

**ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA**

December 7, 2020, 6:00 PM.

Zoom Webinar & FB Live Stream

REVISED AGENDA AS OF 12/7/20 Zoom Webinar Link <https://juneau.zoom.us/j/94188522671>,
or Call 1-253-215-8782 or 1-312-626-6799 and enter Webinar ID: 941 8852 2671 [Please note
that this is an Assembly Worksession, Public Testimony is only be taken on the Hurlock Property
Ordinances 2020-57 and 2020-58]

AGENDA

I. ROLL CALL

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. June 22, 2020 Assembly Committee of the Whole Draft Minutes

B. July 20, 2020 Assembly Committee of the Whole Draft Minutes

IV. AGENDA TOPICS

A. Joint Meeting with Planning Commission (6-7p.m.)

Introductions

Planning Commission Priorities (see attached list under Red Folder/Supplemental Materials)

- Title 49 update
- Comp Plan Review
- Parking (process PC is working through and what public outreach is planned)
- Zoning Update
- Area Plans
- Downtown Housing

Work plan/progress going into 2021

B. Public Testimony on Hurlock Property (7:30p.m.)

Instructions for Public Testimony:

Anyone wishing to testify during this portion of the meeting is asked to call the Municipal Clerk's public testimony request phone line at 586-0215 by 3 p.m. the day of the meeting or send an email to City.Clerk@juneau.org providing their name, email address, and phone number they will be calling from. Testimony time will be limited by the Mayor based on the number of participants. The public is encouraged to send comments in advance of the meeting to BoroughAssembly@juneau.org.

If you have not notified the Clerk's Office ahead of time you may still be able to participate. When attending the zoom webinar [login info listed at top of agenda] to speak on this item, please click the 'raise hand' button if participating via a computer/tablet; if participating by phone press *9 on your phone; this will place a 'raised hand' icon next to your phone number and will add you to the queue.

C. Assembly Discussion on Ordinance 2020-57

D. Assembly Discussion on Ordinance 2020-58

E. Assembly Discussion on Fireworks

Question: Does the Assembly want to provide direction on regulation of Fireworks?

If direction is given, staff will develop potential changes and schedule for consideration at a later date.

V. SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

A. RED FOLDER-Planning Commission Priorities Nov. 3, 2020

B. RED FOLDER - Youth Shelter and Rapid Rehousing Presentation

VI. ADJOURNMENT

ADA accommodations available upon request: Please contact the Clerk's office 36 hours prior to any meeting so arrangements can be made for closed captioning or sign language interpreter services depending on the meeting format. The Clerk's office telephone number is 586-5278, TDD 586-5351, e-mail: city.clerk@juneau.org

THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
DRAFT Meeting Minutes – June 22, 2020

The Committee of the Whole Meeting was held virtually via Zoom Meeting was called to order by Deputy Mayor Maria Gladziszewski at 6:05 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL

Assemblymembers Present: Deputy Mayor Maria Gladziszewski, Mayor Beth Weldon, Loren Jones, Rob Edwardson, Wade Bryson, Michelle Hale, Carole Triem, Alicia Hughes-Skandijs, and Greg Smith.

Assemblymembers Absent: None.

Staff present: City Manager Rorie Watt, Deputy City Manager Mila Cosgrove, City Attorney Robert Palmer, Municipal Clerk Beth McEwen, Deputy Clerk Diane Cathcart, Finance Director Jeff Rogers, JPD Chief Ed Mercer, Deputy Chief Dave Campbell, Chief Housing Officer Scott Ciambor, JPD Public Safety Manager Erann Kalwara, Library Director Robert Barr

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Hearing no objection, the agenda was approved as presented.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. March 2, 2020 Assembly Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Hearing no objection, the minutes of the March 2, 2020 Committee of the Whole meeting were approved as presented.

IV. AGENDA TOPICS

A. JPD - Community Policing & Use of Force

Chief Ed Mercer and Deputy Chief Dave Campbell gave a presentation to the committee addressing the 10 demands from the Black Lives Matter protest as well as the #8CantWait movement.

Ms. Triem asked Chief Mercer to explain how the Office of Special Prosecutions and the Office of Victims' Rights provide police oversight. Chief Mercer answered that the Office of Special Prosecutions are solely looking for the criminal elements through Alaska statutes, and they make decisions based on whether or not an officer uses lethal force on someone. They can criminally charge an officer if they find that an officer did not have the legal justification to use force.

He said the Office of Victims' Rights deals with victims who feel that they haven't received adequate service. They review the case to determine if the officer and the department took the appropriate action in that individual's case.

Mr. Bryson had several questions about body worn cameras, asking if they are automatic or activated, if officers recorded during their entire shift, and if there have ever been any instances in which an incident should have been recorded, but was not recorded for some reason.

Chief Mercer said that officers are required to activate their body worn cameras when they have contact with a person specifically to investigate cases. He said that their body cameras have the ability to retrieve up to a certain extent leading up to the event prior to it being recorded. Deputy Chief Campbell added that officers have their cameras on for up to 12 hours at a time during a shift, and it never stops recording. He said that only administrators have the ability to access and review bodycam footage. In the event of a serious incident such as an officer-involved shooting, Deputy Chief Campbell said that they would have the ability to pull hours of footage from both prior to and following the event. He also said that it is very difficult to pull 24 hours of footage and they must do so within a timely manner, or else the data used to record the full day will be recorded over.

Mayor Weldon asked Chief Mercer to describe the failure rate of the body cameras. Chief Mercer said that the cameras do sometimes fail, and the battery life on them was initially difficult to manage during a 12-hour shift. He added that while there is a failure rate, they do not track that data. However, JPD's IT department has been working closely with the vendor of the body camera to discuss and try to resolve the battery life and other issues.

Mayor Weldon asked them to explain the process of what happens when a JPD officer decides to use force when apprehending someone. Deputy Chief Campbell explained that JPD policy states what is considered a "reportable" use of force. If it is a firm grip, they do not report it. If it goes beyond a firm grip, when they use force tools (like pepper spray or a Taser) or strike someone or cause injury, they are required to fill out a "use of force" report which has to be completed by the end of their shift. That report goes to the sergeant. The sergeant reviews it and determines whether the force used complies with policy or not. The sergeant signs off on the report and forwards it to the lieutenant. The lieutenant reviews the report and if there is any video associated with the case, he is required to review the footage and determine whether the use of force was within policy standards. The report is forwarded to Deputy Chief Campbell's desk for his review and the final stop is review by Chief Mercer.

Ms. Gladziszewski asked the Chief to elaborate on the use of force report and the channels it travels through. Chief Mercer explained that in addition to the steps above with each officer who uses force is required to submit a report which goes through the front line supervisor, through the Deputy Chief, Chief, it also goes to the City Manager's office and when warranted an internal affairs investigation is done. He then elaborated on

the types of incidents which might be subject to an internal affairs investigation which is more than just for a use of force report.

Deputy Chief Campbell said that if use of force was used outside of policy, then the officer and the sergeant have to “justify” why it was outside of policy and then Chief Campbell and Chief Mercer send them a memo stating whether or not they agree or disagree with the justification. If they determine that the use of force was outside of policy and not justified, then it becomes an internal affair. If the use of force was outside of policy but was justified, then it becomes a “sustained appropriate use of force”. Chief Campbell says “it is possible to have a justifiable use of force that is not detailed out in the policy”

In 2019, JPD submitted 54 Use of Force reports which involved the arrests of 38 people. Multiple officers involved for each arrest resulted in the number of submitted reports being higher than the number of people who were arrested.

Mayor Weldon asked Mr. Watt to explain at what point the City Manager or the Deputy City Manager becomes involved in the oversight process. Mr. Watt said that JPD gives them a daily report of incidents and events, and they will follow up with the chiefs if needed. In the case of a major event, Mr. Watt says that it is likely that he or Ms. Cosgrove or the City Attorney will go watch the video of the event.

Mr. Edwardson asked Deputy Chief Campbell to describe how racial bias become a disqualifying factor when hiring new officers. Deputy Chief Campbell said that they look into it through background checks, social media posts, polygraph testing, and psychological screening. He recalls a recent applicant who underwent a polygraph test he was administering, said that they had internal biases against men of Arabian descent. Due to that admission, that person was disqualified and not chosen to be hired by the JPD.

Mr. Edwardson said that his feelings from the Listening Session held on June 17 was that whites and non-whites have had a very different experience with JPD and he asked if that was a fair assumption.

Chief Mercer said that based on what he listened to, there were a few things that caught his attention that night. One example was when people would recount their experience with police, particularly when they mentioned an officer using force. In general, what he heard was that in Juneau, JPD’s contacts with the public doesn’t sway one way or another. They foster a culture of no tolerance for racial prejudices at JPD and color doesn’t come into play when they have those interactions. Chief Mercer said that although racism does exist and will unfortunately continue to exist, he believes that Juneau does not necessarily have an issue with officers being “swayed” either way. He said he has not seen that in the 28 years that he has been in this job.

Ms. Hughes-Skandijs asked if they find that excessive use of force had been used, does the policy outline what would happen after that in terms of punishment or follow-up action if it was unjustified.

Deputy Chief Campbell said that they have justification from the Alaska State Statute to use excessive force, but it has to meet the reasonable test; anything beyond that is unjustified. If another officer sees misconduct, they are required to report it. He also said they would use “progressive discipline” to decide what happens next, up to and including termination. There are actions that officers might take that are subject to a Brady Disclosure. He went on to explain that a Brady Disclosure is one in which if an officer has some sort of sustained bias allegation, excessive use of force allegation, or truthfulness allegation, JPD would be mandated to disclose that information in court. He said that the Brady Disclosure is a deterrent for officers from committing one of those alleged acts as it would taint the veracity of any testimony that officer provided in court. He deferred to Mr. Palmer to elaborate on the Brady Disclosure if Assemblymembers had questions about it.

