THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Meeting Minutes - November 25, 2019

MEETING NO. 2019-35: The Regular Meeting of the City and Borough of Juneau Assembly held in the Assembly Chambers of the Municipal Building, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Beth Weldon.

I. FLAG SALUTE

II. ROLL CALL

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

Assemblymembers Absent: Deputy Mayor Maria Gladziszewski

Staff Present: City Manager Rorie Watt, City Attorney Robert Palmer, Deputy City Manager Mila Cosgrove, Municipal Clerk Beth McEwen, Assistant City Attorney Emily Wright, Parks and Recreation Director George Schaaf, Harbor Master David Borg

III. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. October 14, 2019 Regular Assembly Meeting Minutes

MOTION by Ms. Hale to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2019 Regular Assembly meeting and asked for unanimous consent. *Hearing no objection, the minutes were approved.*

V. MANAGER'S REQUEST FOR AGENDA CHANGES

Mr. Watt noted that we do not need an Executive Session so that should be removed from the agenda. He also noted that he has several short staff reports that will be provided.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

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 approve the Consent Agenda as presented. *Hearing no objections, the motion carried.*

1. Ordinances for Introduction

   a. Ordinance 2019-06(L) An Ordinance Appropriating to the Manager the Sum of $175,000 as Funding for Snow Removal Equipment for Capital Transit; Grant Funding Provided by Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, with Local Match Funding Provided by the Equipment Replacement Reserve Fund's Fund Balance.

      This ordinance would appropriate $175,000 for the purchase of snow removal equipment for Capital Transit to maintain access to bus shelters. Grant funding in the amount of $140,000 is from federal funds through the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities and the local match requirement of $35,000 funded from Equipment Replacement Reserve Fund Balance.

      The Public Works and Facilities Committee reviewed this appropriation at its December 10, 2018, meeting and recommended forwarding it to the Assembly for approval.

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

   b. Ordinance 2019-06(M) An Ordinance Appropriating to the Manager the Sum of $220,000 as Funding for Snow Removal Equipment for Capital Transit; Grant Funding Provided by Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, with Local Match Funding Provided by the Equipment Replacement Reserve Fund's Fund Balance.

      This ordinance would appropriate $220,000 for the purchase of snow removal equipment for Capital Transit to maintain access to bus shelters. Grant funding in the amount of $176,000 is from federal funds through the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities and the local match requirement of $44,000 funded from Equipment Replacement Reserve Fund Balance.

      This ordinance is nearly identical to the ordinance above; the only differences are the dollar amounts and the fact that two different grants were received from ADOT for this purpose.

The Public Works and Facilities Committee reviewed this appropriation at its December 10, 2018, meeting and recommended forwarding it to the Assembly for approval.

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

c. Ordinance 2019-06(N) An Ordinance Appropriating to the Manager the Sum of $270,000 as Funding for the Replacement of Three Paratransit Buses for Capital Transit; Grant Funding Provided by Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, with Local Match Funding Provided by the Equipment Replacement Reserve Fund's Fund Balance.

This ordinance would appropriate $270,000 for the purchase of three paratransit buses for Capital Transit. Grant funding in the amount of $216,000 is provided by federal funds through the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities and the local match requirement of $54,000 funded from Equipment Replacement Reserve Fund Balance. This funding will replace three paratransit buses that have exceeded their useful life and are scheduled for replacement. The funds are from the Federal Transit Administration and come through the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.

The Public Works and Facilities Committee reviewed this appropriation at its December 10, 2018, meeting and recommended forwarding it to the Assembly for approval.

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

d. Ordinance 2019-40 An Ordinance Repealing the Waste Management Utility Code.

This ordinance would repeal the CBJ Code provisions that impose a $100 annual fee for businesses that recycle at the landfill. The costs to administer the fee exceeded the revenue collected, the fee was challenging to equitably enforce, and the fee discouraged businesses from recycling. The CBJ will continue to provide recycling and household hazardous waste collection services to extend the life of the landfill and protect the environment.
This ordinance was discussed at the Assembly Finance Committee on September 25 and November 6, 2019.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly introduce this

ordinance and set it for public hearing at the next regular Assembly meeting.

e. Ordinance 2019-41 An Ordinance Increasing the Motor Vehicle Registration Tax.

State law authorizes municipalities to impose a motor vehicle registration tax by ordinance. This ordinance would increase the biennial motor vehicle registration tax in the CBJ from $44 to $70 for non-commercial vehicles and from $4 to $10 for motorcycles and non-commercial trailers. Commercial vehicles remain exempt because some commercial vehicles may be taxable through the business personal property tax and state law prohibits a municipality from imposing a motor vehicle registration tax and assessing a business personal property tax. The increase in revenue created by this ordinance is intended to support the costs to maintain CBJ streets.

