds from the Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Under the FFY2013 Homeland Security Grant Program. Introduced by Mayor Eberhart.

Mr. Matherly, seconded by **Mr. Gatewood**, moved to APPROVE Resolution No. 4590.

Mr. Gatewood questioned the estimated support and maintenance costs of \$2,500 on the Fiscal Note for Resolution No. 4590. He stated that the costs seem too low for a \$431,749.00 grant. He asked how the City plans to use the grant money without spending more than \$2,500 in maintenance.

Fire Chief Cummings pointed out that much of the funding will go towards equipment, some of which will replace existing equipment at the Fire Department. He indicated that he is unsure what the maintenance costs will be for the network Wi-Fi system. He stated that for that reason, there will not be a large increase to support and maintenance costs.

Mr. Gatewood expressed confusion with how the \$2,500 was calculated if the Wi-Fi system maintenance costs are unknown.

Chief Cummings stated that he based his estimate on the replacement of the existing Wi-Fi system and that IT Director Ryan Rickels could better speak to any potential increase to

maintenance costs. He stated that the \$2,500 on the Fiscal Note covers support and maintenance costs for Fire Department equipment.

Mr. Gatewood asked if there is extra money associated with the Alaska Shield Exercise other than the 152,222.00 referenced in Resolution No. 4590.

Chief Cummings stated the Alaska Shield Exercise is a statewide earthquake drill being held in March, 2014 on the 50th anniversary of the earthquake in Anchorage. He stated that \$30,000 will go to the hospital for their costs to participate in the exercise. He stated that they will cover all three Fire Department shifts in the exercise. Chief Cummings indicated that the State of Alaska put a lot of effort into the Alaska Shield Exercise and stated that he is surprised that the City was granted full funding for it.

Mr. Anderson asked if the funding in Resolution No. 4590 would be used statewide for the exercise.

Chief Cummings replied that the funding would only be used for the Fairbanks area.

Mr. Hilling spoke against accepting federal money and spoke to the enormous national deficit. He stated that he cannot support Resolution No. 4590 on the principal that the City of Fairbanks is a city with means.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 4590 AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Anderson, Walley, Staley, Matherly

NAYS: Hilling, Gatewood

Mayor Eberhart declared the MOTION CARRIED and Resolution No. 4590 APPROVED.

- d) Resolution No. 4591 – A Resolution Supporting Labeling Requirements for all Food Products Containing Genetically Modified Organism Content. Introduced by Council Member Gatewood.

Ms. Staley, seconded by **Mr. Anderson**, moved to APPROVE Resolution No. 4591.

Mr. Gatewood stated that there has been a swell of support for the labeling of GMO's. He stated that the Council has repeatedly heard Mr. Frank Turney testify in support of GMO labeling. He stated that he is Mr. Turney's Facebook friend and has observed the online "chatter" about the issue. **Mr. Gatewood** commented that many people seem to be unhappy with the way many foods are currently labeled. He stated that he is introducing Resolution No. 4591 because he is listening to his constituents. He pointed out the fourth "whereas" of the resolution and stated that it is about transparency and allowing consumers to make informed choices about what they purchase and consume. **Mr. Gatewood** stated that the resolution is not an attack Monsanto but is simply taking a stand against any foods being sold without sufficient labeling.

Mr. Hilling stated that his philosophy on GMO's is opposite to that of Mr. Gatewood's. He commented that he has not been convinced that GMO products are harmful and spoke against too much government control. He expressed his belief that government should only interfere with people's lives for the purpose of keeping order. He questioned the statistic Ms. Nuss provided during Public Testimony. He stated that if the health of the general population was declining rapidly, he could believe that the statistic that 90% of popular foods contain harmful GMO's. **Mr. Hilling** stated that the government has no business in trying to protect individuals from themselves. He stated that if someone misrepresents the contents foods by mislabeling products, they should be held accountable through the court. He spoke to the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) involvement in the general labeling of foods. **Mr. Hilling** stated that from a practical point of view, it would make more sense to label products that do not contain GMO's. He commented that if GMO products are proven to be harmful, they will be banned from being sold. He compared the GMO issue to the consideration to remove fluoride from City water a few years ago. **Mr. Hilling** stated that he will vote against Resolution No. 4591.

Mr. Matherly stated that most people in the U.S. do not grow their own food but depend solely on what they purchase at the supermarket. He commented that five of his six children have allergies and that he and his wife depend on labeling every day. He stated that people should be able to see exactly what is in a product before purchasing and consuming it. **Mr. Matherly** stated that he respects Mr. Hilling's opinion but believes it is a consumer's right to be informed.

Mr. Walley echoed Mr. Matherly's comments on labeling. He stated that he chooses what to eat based on the label of contents. He stated that he will support Resolution No. 4591.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 4591 AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Anderson, Gatewood, Staley, Matherly, Walley

NAYS: Hilling

Mayor Eberhart declared the MOTION CARRIED and Resolution No. 4591 APPROVED.

- e) Resolution No. 4592 – A Resolution Amending the City Schedule of Fees and Charges for Services, Adjusting Costs to Conduct Criminal History Checks for Massage Practitioner and Private Detective Applicants and Eliminate Fees for Security Guards. Introduced by Mayor Cleworth.

