**THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA**
**REGULAR ASSEMBLY MEETING**
Meeting Minutes – January 4, 2021

**MEETING NO. 2021-01:** The Regular Assembly Meeting of the City and Borough of Juneau Assembly was held telephonically via Zoom Meetings, and was called into order by Mayor Beth Weldon at 7:00p.m.

## I. FLAG SALUTE

## II. ROLL CALL

**Assemblymembers Present:** Maria Gladziszewski, Wade Bryson, Loren Jones, Carole Triem, Alicia Hughes-Skandijs, Christine Woll, Greg Smith, Michelle Hale, 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 Clerk Diane Cathcart

## III. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

### A. Instructions for Public Participation

Municipal Clerk McEwen provided the public with instructions on how to participate in tonight's meeting telephonically.

## IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### A. August 24, 2020 Regular Assembly Meeting #2020-40 DRAFT Minutes

**MOTION** by Ms. Hale for the Assembly to approve of the August 24, 2020 Regular Assembly Meeting Minutes and asked for Unanimous Consent. *Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.*

## V. MANAGER'S REQUEST FOR AGENDA CHANGES

The City Manager did not have any requests for Agenda changes.

## VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Emily Ferry, a Downtown resident, spoke to the reconstruction project on Calhoun Avenue. She feels that concerns regarding safety and improving pedestrian and bike-ability aspects have not been taken into consideration, given the scope of the project. Ms. Ferry stated that over thirty residents and neighbors have signed a petition encouraging the CBJ Planning Commission to expand the scope of the project to include pedestrian safety and bike-ability aspects of the road.

Katherine Miller, a Valley resident, spoke to the indirect effects on the Mendenhall Loop Road due to the US Forest Service Plan to expand the Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Center. She shared that the current project plan does not include the number of visitors that it could hold, but mentioned that the Visitor Center building has a capacity of up to 4,000 people. Ms. Miller expressed concern regarding the amount of buses potentially congesting Mendenhall Loop Road while transporting thousands of tourists to the glacier in the summer.

David Summers, a Lemon Creek resident, expressed his concerns regarding the exclusion of year-round sole proprietor businesses from the Extreme Hardship Business Grant program. Ms. Hale asked Mr. Summers if he had received funding from the other CBJ grant programs for businesses. Mr. Summers said that his businesses received some of those grants, but did not receive the Extreme Hardship Grant.

## VII. 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 adopt the Consent Agenda, and asked for unanimous consent. *Hearing no objections, the Consent Agenda was approved by unanimous consent.*

1. **Ordinances for Introduction**
   **a. Ordinance 2020-60 An Ordinance Authorizing the Manager to Convey Approximately 22,000 Square Feet of Property Located at Lot 2, USS 3559 to the Owners of the Adjacent Property Located at 11259 North Douglas Highway.**
   Dwight Scott Williams and Carol Colp have submitted an application to purchase City property on USS 3559 LT 2, which is adjacent to their property located at 11259 N. Douglas Highway. At the November 9, 2020 meeting, the Lands Committee provided a motion of support for this land disposal. The Planning Commission provided a positive recommendation with the condition that the new lot created by this sale meet the dimensional requirements of the Rural Reserve zoning district. The purchase price of the property shall be the fair market value, which has been determined to be $34,600.00.
   **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 2936 A Resolution Authorizing the Manager to Apply to the State of Alaska for the Acquisition of the Property Located at Telephone Hill.**
   In 2019, the Governor published a Property Disposal Directive Report, which listed the Telephone Hill properties for divestment by the State.

   At the Assembly COW on December 2, 2019, staff gave a history of the properties and received direction to start the process to acquire the properties from the State. As the long-term management partner for the Telephone Hill properties, the City supports the goal of economic development of these properties and requests that the State convey the property to advance the shared goals of the City and the Administration.

On December 7, 2020, the Lands and Resources Committee provided a motion of support for a resolution in favor of the City applying to acquire the Telephone Hill properties from the State. The Telephone Hill properties were acquired jointly by CBJ and the State of Alaska approximately 35 years ago for the purpose of providing for an improved Capitol campus. Many improvements to the Capitol have been accomplished since then. Acquisition of these properties will allow CBJ to continue to play a central role in improvements to the Capitol and in the development of these properties.

