

Victor Buberger, PO Box 58192, Fairbanks – Mr. Buberger indicated that the response he received at the last Council Meeting for his comments on poor road conditions was unsatisfactory. He stated that cold weather conditions have nothing to do with road repair. He spoke to the need for road improvements on the south side of Fairbanks and stated that although the Mayor has indicated that construction will take place in 2014, he is skeptical because it was supposed to happen in 2013. Mr. Buberger stated the need for pothole repair throughout the City and scoffed that the City would “try to take care of it next year.” He expressed the need for restrooms in the downtown area. He stated that the Borough-owned public restroom near the Morris Thompson Building is nice but that it is difficult to know when it will be open for use. Mr. Buberger stated that he would be willing to donate some public restroom signs if the City would be willing to take on the project.

Frank Turney, 329 6th Avenue, Fairbanks – Mr. Turney expressed his condolences to Deputy City Attorney Burglin for the recent passing of his father. He spoke to the tragic death of Johnny Wallis several months back and stated that the Seattle coroner has failed to reveal the manner of death of Mr. Wallis. He commented that he suggested that Mr. Wallis’ family should request a coroner’s jury to determine the cause of his death. Mr. Turney stated that it was good to see Mr. Gatewood at the last Borough Assembly meeting and stated that he was happy to see the approval of the Borough resolution regarding genetically modified foods. He spoke out against genetically modified foods and stated that all such foods should be properly labeled. Mr. Turney spoke to the yellow flags posted at the Clay Street Cemetery and explained that the flags serve as a memorial for all the gold miners buried in the cemetery. He mentioned a recent article in the Fairbanks Daily News Miner regarding what is being done with hemp in the state of Vermont.

Mark Lewis, 574 Long Spur Loop, Fairbanks – Mr. Lewis stated that he has been intrigued by people who want to know where he lives when he speaks out on issues in a public forum. He stated that he is a novice when it comes to the genetic modification of foods but that he knows Monsanto is an economical power that is stronger than all but 50 of the world’s largest economies. Mr. Lewis spoke out against the use of Monsanto products and stated that the corporation embraces two key elements: monopolization and control.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

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

Mr. Eberhart pulled Resolution No. 4586 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 June 10, 2013.

PASSED and APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

Mayor Cleworth announced that the Rotary Club generously donated \$6,000 to the Clay Street Cemetery for some headstones. He stated that it is the second time the club has donated to the cemetery and added that Bill Robertson with the Rotary Club also chairs the Clay Street Cemetery Commission. He echoed Mr. Turney's condolences on the passing of Cliff Burglin and stated that his first memory of the gentleman was when he owned an office supply store between 2nd and 3rd Avenue downtown. He stated that Mr. Burglin wasn't the best at selling office supplies but that he was good with geological maps. **Mayor Cleworth** stated that last week was a very busy week with the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) draft hearings occurring. He thanked Ms. Staley for her participation in the meetings and stated that her and Tim Jones' dissertations were two of the best he has heard. He expressed hope that the Air Force would take the community's position to heart and have the courtesy to address the concerns of local residents. **Mayor Cleworth** also thanked Ms. Staley for her participation in the Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) Committee. In reference to Mr. Turney's comments on the autopsy report for Johnny Wallace, **Mayor Cleworth** stated that the City received a preliminary report from the state crime lab. He explained that there was not a great deal of information in the report and that the information received was not very revealing. He stated that those reports have come back negative for evidence but added that there is still one more report to come. **Mayor Cleworth** asked Mike Schmetzer, City Engineer, to come forward and provide a brief report on projected construction projects for 2013/2014.

