

**SPECIAL ASSEMBLY MEETING
THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA**

Meeting Minutes - January 23, 2019

MEETING NO. 2019-05: The Special Meeting of the City and Borough of Juneau Assembly, held in the Assembly Chambers of the Municipal Building, was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Beth Weldon.

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Assembly Members Present: Mayor Beth Weldon, Loren Jones, Michelle Hale, Wade Bryson, Carole Triem, Maria Gladziszewski, Mary Becker, Rob Edwardson, Alicia Hughes-Skandjis

Assembly Absent: None.

Docks & Harbors Board Members Present: Chair Don Etheridge, Budd Simpson, Mark Ridgway, Weston Eiler, Bob Janes, Dave McCasland, Bob Wostmann, Jim Becker

Absent: None - there was one vacant D&H Seat.

A quorum of each group was present.

Staff Present: City Manager Rorie Watt, City Attorney Rob Palmer, Municipal Clerk Beth McEwen, Port Director Carl Uchtyl, Docks & Harbors Administrative Officer Teena Larson, Harbormaster David Borg, Deputy Harbormaster Matt Creswell, Port Engineer Gary Gillette, Finance Director Bob Bartholomew

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented by unanimous consent.

III. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Joint Meeting with Docks and Harbors Board

Mayor Weldon welcomed everyone to the meeting and turned the gavel over to Docks & Harbors Board Chair Don Etheridge. Docks and Harbors staff and other CBJ staff members were introduced and Mr. Etheridge gave an overview of the projects that Docks & Harbors has been working on during the past year as well as some of the projects they currently have in process.

Discussion took place regarding the Clean Harbors award and the harbors that were included in that award. Deputy Harbormaster Matt Creswell explained that to receive

the award, there is a 15 page check list of best practices with 19 of those practices required to be met while at least 80% of the remaining 85 practices be met to achieve the award. Juneau was the 5th harbor community to receive the award and after further discussion, Mr. Creswell explained that the harbor basins covered by Juneau's award were the Harris, Douglas, Aurora, and Statter Harbors. Additional discussion took place regarding the Amalga Harbor and N. Douglas launch ramp and since those aren't harbor basins with finger floats, they were not included in that project.

Mr. Jones raised the concerns of the residents of Amalga that Amalga Harbor was not part of the Clean Harbor review and does not meet the best practices. He asked if Docks and Harbors has any plans on bringing it in under the Clean Harbor standards?

Discussion then took place regarding the recent proposal for the fish cleaning station at Amalga Harbor. Mr. Etheridge explained that Amalga Harbor doesn't meet the harbor basin criteria since it is only a launch ramp. With respect to the fish cleaning station, they do intend to engage the general public and reach out specifically to Amalga residents to engage them in additional public meetings on that topic.

Additional discussion took place with Assemblymembers and Docks & Harbors members regarding fish stations, Fish and Game regulations, and public engagement in general. The Mayor and Assembly shared with the board members that the more dialogue and public process that can be done at the board level, the less the Assembly has to get deep into the weeds when it is forwarded to the Assembly level.

Other key topics discussed touched on the Auke Bay Marine Station and Statter Harbor plans including outreach and engagement with the Auke Bay residents and other groups such as the Auke Bay Plan Implementation Committee, UAS and NOAA. Ms. Gladziszewski asked for the Docks & Harbors Board to provide the Assembly with an update as to what work has been done to date on the marine station and what their plans and goals are with respect to future work on that property.

Discussion then turned to the Assembly's goals as well as how the Docks and Harbors board's work and plans align with those of the greater community as found in the Comprehensive Plan, the Long Range Waterfront Plan, the Juneau Economic Development Plan and how it all fits together with the zoning of the areas involved. Docks and Harbors members and staff then explained the various deferred maintenance projects they have undertaken as well as some that are coming in the near future, specifically with respect to the zinc anode projects. Staff explained that zinc anodes extend the life span of the harbor pilings by approximately 33%. Other major projects that meet the long range waterfront goals as well as the economic development plan include completion of the major cruise ship project downtown, rebuilding many of the kiosks, addition of new floats and renovations at Harris Harbor, Aurora Harbor, and a large part of Statter Harbor.

Mr. Etheridge stressed that Juneau is making strides on becoming a maritime community by attracting more fishermen and building on and expanding maritime culture locally.

Additional discussion took place between the Assembly and board members regarding a wish for greater communication between the bodies, especially when there are complex issues that can become controversial.

They discussed the Tlingit-Haida lease of the Thane property and that while it is a 35 year lease, it is opened up for review/continued approval every five years.

Discussion then continued with respect to long term planning and how the affects of climate change, rising sea levels, and glacial rebound enter into their plans. Mr. Etheridge explained that when they are working on their facility plans that they are planning with the extremes in mind such as 25-30 foot tidal changes, having to dredge harbors due to glacial rebound and other long term affects.

The discussion then turned to the policies behind what is being planned by the engineers and how the various plans adopted by CBJ and Assembly goals effect those long term project planning. Board members said they look to the plans and goals approved by the Assembly for their policy direction but they are also open to hearing more from the Assembly. Mayor Weldon shared that we are very fortunate to have competent managers in Mr. Watt and Mr. Uchytel who are "doers" and that it is up to the Assembly and also by extension, the Harbor Board, to listen to the public for their input and provide the policy and course corrections to staff. Mayor Weldon encouraged a broader opening of communication channels between the Assembly and the Harbor Board and members of both bodies discussed ways for engaging the public in the overall process.

Next to be discussed was the status of the tug boat "Lumberman" which is still floating in the channel under the jurisdiction of the State of Alaska Division of Natural Resources. Mr. Etheridge reported that CBJ and DIPAC have stabilized the boat with additional anchors. The Coast Guard has removed its fluids but there is still some bilge sludge on board. It is estimated that it would cost approximately \$250,000 to tow the vessel to Hoonah where it could be taken out of the water, chopped up for scrap metal and disposed of properly. Mr. Edwardson shared that this is not just a CBJ problem or even a Southeast problem but rather a national problem with approximately 900 abandoned or derelict vessels in Alaska waters alone. Mayor Weldon asked if Docks and Harbors had money in their budget to address the issue of the Lumberman. Mr. Janes asked if the Assembly was directing them to take on this issue. With the agreement of the Assemblymembers present, Mayor Weldon said yes, they would like Docks and Harbors to address this issue.

Mr. Becker said that a bill was signed last year by Governor Walker but that it was not funded by the State. He noted that DNR has to apply for the funds in order for the state to be able to do something with the Lumberman. Mr. Becker also shared that last year,

there was quite a bit of concern from DIPAC about the possibility that the Lumberman would break loose of its anchoring and damage the infrastructure of the DIPAC facilities.

Mayor Weldon thanked the Docks and Harbors board and congratulated them and their staff for doing such a great job on the deferred maintenance and also on its Clean Harbors Award.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. CLIA Litigation Update - To be held in City Hall Conference Room 224

MOTION by Ms. Triem to recess into Executive Session to discuss matters which might have an adverse affect on the finances of the city, specifically with regard to the CLIA litigation.

Mayor Weldon asked for any public comment on the motion to go into Executive Session. Hearing none, she recessed the Assembly at 6:45 p.m. upstairs to hold its Executive Session.

The Assembly came out of Executive Session at 8:48 p.m. and reported that it received updates from Bob Bartholomew, Robert Palmer and Rorie Watt regarding the CLIA litigation.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Assembly, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Signed: _____
Elizabeth J. McEwen, Municipal Clerk

Signed: _____
Beth A. Weldon, Mayor