This resolution would authorize the CBJ to submit an application to the State of Alaska, which would likely be an application for public and charitable use to the Department of Natural Resources (AS 38.05.810).
**The City Manager recommends the Assembly adopt this resolution.**

3. **Other Items for Consent**
   a. **CSP 20-08 Goodwin Road Reconstruction**
   This road reconstruction project includes replacement of the water system, partial replacement of the sewer system, and improved drainage. Road will be constructed and paved to full existing width, with two 14-foot travel lanes. Both water and sewer have exceeded their service life. An existing pedestrian path on the uphill side of Goodwin Road will be realigned to better match a crosswalk on Blueberry Hills Road.
   **The City Manager recommends the Assembly approve this project consistent with the Planning Commission's recommendation.**

4. **Transfers**
   a. **Transfer Request T-1034 A Transfer of $5,273,237 from Various Capital Improvement Projects to CIP U76-103 Facilities Planning, CIP U76-122 Outer Drive & W. Juneau Station Improvements, CIP U76-112 JD New Vactor Dump, and CIP U76-100 Glacier Highway Sewer-Anka to Walmart.**
   This transfer of $5,273,237 would accommodate current priority project needs of the wastewater utility. Many of the proposed transfers are reallocation of funds from completed projects to ongoing work in need of additional funding. The ongoing projects that are providing funding for the priority CIPs will retain sufficient funding to continue developing and building within those CIPs. Additional funding for construction will be prioritized and funded by the Wastewater Utility FY22 CIP request.

   The Public Works and Facilities Committee reviewed this request at the December 7, 2020 meeting.
   **The City Manager recommends approval of this transfer**.

## VIII. PUBLIC HEARING

**A. Ordinance 2020-09(AA) An Ordinance Appropriating $45,000 to the Manager for Parks and Recreation's Fiscal Year 2021 Dimond Park Field House Operating Costs; Funding Provided by the General Fund's Fund Balance.**

This ordinance would appropriate $45,000 for Parks and Recreation's FY21 Dimond Park Field House (DPFH) operating costs, estimated to be allocated for the following purposes:

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|---|---|
| Facilities Maintenance | $20,000 |
| Immediate Repairs to Fire System/Building | $25,000 |
| **TOTAL** | **$45,000** |

This supplemental appropriation is needed as a result of the transference of management of DPFH from Eaglecrest to Parks and Recreation beginning January 1, 2021.

The Parks and Recreation director briefed the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC) on this transfer at its meeting on November 3, 2020. Funding for this request would be provided by the General Fund's fund balance.

The Assembly Finance Committee reviewed this request at its December 9, 2020 meeting. **The City Manager recommends the Assembly adopt this ordinance.**

**Public Comment:**
None.

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

Objection by Mr. Jones. Mr. Jones spoke to his objection, stating that he is not sure that the Assembly has done their due diligence around this issue. He also expressed concerns about the uncertainty regarding CBJ's ownership of the property, and whether it should be sold back to the CBJ.

Objection by Mayor Weldon. Mayor Weldon agreed with Mr. Jones' comments, and expressed concern about acquiring a new building without much discussion on the matter.

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

**B. Ordinance 2020-09(AB) An Ordinance Appropriating $376,000 to the Manager for the Planning and Design of Bond-Funded Capital Improvement Projects; Funding Provided by General Obligation Bond Proceeds.**

This ordinance would appropriate $376,000 for the planning and design of bond-funded capital improvement projects, estimated to be allocated to the full design phase of the following projects:

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| Crest Avenue Reconstruction (R72-155) | $175,000 |
| Eagle Valley Center Improvements (P46-115) | $ 51,000 |
| Downtown and Glacier Fire Stations - Mechanical/Electrical Upgrades (F21-041) | $150,000 |
| **TOTAL** | **$376,000** |

This appropriation of project funding is consistent with the intent of the $15 Million general obligation bond package approved by voters in the October 6, 2020 Municipal Election. Funding for this request would be provided by General Obligation Bond Proceeds.

The Public Works and Facilities Committee reviewed this request at the December 7, 2020 meeting. The Assembly Finance Committee reviewed this request at the December 9, 2020 meeting.
**The City Manager recommends the Assembly adopt this ordinance.**

**Public Comment:**
None.

**Assembly Action:**
**MOTION** by Mr. Smith for the Assembly to adopt Ordinance 2020-09(AB) and asked for Unanimous Consent.

