

City and Borough of Juneau
Minutes - Assembly Finance Committee Meeting
Wednesday, January 10, 2018, 5:30 p.m.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Jesse Kiehl, Chair.

II. Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Jesse Kiehl, Chair; Norton Gregory, Mary Becker, Jerry Nankervis, Maria Gladziszewski, Loren Jones, Beth Weldon, Robert Edwardson, and Mayor Ken Koelsch.

Committee Members Participating Telephonically: None.

Committee Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Rorie Watt, City Manager; Mila Cosgrove, Deputy City Manager; Bob Bartholomew, Finance Director; Amy Mead, City Attorney; Rob Steedle, CDD Director; Roger Healy, Engineering & Public Works Director; Scott Ciambor, Chief Housing Officer; Sam Muse, Controller; and Elisabeth Jensen, Budget Analyst.

Others Present: Grace Salazar, Chief, Consumer Protection & Info Officer, Regulatory Commission of Alaska (RCA); and Kirk Gibson, Partner, McDowell Rackner Gibson PC (MRG).

III. Approval of Minutes

The November 8, 2017, minutes were approved as presented.

The December 13, 2017, minutes were approved as presented.

IV. Regulatory Commission of Alaska (RCA) Proceedings Education Presentations

Bob Bartholomew, Finance Director provided introductory information included on pages 8-9 of the meeting packet, "Regulatory Commission of Alaska Education" Issue Paper. He described the AFC's request to have staff return with educational information on the role and responsibilities of the RCA, and how CBJ could participate to help protect citizen interests.

A. Grace Salazar, Chief, Consumer Protection & Info Office, RCA

Bob Bartholomew introduced Ms. Grace Salazar.

Ms. Salazar discussed pages 10 – 40 of the meeting packet.

Discussion with the Assembly ensued.

B. Kirk Gibson, Partner, McDowell Rackner Gibson PC (MRG)

Bob Bartholomew introduced Mr. Kirk Gibson.

Minutes - Assembly Finance Committee Meeting

Wednesday, January 10, 2018, 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Gibson addressed how municipalities can protect citizens, and ratepayers in RCA proceedings, the RCA process from the point of view of a participant, along with the opportunities and challenges for a city like the City and Borough of Juneau to work with the RCA to accomplish a goal. Mr. Gibson stated that he had 30 years of background in energy / utilities.

Discussion with the Assembly ensued.

At the request of the body, Mr. Watt stated that he and the City Attorney would prepare a staff report at the upcoming Assembly meeting on January 22nd, or at a special meeting if needed.

The meeting recessed at 6:49 PM.

The meeting reconvened at 6:59 PM.

V. Affordable Housing Recommendations

Scott Ciambor, Chief Housing Officer, provided an update on the Juneau Affordable Housing Fund and discussed pages 41 – 51 of the meeting packet, including a recommendation from the Affordable Housing Commission for use of \$480,000 over 5 years of the Juneau Affordable Housing Fund for the CBJ Accessory Apartment Incentive Grant Program.

Norton Gregory moved to include \$480,000 (over 5 years) from the Juneau Affordable Housing Fund for use in the CBJ Accessory Apartment Incentive Grant Program.
Without OBJECTION.

VI. Credit Card Status & Fees

Bob Bartholomew discussed an Issue Paper on Credit Cards & Fees found on pages 53 – 55 of the meeting packet, and asked the body if the CBJ should absorb the cost of credit card fees or pass it on to the bill payer?

Mayor Koelsch moved to allow parking tickets and other similar transactions to be paid via credit cards without charging the bill payer a transaction fee.
Without OBJECTION.

Mayor Koelsch moved to accept credit card for utility payments and absorb the fees, with funding of fees to be provided by the utility fund not the general fund.
Maria Gladziszewski OBJECTED.

Roll call votes:

Ayes: Becker, Nankervis, Kiehl and Mayor Koelsch.

Nays: Weldon, Edwardson, Gregory, Jones, and Gladziszewski.

Absent: None.

Motion FAILED 4-5.

Minutes - Assembly Finance Committee Meeting

Wednesday, January 10, 2018, 5:30 p.m.

Maria Gladziszewski moved to accept credit cards for utility and all other payment types and charge a fee to the bill payer to recoup the fee.

Mayor Koelsch OBJECTED.

Roll call votes:

Ayes: Gladziszewski, Nankervis, Jones, Edwardson, Gregory, Weldon and Kiehl.

Nays: Becker and Mayor Koelsch.

Absent: None.

Motion PASSED 7-2.

VII. 1% Sales Tax CIP (*Pending Referral from PWFC*)

Rorie Watt and Roger Healy discussed pages 56 – 58 of the meeting packet along with a handout (dated 1/10/18) with updates to page 57 of the packet.

Beth Weldon moved to direct staff to incorporate the Preliminary FY19-FY24 1% Sales Tax Project Funding Schedule (dated January 10, 2018) into the FY19 CIP Resolution.

Without OBJECTION.

VIII. Other Issues

Rorie Watt referred to a handout from AEL&P, inviting the CBJ to appoint a member to the Snettisham Project Committee. Mr. Watt said he would provide more info to the Assembly at the meeting on January 22, 2018.

IX. Next Meeting Date

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

X. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:26 PM.