This ordinance was discussed at the Assembly Finance Committee on September 25 and November 6, 2019.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly introduce this ordinance, refer it to the Assembly Finance Committee on December 4, 2019, and set it for public hearing at the next regular Assembly meeting.

f. Ordinance 2019-47 An Ordinance Authorizing Vacation of Right-of-Way at Lot 10, Evergreen Heights Subdivision, Located at 1706 Willow Drive.

This ordinance would authorize the vacation of 444 square feet of a right-of-way. The right-of-way was created by a plat in 1958, does not benefit the public, and is not anticipated to benefit the public. Because this right-of-way was created by a dedication in a subdivision process, the municipality cannot charge for vacating it.

On October 29, 2019, the Planning Commission recommended the Assembly approve the vacation of this right-of-way.

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

g. Ordinance 2019-48 An Ordinance Authorizing the Manager to Convey Lot 3, Bonnie Subdivision, Located at 11031 Mendenhall Loop Road, to Margaret Tharp and David Lendrum for Fair Market Value.

Margaret Tharp and David Lendrum applied to purchase CBJ property adjacent to their property near 11000 Mendenhall Loop Road. On

September 17, 2018, the Assembly authorized the Manager to negotiate the sale of property. During the negotiations, the applicants agreed to grant the CBJ an access and utility easement, which will provide a 60-foot corridor for a future right-of-way to access the Pederson Hill subdivision. The fair market value of this land transaction accounts for the access and utility easement.

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 2874 A Resolution in Support of Full Funding ($12,145,312) for the State of Alaska Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program in the FY 2021 State Capital Budget.

   The substantive portions of this resolution were drafted by the Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators (AAHPA), of which CBJ Docks & Harbors is a member. This resolution recommends full funding for the State of Alaska Department of Transportation's Harbor Facility Grant Program. CBJ has been a beneficiary of approximately $11 million in harbor grant funding since the program's inception. CBJ was recently notified of a $125K Tier II grant for zinc anode installation at Harris Harbor.

   Docks & Harbors has submitted applications this year for $2M for the next phase of Aurora Harbor. The City & Borough of Juneau along with the municipalities of the City of Ketchikan, the City and Borough of Sitka, the Municipality of Anchorage, the City of Homer, the City of Cordova, the City of Kake and the City of Edna Bay have offered to contribute $12,145,312 in local match funding for FY2021 towards eight harbor projects of significant importance for Alaska.

   The Docks & Harbors Board reviewed this resolution at its regular board meeting on November 21, 2019, and has recommended forwarding it to the full Assembly for approval.

   The City Manager recommends the Assembly adopt this resolution.

   b. Resolution 2875 A Resolution Encouraging Automatic Vessel Registration with the Division of Motor Vehicles for Vessels Active in the Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission Database.

   The substantive portions of this resolution were drafted by the Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators (AAHPA), of which CBJ Docks & Harbors is a member. This resolution recommends an update to the Alaska state statute directing fishing vessels in the Commercial Fisheries Entry Vessel (CFEC) Database be automatically issued Alaska vessel registration numbers and that the CFEC and Division of Motor Vehicles create a system for information sharing to this end.

In 2018, the Legislature passed Senate Bill 92, the Derelict Vessel Act. An unintended consequence of this bill was that some active fisherman were caught unaware of the need to register vessel ownership across the State. By encouraging minor statutory changes, some burdens to commercial fisherman can be eased without diminishing the goal of reducing the number of derelict vessels in Alaskan waters.

The Docks & Harbors Board reviewed this resolution at its regular board meeting on November 21, 2019, and has recommended forwarding it to the full Assembly for approval.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly adopt this resolution.

3. Bid Award

a. BE20-036 Mendenhall, Poplar, Columbia Street Reconstruction

Bids opened on the subject project on November 14, 2019. The bid protest period expired on November 18, 2019. Results of the bid opening are as follows:

Responsive Bidders	Total Bid
Coogan Construction Co.	$2,604,349.00
Arete Construction Corporation	$2,646,586.00
Glacier State Contractors, Inc.	$2,700,282.50
ENCO Alaska Inc.	$3,522,123.00
Admiralty Construction Inc.	$3,534,951.00
Engineer's Estimate	$2,900,000.00

The work includes street reconstruction from the intersection of Birch Lane and Columbia Boulevard to Mendenhall Boulevard and from the intersection of Columbia Boulevard to Poplar Avenue.