Objection by Mr. Bryson. Mr. Bryson spoke to his objection, stating that this is the wrong timing for the Crest Avenue project. He said that he is in favor of improving the area, but mentioned the multiple other changes that will be implemented within the next 12 months near that road. Mr. Bryson said that he does not oppose this ordinance, he is concerned with potentially putting the cart before the horse, taking the several changes that will be made to Crest Avenue in the coming months. He suggested possibly taking this ordinance back to Committee of the Whole for discussion.

Mr. Palmer explained that Mr. Bryson had the option to move to refer the ordinance to the COW if he chose to do so.

Mr. Bryson asked Mayor Weldon if it was possible to bifurcate the ordinance, to keep the two other projects intact and move the Crest Avenue project to COW. Mr. Palmer said that

Mr. Bryson could do that by amending the motion that would strike the Crest Avenue project from this ordinance.

Mr. Watt mentioned that the Assembly could reduce the appropriation amount which would delay the Crest Avenue project, or to pass the ordinance and ask for an update at a Public Work and Facilities Committee (PWFC) meeting. Mr. Bryson said that he would remove his objection if the Assembly could receive an update on the project at the PWFC meeting.

Ms. Gladziszewski clarified that this is the planning and design of Crest Avenue, and that Mr. Bryson’s concerns will be addressed in the design process. Mr. Watt confirmed Ms. Gladziszewski’s clarification, and explain that the process will involve PWFC gathering a scope of the project and proposing improvements with the Planning Commission. He added that PWFC would give regular updates to the Assembly to ensure that they were moving in the right direction.

Mr. Bryson removed his objection.

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

**C. Ordinance 2020-38(b) An Ordinance Authorizing Docks and Harbors to Execute a Reservation Agreement with Goldbelt, Inc. for Seadrome Dock and the Merchant’s Wharf Float.**

This ordinance would allow Docks and Harbors to manage the reservations on behalf of Goldbelt, Inc. at the Seadrome Dock for the 2021 season. Title 85 only allows Docks and Harbors “the development and marketing of municipality owned facilities”, which includes the Intermediate Vessel Float, the Port Field Office Float and Statter Harbor Breakwater.

This authorization would allow Docks and Harbors to evaluate, alongside with Goldbelt, whether a moorage reservation call center operated by Docks and Harbors would provide efficiencies and cost savings for the two entities.

The Docks and Harbors Board favorably recommended this matter at its meeting on February 27 and again on November 19, 2020. The Assembly Human Resources Committee favorably recommended this matter at its meeting on July 1, 2020.
The original intent was to execute this authorization in calendar year 2020. However because of the pandemic, both parties agreed to wait until 2021 to evaluate opportunities.

**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 2020-38(b) and asked for unanimous consent. *Hearing no objections, Ordinance 2020-38(b) was adopted by unanimous consent.*

## IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

## X. NEW BUSINESS

**A. Regulation 05 CBJAC 20.044 Active Fishing Vessel Discount at Statter Harbor**

This regulation would allow fishing vessels that maintain reserved moorage at Statter Harbor to moor up to 20 days per year at the downtown harbors. The Docks and Harbors Board recommended approval of this regulation amendment.

The Assembly's review is guided by CBJC 01.60.260. Notably, the Assembly cannot amend the regulations tonight. However, the Assembly may do one of the following:

1. Not take up consideration of the regulations by moving the regulations with orders of the day, which means the regulations are approved;
2. Discuss the regulations and move to adopt the regulations;
3. Discuss the regulations and direct the Manager to consider reasons to review the regulations again; or
4. Direct the Attorney to prepare an ordinance or resolution for consideration of the substance of the regulations.

**The City Manager recommends the Assembly approve the regulations by moving for orders of the day.**

**Public Comment:**
None.

**Assembly Action:**
**<u>MOTION</u>** by Mr. Jones for the Assembly to move orders of the day.

Ms. Triem asked if this regulation change was specifically directed at commercial fishing vessels. Mr. Uchytil confirmed that the purpose of this regulation change was primarily intended for commercial fishing vessels. *Hearing no objections, the motion for orders of the day passed by unanimous consent*

## XI. STAFF REPORTS

EOC Incident Commander Mila Cosgrove provided an update to the Assembly on the status of the COVID-19 vaccine rollout. She clarified that vaccine distribution and prioritization decisions are being made by the State of Alaska for most Alaskans; and tribal organizations are developing vaccine strategies for tribal members. She explained that vaccines are limited and are not available to everyone at the moment, so the State is distributing them in a phased approach as they become available.

