THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA
REGULAR ASSEMBLY MEETING
Meeting Minutes - February 11, 2021

MEETING NO. 2021-05: The Regular Assembly Meeting of the City and Borough of Juneau Assembly was held virtually via Zoom webinar, and called into order by Mayor Beth Weldon at 7:00p.m. ***This meeting was initially scheduled for Monday, February 8, but was rescheduled to Thursday, February 11 due to a power outage on February 8.***

I. ROLL CALL

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

Assemblymembers Absent: None.

Staff Present: City Manager Rorie Watt, Deputy City Manager Mila Cosgrove, City Attorney Robert Palmer, Municipal Clerk Beth McEwen, Deputy City Clerk Diane Cathcart, Library Director EOC/PC Robert Barr, Finance Director Jeff Rogers, Lands Manager Dan Bleidorn, Parks and Recreation Director George Schaaf, CDD Planning Manager Alexandra Pierce, Assistant City Attorney Sherri Layne, BRH Interim CEO Kevin Benson

II. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mayor Weldon acknowledge that we are on Tlingit land and honor the A'akw Kwáan and T'aaḵu Kwáan, the indigenous people of this land for their stewardship of the area from time immemorial. That we are grateful to be in this place, a part of this community and to honor the culture, traditions, and resilience of the Tlingit people. *Gunalchéesh!*

A. Recognition of Juneau International Airport COVID-19 Screeners/Testers

Mayor Weldon extended the Assembly’s thanks and recognized the hardworking women and men who help run the Juneau International Airport COVID Screening and Testing Operation. She said that the airport screening operation was originally set up in March 25, 2020 where staff greeted passengers and informed them of local rules related to COVID mitigation. Effective June 6, 2020, the State of Alaska contracted the City and Borough of Juneau to incorporate the airport testing with its screening process, and that operation was in place until January 31, 2021. During that time, CBJ staff greeted over 75,000 arriving passengers, and tested almost 24,000 people for COVID-19. Operations ran seven days a week, fourteen hours a day. During the last eleven months, approximately 100 employees worked in some capacity during the airport operation. The following individuals representing the airport operation were in attendance at this meeting: Jarvis Schultz, Airport Screening Supervisor; Sylvia Madaras, Volunteer Firefighter/EMT; Lucy Franklin, Volunteer Firefighter/EMT; and Noe Hernandez, Volunteer Firefighter/EMT.
Mayor Weldon said that CBJ staff represented a high degree of professionalism in assisting the traveling public in navigating the rules in place to keep our community protected. She described their efforts as efficient, adaptable, and ensured that the well-being of Juneau’s community was their highest priority.

Mayor Weldon extended the thanks of the Assembly (and as a former Fire Chief herself) to these representatives, for stepping up and serving the public during this challenging time.

Ms. Madaras thanked Mayor Weldon for recognizing all of the work that was put into this operation, and expressed appreciation for all of the work that the community has done during this time to keep each other safe.

B. Instruction for Public Participation

Municipal Clerk McEwen provided instruction to the listening public on how to participate in the meeting via the Zoom platform.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. September 21, 2020 Special Assembly Meeting #2020-44 Draft Minutes

B. December 17, 2020 Special Assembly Meeting #2020-49 Draft Minutes

C. December 22, 2020 Special Assembly Meeting #2020-52 Draft Minutes

MOTION by Ms. Hale for the Assembly to approve of the above minutes with one minor correction to the September 21, 2020 Minutes. *Hearing no objections, the September 21, December 17, and December 22, 2020 minutes were approved by unanimous consent.*

IV. MANAGER'S REQUEST FOR AGENDA CHANGES

None.

V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Ms. Emily Ferry, a downtown resident spoke to the Assembly about areas of agreement that could be reached in regards to the Calhoun Avenue project. She acknowledged that everyone would like a sustainable residential area fit for walking and biking, and that other public testimony has described the street as a weak link in Juneau's transportation system. She thanked the Assembly for listening to public comment on this issue, and encouraged the Assembly to open up a public process similar to that of the Capital Park project.

Mr. Smith asked Ms. Ferry if she had reviewed the process charted out by the City Manager, and if her ideas fit into that process. Ms. Ferry said that this is an unusual project, and suggested potentially thinking outside the box for what the process might look like.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Public Requests for Consent Agenda Changes, Other Than Ordinances for Introduction

None.

B. Assembly Requests for Consent Agenda Changes

None.

C. Assembly Action

MOTION by Mr. Jones for the Assembly to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, and asked for unanimous consent. *Hearing no objections, the Consent Agenda was approved by unanimous consent.*

1. Ordinances for Introduction

a. Ordinance 2020-09(AN) An Ordinance Appropriating $75,000 to the Manager to Operate a Youth Shelter and Rapid Rehousing Facility; Grant Funding Provided by the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority.

This ordinance would appropriate $75,000 to operate a youth shelter and rapid rehousing facility at the Hurlock Street property. The Zach Gordon Youth Center (ZGYC) and Tlingit Haida Regional Housing Authority (THRHA) are partnering to help address the community need for emergency sheltering and rapid rehousing for runaway and homeless youth. This initiative is endorsed by the CBJ Assembly Taskforce on Homelessness.