Mr. Schmetzer stated that the big project that is currently underway is the Bentley Trust Road. He explained some of the major changes and improvements involved and stated that the project is currently ahead of schedule. He stated that the road should reopen in mid-September. He stated that the Wickersham Project is about to begin, which will involve reconstruction of Wickersham Street from 1st Avenue to the north side of 3rd Avenue and 2nd Avenue from Barnette to Cowles Street. He explained other details that the project will include. He stated that 3rd Street from Barnette to Cowles Street will be reconstructed in 2014. Mr. Schmetzer stated that the Slaterville Project is also underway with new storm drains, roads and a large amount of reconnection of some sewage services. He estimated that the project would be complete by September 30, 2013. He stated that the Brandt Subdivision, the area on the north side of the Borough Administrative Building, is being added to the Slaterville Project. Mr. Schmetzer indicated that the City is also adding three or four streets in Hamilton Acres to the project. He stated that the City just completed construction on the Executive Park subdivision and that it turned out nicely. He added that there will be some additional drainage issues to correct in the subdivision before winter. Mr. Schmetzer announced that South Cushman will be reconstructed from Airport Way to the Mitchell Expressway in 2014. He spoke to the size of the project, stating that it will require a lot of effort from both the City of Fairbanks and the Department of Transportation (DOT). Mr. Schmetzer stated that the subdivisions slated for construction in

2014 are Arctic Park, Council and Lemeta. He stated that Cushman Street from Airport Way north to the Chena River is scheduled for reconstruction in 2015.

Mr. Hilling asked if the Illinois Street cut-through would be open in September.

Mr. Schmetzer replied that the area Mr. Hilling was referring to should be completed in September.

Mr. Hilling asked if the east sidewalk of Cushman Street would be reconstructed next year.

Mr. Schmetzer stated that the sidewalks on both sides of South Cushman will be replaced next year.

Mr. Hilling asked Mr. Schmetzer if he had any comments on the potholes on 5th and 7th Avenues.

Mr. Schmetzer stated that he has three pothole crews out repairing every pothole that is called in.

Mayor Cleworth explained that each project that the City and DOT work on has a variety of funding sources. He stated funding can be at risk if a project slips. He explained that when that happens, the Fairbanks Metropolitan Area Transportation System (FMATS) Coordinator is responsible for reallocating those funds so they are not lost. **Mayor Cleworth** commended the City's Engineering staff for convincing the Engineering Department at DOT that the intersection at Old Steese and Bentley Trust Road should be signaled.

Mr. Gatewood asked how the Public Works Department addresses potholes that go unreported.

Mr. Schmetzer stated that the "eyes and ears" for potholes in the City are the refuse collectors. He stated that the workers are instructed to report potholes, since they are on every street within the City at least once a week. He stated that the crew does a great job and that the public also plays a role in reporting potholes. He added that main thoroughfares take priority over residential areas. He stated that he forgot to mention two upcoming projects: 2013 sidewalks and pedestrian improvements on 10th Avenue, Kellum Street and McGown Street; and 2016 Cowles Street reconstruction from Airport Way to the Chena River.

Mr. Hilling asked if Cowles Street would remain a two-lane street after its reconstruction. He also asked if the sidewalks would be widened.

Mr. Schmetzer replied that Cowles would remain a two-lane street and that sidewalks would most likely be widened. He stated that the City is also currently working on surveying the drainage in the Taku subdivision for future repair and hopes to have radar speed signs on Sunset Drive and Ivy Drive before winter.

NEW BUSINESS

- a) Resolution No. 4585 – A Resolution Authorizing Purchase of a Snow Storage Site in the Amount of \$199,900. Introduced by Mayor Cleworth.

PASSED and APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- b) Resolution No. 4586 – A Resolution Authorizing the City of Fairbanks to Request Funds from the Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management under the FY2013 Homeland Security Grant Program. Introduced by Mayor Cleworth.

Mr. Matherly, seconded by **Mr. Gatewood**, moved to APPROVE Resolution No. 4586.

Mr. Eberhart asked for clarification on the ongoing training, equipment and maintenance costs referred to in numbers 4 and 5 of the attachment to Resolution No. 4586. He pointed out that the continuing costs do not appear in the fiscal note attached to the resolution.