The City Manager recommends award of this project to Coogan Construction for the total amount bid of $2,604,309.

4. Transfers

a. Transfer T-1024 A Transfer of $100,000 in Marine Passenger Fees from CIP H51-116 Marine Park to Taku Upland Improvement to CIP R72-144 South Franklin Street Safety & Capacity Improvement.

This transfer of $100,000 of Marine Passenger Fees will create a new CIP, South Franklin Street Safety and Capacity Improvements, to improve pedestrian safety along South Franklin Street. The project will continue the installation of pedestrian stanchions, improve lighting and remove obstructions within the sidewalks where possible and make improvements to Warner's Way to create pedestrian access to the Seawalk. This work will be subject to ADOT review and approval of CBJ plans since all of this work (except for Warner's Way) is within the ADOT Right of Way.

The Public Works and Facilities Committee recommended approval of this transfer at its October 28, 2019, regular meeting.

The City Manager recommends approval of this transfer.

b. Transfer T-1025 A Transfer of $384,350 from Various Capital Improvement Projects to CIP R72-142 Savikko Road Improvement.

This transfer of $384,350 of Street Sales Tax from five CIPs to the Savikko Road Improvements CIP will provide funding for additional needed work discovered during scoping the project. The additional work discovered during detailed scoping included replacement of parking area pavement, drainage structures, improvement to surface drainage from Savikko Sportsfields and replacement of curb and gutter, sidewalks related to the reconfigured drainage patterns.

P41-097	Sportfield Repairs	$45,000
R72-114	Blueberry Hills Road	$21,290
R72-126	F St Douglas - 3rd to 5th	$100,060
R72-133	Douglas Side Streets - D & E	$98,000
R72-134	Sitka Street Reconstruction	$120,000

The Public Works and Facilities Committee recommended approval of this transfer at its October 28, 2019, regular meeting.

The City Manager recommends approval of this transfer.

VIIIPUBLIC HEARING

A. Ordinance 2019-43 An Ordinance Amending the Purchasing Code Related to Timelines for Protests.

The CBJ procurement code governs how goods and services are procured and when a procurement protest can be submitted. Currently, protests must be submitted by "close of the business day." This ordinance would clarify that a protest must be submitted by 4:30 pm Alaska time. This amendment would provide clarity for the public and CBJ staff.

The Public Works and Facilities Committee recommended this ordinance be introduced when it reviewed the topic at its meeting on October 28, 2019.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly adopt this ordinance.

Public Comment
None.

Assembly Action

MOTION by Mr. Bryson to adopt Ordinance 2019-43 and asked for unanimous consent. *Hearing no objection, the motion carried.*

B. Ordinance 2019-46 An Ordinance Amending the Waters and Harbors Code Relating to Unattended Vessels at Boat Launches and Providing for a Penalty.

Docks & Harbors heard concerns from the Amalga Harbor/Huffman Cove residents that vessels were being left unattended at the Amalga Harbor boarding float overnight. This ordinance would prohibit a vessel from being left unattended at a boat launch except when a person is actively parking or retrieving a trailer. In response to public comments, the term "float plane" was added to the type vessels regulated by this ordinance.
The Docks & Harbors Board reviewed this ordinance at its meeting on September 26, 2019 and recommends the Assembly adopt the ordinance.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly adopt this ordinance.

Public Comment
None.

Assembly Action

MOTION by Ms. Hughes-Skandijs to adopt Ordinance 2019-46 and asked for unanimous consent.

Ms. Triem asked if this is an entirely new section of code and Mr. Palmer confirmed that this is a new code section.

Mr. Smith objected for purposes of an amendment.

Amendment by Mr. Smith on page 1 of the ordinance to add "launch or" on the final so that section (b) would read: "(b) The prohibition in section (a) does not apply to temporary durations when the operator or person in charge of the vessel leaves the boat launch to dispatch a vehicle and trailer necessary in the launch or recovery of the vessel." *Hearing no objection, the amendment passed.*

Mayor Weldon asked if there were any objections to the motion as amended.

Mr. Edwardson objected for purposes of a question. Mr. Edwardson said they are talking about making mooring at the dock/launch ramp a violation. He asked how the violations would be enforced considering Amalga Harbor is pretty far out of town.

Harbormaster David Borg came forward and explained that this is generally systematic when the seine fleet is in town and that is when staff gets all the phone calls about these complaints. He said that in his six years at the harbors, this is the only instance when/where this occurs and they get many complaint calls during that period. He said they researched the issue and it is something where they would be able to write a ticket to the boat and they do have staff on hand during that time to provide enforcement.