Grant funding for this request would be provided by the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority. The Committee of the Whole reviewed this request at the November 9, 2020 meeting. The

Assembly Finance Committee reviewed this request at the January 6, 2021 meeting.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly introduce this ordinance and set it for public hearing at the next regular Assembly meeting.

b. Ordinance 2021-02 An Ordinance Providing for the Issuance and Sale of General Obligation Bonds in One or More Series to Provide Not to Exceed $22,000,000 in Net Proceeds; and Providing for the Form and Terms of the Bonds and for Unlimited Tax Levies to Pay the Bonds.

In 2020, voters approved a $15 million bond for maintenance and repair of schools, parks, streets, and other public infrastructure. In 2019, voters approved a $7 million bond for improvements to Centennial Hall. This ordinance authorizes these two general obligation bonds to be sold as one $22 million bond through a competitive public offering. This ordinance specifies a 15-year repayment plan with interest-only payments for the first three years. Due to ongoing legal issues with the Alaska Municipal Bond Bank Authority, these bonds will be sold directly by the Borough without using the Bond Bank as a conduit.

The Assembly Finance Committee reviewed this ordinance at the February 3, 2021 meeting.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly introduce this ordinance and set it for public hearing at the next regular Assembly meeting.

c. Ordinance 2021-04 An Ordinance Related to CBJ Marijuana Licenses.

CBJ has a business license for marijuana businesses in Title 49. This ordinance would give the Community Development Department director the authority to suspend or revoke a marijuana business license for the same reasons that the CBJ Assembly can protest the issuance of a State marijuana license, which would include taking corrective action when a marijuana business falls behind in remitting sales tax.

On January 25, 2021, the Assembly Human Resources Committee recommended the Assembly introduce this ordinance without review by the Planning Commission.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly introduce this ordinance and set it for public hearing at the next regular Assembly meeting.

2. **Resolutions**

a. **Resolution 2939 A Resolution Amending the Assembly Rules of Procedure.**

This resolution would amend the Assembly Rules to update the name and scope of the Lands, Housing, and Economic Development Committee. The changes are on Resolution pages 4, 6, and 7. The COVID-19 related amendments to the Assembly Rules would remain until they expire on May 25, 2021 (Res 2922).

The Assembly Human Resources Committee considered this resolution at its meeting on February 8, 2021 and forwarded it to the Assembly for approval.

The City Manager recommends this Assembly adopt this resolution.

b. **Resolution 2940 A Resolution Amending Emergency Appropriation Resolution 2915 Related to the Eligible Expenditure Period for Three Drop-In Distance Learning Centers for School-Age Youth During the COVID-19 Pandemic.**

This resolution would extend the eligible expenditure period of Emergency Appropriation Resolution 2915 for three drop-in distance learning centers for school-age youth during the COVID-19 pandemic. Of the original $70,000 appropriation, $13,470 remains unspent. Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church has requested this extension to fully expend the appropriation in order to continue operating the program through the end of May.

The Assembly Finance Committee reviewed this request at the February 3, 2021 meeting.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly adopt this resolution.

c. **Resolution 2942 A Resolution Amending Emergency Appropriation Resolution 2906 Related to the Eligible Expenditure Period and Appropriation Amount for K-5 Rally Programing During COVID-19.**

This resolution would extend the eligible expenditure period of Emergency Appropriation Resolution 2906 to subsidize the cost of participation in RALLY during the COVID-19 pandemic. Of the original $600,000 appropriation, $502,829 remains unspent. The Juneau School District has requested an extension to expend an additional $140,000 of the original appropriation in order to continue operating the program through the end of May.

The Assembly Finance Committee reviewed this request at the February 3, 2021 meeting.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly adopt this resolution.

3. Liquor License

a. Liquor License Renewals for Licenses: 849, 2641, 4584, 4731 & 5711

These liquor license actions are before the Assembly to either protest or waive its right to protest the license action.

Liquor License Renewal
License Type: Package Store, License #849
Licensee: Thibodeau's Market Inc., d/b/a Percy's Liquor Store
Location: 214 Front Street, Juneau

License Type: Restaurant Eating Place, License #2641
Licensee: Saffron, LLC, d/b/a Saffron
Location: 112 N. Franklin Street, Juneau

License Type: Restaurant Eating Place, License #4584
Licensee: Genuine Ventures LLC, d/b/a Tracy's King Crab Shack
Location: Lot C1, Juneau Subport, Section 23, Township 31S, Range 67 East, Juneau

License Type: Restaurant Eating Place, License #4731
Licensee: DJ LLC, d/b/a Asiana Gardens
Location: 9116 Mendenhall Mall Rd., Juneau

License Type: Recreational Site-Grandfathered AS 04.11.210(d), License #5711
Licensee: South of the Bridge, LLC d/b/a The Old Tower Bar @ Eaglecrest
Location: 3000 Fish Creek Rd., North Douglas/Juneau

Staff from the Police, Finance, Fire, Public Works (Utilities), and Community Development departments have reviewed the above licenses and recommend the Assembly waive its right to protest the applications. Copies of the documents associated with these licenses are available in hardcopy upon request to the Clerk's office.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly waive its right to protest the above-listed liquor license renewals.

4. Other Items for Consent

a. Crest Street Reconstruction CSP2020-0012

Crest Street currently has two 12-foot lanes with no curb or gutter, and no sidewalks. This project is a street and underground utility maintenance and replacement project that includes installation of one new sidewalk on the west side and the addition of street lighting at intersections.