Ms. Cosgrove said we are currently in Phase 1a, which is separated into three tiers: Tiers 1 through 3 predominantly consist of healthcare workers and emergency responders.
Last Thursday, the State released the allocations for Phase 1b. Tier 1 of Phase 1b will include individuals who are over the age of 65 years old. The State is opening registration for this Tier on Wednesday, January 6 at 12:00 p.m.

Ms. Cosgrove asked the public to be patient with the process, and assured that vaccines will be distributed throughout the community as they have been identified. She shared that EOC staff have been working on ways to get the word out to those in the community who may be included this tier, but are not connected to electronic communications or social media resources. Ms. Cosgrove also explained that the EOC does not have insight on how many people in Juneau have received the vaccine. The State is working on a mechanism to report those numbers, but that information has not been given to the EOC at this time.

Mr. Bryson asked Ms. Cosgrove if she had any insight on when they would receive more vaccines, and the number of vaccines that would be in the next batch. Ms. Cosgrove explained that the State of Alaska receives a monthly allocation of vaccines to distribute to communities. The EOC will receive an allocation of vaccines every month, but the amount of vaccines expected in each monthly allocation has not been made available at this time.

Ms. Gladziszewski thanked Ms. Cosgrove and the EOC for their efforts in providing as much information as possible during a time in which there is limited information available. Ms. Cosgrove said that new information is included in the Daily EOC Update and the weekly COVID-19 Update, in addition to the State website.

## XII. ASSEMBLY REPORTS

### A. Mayor's Report

Mayor Weldon said she hoped that everyone had a good holiday season, and that 2021 would be a better year for everyone. She said the Clerk's office is currently accepting applications for the Systemic Racism Review Committee. Applications are due by January 10. She also mentioned that CBJ is providing Christmas tree chipping service on Saturday, January 9.

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

**Committee of the Whole Chair Jones** shared that the COW has not met since the last two Assembly meetings. There is a COW meeting scheduled for Monday, January 11.

**Lands, Resources, Housing and Economic Development Committee Chair** Gladziszewski reported that the committee has not met since the last Assembly meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 11.

**Public Works and Facilities Committee Chair Hale** shared that PWFC has also not met since the last Assembly meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 11.

**Human Resources Committee Chair Bryson** forwarded a motion from the HRC to appoint Gretchen Bishop to the Juneau Commission on Sustainability for a term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2023. Hearing no objections, Ms. Bishop was appointed by unanimous consent.

Mr. Bryson reported that the HRC met just prior to the Assembly meeting and discussed the future of CBJ Elections and passed a motion to direct the Clerk to present election options at a future COW meeting for the 2021 Election.

**MOTION** by Mr. Jones made to forward to the COW that the Assembly consider a hybrid election for the 2021 Election. This could include an emphasis on absentee voting, or the utilization of the Municipality of Anchorage's Voting Center. *Hearing no objection, the motion passed by unanimous consent.*

Mr. Bryson also mentioned the HRC's discussion of the BRH Board vacancy, and referenced the Executive Session scheduled at the end of this Assembly meeting to discuss filling that vacancy.

**Assembly Finance Committee (AFC) Chair Triem** reported that there has not been a recent AFC meeting, however some agenda items passed tonight were brought forth by the AFC. The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, January 13.

**Liaison Reports and Assembly Comments**

Ms. Woll shared that she attended the Juneau Commission on Aging (JCOA) meeting, where they discussed the 2019 Senior Needs Survey. She said that it featured a thorough analysis of the needs present in our community, and the JCOA will evaluate the needs and make a recommendation to the Assembly sometime in the near future.