Mr. Edwardson removed his objection.

Hearing no other objections, Ordinance 2019-46 was adopted as amended.

C. Ordinance 2019-06(F) An Ordinance Transferring $47,969 of Unexpended FY19 Marine Passenger Fees from the General Fund to the Open Space Waterfront Land Acquisition Capital Improvement Project.

This ordinance would transfer $47,969 of unexpended Marine Passenger Fees (MPF) revenues, budgeted for specific purposes in FY19 and not expended by the fiscal year end, to the Open Space Waterfront Land Acquisition CIP. This transfer is consistent with the Assembly's direction on the disposition of unexpended MPF funds.

The amounts below are the result of monies appropriated from the Marine Passenger Fee Fund for specific purposes in the FY19 budget but were not fully expended by the end of FY19.

Franklin Dock Enterprises	$ 10,616
Downtown Business Association	306
City Manager	2,725
Capital City Fire Rescue	34,322
Total	**$ 47,969**

For accounting purposes, the funds will first be refunded to the Marine Passenger Fee Fund and then be transferred to the Open Space Waterfront Land Acquisition CIP.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly adopt this ordinance.

Public Comment
None.

Assembly Action

MOTION by Mr. Smith to adopt Ordinance 2019-06(F) and asked for unanimous consent. *Hearing no objection, the motion carried.*

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. ADOT&PF Request to Purchase Lot 1A, USS 2137 for Glacier Highway Improvements in Lemon Creek

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities has submitted a request to acquire approximately 0.032 acres of City property in order to improve Glacier Highway in Lemon Creek. 53.09.200 states, “The proposal shall be reviewed by the Assembly for a determination of whether the proposal should be further considered and, if so, whether by direct negotiation with the original proposer or by competition after an invitation for further proposals. Upon direction of the Assembly by motion, the Manager may commence negotiations for the lease, sale, exchange, or other disposal of City and Borough land.” The ADOT&PF is also requesting permanent and temporary construction easements as part of Glacier Highway reconstruction project. The June 7, 2019 Lands Committee meeting provided a motion of support for this disposal and easements.

The City Manager requests a motion authorizing him to work with the original proposer.

Public Comment
None.

Assembly Action

MOTION by Ms. Triem to direct the manager to work with the original proposer on the purchase of Lot 1A, USS 2137 for Glacier Hwy. and asked for unanimous consent.

Mr. Jones asked if the Manager could explain the map included in the packet vs. the parcel subject to the acquisition. Mr. Watt confirmed that the map in the packet is not accurate to the project. Mr. Watt stated that some of the members of the Lands Committee may recall the parcel from the presentation that was provided at the June 7, 2019 Lands Committee meeting. He went on to explain that this agenda item is to authorize the Manager to enter into negotiations with the original proposer and when it comes back before the Assembly in the form of an ordinance for approval, he will ensure that the correct map in included in the packet.

Mr. Jones removed his objection. Mr. Edwardson said he didn't object but wanted to echo Mr. Jones' statement that the correct map be included when the ordinance comes to the Assembly for approval.

Hearing no objection, the motion carried.

B. ADOT&PF Request to Purchase a Fraction of Block A, Field Acres Subdivision for Mendenhall Loop Road Improvements

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities has submitted a request to acquire approximately 0.18 acres of City Park's property in order to improve the Mendenhall Loop Road and Stephen Richards Drive intersection. 53.09.200 states, "The proposal shall be reviewed by the Assembly for a determination of whether the proposal should be further considered and, if so, whether by direct negotiation with the original proposer or by competition after an invitation for further proposals. Upon direction of the Assembly by motion, the Manager may commence negotiations for the lease, sale, exchange, or other disposal of City and Borough land." The ADOT&PF is also requesting permanent and temporary construction easements as part of the Mendenhall Loop Road reconstruction project.

The City Manager requests a motion authorizing him to work with the original proposer.

Public Comment
None.

Assembly Action

MOTION by Ms. Hale to direct the Manager to work with the original proposer on the purchase of a Fraction of Block A, Field Acres Subdivision for Mendenhall Loop Road improvements and asked for unanimous consent.

Mr. Bryson objected.

Mr. Bryson spoke to his objection stating that he attended many public forums for this project as well as those relating to the next agenda topic as well, the Floyd Dryden roundabout and the Duck Creek roundabout. He said he has severe reservations that this is the correct plan for the Mendenhall Loop reconstruction and he was going to request that this be referred to the Assembly Public Works and Facilities Committee to make sure this is the appropriate course of action for the major thoroughfare coming out of the valley.