Current design includes bioswale drainage treatment on the east side to treat street drainage before it enters the Jordan Creek Stream Protection Corridor. Engineers anticipate bioswale treatment of all Crest Street drainage, and possibly some drainage accepted to the system from other sources. The Planning Commission expressed its desire that as much drainage as possible be treated through the bioswale drainage treatment.

The Planning Commission recommended approval of these projects at its meeting on January 26, 2021.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly approve this project.

5. Transfers

a. Transfer Request T-1036 A Transfer of $90,000 from CIP A50-102 Terminal Construction to CIP A50-092 Float Pond Improvements and CIP A50-100 Land Acquisition-Planning.

This transfer of $90,000 from the Terminal Construction CIP consists of Airport revolving CIP funds and will be transferred to the Float Pond Improvements CIP and the Land Acquisition-Planning CIP.

The transfer of $40,000 to the Float Pond Improvements CIP will provide for the completion of design documents and construction to raise the float pond road, place additional armor rock to a new shoulder elevation, and reset the gangway slabs on deeper concrete foundations.

The transfer of $50,000 to the Land Acquisition-Planning CIP will provide funding to begin the airport land acquisition process to purchase the Channel Flying property. An airport property acquisition specialist will be procured to guide the airport through the required federal acquisition processes in advance of the grant application.

The Airport Revolving CIP funds were previously transferred to the Airport Terminal Reconstruction project, but are no longer needed for that project. These funds are available for use until anticipated federal grants are awarded.

The Airport Board approved this request at its January 14, 2021 meeting.

The City Manager recommends approval of this transfer.

VII. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Ordinance 2020-09(AH) An Ordinance Appropriating $75,000 to the Manager for Consulting Services to Explore the Joint Facility and Expansion Concept at Centennial Hall; Funding Provided by the General Fund's Fund Balance.

This ordinance would appropriate $75,000 for consultant services to explore the expansion of Centennial Hall into a joint facility with the Juneau Arts and Culture Center (JACC). The consultant will develop conceptual options for an expansion of Centennial Hall into a joint facility that serves as a performing arts, civic, and convention center including a professional cost estimate. The information obtained from the consultant would enable the Assembly to make an informed decision whether to proceed with the expansion concept.

Funding for this request would be provided by the General Fund's fund balance.

The Public Works and Facilities Committee reviewed this request at the December 7, 2020 meeting. The Assembly Finance Committee reviewed this request at the January 6, 2021 meeting.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly adopt this ordinance.

Public Comment:
Mr. McCue Pierre, a Douglas resident shared that he is a member of the Travel Juneau Board and the Chamber of Commerce Board. Mr. Pierre told the Assembly that the four groups that sent a letter to them regarding this issue stand united behind this ordinance, and believe it is important to work together to create a reliable plan to support future activities for the community.

Mr. Dave Hanna, a Valley resident expressed his concerns that the current JACC building would not be incorporated into the design of the new JACC building. He said that the current JACC building is well-constructed, and it would be expensive to tear it down, especially considering the upgrades and repairs that have been recently added. Mr. Hanna encouraged the Assembly to consider receiving a feasible design that incorporates the existing JACC building to the new facility.

Assembly Action:
MOTION by Ms. Woll for the Assembly to adopt Ordinance 2020-09(AH) and asked for unanimous consent.

Objection by Mr. Jones. Mr. Jones explained that while he agreed that this could be a good study to conduct, he is not convinced that the City would have the money to do so, considering the affect that the lack of a cruise ship season will have on the 1% sales tax for Capital projects. He mentioned that the $75,000 in general funding would not help the Assembly further this discussion on Centennial Hall, and it could be saved for another day.

Objection by Ms. Hughes-Skandijs. Ms. Hughes-Skandijs said she believes that this is the wrong time, as the Assembly is already facing an unprecedented financial situation that will require their focus. Additionally, she mentioned that she does not support the optics of directing City attention towards this issue when there are other needs and concerns still waiting to be addressed.

Objection by Mr. Bryson. Mr. Bryson said that the citizens have definitively voted against this item. While he agreed with wanting to solve the performing arts hall problem, he described using $75,000 to inform the City that the project would be too expensive would be a waste of money in itself.

Objection by Ms. Triem. Ms. Triem agreed with her fellow Assemblymembers' comments, and added that she was worried about state legislature continuing to push costs onto local government bodies, and believes the City should preserve their debt capacity.

Mr. Smith spoke in favor of this ordinance. Mr. Smith said that arts are an economic driving force for our community; it brings people to town, and creates jobs. He mentioned the earlier comments made about citizens having voted against this, and said that he believes citizens voted against a private company being contracted to undertake this project. Mr. Smith added that this is a chance to look towards the future, and several groups have aligned together for this.

Ms. Gladziszewski spoke in favor of this ordinance, and said that this project is not the same item that voters decided against last year. She also mentioned that several groups that have not agreed before have been able to come together to begin to line up projects for the future.

Mayor Weldon shared that this was a tough decision, and it is uncertain to predict what will come next. She saw this project as exploring options for the future, and if it were to come back to the Assembly as a $50 Million project, she would vote against it. Mayor Weldon spoke in support of this ordinance.