Ms. Gladziszewski asked Mr. Palmer to provide additional information on the Brady Disclosures. Mr. Palmer explained that “Brady” was a case that went to the Supreme Court that said that if an officer was under investigation or has a history of veracity or credibility issues, the prosecution would have to disclose that to the defense attorney. He also explained that for a police force as small as JPD, it would be a great strain to have an officer who was not able to investigate or serve as a witness on court cases, whereas in a larger community such as New York, an officer may just be reassigned to an administrative position while those issues were being worked investigated and resolved.

Ms. Hughes-Skandijs asked Chief Mercer if they receive training from outside sources as part of their yearly training. Chief Mercer said that a good portion of the training is conducted internally to cut costs, however they do bring in outside trainers and they work with the Department of Public Safety and the Alaska Police Standards Council.

Ms. Hughes-Skandijs asked if a prospective officer had been previously fired from a different police department, would that be disqualifying in their hiring process. Chief Mercer said that a previous termination plays a significant role in the hiring process. He added that based on his knowledge, JPD has never hired a police officer who was fired from another police department. He said that JPD conducts a thorough background check prior to hiring any new officers.

Mr. Smith asked if there are any consequences for officers that do not turn on their body worn cameras. Chief Mercer said that there are consequences for not following policy. He elaborated that they would give the benefit of the doubt or consider external circumstances before taking action against blatantly disregarding a policy.

Mr. Smith asked, out of the 38 Use of Force incidents throughout the past year, for them to identify the level of scrutiny applied when those incidents were being reviewed internally. Deputy Chief Campbell said that JPD uses very little force and that the Use of Force reports from 2019 all were determined to be in compliance with JPD policy.

Ms. Gladziszewski asked Deputy Chief Campbell to clarify the Internal Affairs Investigation process. Deputy Chief Campbell said that an Internal Affairs investigation

could be due to a number of concerns: use of force, bias-based policing, or a legal offence such as a DWI. He added that anytime there is a complaint, JPD conducts an initial investigation to determine whether there is any conduct that would warrant an Internal Affairs Investigation. The Internal Affairs Investigation must be completed within 90 days and is often conducted with a CBJ employee from the Human Resources department.

Ms. Triem asked if there was a time limit within which a citizen has to file a complaint. Chief Mercer answered that there is no time limit or statute of limitations on filing a complaint, and that all complaints are looked at as an urgent matter, especially if the complaint involves an officer that is currently still on the force. Chief Mercer provided an example of an officer who had been employed at JPD who had a complaint filed against them. After an Internal Affairs Investigation determined that they had not disclosed information related to the complaint during the hiring process, they were relieved of their duties and is no longer employed at JPD.

Ms. Triem asked if there is an external body or organization that people could make complaints to instead of the JPD. Chief Mercer said the Alaska Police Standards Council accepts complaints, as well as the Office of Victims' Rights and the Alaska State Troopers. He mentioned that each of those departments take complaints very seriously. Deputy Chief Campbell said they would encourage people to file their complaints as soon as possible, mentioning the short window of time that body camera footage can be accessed and reviewed. The longer it takes to file a complaint, the review process ultimately becomes more difficult.

Deputy Chief Campbell continued the slideshow presentation, and referenced the #8CantWait campaign and its proposed guidelines for police departments as shown below:

- 1) Ban chokeholds & strangleholds
- 2) Require de-escalation
- 3) Require warning before shooting
- 4) Requires exhausting all alternatives before shooting
- 5) Duty to intervene
- 6) Ban shooting at moving vehicles
- 7) Require use of force continuum
- 8) Require comprehensive reporting

Deputy Chief Campbell said that with respect to requirement #1 banning chokeholds and strangleholds, JPD policy does not allow choking or strangling, but does include a carotid hold that requires mandatory medical care if used. He said that removing the carotid hold option would most likely result in the use of a firearm or deadly force. He also mentioned that what happened to George Floyd would not be accepted at JPD, and described that situation as horrific. He also said that after reviewing several years' worth of Use of Force incidents, the carotid hold has not been used by JPD within the last five years.

Deputy Chief Campbell then addressed requirement #6 that implores police departments to ban officers from shooting at moving vehicles. He shared that JPD officers are banned from shooting at a moving vehicle unless a person in the vehicle is immediately threatening the officer or another person with deadly force by means other than the vehicle. The JPD policy goes on to state, *“The moving vehicle itself shall not presumptively constitute a threat that justifies an officer’s use of deadly force. The officer threatened by an oncoming vehicle shall move out of its path instead of discharging a firearm at it or any of its occupants.”*

Chief Mercer and Deputy Chief Campbell completed the slideshow presentation by discussing JPD’s Use of Force policy, and sharing statistics on the specific Use of force incidents that occurred within the past year.

Mr. Smith asked if there were any situations they feel do not warrant a response from JPD, such as a behavioral or mental health crisis.

Chief Mercer said he is welcoming towards using alternatives to address some of the issues in our community. He added that some situations might not benefit from solely having a police officer present, but rather having an officer there as a part of a larger group of professionals.

Mr. Smith asked if JPD receives training on how to interact with people who have difficulty hearing or deafness, mental disabilities, or any other developmental disabilities. Deputy Chief Campbell responded JPD does have a policy that states how officers should interact with people with difficulty hearing and those who are developmentally disabled. He said that these policies are reviewed during training.

Mr. Edwardson referenced an incident described at the June 17 Listening Session in which a woman’s testimony described her being forcibly removed from her vehicle and held against the hood of her car by an officer with a weapon. Mr. Edwardson asked if JPD had a response to that incident. Chief Mercer said that they could look up the details of that specific incident, and determine if that level of force was reasonable or out of line. Deputy Chief Campbell mentioned that JPD did not look into that particular incident, because the caller identified herself as a sister of a police officer who had worked at JPD for 22 years. The incident she referenced was said to have been when her brother had first started working at JPD, which Deputy Chief Campbell believes to have been about 22 years ago. He said that JPD has not looked into the details of that incident yet, due to how long ago they believe it had occurred.

Mr. Watt mentioned that Juneau’s high level goal is to hire the best officers, and train them in a way that fits our community. He added that JPD is the largest CBJ department in terms of expenditure, and that is because they utilize resources for staffing, training, and human resources. Mr. Watt said that there is very open communication between the JPD and City Manager’s office. He feels it is important for the JPD to be engaged with the Assembly and with the community as a whole, particularly through community events. He believes that it is important for the Assembly to focus on these important issues, and for all CBJ departments to take input and strive to do better.

Ms. Gladziszewski said she would like to address this issue in a future COW meeting.

Ms. Hale said the Assembly meeting structure is a difficult one for JPD to have a conversation with the Assembly, mentioning that even the listening session was an awkward environment in which to have a conversation.

Mr. Bryson suggested using the panel like discussion style which was used by the Visitor Industry Task Force in previous forums.

Mr. Edwardson mentioned that the larger issue at hand is about racism, and the hundreds of people who would like for the Assembly to address systemic racism. He added that the reason they are having the discussion is not because of JPD, it is because of racism.

Ms. Hale agreed with Mr. Edwardson, saying that she has seen a complete willingness to tackle the issue of systemic racism that has plagued the country for hundreds of years. She added that this issue cannot be fixed within a few meetings, it will require the community to be heavily engaged and active. Ms. Hale said she would like to steadily work on this issue with the community moving forward.

Ms. Hughes-Skandijs mentioned the potential implementation of a citizen oversight board and would be interested in hearing the Manager's recommendations on the matter.

Ms. Gladziszewski thanked Chief Mercer and Deputy Chief Campbell for their time and for sharing their information with the Assembly.

The Committee took a break at 8:12p.m. and resumed the meeting at 8:25p.m.

B. Substance Abuse & Mental Health Plan 2020-2022

Ms. Gladziszewski introduced Amy Skilbred from the Juneau Community Foundation (JCF) to discuss the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Plan for 2020-2022. The JCF received funding for this project through CBJ's Social Service Grant process.

Ms. Skilbred shared that the majority of Juneau's mental health and substance use disorder providers are largely supported by federal and state funding. That includes JAMHI, Gastineau Human Services, Juneau Youth Services, Front Street Clinic, Midtown Clinic, Bartlett Regional Hospital, Catholic Community Services, and SEARHC. She added that all of these services currently bill Medicaid, which has become one of the primary sources of funding.

Ms. Skilbred explained that state and federal government changes in funding structures are moving away from state-run grant programs, and changing to Medicaid payments for services. She added that this change may have a lasting impact on Juneau's healthcare providers.

Ms. Skilbred shared that the plan features several objectives: having the knowledge to inform the community, promoting collaboration and communication among healthcare providers, and understanding at the local government level about what is happening in Juneau. The JCF outlines these objectives in eight goals:

1. Create a Juneau Behavioral Health Recovery Council.
2. Develop and Maintain Current Inventory of Existing Services and Providers.
3. Coordinate with Juneau Coalition on Housing and Homelessness.
4. Expand the capacity of substance use disorder and mental health treatment providers, ancillary supports, in order to provide treatments addressed in the 1115 Medicaid Waiver and the new State Administrative Services Organization (ASO)
5. Grow the current substance use disorder and mental health system services for children and youth and sustain the improvements.
6. Increase assessment and referral options for young children to support early access to Medicaid funded community and school-based services.
7. Promote ongoing efforts focused on suicide prevention in our community for adults and youth.
8. Investigate the workforce projects with Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority (AMHTA) and UAA Training Cooperative to determine if there are opportunities to improve staffing stability in our agencies.

Ms. Hale asked Ms. Skilbred to clarify if CBJ employees will be joining service providers to serve on the coordinating council.

Ms. Skilbred answered that it would be useful if the CBJ would provide some additional staff assistance to set up the meetings and take notes. She added that this information has been shared with service providers, and they have responded positively so far.

Mr. Bryson mentioned that the Assembly has been having ongoing discussions with JPD, and they have determined the JPD would benefit from having a mental health/social services component. He asked Ms. Skilbred if she had any recommendations on how to provide additional social services, and which social services group might be most helpful. Ms. Skilbred answered that JCF has been working with JPD on this issue for the past five years, providing funding to the JPD for Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) training and de-escalation training. Once the CIT got going, the next steps would have been a mobile crisis outreach team. JPD was willing to do that but the difficulty was to be able to get 27/4 commitment for the program but the non-profit social service agencies didn't have the funding available to fund their staff assistance with that type of program. One of the things that has happened recently the ACTS Team – JAMHI has received funding for ACTS teams which is a similar program to the programs that were in Utah where former JPD Chief Bryce Johnson had come from. There is clearly a way to do this as other communities have done it but it would need a fair amount of funding in order to bring that about.