Mayor Weldon said that this is a State of Alaska road so she is not sure how much CBJ could influence this project. She asked Mr. Jones to provide the information on process for this.

Mr. Jones said that while PWFC could review this, DOT/PF may or may not even show up to the meeting. He said that he believes that DOT has to show up at the Planning Commission (PC) when this is before the PC as a City/State Project (CSP) review. He said the final CSP review happens at the PC and he said he didn't know if that had already happened yet but once DOT is at 80-90% ready for construction and site control over the property, it will be brought back. The PC has status under ordinance to object or ask for changes to be made but he said he didn't believe that the Assembly has that power under any ordinances.

Mayor Weldon asked Mr. Watt what route this process takes at this time.

Mr. Watt explained that there are two paths. Tonight's request is related to the request from DOT to acquire city property. If the Assembly makes a motion that the Manager work with DOT (the proposer), they would bring back a survey evaluation ordinance that would authorize the disposal of that piece of city property. He said that separate from that, as Mr. Jones noted, the Planning Commission reviews state projects and makes recommendations. If the city chose not to sell property to DOT for their preferred alternative, CBJ would be in a situation that we haven't found ourselves in before.

Mr. Edwardson said that DOT does need the Assembly's permission because they are asking for CBJ land. This is a public works project but is also a political project and by that, there are people in the community who care about if this goes through or not. He said that he would like to see it go through at this meeting as well but Mr. Bryson's proposal isn't unreasonable, he isn't voting against it but rather asking that it be referred back to a committee.

Mr. Jones said that they have received reports over the years from DOT but he has never approved or disapproved of one of their projects as that has been done by the Planning Commission or the full Assembly. He gave the example of the DOT project related to the speed limits being set by DOT between Auke Lake and the roundabout, it was the full Assembly that objected to those in that instance. DOT listened and then promptly did what they wanted to do anyway.

Mr. Jones said that if CBJ didn't sell the state the land for the state's preferred project, the state could resort to using eminent domain and that would end up with a legal issue between the city and the state.

Mr. Bryson said he appreciated the comments from the Assemblymembers. He said he would be in favor of this going to the Planning Commission for additional review. He noted that the Duck Creek intersection is one of the largest intersections in our community and it is only four years old and they want to buy land to rip up the biggest, newest intersection in that part of town. His other concern has to do with their proposal to put medians in the center to Mendenhall Blvd. so that first responders and others could not take left turns. He said he has not found a single citizen, other than DOT staff, who is in favor of this project. He wanted to have this matter referred back to a committee so it can be discussed as to whether this is the right direction for our community with this being the major thoroughfare that leads out of the valley and he doesn't see that it is improving the situation and would like it to go back to a committee for additional discussion.

Mayor Weldon stated that there will be an ordinance coming back to the Assembly and the matter will be going to the Planning Commission.

Mr. Watt clarified that if the Assembly makes a motion on the land conveyance, it will come back as an ordinance for that land conveyance. He said the Assembly will not get an update on the details and the merits of the project. Mr. Watt said that as Mr. Bryson notes, a public works project of this size will generate a lot of public interest and it would be helpful for the Assembly to become educated as to why DOT has proposed these improvements. He said that, like all public works projects, he suspects that it is a balance of traffic efficiency, traffic safety, traffic convenience and project costs. He said they are probably advancing this particular proposal as they feel it is the best option. He said that as Mr. Edwardson noted that may be a subjective decision. Mr. Watt said that it might not be a bad idea to go forward on a path of beginning the negotiations with the department so they can keep the project moving but it can also be an educational path for the Assembly to hear an update on the project. He said that ultimately, one outcome that could result if the decision was to not sell the property, that they may just choose to not do any improvements. He said the "do nothing" option may not be desirable either.

Ms. Hale said that as the chair of the PWFC and as a long time bureaucrat who spent much of her career working on things that she was unable to be effective about, she objected to sending this back to the PWFC. She said that sending this to the PWFC for discussion when the Assembly doesn't have a decision making role, while it might feel good, it wouldn't accomplish much. She suggested that an alternative approach would be to take the path forward and have an informational item included on a Committee of the Whole meeting might be a good idea.

Mayor Weldon asked the Manager if he could try to get someone from DOT to come and speak with the Assembly prior to the ordinance coming before them for the land conveyance. Mr. Watt said he would try to make that happen.