Mayor Cleworth stated that he believes the items may have been overlooked when the fiscal note was written.

Fire Chief Cummings stated that he is not sure on which line item the ongoing costs should have gone in the financial detail of the note. He stated that the costs may not be the full \$2,500 every year.

Mayor Cleworth pointed out that the \$2,500 is listed towards the top of the fiscal note, but not in the line items of the financial detail.

Mr. Gatewood stated that the first “whereas” of Resolution No. 4586 speaks to terrorist attacks. He asked Chief Cummings how the City is currently set up to address terrorist attacks.

Chief Cummings indicated that the City is better prepared now than it was 5 – 10 years ago because of the Homeland Security Grant Program. He stated that the City of Fairbanks now has better equipment and communication than it ever has. He stated that the grant is very beneficial to not only the City but other emergency response agencies. Chief Cummings explained that the City would be adequately equipped to respond to a terrorist attack for about another year but would need upgrading of the dispatch system after that.

Mr. Gatewood expressed skepticism that the ongoing cost estimate was high enough.

Chief Cummings stated that much of the grant would go towards the replacement of current equipment which would probably not increase future ongoing costs to the City. He spoke to the specific projects and items that will be addressed by the grant.

Mr. Gatewood asked if there are overtime costs associated with the training that would not come into play if the City did not apply for the grant.

Chief Cummings replied affirmatively. He explained the staffing changes that would have to be temporarily made to allow for the training to take place. He pointed out that there is no guarantee that the City will get the funding.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 4586 AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Staley, Matherly, Gatewood, Eberhart, Walley

NAYS: Hilling

Mayor Cleworth declared the MOTION CARRIED and Resolution No. 4586 APPROVED.

- c) Resolution No. 4587 – A Resolution Awarding a Contract to Paving Products, Inc., for the 10th Avenue, Kellum and McGown Streets Pedestrian Improvements Project in the Amount of \$636,531.45. Introduced by Mayor Cleworth.

PASSED and APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Committee Reports

Golden Heart Parking Services Board – **Ms. Staley** announced that Marcus Dodge has accepted the manager's position at Golden Heart Parking Services. She stated that the Board changed the organization's bylaws to increase the Board membership to seven. She welcomed newly-elected member Sarah Smith to the Board and stated that she is still trying to contact the other new member. **Ms. Staley** stated that she attended the recent JLUS Committee meeting and encouraged residents to attend the upcoming public meeting at Tanana Middle School. She stated that she is a member of the Technical Committee and that it is very helpful to hear from the public on what they feel their rights and privileges should be in regard to zoning. She stated that there would be another community scoping meeting on Wednesday, July 24, where the committee will discuss the grant through the Office of Economic Adjustment. She stated that joint land use is government and civilians working together on property and land issues.

FMATS Policy Committee – **Mr. Walley** expressed appreciation to Mr. Schmetzer for the construction projects report. He stated that the Public Participation Plan has been updated and will be open for public comment until the end of August. **Mr. Walley** summarized the highlights of the State Rail Plan and stated that FMATS has forwarded the plan to DOT. He stated that FMATS approved some modifications to the concrete in the green space area on Illinois Street and approved to file a bank request for funds that could not be obligated this year. He stated that the Committee received an update for the College Road plan which offered four different options, one of which was to do nothing.

Mayor Cleworth indicated that it will be interesting to see which plan is chosen for College Road. He stated that the road is uncomfortably narrow and that doing nothing may not be the best option. He spoke briefly to the other options but stated that each of the plans would compromise something.