Ms. Triem asked Ms. Skilbred to share which services are in danger of loss of Medicaid revenue, and which services might be newly available for Medicaid revenue.

Ms. Skilbred suggested they may want to hear from some of the service providers directly, as they would have a better understanding of the effects that state funding has on the services they provide.

Mayor Weldon asked Ms. Skilbred to describe her ideal business community, and how she imagined the council would interact with the Assembly. Ms. Skilbred gave specific group representations, some of the scope of the work they would be tasked with, such as gaps in service and identifying needs that would benefit the patients. She also mentioned there could be a financial need for providers as they transition from the revenue made from Medicaid, and as the state moves away from their grant funding program.

C. Unsheltered Population Update

Mr. Watt said that COVID-19 has put a lot of pressure on our social services in our community, particularly shelter services. He mentioned that in the 1980s, social services providers were able to solve some of the community issues due to a large amount of state funding. However, that is no longer the case in our current state financial climate. He said that we are at a potential point for the Assembly to reevaluate the CBJ footprint in the community related to these services. In March/April CBJ took over the JACC as the emergency cold weather shelter. Mr. Watt said he doesn't see that need going away as a long term strategy. The Glory Hall is trying to get their new location permitted and funded and he hopes it will be successful, but it will not solve all of Juneau's issues.

There are two memos in the packet that speak to the overall sheltering and a second memo on youth homelessness. Mr. Watt asked the Assembly if they are comfortable with having staff run the trap line to find funding for the youth homelessness grant funding options.

Objection by Mayor Weldon for the purposes of a question. She asked if they were to pursue grant funding, what would be the matching grant if the JCF could not match it. Mr. Watt said that he does not know the dollar amount, and that this is a preliminary grant, that others would like to participate in.

Ms. Triem asked Mr. Watt if the increased demand was due to COVID-19, or was the demand prior to COVID-19. Mr. Watt answered that the demand was prior to COVID-19, but it has become more visible due to the pandemic.

Mayor Weldon removed her objection. She asked if the Mental Health and Substance Abuse coordinator would become a new position in addition to Housing/Homelessness Coordinator or in place of our current staff. Ms. Cosgrove said that they were trying to coordinate with Ms. Skilbred's recommendations. She adds that CBJ might consider becoming situated to assist community efforts to most effectively align resources. She believes that further discussion can take place about whether this becomes an additional position, or a part-time position that coordinates with the Housing Office.

Mr. Smith asked if there are any opportunities for CARES money to potentially provide a rental assistance program. He added that the Assembly might want to think about setting some of that funding aside to provide housing relief and shelter for people in the coming months.

The Committee took a break at 9:12p.m. and resumed the meeting at 9:20p.m.

D. Rental Assistance Update

There was no Rental Assistance Update provided at this meeting.

E. Election Code Changes

Mr. Palmer said that in order to conduct a vote-by-mail election, his office identified some code changes that are needed for this process to be efficient and timely. Ordinance 2020-24 will be set for public hearing at the next Assembly meeting next Monday. Mr. Palmer explained Ord. 2020-24 and Emergency Ord. 2020-30. The primary code changes relate to the timing of events in order to facilitate the by mail election process. He then described in depth the changes in Emergency Ordinance 2020-30 which specifically apply to the timing for the filing of candidate nomination petitions, the date by which candidates have to withdraw if they are withdrawing from the ballot, and the filing period for a notice to run as a write in candidate. Mr. Palmer explained that no action was needed by the COW and that these ordinances would be up for action at the Monday, June 29 Assembly meeting.

Ms. Hale stressed the importance of publicizing and getting the word out about the date changes to anyone who may be interested in running for local office. Ms. McEwen explained the publicity planned as well as the Clerk's office assistance in conducting the How To Run For Local Office workshop in conjunction with the League of Women Voters, Juneau Votes, and JSD.

Mayor Weldon asked for clarifications on the various methods by which residents could vote including the option to vote in person. Ms. McEwen explained the options to have a ballot mailed to a temporary alternative address, the option to return the ballot via mail, or at one of the ballot drop boxes, and the option to bring in the ballot they received in the mail to one of the Voting Centers or to have a replacement ballot issued if necessary by one of Vote Centers or by calling the Election Call Center.

Mr. Smith asked about the option for pre-paying postage for return ballots. Ms. McEwen provided an explanation on the mail-in voting process, and due to the short remaining time in the meeting that she would be providing follow-up information to the Assembly via memo with respect to pre-paid postage on ballots.

F. July 3 Fireworks Display

Mr. Watt said this was the time that the Assembly needs to make a final decision on whether or not to allow for the July 3 Fireworks display sponsored by CBJ. The

committee in charge of preparing the fireworks show needs a final decision as to whether to move forward or not for this year.

Mr. Bryson recommended for the fireworks show to be stretched out across more land, as every piece of city land is open and available. He stated that if the fireworks show is not offered, individuals would resort to lighting off their own personal fireworks in residential areas.

Mr. Edwardson mentioned that he has heard suggestions similar to what Mr. Bryson had recommended. He said that they could open up all waterfront spaces for people to be able to watch it from their cars and for those who don't have cars. He also suggested having a one night mandatory mask wearing requirement.

Mayor Weldon shared many concerns that had been expressed. She believed that the community needs something to look forward to, and people can social distance by watching from their cars. She suggested the Assembly could allow for Docks & Harbors staff and/or City Manager to come up with a plan, as they do not have enough time tonight to come up with a plan. Mayor Weldon also mentioned that mask wearing would be too hard to enforce, but should be highly encouraged through public messaging.

Mr. Edwardson said that a law requiring masks would establish reasonable care and he would not be in favor of any fireworks unless there is a requirement for masks.

Ms. Hughes-Skandijs said that she read that the DPH is nearing their limit for contract tracers. She did not believe that hosting a fireworks show would be a good precedent, considering the pandemic is still ongoing. She did not support the fireworks show in light of the pandemic.

Ms. Hale acknowledged that everyone is exhausted and could use some relief right now. She supported the fireworks show, and she supported a mask mandate. Referencing the Black Lives Matter marches in Juneau and nationwide, Ms. Hale said that she has not seen a spike in cases as a result of those outdoor events, because most attendees were wearing masks. Since the fireworks show is outdoors, she agreed with Mr. Edwardson's suggestion of requiring masks that night. Ms. Hale also mentioned that the Assembly discussed personal use fireworks at their retreat last December. She said that it is too late now to address this issue for the 4th of July this year but they need to have that discussion eventually.

MOTION by Mr. Bryson for the Assembly to allow fireworks on the night of July 3 with proper social distancing and a strong recommendation for the use of masks and he asked for unanimous consent.

Objection by Ms. Hale, Ms. Hughes-Skandijs, and Mr. Smith.

Amendment #1 by Ms. Hale for masks to be required for participants who are viewing the fireworks outside of their cars.

Roll Call Vote on Amendment #1:

Hearing no objections, Amendment #1 passed.

Roll Call Vote on the main Motion as amended:

Objection by Mr. Jones, Ms. Hughes-Skandijs, and Mr. Smith.

Ayes: Bryson, Edwardson, Hale, Gladziszewski, and Mayor Weldon.

Nays: Hughes-Skandijs, Jones, Smith, Triem.

Motion passed. Five (5) Ayes, Four (4) Nays.

Mr. Palmer asked Ms. Gladziszewski if the Assembly would like for him to present a legal draft of the mask requirements for the fireworks show for the next Assembly meeting. Ms. Gladziszewski agreed.

V. STAFF REPORTS

None.

VI. COMMITTEE MEMBER / LIAISON COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

None.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Municipal Clerk Beth McEwen, MMC and Lacey Davis, Administrative Assistant I

THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
DRAFT Meeting Minutes – July 20, 2020

The Assembly Committee of the Whole meeting, held virtually via Zoom Meeting, was called to order by Deputy Mayor Maria Gladziszewski at 7:05p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Assemblymembers Present: Wade Bryson, Rob Edwardson, Michelle Bonnet Hale, Maria Gladziszewski, Loren Jones, Carole Triem, Alicia Hughes-Skandijs, Greg Smith, and Mayor Beth Weldon.

Assemblymembers Absent: None.

Staff Present: Deputy City Manager Mila Cosgrove, Municipal Clerk Beth McEwen, City Attorney Robert Palmer, Deputy Clerk Diane Cathcart, Library Director Robert Barr, Assistant City Attorney Emily Wright, Parks and Recreation Director George Schaaf, Finance Director Jeff Rogers, Public Works/Engineering Director Katie Koester

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Weldon requested removal of Item B – Ordinance 2020-35(b) from the agenda, as the Assembly has just passed Emergency Ordinance 2020-41 at the Special Assembly meeting prior to this meeting which would take effect immediately rather than Ordinance 2020-35(b), which, if adopted, would have had a later effective date.

Mr. Jones requested removal of Item C – Ordinance 2019-06(AG)(c) from the agenda, due to a recommendation from the City Manager to postpone action.

Ms. Gladziszewski said that they will address that agenda item when they get to Item C.

III. AGENDA TOPICS

A. PUBLIC TESTIMONY TO BE TAKEN ON: Ordinance 2020-32: An Ordinance Establishing a Systemic Racism Review Committee.

Public Testimony:

Phillip Moser, a Valley resident, applauded the Assembly for taking up this ordinance. He suggested the Assembly implement a democratic process for bringing on committee members to help uplift the voices who have not been heard. Mr. Moser said he acknowledged the difficult task of addressing systemic racism through working within the system that perpetuated inequality in the first place. He added that he thought the ordinance looks really nice so far, and recommended Assembly approval. He also recommended the Assembly expand the language to include systemic inequalities based off of class, and mentioned that classism and racism are often intertwined.