Mr. Smith reminded the listening public of the free asymptomatic testing, and to fill out this year's PFD application. He wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Ms. Hughes-Skandijs shared that the Docks & Harbors Board recently met, and the agenda item they brought to the Assembly was moved for orders of the day earlier in tonight's meeting. Docks & Harbors also reviewed and forwarded their comments to the Assembly on the final draft of the Visitor Industry Task Force (VITF) recommendations. She also wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Ms. Hale suggested holding a joint meeting between the BRH Board and the Assembly to discuss community health strategies. She added that the Behavioral Health group had been reaching out to the residents of Haines to provide emotional support in the aftermath of the December landslides.

Ms. Triem shared that the Aquatics Board did not meet in December, but they will meet this month to discuss their budget recommendations for the upcoming fiscal year. The aquatics systems has a new online reservation system that is significantly less clunky than the old one. She encouraged the public to try and use the new system for the pools.

Ms. Gladziszewski shared that the School Board has not had a meeting recently.

Mr. Jones shared that the Planning Commission has not met, and are still working on their list of recommendations. He attended the last Bartlett meeting. He did not attend the last Blueprint Downtown meeting. He reminded the Assembly that there is a COW meeting scheduled for next week.

C. Presiding Officer Reports

**1. Wille and Weldon v. Planning Commission and CCTHITA**

This appeal relates to a Planning Commission decision granting a conditional use permit for transitional housing at 6205 Alaway Avenue (Lemon Creek/Midtown) for the Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska. The Assembly accepted this appeal and appointed Mr. Bryson as the Presiding Officer.

Ms. Weldon filed a motion to disqualify Mr. Bryson from participating in this appeal. A motion to disqualify is governed by CBJC 01.50.100.

**The City Attorney recommends the Assembly recess into executive session to discuss this quasi-judicial matter.**

Mayor Weldon recused herself from this discussion due to family ties.

**<u>MOTION</u>** by Ms. Gladziszewski for the Assembly to recess into Executive Session to discuss this matter.

Mr. Bryson asked if it would be possible to recuse himself from this issue to make this matter go smoothly. Mr. Palmer told Mr. Bryson that he could make that decision if he wanted to. Mr. Bryson withdrew himself as Presiding Officer from this appeal. Ms. Gladziszewski withdrew her motion for Executive Session.

**<u>MOTION</u>** by Ms. Gladziszewski for the Assembly to appoint a Hearing Officer to this appeal. *Hearing no objections, the motion passed.*

Mr. Palmer said that he would notify the involved parties of this decision.

**2. Sealaska Heritage Institute v. Planning Commission**

On May 13, 2020 the CBJ Planning Commission granted a conditional use permit to the Sealaska Heritage Institute for an arts campus building and plaza. The parties are trying to resolve this case and have until March 15, 2021 to provide an update to the Assembly.
**No action is needed at this time.**

Mr. Palmer noted that this appeal was still pending, and there is no action needed at this time.

## XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

### A. Bartlett Regional Hospital Boardmember Vacancy

The Full Assembly as the Human Resources Committee met on December 15, 2020 to interview for the three Bartlett Regional Hospital Board seats with terms ending December 31, 2020. Out of seven applicants interviewed, the three incumbents were reappointed.

On December 23, 3030 the City Clerk's Office was notified that a board member with an unexpired term resigned. The board member's seat is for a term ending December 31, 2021.

Depending on the recommendation from the January 4, 2021 Assembly Human Resources Committee, the Assembly may choose to recess into Executive Session to consider the applications of those individuals who were interviewed at the December 15, 2020 HRC meeting.

**MOTION** by Ms. Triem for the Assembly to move into Executive Session to discuss items that might have a tendency to prejudice the reputation/character of any persons, specifically applicants for the Bartlett Regional Hospital Board, and asked for unanimous consent. *There being no public objection or comment to the Assembly recessing into Executive Session, the Assembly recessed into Executive Session at 8:13p.m. and returned from Executive Session at 8:31p.m.*

**MOTION** by Mr. Jones for the Assembly appoint Hal Geiger to the vacant seat on the Bartlett Regional Hospital Board of Directors to a term beginning immediately and expiring December 31, 2021. *Hearing no objections, the motion passed by unanimous consent.*

Mayor Weldon asked if there was any other business to come before the Assembly before they adjourned. Mr. Jones reported that the next meeting of the Downtown Blueprint Committee was scheduled to meet on Saturday, January 30, 2021 from 8:30a.m.-12:30p.m.

## XIV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Assembly, the meeting was adjourned at 8:33p.m.

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