Members discussed process and where this project is at this stage. Mr. Watt said he does not know what stage they are at but the fact that they have moved past the preliminary engineering/design stage into the right-of-way acquisition stage signals to him that they are ready to prepare documents and go out to bid and that may take as long as a year.

Mr. Palmer explained that if the Assembly authorizes the Manager to negotiate with DOT, the code requires that the Manager would bring this matter back to the Lands Committee before it goes to the full Assembly so there is at least one committee that would shepherd this through.

Mr. Bryson said he would maintain his objection.

Roll Call Vote:
Yeas: Hale, Hughes-Skandijs, Smith
Nays: Bryson, Edwardson, Jones, Triem, and Weldon
Motion failed 3:5

Mayor Weldon instructed Mr. Watt that they would need to have a discussion about this with DOT/PF regarding this decision.

C. ADOT&PF Request to Purchase a Fraction of Lot 1A, USS 2084 for Mendenhall Loop Road Improvements

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities has submitted a request to acquire approximately 0.39 acres of City School District property in order to improve the Mendenhall Loop Road and Floyd Dryden Middle School intersection. 53.09.200 states, "The proposal shall be reviewed by the Assembly for a determination of whether the proposal should be further considered and, if so, whether by direct negotiation with the original proposer or by competition after an invitation for further proposals. Upon direction of the Assembly by motion, the Manager may commence negotiations for the lease, sale, exchange, or other disposal of City and Borough land." The ADOT&PF is also requesting permanent and temporary construction easements as part of the Mendenhall Loop Road reconstruction project.

The City Manager requests a motion authorizing him to work with the original proposer.

Mr. Watt explained that this is a different parcel of land related to the same road project as in the previous agenda item. He said that given the Assembly's rejection of the prior land acquisition request, he would revise his request for a motion authorizing the Manager to negotiate with DOT/PF on the land acquisition. His new recommendation would be for him and the Mayor to follow up with DOT/PF personnel.

Ms. Hale asked how the Assembly would receive an update on this or if it would go through the Lands Committee or another committee. Mr. Watt said they could provide an update at either the Lands or PWFC or any other body at which the Assembly wanted to hear it. Ms. Hale proposed that it go to the Lands Committee. Mr. Edwardson, Lands

Committee Chair, agreed to hear it in the Lands Committee.

Mr. Jones noted that for those who were interested, the DOT/PF website for this particular project (DOT Mendenhall Loop Road Capacity Improvements, Nancy Street to the Back Loop Road) noted the following:

- Winter 2019 to Fall 2019: continue right-of-way acquisition.
- Winter 2019-2020: advertise project and award construction contractor.
- Spring 2020: begin construction

He said that the website also notes public comments up through 2017 but nothing past 2017 in the way of public comments. The agency permits, final design, right-of-way acquisition, utility agreements were all done in the fall of 2018.

Mr. Jones said in light of that website timeline, this project is getting ready to go out to bid and they have made up their mind on what they are going to do.

XI. STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Watt noted that they had three staff reports to provide.

Ms. Cosgrove provided an update on warming shelter transportation. She said the warming shelter is currently in the valley at St. Vincent de Paul's. They have been open for four nights so far. They are running a transit service from the downtown area to St. Vincent de Paul's. That runs three times in the later evening and if they miss the last bus, they are on their own. Primarily the clients are expected to use Capital Transit in the morning and the warming shelter is providing them with tokens.

Mr. Jones said that the advertising on the radio says that the last bus runs between 11p.m. and 2a.m.

Mr. Watt provided two updates on upcoming COW meeting topics.

He said the state has provided notice that the Telephone Hill property is open for consideration by the State for disposal. He said staff will provide an update on that topic at the December 2 COW.

Mr. Watt said that at the December 9 COW meeting, they are inviting public testimony on the Chronic Nuisance ordinance and he wanted to highlight that topic and bring it to the public's attention that this will be an opportunity for them to comment on the ordinance.

XII. ASSEMBLY REPORTS

A. Mayor's Report

Mayor Weldon reported that following the last Assembly meeting she was able to take a little vacation. Upon her return, she attended the Kennsington Community Advisory Group and also volunteered for the ski sale for three days. She, along with most of the Assembly, attended the Alaska Municipal League meetings the previous week. She is thankful that her youngest son is home for Thanksgiving and her oldest son is back from basic training with the Marines.