John Sisk, a Douglas resident spoke in support of the ordinance. He shared that he does not have personal experience of systemic racism impacting his life in Juneau, and mentioned that he is a white male. He might be among those who are least likely to be aware of the negative effects of systemic racism on his fellow residents here in Juneau. He explained that is the reason why he supported this ordinance, he wanted to ensure that no one in our community is disadvantaged by racism in any form, whether it is obvious discrimination, or less conspicuous racism that may show up inadvertently through our rules, policies, and practices of government. Mr. Sisk said that this ordinance would establish a systemic racism committee to inform the Assembly, as well as the community, and would help avoid establishing rules that may lead to or contribute to systemic racism. He concluded by saying he believed this ordinance is a good step forward, and urged the Assembly to pass the ordinance.

Alex Fritz, a Valley resident, said that he believed people of color in our community deserve equal treatment from city government. He expressed concern about the wording of the ordinance, and is concerned about the committee becoming a political or manipulative force in the CBJ. It is great for the Assembly to hear input on their legislative actions, but he would want there to be a system of caution. Mr. Fritz said the Assembly might be strong-armed into voting for something they do not agree with, because of the moral implications if they did not. He described a scenario in which the committee identifies something as systemically racist, and if an Assemblymember opposed it, it may appear as if that member is supporting systemic racism. He suggested that the input that comes from the committee is kept confidential and only for the sole consideration of the Assembly. He addressed the language of the ordinance that describes members as having had experience with unlawful discrimination and said he is concerned that those who have had that experience may come from one particular political side of the aisle, and thinks it would be helpful to have a balanced representation on the committee.

Richard Peterson, a Juneau resident, shared that he is President of Tlingit & Haida. He said he is in favor of this ordinance and believed that this ordinance is the first step in the right direction to create inclusiveness and respect. He added that our diversity is our strength, and this is an opportunity to let our neighbors know that we honor and respect them. Mr. Peterson said that having a committee to ensure that CBJ works towards erasing systemic racism is groundbreaking. He mentioned that Tlingit & Haida are standing by ready and willing to be a partner with CBJ in building a strong community.

Martin Stepetin, Sr., a Juneau resident thanked the Assembly for considering this ordinance. He said that systemic racism is alive and well in Juneau. He mentioned that he is currently running for the Juneau School Board and one of the biggest issues he has seen is the over-identification of Alaska Natives within the JSD. Mr. Stepetin referenced a civil lawsuit against JSD that took place twenty years ago, which accused JSD for over-identifying Alaska Native students. He believes that JSD currently over-identifies Alaska Native students more than any other school district within the State of Alaska. He said that is this committee was formed, it would prove to him that the Assembly is wholeheartedly wanting to work on these issues.

Ms. Hale thanked Mr. Stepetin for his testimony, and asked if he could clarify what the term “over-identification” of Alaska Natives meant. Mr. Stepetin answered saying the data of the JSD special education program compared to statewide school district data over-identifies Alaska Native students at a much higher rate. He added that the JSD, the Juneau School Board, and the Administration are all aware of this issue, and there is something in place, but he does not think it is aggressive enough. He referenced a time when Ketchikan School District realized that they were over-identifying Alaska Native students, and they changed it to lower the number of students they identify as needing special education.

Ms. Hughes-Skandijs asked Mr. Stepetin to explain if he meant that Alaska Native students are being over-identified in special education numbers. Mr. Stepetin clarified that Alaska Native students are being over-identified as students who need special education. He said that it has gotten to the point where the JSD was sanctioned by the State of Alaska in 2015, 2016, and 2017 for not following the funding formula. He said that if this problem is not solved quickly or properly, another civil suit could come out of this. Mr. Stepetin added that he thinks people within JSD care about this.

Ms. Gladziszewski asked Mr. Stepetin that, for example, if JSD identified 100 Alaska Native students, would he say that the accurate number would be closer to 95. Mr. Stepetin said that he does not have the data with him, but he could share a couple of local reports with the Assembly that will help them understand what he is working on.

Ms. Hale asked Mr. Stepetin if Alaska Native students are being over-identified as having special needs. Mr. Stepetin responded by identifying the two types of special education within JSD: one is for students who experience severe mental disability and need special education; the second type – where he said the problem is – meant for students who experience low to moderate mental disability, who are put into special education programs at a disproportionately higher rate than they should. He said that there are thirteen factors the state takes into account for what qualifies a student for needing special education, and most students in JSD’s special education programs only exhibit one or two of those qualifications. Mr. Stepetin believes that this committee, if formed, would draw attention to this specific problem that needs to be addressed.

Sara Frank, a Twin Lakes resident spoke in support of the Assembly forming this committee. She said that white supremacy takes many forms, not just the KKK or the N-word, white supremacy can also mean disregarding the experiences of Black and Indigenous People of Color. She added that white supremacy can also be refusing to examine the policies and practices of previous generations of white people to acknowledge the harm they caused and continue to cause. Ms. Frank explained that Black and Indigenous people have repeatedly explained that the harm of systemic racism is ongoing. She addressed white people, saying that they are not at fault for what previous generations have done, but they will be at fault for participating in white supremacy if they refuse to acknowledge the systemic racism that still affects our culture and policies today. Ms. Frank added that systemic racism will continue to cause harm unless we

confront it within ourselves and within our government. This is why she believes we need a committee to examine our policies and procedures to point out systemic racism and other barriers to help us move forward more equitably. She referenced concerns others expressed about the makeup of this committee, saying she hopes they are also concerned about the makeup of all of the other committees in Juneau. She observed that the Assembly appears to be mostly made up of white people similar to other governmental bodies in Juneau which she feels contains mostly white people. Ms. Frank concluded by thanked the Assembly for their time and for all they are doing for the community.

Laura Vess, a Downtown resident, expressed her appreciation for the Assembly passing the mask ordinance and believes these two ordinances are linked because they are both about community wellbeing. Ms. Vess shared that she is a sociologist at University of Alaska Southeast and has been working there for the past eight years. She also appreciated the comments made by the person before her, and would like to reiterate the importance of this committee. She shared that she is a white woman who teaches about systemic racism, and added that racism exists in many forms in Juneau and Southeast Alaska. She explained that systemic racism is built into our history, our institutions, policies and practices. Ms. Vess said that we need diverse committees in place that made up of the individuals who represent the community and can address the long term changes that are coming about from activism and awareness. She encouraged the Assembly to pass this ordinance and thinks the way the ordinance is written encourages people of color and diversity. She concluded her testimony by urging the Assembly to attend the Power and Privilege symposium hosted by UAS every fall, which addresses issues like this.

Marianna Moreno-Goodwin, a Douglas resident reviewed the ordinance and appreciated the work that has gone into it. She expressed some concern with the language of the ordinance saying that she is not sure if a group or committee can identify systemic racism. She is also concerned that attorneys might narrow the focus and not allow the committee the power to make any necessary changes. She said that she understands that Assemblymembers were elected and the community participated in those elections, however, there needs to be an internal equity audit of your current committees. Ms. Moreno-Goodwin shared that she had served on one of the Assembly's advisory boards and found it interesting that she was the one person who was not reappointed to the Youth Activities Board after serving for 5 years. She said that she felt her lack of reappointment was because she asked numerous questions about equity and diversity while serving on the board. Beyond a systemic racism review committee, Ms. Moreno-Goodwin said that there is a lot of work to be done within CBJ, starting with education. She urged the Assembly to become familiar with the theory and practice of racism, microaggressions and macroaggressions, and to recognize the privilege from which they benefit. She also mentioned that is important to recognize that it is next to impossible to identify systemic racism without having to go to court. They cannot assume that one or two persons can represent the total of experiences of all members of any one group. She believes this ordinance could be used as a beginning point to the extensive work that needs to be done. She said it is the responsibility of our elected officials to invest in their own education to understand the layers of racism.

Heather Koyuk, a Juneau resident, expressed her appreciation for all those who testified before her and acknowledged systemic racism as being difficult to identify and stamp out. She shared that she is an Alaska Native and understands that racism is a huge and heartbreaking part of Alaska's history. She added that racism is still present in Juneau in various ways, both small and large. She said that systemic racism is not a hard thing to recognize overall, but it is hard to identify specifically, i.e. where to make changes that would make a difference. She supports establishing a systemic racism review committee as long as it is comprised of a variety of people, including more than one Alaska Native who has experience in working for Native rights and civil rights overall.

Barbara Wáahlaal Gíidaak Blake, a Valley resident, greeted the Assembly in her native language, saying it was good to be with them. She shared that she serves as the Director of the Alaska Native Policy Center with First Alaskans Institute, a statewide Native Alaskan nonprofit working to advance the voices of Alaska Native people. She said that she also currently sits as a member of the Board of Directors for Sealaska Corporation. Ms. Blake is representing both of these entities, and both of them have submitted letters in support of this ordinance. She quoted one of the letters, stating: *“Passing this resolution in creating a systemic racism review committee is an opportunity for the City of Juneau to meaningfully stand in solidarity and do the act of hard work required to begin addressing this collective, historical trauma, and carve a pathway toward a safer, healthier world for current and future generations. Juneau can, and should, be a leader in this effort in Alaska; performative statements of allyship do nothing to interrupt and resolve systemic oppression. It takes a concerted and long-term effort to do so, and a bravery and courage of leadership in all Juneauites to advance this more perfect union. We urge you to pass this Ordinance 2020-32 to take a stand against an unjust reality of continued racial oppression and affirm your intention to serve as an antiracist governing body committed to protecting all residents of Juneau.”* She also provided a quote from Elizabeth Peratrovich when she was giving testimony for the Anti-Discrimination Act, stating: *“No law will eliminate crimes, but at least you, as legislators, can assert to the world that you recognize the evil of the present situation and speak your intent to help us overcome discrimination.”* Ms. Blake thanked the Assemblymembers for their time, and hoped they would seriously consider passing Ordinance 2020-32 to create a systemic racism review committee.