Roll Call Vote on Ordinance 2020-09(AH):
Ayes: Woll, Smith, Hale, Gladziszewski, Mayor Weldon.
Nays: Hughes-Skandijs, Bryson, Triem, Jones.
Motion passed. Five (5) Ayes, Four (4) Nays.

B. Ordinance 2020-09(AI) An Ordinance Appropriating $75,000 to the Manager for a Homeless Youth Navigator Position; Grant Funding Provided by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

This ordinance would appropriate $75,000 for a homeless youth navigator position to assist youths struggling with housing issues, food insecurity and unemployment. This position would provide support to youths at the Zach Gordon Youth Center (ZGYC) and Hurlock youth shelter, dependent upon operational funding for the latter. This position is an expansion of existing services currently provided by ZGYC, with the added benefit of available rental assistance through a partnership with Tlingit Haida Regional Housing Authority.

Funding for this request would be provided by a grant from the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

The Assembly Finance Committee reviewed this request at the January 6, 2021 meeting.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly adopt this ordinance.

Public Comment:
Ms. Jackie Pata, a Valley resident, expressed her appreciation for the Assembly's support of this project, and encouraged them to visit the Hurlock property to see the progress that has been made so far.

Assembly Action:
MOTION by Mr. Smith for the Assembly to adopt Ordinance 2020-09(AI) and asked for unanimous consent. *Hearing no objections, the motion passed by unanimous consent.*

C. Ordinance 2020-09(AJ) An Ordinance Appropriating $325,000 to the Manager to Operate a Youth Shelter and Rapid Rehousing Facility; Grant Funding Provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Juneau Community Foundation, and Friends of Zach Gordon Youth Center.
This ordinance would appropriate $325,000 to operate a youth shelter and rapid rehousing facility at the Hurlock Street property. The Zach Gordon Youth Center (ZGYC) and Tlingit Haida Regional Housing Authority (THRHA) are partnering to help address the community need for emergency sheltering and rapid rehousing for runaway and homeless youth. This initiative is endorsed by the CBJ Assembly Taskforce on Homelessness.

Grant funding for this request would be provided by the following organizations:

U.S. HHS Family and Youth Services Bureau	**$200,000**
Juneau Community Foundation	**$100,000**
Friends of ZGYC	**$25,000**

The Committee of the Whole reviewed this request at the November 9, 2020 meeting. The Assembly Finance Committee reviewed this request at the January 6, 2021 meeting.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly adopt this ordinance.

Public Comment:
None.

Assembly Action:

<u>MOTION</u> by Ms. Hughes-Skandijs for the assembly to adopt Ordinance 2020-09(AJ) and asked for unanimous consent.

Ms. Hale wished to express her appreciation for the youth who sent in heartfelt letters in support of this ordinance.

Hearing no objections, Ordinance 2020-09(AJ) was adopted by unanimous consent.

D. Ordinance 2020-09(AK) An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 2019-06(AI) Related to the Appropriation Fund Source for COVID-19 Testing Equipment.

This ordinance would shift the cost of COVID-19 testing equipment from CBJ's CARES Act funding to Bartlett Regional Hospital's CARES Act funding. This reappropriation of funds would increase the unobligated funds available in CBJ's CARES Act Special Revenue Fund. This ordinance is necessary to maximize CBJ's allocation of CARES Act funding for utilization in other programs.

The Assembly reviewed this request at the December 22, 2020 Special Assembly meeting. The Assembly Finance Committee reviewed this request at the January 6 and February 3, 2021 meetings.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly adopt this ordinance.

<u>Public Comment:</u>
Mr. Kevin Benson, a Douglas resident, stated that he is the Chief Financial Officer at Bartlett Regional Hospital, and is temporarily serving as the interim CEO. He said that, they appreciate the difficult task the Assembly has in applying finite resources of CBJ to infinite needs, however, as a representative of BRH, it was his fiduciary responsibility to advocate for his organization. Mr. Benson said that the BRH Board became concerned when this proposed change of payment source went from CBJ to BRH, and was characterized as a housekeeping/accounting reclassification. He referenced two memos he sent to the Assembly which explained the use of BRH's provider relief funds. Both reports showed that all of BRH's CARES Act funding had been spent and in fact overspent by $2.2 million. Due to this, the $700,000 for the test equipment would have to come from BRH's reserve funds that have been systematically deposited over the past three years. Mr. Benson expressed concern that CBJ would look towards BRH's fund balance for other purposes, and said that this feels like the beginning of a slippery slope. He said that BRH will do as the Assembly directs but that this would not be viewed as a simple housekeeping/accounting reclassification but rather a significant shift in funding.

Mr. Bryson said that they were discussing the funding source for the Bartlett Testing capabilities and he asked for clarification from Mr. Benson that if CBJ had not issued funds, wouldn't BRH still be in the same position of needing to create a testing facility within BRH regardless of whether CBJ was able to fund it or not? Mr. Benson said that was a project that BRH worked closely with CBJ to accomplish. He said that from a hospital perspective, it doesn't not make much sense to open a reference lab facility to accomplish this because it would not have a function beyond the pandemic. He said that understanding the city's need to provide local testing, yes, they would have provided a testing facility and moved forward with that project.

Assembly Action:
MOTION by Mr. Bryson for the Assembly to adopt Ordinance 2020-09(AK) and asked for unanimous consent.