Mayor Weldon noted that for Thanksgiving, the Salvation Army will have their traditional dinner at 11a.m. at the Hangar on the Wharf to which the public is invited. There is also the lighting of the Christmas tree in Douglas on Friday, November 29 at the Douglas Community United Methodist Church followed by treats in the church and then a skate with Santa at the Treadwell Ice Arena at 7:45p.m. She wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

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

Mr. Bryson reported that the Human Resources Committee (HRC) met prior to this meeting and are forwarding the following recommendations for appointment to boards/commissions:
Juneau Economic Development Council (JEDC)

- Chris Dimond to the Labor seat for a term beginning immediately and expiring November 1, 2022
- Alexander Kotlarov to a term beginning immediately and expiring November 1, 2022
- Garrett Schoenberger to a term beginning immediately and expiring November 1, 2022
- Melissa Kookesh to the vacant seat for a term beginning immediately and expiring November 1, 2021

Hearing no objections, the appointments were approved as recommended.

Mr. Bryson reported that at the HRC meeting, they also approved the Juneau Human Rights Commission request for $495 for support of the Boys and Girls on the Run.

Mr. Bryson said he attended AML and learned about PFAS at the Fire Training Center which is the most dangerous thing at the Fire Training Center. On November 15, he got to visit the Spring Creek Correctional Center and spent an hour with the superintendent. On November 6, he met with JEDC during which they interviewed the above applicants. On November 5, he attended the PRAC meeting at which they heard an update on the emergency repairs to the whale statute area and the power has been restored. The PRAC also heard an update on the Hank Harmon Rifle Range.

Mr. Smith reported that the Planning Commission met on November 12 and approved a new subdivision. They had discussion on the Comprehensive Plan re-write. Staff also reported that the South Douglas/West Juneau Plan contract was awarded to Corvus. On November 26, the Planning Commission will be taking up the CIP and will be working on the Historical Preservation Plan. He is excited by the prospects that plan may have in helping obtain funding for economic development in the historic downtown area.

Mr. Smith said that he attended a Blueprint Downtown meeting, attended a Treadwell Arena Board meeting and he thanked all our boards and commissions for all the hard work they do on behalf of the community.

Mr. Smith said he also attended AML and he was very encouraged to meet other people from around the state. He said one main take away for him was to understand from so many people the financial struggle that municipalities are dealing with due to the state not being able to get its fiscal house in order as well as the governor's budget cuts.

Mr. Smith reported that he attended a UAA scholars event. He said that he attended a Little Eagle/Raven's child care open house by Fred Meyers at the Juneau Christian Center and they will be opening up in January and they are currently taking applications for those open child care slots.

Ms. Hughes-Skandijs said that she also escaped to find the sunshine in Hawaii. She attended AML and made some good connections and appreciated the good discussions and topics covered with fellow community elected officials from around the state.

Ms. Triem reported that the Visitor Industry Task Force (VITF) met on November 5 and they heard presentations on how Juneau fits in as a destination amongst other southeast communities and how the scheduling of cruise ships work all around the region. It was a packed house for that meeting and she thanked everyone for taking the time to show up. Future meetings will be held in the Assembly Chambers.

Ms. Triem said that she attended her first Chamber of Commerce meeting as the Assembly liaison and they were very welcoming. They wanted to urge the Assembly to start working on Centennial Hall.

Ms. Triem said that while everyone else was attending AML, she was attending Fish Expo and missed the Aquatics Board and Travel Juneau meetings that were held during that time. She highlighted for anyone who may be interested in the Aquatics Board and their actions regarding commercial use of the aquatics facilities, which is basically private swim lessons, the board will be discussing it at the January 7 meeting. Also related to aquatics, the state swimming championships were held earlier in the month and she extended her congratulations to Juneau swimmer Caleb Peimann who won the state title in the 500 freestyle and he was the first Juneau swimmer to win a state title since 2012. She also congratulated all the swimmers who participated and the other six swimmers who finalled at the state tournament.

Ms. Hale reported that she attended her first Downtown Business Association meeting on November 5 and they said the downtown Halloween activities were a great success. She was asked to take two items of concern to the Assembly and that was the issue of snow on sidewalks, in particular the downtown area between the old Goldbelt and the Transit Center. That is an area that is supposed to be maintained by DOT and it is not. It is very difficult moving around downtown. The other issue is homelessness and all the people who are camping out in business doorways and they are concerned about that.

Ms. Hale said that she also attended the first meeting of the Fred Meyer/Yandukin Drive intersection planning group meeting. It is a good group of people with a robust cross section of individuals representing the community. She heard Mr. Bryson talk about the public meeting on the radio. She said they were told that the number of crashes and severity of crashes is considered within "acceptable standards." It is not the worst intersection in town which was surprising to many of the planning group members. It is a very high profile intersection because when accidents happen there, it blocks traffic and is very visible. Because it is not the worst intersection in town, that means funding will be harder to obtain.