Talia Ames, a Juneau resident shared that she is the Reentry & Recovery Department Manager at Tlingit & Haida. Ms. Ames told the Assembly that racism is built into our systems and negatively affects Alaska Native people in vastly disproportionate ways. She referenced a 2019 Department of Corrections Offender Profile which states that Alaska Natives make up 39% of the incarcerated population, but only make up 15% of the State of Alaska population. Ms. Ames also referenced two studies conducted in 2018 by the Alaska Criminal Justice Commission, which found that Alaska Native defendants are more likely to be detained in a pre-trial period than Caucasian defendants. She explained that pre-trial detentions are associated with much worse outcomes for defendants, including longer sentences. Ms. Ames stated that changes were made which allowed pre-trial detention to be determined by a risk-assessment that did not include factors such as

race. The study of the results of these changes found tentative evidence of decreasing pre-trial detention for Alaska Native defendants, and Alaska Native defendants were released at rates similar to Caucasian defendants. She said that this is one of many examples of systemic racism, and there is a lot of work to be done in Alaska. Ms. Ames said she believes that establishing this committee is a necessary addition to the work that they do, and this would be a good thing for Juneau.

Public testimony closed at 7:54p.m.

Assembly discussion:

Ms. Gladziszewski opened it up for committee discussion.

Mr. Edwardson asked to speak to the testimony they had received both via email and via testimony.

He said that one of the things that should be discussed is the definition for systemic racism and institutional racism, however he acknowledged that there are multiple definitions for both of these terms, like with any complex issue. He provided a few definitions of the two terms for the Assembly:

“Institutional racism denotes these patterns, procedures, practices, and policies which operate within social institutions. So as to consistently penalize, disadvantage, and exploit individuals who are members of non-white groups.” - Institutional Racism, a Primary Theory on Strategies for Social Change.

“Institutional racism is revealed by policies and practices in organizations and institutions that contribute to discrimination for a group of people.” - Allison & Belgrave, 2009 He said that if they choose a definition and the definition is given too narrowly, it may limit the work of the committee.

Mr. Edwardson said that a number of emails that they received asked what was driving this ordinance. He answered that the input the Assembly has received over the last several months, most notably, the ten demands from the Black Lives Matter march, and the overall concern regarding racism and systemic racism led him to proposing this ordinance. He said he believes that this is long overdue and he wanted to see a committee like this when he first joined the Assembly but there was no appetite for it. Now, with public input and the events happening around the nation, there is an appetite for a committee like this now.

Mr. Edwardson said another question they’d received related to the power of the committee. He said that the power of this committee would be the same as any other advisory committee to the Assembly – it is to advise the Assembly. He added that it would not be empowered to act, there would be no budget, no power to act, no money to spend; the committee’s purpose is to simply act as one of several advisory boards for the Assembly.

Mr. Edwardson said one question asked if it should be a charge of the Human Rights Commission. He said they don’t have the same mission but we have several committees

that are made up of a variety of experts. He explained that dealing with systemic racism requires a certain level of expertise.

He said that he does not think of any of their boards as ideological, and the idea that a board wouldn't push to impose its will on the Assembly is unrealistic. The recommendations of this committee would be no different from any other current boards that provide recommendations to the Assembly. He added that, if this committee did not come to the Assembly and say "we want you to do this", then they would not be doing their job. To assume that doing so would be ideological, rather than professional, is something he does not necessarily think is fair.

Mr. Edwardson said that as far as broadening the focus he was not in favor of broadening it as it would begin to focus on other things and dilute their discussion on systemic racism. He said that he would like to see this the COW discuss this ordinance during this meeting, send it on to the Assembly for introduction and wait to make any amendments to it when it came before the Assembly under Public Hearing.

Mr. Bryson said he was going to offer that the Assembly Human Resources Committee address this at its August 3 meeting at their joint meeting with the Juneau Human Rights Commission. The joint meeting is to discuss the #8CantWait and the Black Lives Matter movement. He mentioned that one of the charges of the JHRC is to prevent racial inequality, and they could weigh in on this and advise the Assembly. Mr. Bryson said that he would hate to think that any legislation that they have passed in the past 18-20 months that he has served on the Assembly would include anything that might be considered systemically racist. He said he would like to help move this along in HRC if that would help make a path forward for this.

Ms. Triem asked Mr. Edwardson two questions. Question 1 to Mr. Edwardson was if he intended to include term limits for this board since many of our boards have term limits. Her second question related to Page 2, Line 5 of the ordinance, which states: "advise whether the ordinance likely includes a systemic racism policy", and she asked him to clarify if he meant a policy that includes an antiracist policy, or does it include something that is systemically racist.

Mr. Edwardson confirmed that the committee was intended to have term limits, and initially should have staggered term lengths. He said that the committee would be reviewing policies to see if it contains components that are systemically racist.

Mayor Weldon thanked Mr. Edwardson for bringing this forward for their consideration, it is a complex issue and is causing them all to think a lot. She asked, practically speaking, what problem this committee is actually trying to solve and does this get to the root cause of the issue. She also asked about the language on Page 1 of the ordinance, "The Assembly must only appoint candidates that it believes are legitimately representing the long term interests of those groups". She asked for Mr. Edwardson to clarify what he meant by 'those groups', as it is not defined in the ordinance. She also quoted, "Members shall have experience identifying unlawful discrimination, including based on race, color,

or national origin. Experience identifying social justice inequity or intimate knowledge of local tribal culture and practices.” She asked if they are excluding white people from this panel.

Mr. Edwardson answered that the committee does not exclude anybody, the original intention was to have the group comprised of minorities, but they cannot legally do that. He added that there are several people who do not belong to a minority group – some of whom instruct at the university level on the subject – and the Assembly can choose who they would like to represent minority groups in Juneau. He suggested they could change the wording to, “minority groups in Juneau.” He said that it doesn’t take a minority to represent that and it could be open to anyone.

Mayor Weldon said that the ordinance seemed to put this committee over the Assembly. She referenced Line 3 on Page 2, saying it prevents the Assembly from taking action on legislature between introduction and public hearing, and that they must wait until the committee has met to review the ordinance for systemic racism. She said that might be almost impossible for the timing on how this would flow.

Mr. Palmer said the way this ordinance was drafted, an ordinance or resolution that has not reviewed by this committee, would not be able to be acted upon by the Assembly and that Mr. Edwardson might be able to speak to the reasons why.

Mr. Edwardson said if the committee did not review ordinances under consideration, there would not be much purpose for the committee in the first place. His original vision was to have the committee review ordinances before introduction. He said there are a lot of things that get introduced that aren’t heard and don’t make it to the Assembly for final action. He did not think this process put the committee in an authority position over the Assembly, that this would be a process of the workflow.

Ms. Gladziszewski mentioned that she does not read the draft ordinance in the same way that Mr. Palmer explained and asked him to clarify which part he is interpreting that says the Assembly cannot act until the committee has reviewed an ordinance or resolution. She reads it to say that the committee would be charged with reviewing the legislation but it doesn’t say that if the committee doesn’t review it, the Assembly cannot act on that legislation. She said that she understands that is the intent but she is also sensitive the Mayor’s comment and what would happen in light of situations similar to what they have recently been dealing with during the pandemic at which some emergency ordinances and resolutions are brought forth and adopted at one meeting.

Mr. Palmer clarified that he was interpreting that based on the language found on page 2 of the draft ordinance, Section 2(b)(1) and 2(b)(2) but said that if the Assembly wished to clarify their intent on that, that could be something that they could amend and adjust according to the wishes of the body.

Mayor Weldon said she would not be able to support this committee having authority over the Assembly. She said it may have some potential unintended consequence, such as

if the committee didn't like a piece of legislation, they could simply choosing not to meet which would stall the Assembly. She also could not imagine a volunteer committee being able to keep up the pace of the Assembly, especially during times like this that have required several dozen meetings.

Mayor Weldon added that she liked Line 7 on page 2 under Section 2(b)(3) which states "Presenting options for curing the potential systemic racism." She appreciated offering solutions to a problem. She said she saw Line 13 on page 2 under Section 2(d) had an unintentional miss, "The committee requires three or more affirmative votes to be approved." She said that gives a minority the power to move something, so if all seven were in place it would only take three "yes" votes to outnumber the four "no" votes. She said that she thought was an unintentional miss that needs to be fixed.

Mr. Jones said that some of his questions that have been asked. Much of the testimony heard tonight does not match Section (b) of this ordinance which has to do with what the committee is charged with. What they heard testimony about and received emails about spanned across Dept. of Corrections, Prosecutions, School Board issues, a request for internal equity audit of CBJ, and how CBJ recruits for the city boards. The HRC has been working on getting more people to apply to serve on boards as well as run for elected office for several years. He said that he is not aware of anyone who meets the definition of committee that is willing to run for the Assembly. Mr. Jones said he was not convinced that the powers and duties listed for this committee will help much in terms of systemic racism. He said that he doesn't know how to fix it but that he will work on before it comes to the Assembly for final action.

Mr. Edwardson responded that he has heard concerns similar to Mr. Jones', but he has also heard support for this ordinance as presented.

Ms. Hale said that she is 100% convinced that systemic racism is real. She shared her experience growing up in Southeast Alaska she has seen systemic racism. She added that the Assembly and the HRC have both been very focused on trying to address these issues, and simply appointing someone will not resolve those issues. Ms. Hale agreed that we need to do something, but she is not sure if this committee is the solution. She suggested taking a look at the JHRC and possibly consider if that can be repurposed for this task.

Mr. Edwardson said he thought this conversation would go this direction. He referenced the citizens, some of whom he believes are experts, who have testified on this and in favor this ordinance. He also shared that he spoke to several people before bringing this draft forward. He asked the Assembly, if not this, then what?

Mr. Hughes-Skandijs thanked Mr. Edwardson for working on this and she does not have a great answer to his "if not this, then what" question. She said her main concern is if the committee is not able to meet between introduction and public hearing on legislation, how that might limit the Assembly in being able to act. She also expressed concern about the expectations between what the committee "can" do being greater than what it is charged to do, but felt that what it is charged to do is a step in the right direction.

