



MAYOR

Verne E. Rupright

COUNCIL

Ron Cox, Seat A

Douglas W. Holler, Deputy Mayor, Seat B

Leone Harris, Seat C

Nancy R. Hall, Seat D

Dianne Woodruff, Seat E

Kristofer Larson, Seat F

WASILLA CITY COUNCIL

MEETING AGENDA

WASILLA CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Wasilla City Hall, 290 E. Herning Avenue, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 373-9090

SPECIAL MEETING

9 A.M.

JUNE 25, 2009

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. General Counsel Legal Services

1. Discussion on Interview Process

2. Firm Interviews

a. 9:15 a.m. – Birch, Horton, Bittner and Cherot

c. 10 a.m. – Denali Law

d. 10:45 a.m. - Walker and Levesque, LLC

e. 11:30 a.m. - Wohlforth, Johnson, Brecht Cartledge and
Brooking

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

VI. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

VII. MAYOR, CLERK, AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Special Meeting of the Wasilla City Council was held on Thursday, June 25, 2009, at the Wasilla City Council Chambers, Wasilla, Alaska. Mayor Verne E. Rupright called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m. for the purpose of interviewing and selecting General Counsel Legal Services for the City.

II. ROLL CALL/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Council Members present and establishing a quorum were:

- Mr. Ron Cox, Seat A
- Ms. Leone Harris, Seat C
- Ms. Nancy R. Hall, Seat D
- Ms. Dianne Woodruff, Seat E
- Mr. Kristofer Larson, Seat F

Mayor Rupright noted that Deputy Mayor Doug Holler, Seat B, was absent and excused. No objection was noted.

Staff in attendance were:

- Ms. Kristie Smithers, City Clerk
- Mr. Marvin Yoder, Interim Deputy Administrator
- Mr. Troy Tankersley, Finance Director

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Rupright led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. General Counsel Legal Services

1. Discussion on Interview Process

The deputy administrator, finance director and city clerk spoke about the selection criteria. The council discussed the interview process and interview questions. It was agreed that each Council Member would ask the same question to each interviewee.

2. Firm Interviews

- a. 9:15 a.m. – Birch, Horton, Bittner and Cherot

Mayor Rupright and the Council interviewed Mr. Tom Klinkner with Birch, Horton, Bittner and Cherot.

At the conclusion of the interview, the Council recessed at 10:15 a.m. and reconvened at 10:24 a.m.

b. 10 a.m. – Denali Law

Mayor Rupright and the Council interviewed Mr. Richard Payne and Mr. Jon-Marc Petersen from Denali Law Group.

At the conclusion of the interview, the Council recessed at 11:10 a.m. and reconvened at 11:17 a.m.

c. 10:45 a.m. - Walker and Levesque, LLC

Mayor Rupright and the Council interviewed Mr. Joe Levesque with Walker and Levesque, LLC.

At the conclusion of the interview, the Council recessed at 11:59 a.m. and reconvened at 12:12 p.m.

d. 11:30 a.m. - Wohlforth, Johnson, Brecht Cartledge and Brooking

Mayor Rupright and the Council interviewed Mr. Michael Gatti and Ms. Cheryl Brooking with Wohlforth, Johnson, Brecht, Cartledge and Brooking.

At the conclusion of the interview, the Council recessed at 12:49 p.m. and reconvened at 1:07 p.m.

Mr. Yoder and Mr. Tankersley informed the Council of the costs proposals for each firm.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Council Member Harris moved to enter into executive session to discuss subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person, provided the person may request a public discussion, specifically the general legal counsel services scoring. (Clerk note: each firm was asked during the interview process if they objected to the discussion of their qualifications in executive session. No one raised any objection.)

GENERAL CONSENT: The motion passed without objection.

The following entered into executive session at 1:14 p.m. in the council conference room: Mayor Rupright; the entire Council; Kristie Smithers, City Clerk; Marvin Yoder, Interim

Deputy Administrator; and Troy Tankersley, Finance Director. The executive session exited at 1:47 p.m.

MOTION: Council Member Woodruff moved to offer Denali Law Group the legal services contract, and to direct the finance director to negotiate the contract, and to present the award of contract at the July 13, 2009, regular City Council meeting.

Council Member Larson commented that although Denai Law Group did not score as high as the other firms; they stood apart in several areas such as locality and their innovative ideas.

GENERAL CONSENT: The motion passed without objection.

VI. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

There were no comments provided.

VII. MAYOR, CLERK, AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

There were no comments provided.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Rupright adjourned the meeting at 1:50 p.m.


VERNE E. RUPRIGHT, Mayor

ATTEST:


KRISTIE SMITHERS, MMC, City Clerk

Minutes approved: July 13, 2009