Public Safety Commission (PSC) – **Mr. Eberhart** stated that the PSC met on July 9, 2013. He stated that Mr. Thomas Temple has been approved to take Mr. Bill Satterberg's seat on the Commission, and he thanked Mr. Satterberg for his service. He stated that Chief Cummings,

Stephanie Johnson and Chief Zager gave reports on the Fairbanks Fire Department, Dispatch Center and Fairbanks Police Department, respectively. He stated that Chief Zager mentioned the possibility of having the fire department respond to calls involving incapacitated persons to relieve the "saturated" call load on Fairbanks police officers. He stated that the issue would raise the question as to whether or not the call is primarily medical or a police call and would likely involve more communication from the Dispatch Department. **Mr. Eberhart** stated that the Commission discussed duties that could possibly be shared between public safety departments within the City and the possibility of cross-training police officers in emergency medical response. **Mr. Eberhart** stated that the PSC passed a motion to endorse additional medical training for police officers to be determined by the needs of the department. He stated that Chairman Peter Stern suggested that the police and fire chiefs discuss the feasibility of such cross-training and asked the administration for a report on any Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) liability that could be involved with cross-training. **Mr. Eberhart** announced that the next PSC meeting would be on August 20, 2013.

Permanent Fund Review Board – **Mr. Gatewood** gave a report on the Board's quarterly meeting. He stated that the report given at each meeting generally summarizes the finances through the end of the last quarter. He commented that he is not a financial wizard, but indicated that since he is a representative of the City of Fairbanks his primary concern is the health of the Fund and how it is benefiting the City. **Mr. Gatewood** stated that at the end of the first quarter the Fund balance was \$110.8 million and that he expected the following quarter's balance to be a little higher. He stated that the balance at the end of June was \$109 million. **Mr. Gatewood** commented that market volatility was the cause of the \$700,000 second quarter loss. He stated that the Fund has bounced back and was happy to share that the balance as of July 16 was \$111.9 million. **Mr. Gatewood** indicated that the City does not plan to take its first draw down until August 30.

Mayor Cleworth shared that Chief of Staff Pat Cole has been taken to Seattle's Washington University for medical care. He stated that Mr. Cole is still performing his job from his bed and requested that everyone keep him in their prayers. He indicated that Mr. Cole was not likely to return to work in the near future.

COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL

- a) Appointment to the Public Safety Commission

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- b) Public Safety Commission Meeting Minutes of April 16, 2013

ACCEPTED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- c) Public Safety Commission Meeting Minutes of May 14, 2013

ACCEPTED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- d) Public Safety Commission Meeting Minutes of June 11, 2013

ACCEPTED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- e) Chena Riverfront Commission Meeting Minutes of June 12, 2013

ACCEPTED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- f) Permanent Fund Review Board Meeting Minutes of April 17, 2013

ACCEPTED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Mr. Hilling commented on what an asset Pat Cole is to the City of Fairbanks. He asked Mayor Cleworth how Stephen Anderson is doing.

Mayor Cleworth replied that Mr. Anderson has been at work every day and is pursuing his certification as a Plans Examiner.

Mr. Hilling stated that for those who did not know, Mr. Anderson was the City's plumbing and mechanical inspector who was hit by a car on his bicycle last year.

Mayor Cleworth explained that since Mr. Anderson returned to work, he has been filling the vacancy in the Plans Examiner position.

Mr. Hilling indicated that he would like to see someone move forward with the idea of placing public restrooms in the Downtown area. He spoke to what he understands as the genetic modification of foods and to the history of the process. He stated that he is unsure if that definition has changed and commented that he will have to do some research. He stated that at this time he would not be in favor of a resolution against genetic modification. **Mr. Hilling** spoke to the federally-funded projects that the City is performing and will be performing in the future. He stated that projects seem to be prioritized differently when federal dollars are being spent. He stated that when stakeholders have to pay for something, they tend to do more examining and make better decisions. He cautioned on using federal dollars to pay for local projects and stated that he will not vote to do so because the federal government is going "broke."