Mr. Edwardson shared Ms. Hale's concerns about how this committee would interact with the Assembly. The draft included a mechanism built in for interaction. He said that much of the literature that discusses systemic racism consistently recommends that we talk about it and shine a light on the problem. In this case, he would be gathering a quorum of seven people together to review something and identify any potential problems. He added that the Assembly does not have to go with the recommendation, as long as they talked about it and it allowed the recommendation for discussion purposes.

Ms. Hale reiterated that this is a complicated discussion, and said it makes her wonder that if the JHRC is not meeting the purpose that this is trying to do, why are they not trying to modify the JHRC?

Mr. Edwardson said if the JHRC was doing what their full scope is, they would have a full time job as an advisory committee. He described the mission of the JHRC and the mission of the committee he is proposing are two different things. He would like people who are experts who are experienced in the area of racism and public policy to serve on this committee. Mr. Edwardson mentioned that even when he was the chair of the Assembly HRC, they were trying to revamp the JHRC. He noted that there is not much information – agendas and minutes – available on the JHRC, there is no information for 2019, 2018, or 2017. The relatively few meetings they had in 2016 featured agenda items that were different from what the committee would work on, and half of the meetings were cancelled due to lack of a quorum.

The Committee took a break at 8:33p.m. and resumed the meeting at 8:45p.m.

Mr. Smith asked if this committee would be charged with looking at new legislation or all (including past) legislation, and brought up if they would review other policies and practices which may contain systemically racist components.

Mr. Edwardson said he envisioned this to start with the committee looking at current issues going forward, and does not think they should go back through old legislation in the last eighteen months.

Ms. Triem expressed a few concerns about the committee:

1. The workload of the committee – experts at that level mentioned by Mr. Edwardson would be quite busy to frequently volunteer without pay to do the workload they are asking. She said she would like to pay experts for their expertise.
2. Racism in text of law vs. how they are implemented. She clarified that the law as it is written may not be inherently racist, but how it is implemented may be how it perpetuates systemic racism.
3. Given the amount of work the committee is being asked to do, she said they would need to think about staffing it and that also needs to be considered.

Mr. Edwardson believes that the experts being busy can also be applied to the Planning Commission and Hospital Board. He adds that this is a public service and the people who would be interested in this would be willing to serve. Similar to those boards, he said it would be an honor to serve and be on those bodies. In regards to the application of the law vs. the implementation the law itself, Mr. Edwardson said the expertise of the members would be able to discern institutional racism.

Mayor Weldon echoed Ms. Hale's suggestion of repurposing the purpose and mission statement if the JHRC. She also expressed concern that Mr. Edwardson is looking for a narrow group of experts, it might keep other members from the community from participating. Mr. Edwardson spoke to the expertise all of the racial groups in Juneau would all have people with experience that would qualify them to serve on this committee. He also explained that giving this to the JHRC, the members of whom who may not be experts in this field, would double their workload for a task they did not initially sign up for.

MOTION by Ms. Hale that they refer this to the HRC with the JHRC for further discussion, and to the next COW to review the recommendations from the HRC and make amendments as needed.

Objection by Mr. Edwardson. Mr. Edwardson spoke to his objection, he mentioned Mr. Bryson has been trying to revamp the JHRC, and does not know if they are fully up to speed. He did not think it would be appropriate to ask the JHRC if they can do a job better than another committee.

Mr. Bryson said he was going to request that Mr. Edwardson attend the joint HRC meeting with JHRC to work through some of these questions. He added that it might be helpful to receive input from the JHRC.

Objection by Mr. Jones. He said that every ordinance can be reviewed by any citizen and any committee. He would like to move forward from here for the ordinance to be introduced and referred back to the COW.

There was discussion about referring the ordinance to a committee, or introducing the ordinance at the next Regular Assembly meeting.

Roll Call Vote on Referring Ordinance 2020-32 to the HRC on August 3rd:

Ayes: Hale, Triem, Bryson, Gladziszewski, Mayor Weldon.

Nays: Hughes-Skandijs, Jones, Smith, Edwardson.

Motion passed. Five (5) Ayes, Four (4) Nays.

B. Ordinance 2020-35(b): An Ordinance Requiring a Face Covering in Certain Indoor Settings.

This item was removed from the Agenda at the beginning of the meeting.

C. Ordinance 2019-06(AG)(c): An Ordinance Appropriating up to \$8,500,000 to the Manager for Phases 2 and 3 of a COVID-19 Business Sustainability Grant Program; Funding Provided by the CARES Act Special Revenue Fund.

Ms. Bell and Mr. Holst both joined the meeting and said they would answer any questions the Assembly may have.

Ms. Gladziszewski asked Ms. Bell if the ESTF reviewed Version C of the ordinance, and if they think this is the version they should consider. Ms. Bell confirmed that they reviewed this version on Thursday, and this version is the one they will present for consideration.

Mr. Jones asked for Ms. Bell to provide comment on the amount of spending the ESTF is recommending towards this program. Ms. Bell answered that as the ESTF were drafting these grants in Phase 1, they anticipated there would be a greater need than they would be addressing in Phases 2 and 3.

Mr. Mertz said it is important to point out the way Phase 1 was written, the other two thirds of the expenses that are funding the grants will not be approved without Phase 2. Another contributing factor was that the ESTF anticipated demands to increase, as businesses begin to look towards the fall and winter. He said that he feels very confident that the demand is there, and believes it is critical that these grants be funded.

Ms. Jones expressed concern about the numbers not being presented in a way that the Assembly could understand. He understood the importance of the business sustainability grant, but it seemed to him that there has been no increase in the amount of money businesses can make during this time.

Ms. Triem said that there is a certain amount of need in the business community right now, and they, as an Assembly, have determined a formula to allocate that money in hopes it will match the amount of need. She believes what JEDC and ESTF are telling the Assembly is that was not entirely accurate, and they are now going to tweak that formula in Phase 2 so it can serve the amount of need in the business community. She also said she is in favor of allowing businesses to pay back one of the loans they received from CBJ by using a grant.

Ms. Triem asked for clarification regarding the prioritization and disbursement of funds for businesses in the formula. Mr. Holst answered that the ESTF and JEDC prorate the amount of all of the awards, and they do not assign a grant amount to a business until they know the entire amount of demand. He said this method contributes to fairness, but it also delays how quickly they can disburse the next round of funding. He added that they must receive all of the applications, review them all, make reward calculation for each of them, and then divide out the remaining resources.

Mr. Bryson said he would like to take a more positive view towards the business community. He asked Mr. Mertz to share any anecdotal information he had about

businesses who had to close in Juneau, and the businesses and jobs that have been saved by these grants. Mr. Mertz shared that the funding that this grant has provided has helped pay for peoples' mortgage payments and keep people employed. He added that the ESTF and JEDC will continue to work to ensure that the Assembly has adequate information regarding the details of the grant funding.

Ms. Gladziszewski asked Mr. Mertz to describe the discussion they had about trying to come up with a mechanism to assess viability and a business' likelihood to succeed. Mr. Mertz shared that he and the ESTF discussed with Mr. Palmer how to word an ordinance to require a business to describe how the grant would be necessary to sustain business operations in the application. He mentioned that they plan to update the application questions, such as asking businesses the likelihood that they will be open in the future.

Mr. Jones was concerned about the language of the ordinance not allowing the ESTF to ask businesses who have already applied for Phase 1 additional questions regarding their sustainability. Mr. Palmer said that the Assembly could not amend the requirements for Phase 1 to affect the applicants who have already received their grants. However, he said they could make any criteria they would like for Phases 2 and 3.

Mr. Jones referenced Page 4 of the ordinance, which states: "*Any business that applied for Phase 1 need not apply for Phase 2, but must notify the grant administrator that the business is requesting the eligible Phase 2 grant award; i.e. two-thirds of than the Phase 1 grant.*" He said that seemed to him that they cannot change the criteria. Mr. Palmer said that if they would like to eliminate the sentence that Mr. Jones identified, they could eliminate it. Mr. Jones said he was not sure whether or not he wanted to eliminate the sentence, and he does not have a problem with how the ordinance is written. He said that the change in the rules seem to expand what are eligible expenses and eligible debt, and those who already received Phase 1 funding will not be affected by that change. Ms. Gladziszewski said that Mr. Jones could make that change if he wanted to and make a motion. Mr. Jones chose not to make a motion.

MOTION by Mayor Weldon to move Ordinance 2019-06(AG)(c) to the August 3, 2020 Regular Assembly Meeting for Public Hearing.

Objection by Mr. Jones for purposes of a comment. His comment to Assemblymembers was for them to thoroughly read the full ordinance, he said that it had set deadlines that were not discussed with the Assembly, referring to unspent money that must be returned by November 1, 2020 and other items. Mr. Jones removed his objection.

Hearing no objections, Ordinance 2019-06(AG)(c) was forwarded to the August 3 Regular Assembly Meeting for Public Hearing.

D. Ordinance 2020-36: An Ordinance Appropriating up to \$3,000,000 to the Manager for a COVID-19 Nonprofit Sustainability Grant Program; Funding Provided by the CARES Act Special Revenue Fund.

MOTION by Mayor Weldon to move to Ordinance 2020-36 to the August 3, 2020 Regular Assembly Meeting for Public Hearing.

Objection by Ms. Hughes-Skandijs for the purpose of a question. She asked if there was a wide array of services provided by faith-based nonprofits in Juneau. Ms. Skilbred answered that faith-based nonprofits can include churches who provide services like food pantries; as well as programs like Family Promise which are run within a church that provides non-religious associated services.

Ms. Hughes-Skandijs also asked if organizations applying for grants for \$5,000 or less will be required to provide documentation that prove that they were affected by COVID-19. Ms. Skilbred answered that was to try to limit the amount of paperwork that nonprofits have to provide to receive a limited amount of funding. Ms. Hughes-Skandijs removed her objection.

Objection by Ms. Gladziszewski. She said that she would rather discuss this ordinance at an Assembly Finance Committee meeting rather than a Regular Assembly meeting.

Roll Call Vote to refer Ordinance 2020-36 to the August 3, 2020 Regular Assembly Meeting for Public Hearing:

Ayes: Mayor Weldon, Triem, Smith, Bryson.