Objection by Ms. Hale for purposes of a comment. Ms. Hale said that she has had many conversations with the BRH Board President Kenny Solomon-Gross and Mr. Benson and they have a clear responsibility to Bartlett and the hospital and they are responding to this funding switch from that sense of responsibility. She said that the Bartlett Board understands the responsibility that BRH has to the community. She expressed her appreciation with what BRH has done to stand up this testing equipment and she does not see this as a slippery slope. She said that this is just trying to address the needs in the community. She thanked Mr. Benson and Mr. Solomon-Gross and removed her objection.

Hearing no objections, Ordinance 2020-09(AK) passed by unanimous consent.

E. Ordinance 2020-09(AL) An Ordinance Appropriating $700,000 to the Manager as Supplemental Funding for the COVID-19 Emergency Individual Assistance Grant Program; Funding Provided by the CARES Act Special Revenue Fund.

2,348 people have applied for this program. The current $2,000,000 appropriation is estimated to provide grants for 1,070 applicants. Approximately 1,180 applicants remain eligible for Individual Assistance, but there are insufficient funds. The proposed supplemental appropriation of $700,000 would provide awards to approximately 348 additional applicants.

The Assembly Finance Committee reviewed this request at its January 6, 2021 meeting.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly adopt this ordinance.

Public Comment:
None.

Assembly Action:
Ms. Hale asked Mr. Watt if he could clarify that the 348 additional applicants that the funding might assist was in fact a correct number or if that number has changed since they last saw this ordinance in the Finance Committee meeting. Mr. Watt said he did not have that exact number to provide aside from what had previously been provided to them.

<u>MOTION</u> by Ms. Hale for the Assembly to adopt Ordinance 2020-09(AL) and asked for unanimous consent.

Objection by Mr. Jones. Mr. Jones admitted that this was a difficult ordinance to object to, but added that there are still a lot of unknown factors regarding this ordinance. He added that the current Congress CARES Act bill does not include funding for municipalities, and the State just opened up $200 million for rental assistance and utilities that people can apply for. He said that while he understands that people need assistance and are applying for programs that are available to them. He said that we are hindering our ability as a city to handle some of our own financial questions so he is not going to be voting in favor of this ordinance.

Mayor Weldon asked if any other Assemblymembers wished to speak to this ordinance. Hearing none, she shared that it was also extremely hard for her to say no to this ordinance, but her preference would be for them to wait a little longer. Since the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation just received $200 million from the state to provide assistance as well as the $600 and $1400 stimulus packages from Congress. She said the timing of this ordinance isn't right and while she isn't necessarily opposed to it, she thinks it is prudent to wait.

Ms. Hughes-Skandijs said that she understood the desire to not put money towards something that might be covered by other assistance programs. However, there are people who have direct needs now, such as those who do not have access to childcare; and the promise of financial aid coming at a future time is not going to pay the bills. She said that the Assembly cannot let the individuals who are the most economically vulnerable wait and see before providing aid to them, while simultaneously funding thousands in aid for agencies and businesses. Ms. Hughes-Skandijs said she will support this ordinance, as it directly helps the people who they are meant to be serving.

Ms. Triem also spoke in favor of this motion. She shared that she has been tracking the economic analytics of the pandemic, and believes that the COVID-19 recession is over for high-wage earners. She described a "K"-shaped recession that heavily impacts low-wage earners. She said that the need is so great and so strong that they have a moral obligation to help their constituents, and will support this ordinance.

Mr. Bryson agreed with Ms. Triem and Ms. Hughes-Skandijs' points, and thanked them both for bringing them up. He mentioned that earlier in tonight's meeting, the Assembly passed an ordinance appropriating $75,000 for a study to enhance the recreational activities of the wealthiest members of Juneau. He said that this is a way for them to help those who are socioeconomically disenfranchised, those that need the most help.

Ms. Gladziszewski agreed with Ms. Hughes-Skandijs, Ms. Triem and Mr. Bryson and she thinks that the Assembly has an obligation to help the citizens in need. She supported Ms. Triem's statement and reinforced the notion that the K-shaped recession is real, and she feels that she has a responsibility to vote for this ordinance.

Ms. Hale said that she would like to get money to the individuals who have been heavily impacted by the pandemic, but may have fallen through the cracks of the system, or are ineligible for unemployment benefits. She also calculated the amount of financial assistance that has come from federal aid alone since the pandemic began, which amounted to $8 a day.

Roll Call Vote on Ordinance 2020-09(AL)
Ayes: Hale, Woll, Smith, Hughes-Skandijs, Bryson, Triem, Gladziszewski
Nays: Jones, Mayor Weldon.
Motion passed. Seven (7) Ayes, Two (2) Nays.

F. Resolution 2941 A Resolution Amending the COVID-19 Emergency Individual Assistance Program Criteria.

Upon adoption of Ordinance 2020-09(AL), this resolution would direct how that $700,000 is granted to individuals financially harmed by COVID-19. Notably, this resolution prioritizes grants to lower income people and excludes grants to individuals that also received COVID-19 CBJ Housing Assistance.

The Assembly Finance Committee discussed this topic at its meeting on February 3, 2021.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly adopt this resolution.

Public Comment:
None.