Ms. Hale reported that she attended the Bartlett Regional Hospital (BRH) Planning Committee meeting and there is a BRH Board meeting November 26. Jensen-Yorba-Wall is working on a campus plan. BRH is also working on a community needs assessment that is out on the street now. Chuck Bill was on Action Line earlier in the day discussing that. Ms. Hale continued to reiterate that any of their planning efforts need to also feed into the CIP and they have been hearing her on that. BRH is redrafting the "affiliation study" which is more of a S.W.O.T. analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) trying to figure out, given the reality that exists in the rest of the U.S., what should Juneau be doing to position itself.

Ms. Hale said she also attended AML with many of her colleagues and it was a wonderful meeting. There were 1200 people there and she ran for and was elected to the AML board as an At-Large member for one year to serve with Mr. Jones.

Mr. Edwardson said following up on Mr. Bryson's comment, the most dangerous thing at the Fire Training Center is fire.

Mr. Edwardson reported that there was a scheduled Airport Board meeting on November 12 but it was a very short meeting because they didn't have a quorum for the first time in anyone's memory. They had some of their members who were planning on calling in but they were unable to call in.

Mr. Edwardson said that the Local Emergency Planning Committee met on November 13 and it was the last meeting of Joel Curtis from National Weather Service and also the last meeting of Sgt. First Class Flood from the National Guard. He wished them well and thanked them for their time on behalf of the Assembly. He said the LEPC discussed the budget and they are a federally promulgated and federally funded program and the State of Alaska made the LEPC an all hazards committee. With that designation, it provided a federal funding stream that has now dwindled to nothing. In order to run the way they have been running on a very modest budget, they were debating on how much to ask the Assembly for. He encouraged them to ask for everything they needed funding for as we will still be expecting them to be ready and respond. He said there will be more coming on that in the future. For the December light flights, the Flying Lions need volunteers at the terminal beginning December 18, 6-7p.m.

Mr. Edwardson noted that he was in Anchorage during AML but attending a different meeting. He will be out of town December 17.

Mr. Jones reported that there will be a Finance Committee meeting on December 4 to review the questions and answers from the November meeting on fiscal sustainability and to go through and see if there are any recommendations to address at the Assembly retreat. There will be a regular AFC meeting on December 11.

Mr. Jones noted that the Juneau School District held its monthly meeting on November 12 and although he was in Anchorage, he did call in and listen in to the workshop and the meeting. The main issue that they discussed that is important to the Assembly was the audit review. The same auditor is used for BRH and CBJ's audits. The next JSD meeting is early in December.

Mr. Jones reported that the joint Assembly/Schools CIP, Maintenance committee will meet on December 10 at 8:15 a.m.

Mr. Jones also reported that November 26 will have a visitor's product cluster working group that JEDC helped put together from across southeast. One of their agenda items is an update on the VITF.

Mr. Jones said that he attended AML meetings and Ms. Hughes-Skandijs and he were asked to participate in the mock meeting during the Newly Elected Officials training session. He and Ms. Hughes-Skandijs enjoyed the mock meeting.

Mr. Jones noted that there is an full Assembly as HRC meeting on December 5 but that same evening, there is a downtown overlay district zoning public meeting. They are also going to be holding a similar meeting on that issue on Saturday, December 7 at 3p.m.

C. Presiding Officer Reports

XIII. CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Weldon invited public participation on non-agenda items, especially for the two high school students who stayed through the meeting.

Juneau School Board member Paul Kelly announced on behalf of the JSD that they will be doing some public outreach at the public market after Thanksgiving and they would be happy to meet and talk with anyone from the public wanting to talk with them.

Ms. McEwen reminded Mr. Bryson that he was going to be reporting on the dates of the Full Assembly as the HRC for board interviews.

Mr. Bryson reported that they have scheduled meetings on December 5 at 5:30p.m, and they will be interviewing applicants for the Hospital Board and then on December 18, they will be interviewing applicants for the Planning Commission and Docks & Harbors Board. Both meetings will be held at 5:30p.m. in City Hall Conference Room #224.

XIV.EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Worker's Compensation Claim Resolution

Per the manager's request for agenda changes at the beginning of the meeting, this item was removed from the agenda.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Assembly, the meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Signed: __________________________ Signed:_________________________

Elizabeth J. McEwen
Municipal Clerk

Beth A. Weldon
Mayor