Nays: Jones, Hughes-Skandijs, Hale, Edwardson, Gladziszewski.

Motion failed. Four (4) Ayes, Five (5) Nays.

MOTION by Mr. Jones to refer Ordinance 2020-36 to the Assembly Finance Committee meeting on July 23, 2020 and set it for Public Hearing on August 3, 2020.

Hearing no objection, the motion passed.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public participation on non-agenda items.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Assembly Committee of the Whole, the meeting was adjourned at 10:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Municipal Clerk Beth McEwen, MMC and Lacey Davis, Administrative Assistant I



(907) 586-0757
Jill.Maclean@juneau.org
www.juneau.org/CDD
155 S. Seward Street • Juneau, AK 99801

TO: Deputy Mayor Jones, Chair, Committee of the Whole

FROM: Jill Maclean, AICP, Director *Jill Maclean*

CC: Rorie Watt, City Manager
Dan Bleidorn, Lands Division Manager

RE: Future Use of 9290 Hurlock Avenue

DATE: December 2, 2020

What is the history of the Hurlock Property?

9290 Hurlock Avenue (Hurlock Property) functioned as a youth homeless shelter for 52 years, operated (most recently) by Juneau Youth Services (JYS), until closing in 2017. The land and facility was owned by CBJ and leased to JYS for \$1.00 per year.

What was the process to dispose of the Hurlock Property?

Beginning in 2018, the Assembly underwent a public process to dispose of the Hurlock Property with a priority to achieve a needed public use at the site. Six proposals were submitted, and based on public use, the Assembly narrowed it to three options: assisted living senior care facility, a child care center, and Polaris House.

What was the outcome of the land disposal process?

On August 13, 2018, the Assembly adopted Ordinance 2018-42 authorizing the sale of 9290 Hurlock to Alaska Legacy Partners (ALP) with the condition that the property be developed as assisted living senior care facility.

Why is the Hurlock Property under discussion today?

In 2020, ALP determined that they would not proceed with a senior care facility, and began working with Tlingit Haida Regional Housing Authority (THRHA) to sell the property to THRHA for assisted living youth emergency housing and rapid rehousing.

Why are there multiple CBJ approval processes?

The Hurlock Property was owned by CBJ, making CBJ both the prior owner and manager of the property; as well as, the permitting authority through the Planning Commission. Per Ordinance 2018-42, ALP purchased the property and agreed to develop the property as assisted living senior

care facility. Since ALP seeks to sell the property to a new owner for a different use, the land could revert back to CBJ as the owner per Ordinance 2018-42.

ALP (owner) / THRHA (applicant) opted to pursue a conditional use permit, while asking the Assembly to support a land re conveyance to CBJ, with a lease to THRHA. A similar situation often occurs in the private sector when a buyer is considering purchasing or leasing a site, but the sale / lease is contingent upon obtaining necessary permitting and approvals. THRHA's conditional use permit does not pre-empt the Assembly from taking action; the two processes are separate and run concurrently.

What approvals have occurred to date?

On March 14, 2019, the Planning Commission granted a conditional use permit (USE2019-0005) for a 15-room, 30-bed assisted living senior care facility to ALP (applicant/owner).

On October 13, 2020, the Planning Commission granted a conditional use permit (USE2020-0020) to THRHA for assisted living youth emergency housing and rapid rehousing for up to 10 youth, and one additional unit with 2 bedrooms for youth exiting foster care (total of up to 12 youth).

The conditional use permit for the THRHA proposal followed the standard review and noticing procedures as required. The THRHA application did not receive an abbreviated or special review by the Planning Commission or CBJ staff. As the property operated as a youth homeless shelter for 52 years until 2017, a neighborhood meeting was not deemed necessary for this application.

On September 9, 2020, THRHA held a pre-application conference, as required by code, with CBJ staff. Subsequent to receiving a complete application, a public hearing date was set. Property owners located within a 500-foot radius, and the neighborhood associations, received an abutter notification as to how and when they may comment on the application, and provide public testimony at the public hearing. The required red public notice sign was properly posted at the site; a legal ad was noticed in the Juneau Empire; and the hearing information was posted on CBJ social media.

Next Steps

December 7, 2020, Assembly COW to take public testimony on the reconveyance and future use of the Hurlock Property.

December 14, 2020, a public hearing will be held on two separate Ordinances at the regular Assembly meeting regarding the future use of the Hurlock Property, and public testimony will be taken. The first Ordinance (2020-57) would authorize the CBJ to regain title to the property. The second Ordinance (2020-58) would authorize a lease of the property to THRHA.

Community social service partners have further advocated that the CBJ be the operator of the facility. The Assembly has not acted upon this suggestion.

Presented by: COW
Presented: 11/23/2020
Drafted by: R. Palmer III

ORDINANCE OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 2020-57

An Ordinance Authorizing the Manager to Accept the Reconveyance of a Fraction of U.S. Survey 381, Located at 9290 Hurlock Avenue, from Alaska Legacy Partners.

WHEREAS, Juneau Youth Services notified the City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ) in November of 2017, that it no longer had need for the facility located at 9290 Hurlock Avenue; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 2018-42 authorized the sale of the Hurlock property to Alaska Legacy Partners for an assisted senior living center; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, Alaska Legacy Partners contacted the CBJ to pursue reconveyance of the Hurlock property back to CBJ at no cost to the CBJ, as Alaska Legacy Partners had not pursued development of the assisted senior living center.

THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA:

Section 1. Classification. This ordinance is a noncode ordinance.

Section 2. Authorization to Accept the Reconveyance from Alaska Legacy Partners.

(A) The Manager is authorized to accept, at no cost and only by deed, the property at 9290 Hurlock Avenue and more specifically identified as

A fraction of U.S. Survey 381, Juneau Recording District, First Judicial District, State of Alaska containing approximately 36,122 square feet, and shown on the attached Exhibit A map.

(B) Upon recording of the deed provided in Section 2(A), the reconveyance satisfies all debts owed to the CBJ authorized by Ordinance 2018-42 and the senior assisted living facility condition of Ordinance 2018-42, Section 3(C) terminates.

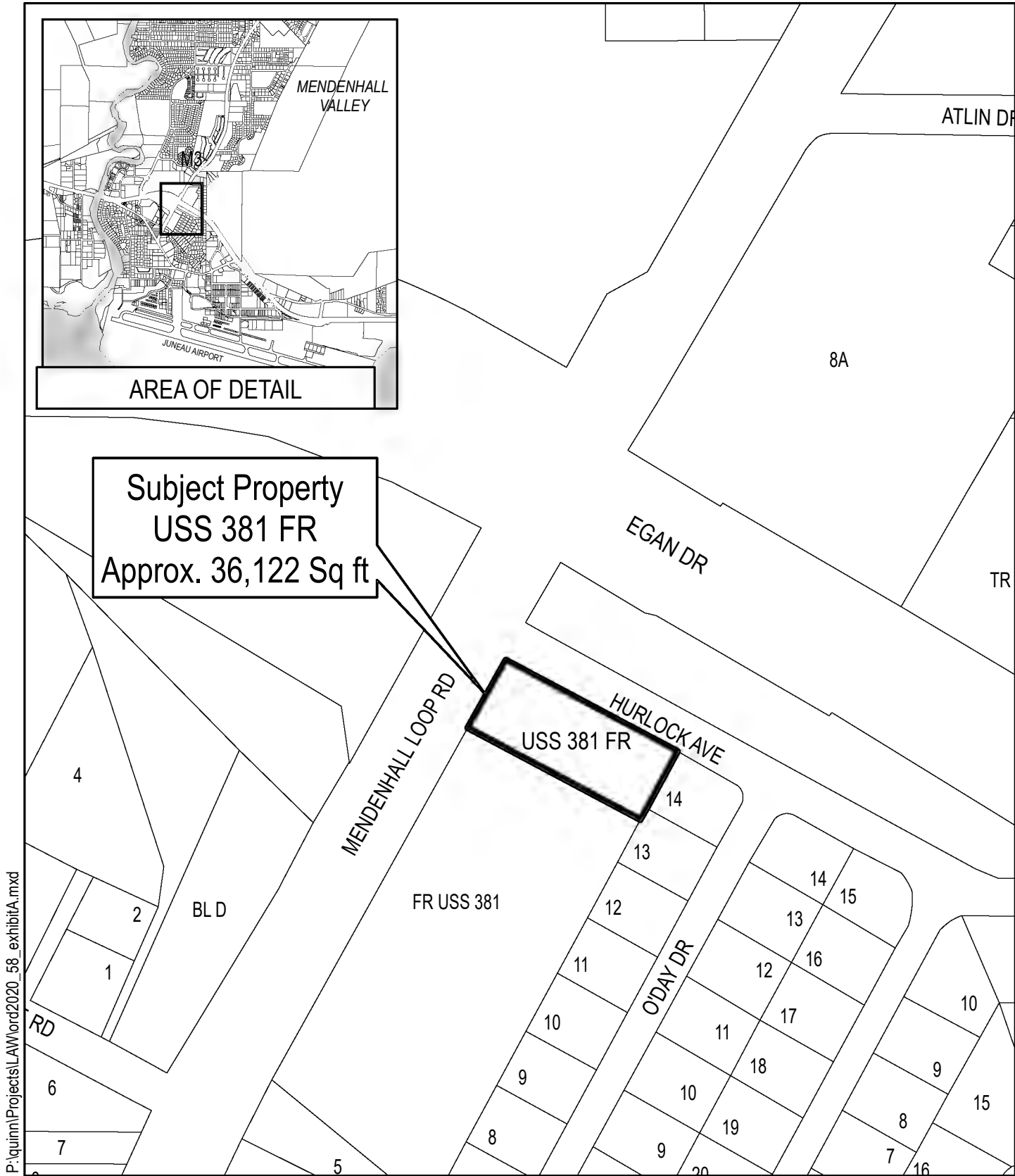
Section 3. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be effective 30 days after its adoption.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2020.