Assembly Action:
MOTION by Ms. Triem for the Assembly to adopt Resolution 2941 and asked for unanimous consent. *Hearing no objections, Resolution 2941 passed by unanimous consent.*

G. Ordinance 2021-01(c) An Ordinance Providing for a Property Tax Abatement Program to Incentivize the Development of Housing in Downtown Juneau.

To qualify for this tax abatement program, at least four new residential units would need to be added to a parcel in the downtown Juneau area. Any condemned dwelling unit that is renovated up to current code would also qualify as a new unit. For the purposes of this ordinance, the downtown Juneau area is the same as the Title 49 Fee in Lieu of a Parking map.

This topic has been reviewed by numerous Assembly committees since the spring of 2018. Most recently, the Lands and Resources Committee reviewed this topic on August 10 and December 7, 2020, and January 11, 2021. Version (c) of this ordinance corrects a reference in the first whereas clause.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly adopt this ordinance.

Public Comment:
Ms. Betsy Brenneman, a Downtown resident spoke in support of this ordinance, particularly commending Mr. Smith's amendment, and spoke to her concerns. She shared that she has been a member of the Downtown Steering Committee, though she clarified that she was not speaking on behalf of the committee, but as a concerned citizen. She does not want this ordinance to encourage developers to tear down existing buildings to qualify.

Mr. Dave Hanna, a Valley resident, urged the Assembly to consider amending this ordinance to shorten the time period to five years.

Assembly Action:
MOTION by Ms. Triem for the Assembly to postpone Ordinance 2021-01(c) to the next Assembly meeting, and asked for unanimous consent.

Objection by Ms. Gladziszewski. She said that the Assembly has discussed the item for a long time, and it had been featured in many other committee meetings. Mayor Weldon explained that some of the public thought that the item was pulled from this agenda. Ms. Gladziszewski removed her objection.

Hearing no objections, Ordinance 2021-01(c) was postponed to the next scheduled Assembly meeting.

H. Emergency Ordinance 2021-05(b): An Emergency Ordinance Mandating COVID-19 Testing or Quarantine for Interstate, Intrastate, and International Travelers Arriving in the City and Borough of Juneau.

Currently, travelers coming into Alaska or within certain communities are required to follow State of Alaska Health Order 6 (International and Interstate Travel), Health Order 8 (Intrastate Travel), and Health Order 5 (Critical Infrastructure). However, those orders are likely to expire at midnight on Sunday (Feb. 14, 2021) because the Legislature has not enacted a bill to extend the State of Alaska public health disaster declaration. CBJ staff believes the Legislature will ultimately extend the disaster declaration. This emergency ordinance would fill the void and require travelers coming into Juneau to continue the same testing, quarantine, and isolation requirements that currently exist with Health Orders 5, 6, and 8.

Version (b) reflects changes regarding critical infrastructure workers.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly adopt this emergency ordinance.

Public Comment:
None.

<u>Assembly Action:</u>
<u>MOTION</u> by Ms. Gladziszewski for the Assembly to adopt Emergency Ordinance 2021-05(b).

Ms. Gladziszewski asked if Mr. Palmer made any changes from the Governor's Emergency Health Mandate when drafting this Emergency Ordinance.

Mr. Palmer said that he made changes to Section 5 of the Ordinance so that it reflects Health Mandate 5, after receiving feedback from critical infrastructure workers.

Ms. Gladziszewski removed her objection. *Hearing no objections, Emergency Ordinance 2021-05(b) was adopted by unanimous consent.*

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Manager's Recommended Assembly Process for Consideration of the NCL Dock Proposal

The Committee of the Whole received a recommendation from the City Manager at the February 1, 2021 meeting on a process for considering the Norwegian Cruise Lines proposal for a dock in the vicinity of the Juneau Subport.

The City Manager recommends that the Assembly take public testimony on this recommendation and then do one of the following: accept the proposal by motion, make alterations to the proposal, provide further direction to the Manager, or refer the issue for additional committee work.

<u>Public Comment:</u>
None.

<u>Assembly Action:</u>
<u>MOTION</u> by Mr. Jones for the Assembly to accept the Manager's proposal, and asked for unanimous consent. *Hearing no objections, the proposal was accepted by unanimous consent.*

X. STAFF REPORTS

None.

XI. ASSEMBLY REPORTS

A. **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Weldon acknowledged that February is Black Awareness Month, and said she has been listening to the radio to hear the achievements of African-Americans. Mayor Weldon also recognized Elizabeth Peratrovich Day on February 16. She reminded the listening public about the deadline to apply for the AFHC Housing and Utility relief program.

B. **Committee Reports, Liaison Reports, Assembly Comments and Questions**

Committee of the Whole (COW) Chair Jones shared that the COW met on February 1 in a joint meeting with the Docks & Harbors Board. They reviewed the Small Cruise Ship Docking Facility Plan, and the planning and process of the NCL proposal that the Assembly adopted earlier tonight. The next COW meeting is scheduled on February 22 as a joint meeting with the Airport Board.

Assembly Finance Committee (AFC) Chair Triem reported that all of the items discussed at the last AFC meeting were introduced or sent to the Assembly action tonight. The next scheduled AFC meeting will be held on March 3.

Lands, Housing, and Economic Development Committee (LHEDC) Chair Gladziszewski reported that the LHEDC last met on February 1 to discuss the Juneau Affordable Housing Fund. They reviewed this issue, which had been tabled due to COVID, and decided to bring it up again with the recommended $700,000 dollars.