Mr. Walley stated that he was sorry to hear about the passing of Cliff Burglin who he got to know through the "Grumpy Old Men" program. He explained that he served on the board when he was younger and enjoyed listening to the men "rant and rave" on the oil companies and other topics. He stated that he remembers Mr. Burglin bringing maps of Prudhoe Bay into the KFAR studio and telling stories about the oil companies. **Mr. Walley** stated that he enjoyed participating in the Golden Days Parade downtown and thanked everyone that worked to make it happen.

Ms. Staley echoed **Mr. Walley's** comments on the Golden Days Parade and stated that it is good to see Downtown Fairbanks bustling.

Mr. Matherly stated that his prayers are with the Burglin family. He stated that he read a good article in **Dermot Cole's** section of the newspaper in regard to energy and the Interior Gas Utility (IGU). He stated that he also had a good conversation about the facilitating role of the IGU with **Steve Haagenson**, a board member of the utility. He stated that **Mr. Haagenson** gave him a copy of the IGU's recent presentation to the Borough Assembly. **Mr. Matherly** stated that this was the first year he has missed the Golden Days Parade. He complimented **World-Eskimo Indian Olympics (WEIO)** participants and stated that they are incredible athletes. He echoed **Mr. Terry's** comments on the importance of community participation in local government, particularly youth participation.

Mr. Eberhart expressed his sympathies to the Burglin family and wished **Pat Cole** well. He announced that the Regulatory Commission of Alaska (RCA) will be holding a hearing on July 30 and stressed the significance of the meeting. He commended the Downtown Association (DTA) for its upcoming Window Project where artists will wrap vacant windows in vinyl art. He stated that last year the organization painted the steam pipes in the downtown area. **Mr. Eberhart** reminded everyone that August 1 will be the opening of candidate filing for the 2013 Municipal Election and encouraged participation from residents. He stated that he enjoyed participating in the Golden Days Parade and reminded everyone that the Tanana Valley State Fair would begin on August 2.

Mr. Gatewood commended the Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce for putting on a good event with the Golden Days Parade but admitted that he also missed it this year. He congratulated the WEIO participants and stated that the youth at the Fairbanks Youth Facility are encouraged to participate in the games if they are eligible. **Mr. Gatewood** commented that the Governor's picnic over the weekend was quite a success. He asked **Mayor Cleworth** about employee evaluations and stated that in his time serving on the Council, he has never participated in an employee evaluation.

Mayor Cleworth stated that some employees were evaluated annually by the City Council in years past but that it has not been done in a few years. He explained that the Council is periodically supposed to evaluate the City Clerk and the City Attorney since they work directly for the City Council. He asked **Mr. Gatewood** if he was requesting an evaluation to be done in the near future.

Mr. Gatewood replied affirmatively.

Mayor Cleworth stated that he will schedule the evaluations.

Mr. Matherly, seconded by **Mr. Walley**, moved to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Labor Negotiations for the following union contracts: International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Public Safety Employees Association (PSEA), and AFL-CIO.

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

Mayor Cleworth called for a five minute recess.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a) Labor Contract Negotiations – IBEW, PSEA and AFL-CIO

The City Council met in Executive Session to discuss labor negotiations. Direction was given to staff and received from staff and no action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Matherly, seconded by Ms. Staley, moved to ADJOURN the meeting.

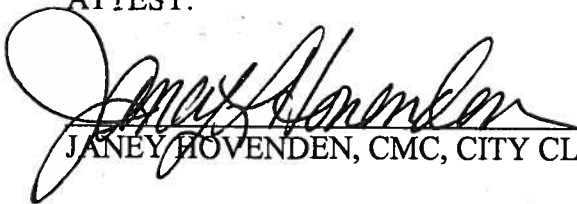
Mayor Cleworth called for objection and, hearing none, so ORDERED.

Mayor Cleworth declared the Meeting adjourned at 10:30 P.M.



JERRY CLEWORTH, MAYOR

ATTEST:



JANEY HOVENDEN, CMC, CITY CLERK

Transcribed by: DS