PASSED and APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a) Committee Reports

FMATS Policy Committee – **Mr. Walley** stated that the Committee met on October 16 and approved the Public Participation Plan as presented by the FMATS Technical Committee. He stated that the Policy Committee also approved meeting dates for 2014 and received an update on the historic plaque and artwork for the Illinois Street Bridge. **Mr. Walley** shared that the

Committee approved an operating agreement and passed a motion directing the Technical Committee find a consultant to simplify and consolidate the agreements and bylaws of FMATS.

- b) Committee Appointments and Council Member Appointment to the Public Safety Commission

Mayor Eberhart asked Council Members if they are content in remaining on the board or commission they are currently seated on.

Ms. Staley stated that she enjoys serving on the GHPS Board and is looking forward to possibly serving on the Public Safety Commission (PSC). She commented that it is difficult for her to attend the Borough Assembly Meetings as the City Representative and asked if the Council would be willing to share a rotating schedule.

Mr. Matherly stated that he would like to see City of North Pole and FNSB representatives attend Fairbanks City Council Meetings. He indicated that he would be willing to attend FNSB Assembly meetings on a rotating schedule.

Mayor Eberhart stated that he did not realize that Council Members were not on a rotating schedule to attend Borough Assembly meetings. He stated that he plans to attend the next Borough meeting to introduce himself and to congratulate new Assembly Members. He asked Clerk Hovenden to create a rotating schedule for Council Members.

Mr. Hilling stated that he teaches on Thursday nights and cannot attend the Assembly Meetings unless he can attend during Christmas vacation.

Mayor Eberhart referenced the appointment memo in the Council Agenda Packet and stated that he has nominated Ms. Staley for the non-voting Council Member seat on the PSC.

Mr. Anderson, seconded by **Mr. Matherly**, moved to APPROVE the Appointment of Council Member Staley to the Public Safety Commission.

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

COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL

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

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA

- b) Re-appointment to the FNSB Commission on Historic Preservation

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA

COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Ms. Staley expressed her excitement for the expansion of the Fairbanks Police Station. She stated that when she and Mr. Walley were first elected they went on a full tour of the City of Fairbanks' facilities. She commented that she is also excited about the formation of a Diversity Council and stated that it will bring in different perspectives from the community.

Mr. Walley thanked everyone who came to the meeting to honor Mayor Cleworth. He welcomed new Council Member Chris Anderson and congratulated Mayor Eberhart.

Mr. Gatewood reiterated his thanks to Mayor Cleworth for all the work that he did for the City of Fairbanks. He commented on the large congregation and stated that it was nice to see a full Council Chambers. He stated that it is nice to have new Member Chris Anderson on board and expressed his belief that Mr. Anderson will contribute a great deal to the Council. **Mr. Gatewood** stated that he respects Mr. Hilling's opposition to accepting federal grant dollars but commented that the money will be given away no matter what and the City of Fairbanks may as well be the grantee. He stated that he does not feel as though folks are taking the fiscal notes attached to ordinances and resolutions very seriously. **Mr. Gatewood** indicated that there was some information lacking in the note attached to Resolution No. 4590.

Mr. Matherly welcomed new Mayor Eberhart and stated that it is nice to meet Mr. Anderson. He spoke to the diversity of ideas and opinions on the City Council and to the respect that Council Members give each other. He stated that like Mayor Cleworth, he too had a great deal of respect for former Mayor Wayne Nelson. **Mr. Matherly** commented that it is a great honor to be a member of the City Council and to be involved in serving the community.

Mr. Hilling welcomed new Mayor Eberhart and new Council Member Chris Anderson. He stated that after hearing the comments from Mr. Anderson and other Council Members, Mr. Anderson has won him over. He expressed appreciation for Mr. Gatewood's comments regarding the accuracy of fiscal notes for ordinances and resolutions.

Mr. Anderson thanked fellow Council Members for their confidence and support and stated that he is looking forward to working with everyone. He congratulated both outgoing Mayor Cleworth and incoming Mayor Eberhart.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Eberhart called for a five minute recess.

- a) Labor Contract Negotiations – International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) and Public Safety Employees Association (PSEA)


Mr. Gatewood stated that the City Council met in Executive Session to discuss labor negotiations for IBEW and PSEA. He stated that direction was given to staff and no action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Matherly, seconded by Mr. Walley, moved to ADJOURN the meeting.

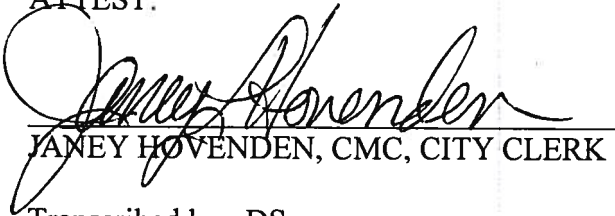
Mayor Eberhart called for objection and, hearing none, so ORDERED.

Mayor Eberhart declared the Meeting adjourned at 11:15 P.M.



JOHN EBERHART, MAYOR

ATTEST:



JANEY HOVENDEN, CMC, CITY CLERK

Transcribed by: DS