Public Works and Facilities Committee (PWFC) Chair Hale shared that the PWFC last met on February 1, and again on February 8. They received public testimony on Calhoun Avenue at both meetings, and on February 8 the PWFC unanimously voted to forward Recommendations B and C from Mr. Watt's PWFC memo dated January 20, 2021 to the Full Assembly for consideration. The PWFC also reviewed six Assembly goals, and intend to create up to three action items from those goals to work on in the future.

<u>**MOTION**</u> by Chair Hale for the Assembly to remove the concept of turning Calhoun Avenue into a one-way street from further consideration or study as found in items B&C of Mr. Watt's January 20, 2021 memo to the PWFC. Additionally, that the reconstruction proposal go back to the Planning Commission for review.

Mr. Jones objected to the motion. He asked Ms. Hale's referral regarding Calhoun Avenue would be a motion to be acted on tonight, or would it be an agenda item for a future Assembly meeting. Ms. Hale said that she believes her referral means that the item will come before the Assembly at a future meeting.

Mr. Jones said that the Planning Commission recommended that the Assembly deny CBJ staff to design and build and project, and also recommended to the Assembly that a full study of Calhoun Avenue traffic operations be conducted prior to reconstruction. The City Manager's memo recommended the Assembly reject both of the PC recommendations, or to accept their recommendations but remove the one-way street option from the project review. Mr. Jones said the Assembly has not yet formally rejected (or accepted) the Planning Commission's recommendation. He said that by doing this, the Assembly will be putting the Planning Commission in an untenable position, in that they are to review the project that was presented to them. They are not to be negotiating with Engineering to change the project unless that is part of their study. The Planning Commission is a regulatory body that looks at projects in relation to Title 49 and they look at the Conditional Use Permits, looks at City and State project reviews and they are not the body to hold public hearings on whether a project is designed correctly or not. He said that he does not understand why it would be sent back to the Planning Commission. He said he does understand why it may not be best for the Assembly to be taking this up at this time but to throw it back to the Planning Commission puts them at a disadvantage. Unless Eng/PW will be revising the proposal, he's not sure how the Planning Commission will be able to take this matter up. He explained the process that this project had been done at the Planning Commission and the votes that happened during its meeting. He said the Assembly has not yet made a decision on the Planning Commission's recommendation, the Assembly has not yet articulated what they want the Planning Commission to review and he thinks this puts the Planning Commission at a disadvantage when this item comes back before them if this motion passes.

Ms. Hughes-Skandijs said that she appreciates Mr. Jones' comments and that during the PWFC meeting, the committee conveyed requests to staff that present list of potential modifications or a list of items that had been requested and why Eng/PW may have thought those would or wouldn't work for this project.

Ms. Hale asked for Mr. Watt to speak to Mr. Jones' comments. Mr. Watt said that it is fair to say that this is an unusual situation. He said that he believes the Planning Commission can add value can assist with the public process. He said that what happened when the Planning Commission heard the project, they were dissatisfied with the project as presented. Rather than get into a discussion about what could be done to make the project acceptable, they opted to tell the Assembly to do this broader, undefined, traffic study. The problem with the traffic study is that there was no scope to it and Mr. Watt's recommendation to the Assembly is that if they take the concept of a one-way street out, that traffic study necessarily comes back to "What can we specifically do within the geographical confines of this road?" He said that is what the neighbors, engineers want to talk about and what the Planning Commission can help add value in making recommendations and ultimately, finding a way to recommend a project back to the Assembly. That may not be the specific detailed project that was originally presented but maybe with some slight modifications. He said that had the Planning Commission held it for another hearing, this process would have happened but they sent it to the Assembly with the request for the traffic study. Now that the Assembly agrees to limit the traffic study, that puts this back to the main issue.

Ms. Hale said that by removing Item B, it removes the one-way option from the review and provides the Planning Commission with the direction it needs for further review.

Mr. Jones said that the formal Notice of Recommendation was to the Assembly, not to a committee, with a recommendation to deny the staff proposal. He said that he wanted to make sure the Assembly handles the formal action on that recommendation correctly.

Ms. Gladziszewski said that she felt that this motion referring the matter back to the Planning Commission with the removal of the one-way option is in fact taking action on the Planning Commission's recommendation. She asked Mr. Palmer if she had a different opinion.

Mr. Palmer said that this is one of the times that the Assembly has a lot of discretion and clarified that this is a legislative decision, and while he hears Mr. Jones' concerns and it comes down to a question regarding the intent of the Assembly. If the Assembly would like to do something else they can or if they want to be more specific, they can also do that.

Mayor Weldon asked Ms. Hale if she felt that her motion was specific enough to include the intent of the Assembly on the traffic study. Ms. Hale said that she believes the motion does what it needs to do and removes the one-way street consideration.

Mr. Bryson asked for clarification and said that his understanding is that a "yes" vote would refer the matter back to the Planning Commission with the removal of the one-way street option. He asked what affect a "no" vote on this motion would have. Mr. Palmer explained that a "no" vote would mean that this current motion would fail, and another motion would be necessary to move forward.

