

ASSEMBLY HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

March 16, 2020 5:30 PM

Assembly Chambers

MINUTES

I. ROLL CALL

The Assembly Human Resources Committee meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m.

Members Present: Chair Wade Bryson, Alicia Hughes-Skandijs, Greg Smith and Michelle Hale (telephonically)

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Deputy Clerk, Diane Cathcart, Municipal Clerk, Beth McEwen, Assembly Members Loren Jones and Rob Edwardson, City Attorneys Rob Palmer, Emily Wright, Teresa Bowen and Megan Costello

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda approved as presented

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

(Not to exceed a total of 10 minutes nor more than 2 minutes for any individual).

V. AGENDA TOPICS

A. Board Matters

A. Resolution 2883: A Resolution Temporarily Amending Resolution 2862 Related to the Assembly Rules of Procedure and COVID-19.

This resolution will also be presented to the Assembly on March 16 for consideration.

In light of the public health social distancing recommendations, resolution 2883 would temporarily amend the Assembly Rules of Procedure to do three things (1) allow up to five Assemblymembers to participate by telephone, (2) to encourage seating for members of the public to be three to six feet apart, and (3) to encourage CBJ public meetings with substantial public interest to be live broadcast, like with Facebook Live. Members of the public will still be provided a public comment opportunity at meetings. However, members of the public are encouraged to email the Assembly or use the online Assembly Contact Form to provide public comments.

The social distancing recommendations for COVID-19 were discussed at the Special Committee of the Whole on March 9. Additional COVID-19 updates were provided at the Assembly Finance Committee meeting on March 11. This resolution is on the March 16 Assembly agenda for consideration.

Mr. Palmer outlined the changes and additions to Resolution 2883 specifically Section 2 on COVID-19. Ms. Hughes-Skandijs asked if Section 2(C) Alternative public broadcasting, is airing on the side of caution while maintaining the ability for public participation. Mr. Smith asked about prohibiting public attendance at a meeting. Mr. Palmer noted the CBJ Charter dictates the Open Meetings Act.

Ms. Hale asked if this resolution would become guidance for all boards and committees and can it pass this evening. Mr. Palmer stated that yes Mr. Edwardson will address this during tonight's Assembly meeting that it relates to all boards and committees and the resolution could pass this evening.

MOTION: By Ms. Hughes-Skandijs to forward Resolution 2883 to the full Assembly for approval and asked for unanimous consent. ***Hearing no objection, motion passed.***

- B. Ordinance 2020-16: An Ordinance Amending the Civil Defense Code to Improve City and Borough of Juneau Procedures for Emergencies.

Ordinance 2020-16v1 would amend CBJC 03.25, the Civil Defense Organization chapter to be consistent with current emergency management practices. Mr. Palmer gave an overview of the proposed ordinance and walk committee members through the process.

Ms. Hughes-Skandijs asked if with Section 03.25.020 and a strong City Manager form of government if the Assembly could continue to give the Manager direction. Mr. Palmer said that is correct; the Assembly has the power to restrict duties and that government works much better when elected officials weigh in.

Mr. Bryson asked if they could include language that wouldn't dampen the managers powers but would direct the manager to check in with the Assembly. Mr. Palmer noted that language stating that in Resolution 2884 could be pulled and added to Ordinance 2020-16. Law will work on clarifying the violations section 03.25.150 better.

MOTION: by Ms. Hughes-Skandijs to move Ordinance 2020-16 to the Assembly Committee of the Whole for further discussion and asked for unanimous consent. ***Hearing no objection, motion passed.***

- C. Ordinance 2020-15: An Ordinance Amending the Continuity of Government Code to Improve City and Borough of Juneau Procedures for Emergencies.

A continuity of government code was created in 1962 during the height of the Cuban Missile Crisis when communities were concerned about physical attacks. While the underlying concepts in the continuity of government code remain relevant today—like

designation of successors for certain municipal officers—some code provisions are outdated. This ordinance would modernize the continuity of government code to provide the current form of City & Borough of Juneau government better code authority to deal with emergencies other than physical attacks.

Mr. Palmer walked the committee through the proposed ordinance updates.

MOTION: by Mr. Smith to move Ordinance 2020-15 to the Assembly Committee of the Whole for further review and asked for unanimous consent. ***Hearing no objections, motion passed.***

D. Other Business

None

VI. STAFF REPORTS

None

VII. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

None

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the committee, meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.