Beth A. Weldon, Mayor

Attest:

Elizabeth J. McEwen, Municipal Clerk



P:\quinn\Projects\LA\W\ord2020_58_exhibitA.mxd

EXHIBIT A - Ord. No. 2020-57
A fraction of U.S. Survey 381
Juneau Recording District



Presented by: COW
Presented: 11/23/2020
Drafted by: R. Palmer III

ORDINANCE OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 2020-58

An Ordinance Authorizing the Manager to Lease the Property at a Fraction of U.S. Survey 381, Located at 9290 Hurlock Avenue, to Tlingit Haida Regional Housing Authority for Youth Services.

WHEREAS, Juneau Youth Services notified the City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ) in November of 2017, that it no longer had need for the facility located at 9290 Hurlock Avenue; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 2018-42 authorized the sale of the Hurlock property to Alaska Legacy Partners for an assisted senior living center; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, Alaska Legacy Partners contacted the CBJ to pursue reconveyance of the Hurlock property back to CBJ at no cost to the CBJ, as Alaska Legacy Partners had not pursued development of the assisted senior living center; and

WHEREAS, CBJ staff recognized that the Hurlock facility had long served an important community purpose; and

WHEREAS, the Hurlock facility served the community as youth housing for 52 years, fulfilling a community purpose to provide shelter for vulnerable children and young adults; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to A.S. 18.55.995-998, Tlingit Haida Regional Housing Authority (THRHA) is a public corporation, akin to a government agency for the purpose of CBJC 53.09.270(a); and

WHEREAS, the CBJ and the THRHA share a desire to improve services to youth and partner with the Zach Gordon Youth Center to provide youth services.

THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA:

Section 1. Classification. This ordinance is a noncode ordinance.

Section 2. Authorization to Lease. Upon the City and Borough of Juneau receiving title to the property at 9290 Hurlock Avenue and more specifically identified as

A fraction of U.S. Survey 381, Juneau Recording District, First Judicial District, State of Alaska containing approximately 36,122 square feet, and shown on the attached Exhibit A map;

the Manager is authorized to lease the property to Tlingit Haida Regional Housing Authority pursuant to a lease agreement. In addition to the minimum terms and conditions required by CBJC 53.20.190, the lease is subject to the following essential terms and conditions:

- (A) Use of Premises. THRHA shall use the property solely for provision of youth services, like operation of an assisted living center for youth emergency housing and rapid rehoming. THRHA is solely responsible for all improvements, maintenance, and obtaining all permits and approvals.
- (B) Term and Renewal. The lease shall be for a term of five years, with the option to renew for two additional five-year terms.
- (C) Rent. Pursuant to CBJC 53.09.270(a), rent shall be \$100 per year, an amount less than market value.
- (D) Hold Harmless. The lease agreement shall provide that Tlingit Haida Regional Housing Authority indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the CBJ, its officers, and employees for any claim related to or arising out of its usage, operation, maintenance, or improvement of the lease premises.
- (E) Other Terms and Conditions. The Manager may include other lease terms and conditions as the Manager determines to be in the public interest.

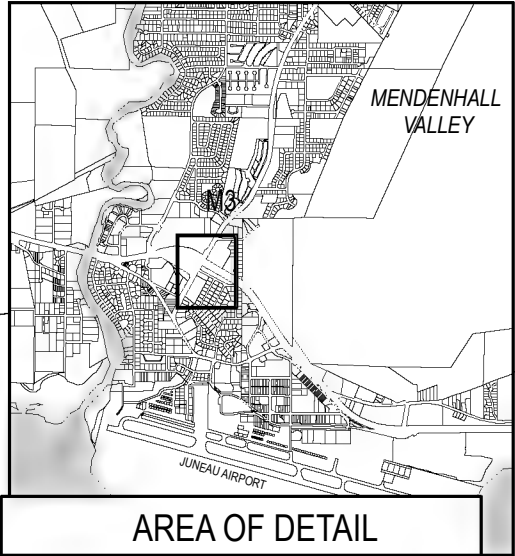
Section 3. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be effective 30 days after its adoption.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2020.

Beth A. Weldon, Mayor

Attest:

Elizabeth J. McEwen, Municipal Clerk



0 125 250
Feet



November 3, 2020

Dear Mayor Weldon, Deputy Mayor Jones, and Assembly Members:

On behalf of the Planning Commission, first let me thank you for your leadership during these difficult times. We are grateful for the manner in which the Assembly has prioritized the safety of our community and continued to advance important priorities even as the global pandemic affects us.

We were looking forward to the annual Assembly-Planning Commission joint session. We value those meetings as opportunities to share priorities and to get feedback from the Assembly about our work. In light of the cancellation of this year's meeting, the Planning Commission scheduled a Committee of the Whole to discuss our work and identify some priorities for the coming year. Our liaison, Assembly member Smith, listened to that discussion.

This letter identifies the priorities we discussed at the Committee of the Whole. We are sending it in advance of the Assembly's annual retreat in the hopes that it might be useful to those conversations. In addition, we welcome feedback from the Assembly.

- Comprehensive Plan Revision: The Assembly and Commission have recognized the need to update the Comprehensive Plan. We understand the budget realities that led to delay for this year. We are ready to work on updating the plan, and we strongly encourage the Assembly to prioritize funding to move forward next year.
- Parking: The Commission understands that updating the downtown parking regulations is a priority for the Assembly, and we have been working with the Community Development Department in an effort to move forward with analysis and updates for any needed changes to parking downtown and borough-wide.
- Zoning Updates: The Commission has been working with CDD to finalize updates to the Auke Bay zoning, needed to implement to Auke Bay Area Plan. That process was disrupted by the coronavirus pandemic, and we intend to prioritize completion of those updates. We have also begun the process of updating the downtown zoning to replace the Alternative Overlay District. We will also prioritize completion of that process.
- Area Plans: The Commission continues to favor CIP allocations by the Assembly to implement the area plans that have been developed. We understand that the Assembly and CDD have prioritized completion of the Blueprint Downtown and West Juneau/Douglas processes. We will look forward to working with the Assembly to find ways to complete those plans, and to implement priorities from the existing Lemon Creek and Auke Bay plans.
- Downtown Housing: The Commission is highly supportive of efforts to increase and diversify housing downtown, including further analysis of unutilized space downtown that could support increased housing. Meaningful housing increases will likely require Assembly fiscal support in the form of tax deferrals and targeted grant programs to incentivize development.
- Other Title 49 updates: The Commission will work with CDD to complete other needed revisions to Title 49 that have been started but need additional work. We hope to work on updating code

related to common walls, accessory apartments, and vegetative cover. We also recognize the need to revisit the manner in which plats are reviewed and approved by the Commission. In addition, the Commission notes that the Conditional Use Permits awarded for marijuana facilities will soon be due for mandatory five-year reviews. We suggest that this is an opportune time to revisit the code created at that time and see whether updates are needed.

Thank you considering this letter. We would welcome feedback and a dialogue about these issues. I am available to speak with, and the Commission would be open to a more informal conversation in the absence of a joint session.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael LeVine". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, stylized "M" and "L".

Michael LeVine
Chair, Juneau Planning Commission

Youth Shelter & Rapid Rehousing

Proposed Project Between Tlingit Haida Regional Housing
Authority and CBJ's Zach Gordon Youth Center



Community Need

- Juneau has been without emergency shelter for runaway and homeless youth (RHY) for over a year. The issue has been exacerbated by the global pandemic.
- The JSD averages between 125-150 homeless youth annually, of these youth over 50% are teens.
- Current resources are tapped and community providers have reached out the ZGYC and THRHA to take this project on as many youth struggling with housing issues are already connected to the youth center.
- Youth Shelter is currently the #1 priority of the Juneau Coalition on Housing and Homelessness
- The Mayor's ad hoc Task Force on Homelessness encouraged the Assembly's active collaboration to secure youth shelter.

Impacts of COVID - 19

- ZGYC has seen an increase in youth experiencing homelessness - Between June 1 - October 1, ZGYC has worked with 25 youth under 20 years old who are housing insecure or homeless. This is a significant increase from previous years.
- Many teens “couch surf” for places to stay. Regularly moving from place to place. Several teens are no longer able to do this due to concern of Covid spread.
- BRH has seen an increase in youth and adult psychiatric hospitalizations since March.

Project Funding

Annual Operating Budget: 595,000

Secured

US DHSS
Basic Center Program
\$200,000/year x3 years

AK DOL Youth
Homelessness
Demonstration Project
\$75,000/year x2 years
(min.)

Juneau Community
Foundation
\$100,000/year

Total = 470,000

General Fund Support Needed
\$120,000 Annually

In Process

AK MHTA
\$75,000/year -
likely 1x

Donations
\$20,000

Secured

ICDBG HUD
\$150,000

Alaska
Community
Foundation
\$350,000

Total = 500,000

Needed within next five
years: **\$586,000**

*Includes 500k for future new
roof.

Hurlock Repair Budget: 1,086,400

Proposed Project Overview

- The proposed project will provide two types of services to two different age groups of youth experiencing homelessness at the Hurlock Street property:
- Youth 10-18 - Temporary youth sheltering services for 6-8 youth will be provided 24/7 by trained awake adult staff. Services will be provided until family reunification, foster care or another placement can occur.
- Youth 18-20 - The rapid rehousing component will serve an additional 2-4 youth in the separate apartment living quarters of the Hurlock property.

CBJ & THRHA Partnership

CBJ - Zach Gordon Youth Center

Provide 24/7 shelter staffing.

Provide programming and supportive services including outreach and aftercare services.

Manage grants related to program costs.

Maintain data on youth served.

Both organizations will work together to secure grant funding as available, develop ongoing partnerships, and ensure programming is culturally relevant and appropriate.

Tlingit Haida Regional Housing Authority

Provide maintenance and ongoing upkeep of the facility.

Act as landlord to youth 18-20 living in the apartment.

Manage grants related to property costs.

Site Security

- Facility purpose is to provide a safe place for youth. Safety for our youth, our staff, and our community is our top concern.
- Camera monitoring outside the building and in communal areas inside the building
- Secure entrance
- Everyone will check in and check out
- Awake night staff
- Area will be fenced per CUP
- Youth are invested in this project