Roll Call Vote to forward the City Manager's Memo Items B and C and removing the one-way street option, and to send this to the Planning Commission for reconstruction proposal:
Ayes: Hale, Woll, Smith, Hughes-Skandijs, Bryson, Triem, Gladziszewski, Mayor Weldon.
Nays: Jones.
Motion passed. Eight (8) Ayes, One (1) Nay.

Human Resources Committee (HRC) Chair Bryson shared that the HRC last met on February 4, and recommended the following appointments to the Juneau Commission on Sustainability:

- Connor Dunleavy, to a term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2022.
- Danielle Meeker, to a term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2023.

Hearing no objections, those appointments were approved by unanimous consent.

The HRC also forwarded the Lands Committee name change, and picked dates for Board Chair and Advisory Board Training on March 18 and March 20. Before tonight's Assembly meeting, the full Assembly met as the HRC to recommend the following appointments to the Systemic Racism Review Committee (SRRC):

- David Russell-Jensen, to a term beginning April 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2024.
- Kelli Patterson, to a term beginning April 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2024.
- Grace Lee, to a term beginning April 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2023.
- Lilian Worl, to a term beginning April 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2023.
- Gail Dabaluz, to a term beginning April 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2023.
- Dominic Branson, to a term beginning April 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022.
- Carla Casulucan, to a term beginning April 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022.

Hearing no objections, those appointments were approved by unanimous consent.

Mr. Bryson thanked the Assembly for taking the tremendous amount of time to conduct the interviews, for First Alaskans Institute for providing direction, and for Mila Cosgrove and the Clerk's Office for providing some direction.

Mayor Weldon expressed her appreciation for everyone who applied for the SRRC. She also informed the Assembly that Ms. Hale has decided to step down from being the SRRC liaison due to her busy workload with the Hospital Board. Ms. Woll will now be the liaison for the SRRC.

Ms. Woll shared that Travel Juneau and the Downtown Business Association both met this month, and both groups have strategic planning retreats planned for this month. The DBA wanted to pass along the invitation to the Assembly, there is a "Main Street Now" virtual conference coming up in April. Travel Juneau is exploring opportunities on bringing the Iron Man triathlon event to Juneau in the next few years.

Mr. Smith shared that the Local Emergency Planning Committee met yesterday to discuss vaccines and avalanche season. The LEPC will meet again next month. The Airport Board will meet on February 18, and he attended the Airport budget meeting where they discussed the effect that the lack of air travel has had on revenue. Mr. Smith thanked Mayor Weldon for the land acknowledgement at the beginning of tonight's meeting, and for recognizing Elizabeth Peratrovich Day. He added that Elizabeth Peratrovich Day also celebrates the signing of the Anti-Discrimination Act in Alaska, which took place almost 76 years ago and was the first of its kind in the United States.

Ms. Hughes-Skandijs shared the Juneau Commission on Sustainability met on February 3 and received an update on the solid waste report, as well as a discussion on electric vehicle usage in the country. The Docks & Harbors Board are currently tracking the news on Canada's ports, which banned international cruise ships from docking for the rest of the year. Ms. Hughes-Skandijs also reported that she attended her first training session with the First Alaskans Institute this morning, and she is looking forward to another day of training tomorrow. She thanked Mayor Weldon for her land acknowledgement, and encouraged that be included in future meetings.

Mr. Bryson reported that the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee met earlier this month, and shared that revenue for Parks & Recreation has been down 70%, however they still managed to finish the year under budget. The Master Trail Plan is in its finalization stages. The Eaglecrest Board met and discussed their record-breaking sales this season, and are currently figuring out how to resolve the issue of not having enough parking space for visitors.

Ms. Hale attended the Alaska Municipal League Board meeting on January 26, where they discussed community-specific needs such as sales tax and financial assistance. AML is also reviewing the federal legislation that will replace the CARES Act funding, and are growing concerned that some communities might not receive any funding. Ms. Hale said that AML is working with Congressional delegates to receive more information as it becomes available. The Hospital Board is continuing the CEO recruitment process, and she reported that the recruitment committee has been conducting several interviews for potential candidates.

Ms. Triem shared that the Aquatics Board has not met since the last Assembly meeting, the next scheduled meeting is February 24. She has been enjoying the blue skies in the forecast, and encouraged others to enjoy the nice weather while it lasts.

Ms. Gladziszewski shared that the School Board met twice this month, they discussed some recent cases in school, but fortunately there has been no spread so far to other students or faculty. 180 teachers have already been vaccinated, and more teachers are scheduled to be vaccinated soon. Ms. Gladziszewski appreciated the land acknowledgement, and suggested adding it to the Assembly Rules of Procedure.

Mr. Jones shared that the Planning Commission met on January 26, and on February 9. They worked through several projects, including forwarding a Title 49 change related to the flood management. The Title 49 committee met and discussed parking, and will meet again on February 18. Mr. Jones also attended the Blueprint Downtown meeting on January 30, they scheduled two additional meetings for February 17 and February 25. He also acknowledged upcoming President's Day Holiday.

Mayor Weldon mentioned that today is the first day of the second clinic for COVID-19 vaccinations, and thanked Ms. Cosgrove and Mr. Barr for their efforts in making that happen. Mr. Watt shared that over five hundred people have been vaccinated so far.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Assembly, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25p.m.

Signed: ____________________________	Signed: __________________________
Elizabeth J. McEwen	Beth A. Weldon
Municipal Clerk	Mayor