



**MAYOR**  
Verne E. Rupright

**COUNCIL**  
Taffina Katkus, 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

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**WASILLA CITY COUNCIL  
MEETING AGENDA**

WASILLA CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

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

**REGULAR MEETING**

**6 P.M.**

**JANUARY 25, 2010**

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
- II. ROLL CALL**
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- V. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY**
- VI. COMMISSION AND AGENCY REPORTS**
  - A. Planning Commission
  - B. Parks and Recreation Commission
  - C. Matanuska-Susitna Borough
  - D. Wasilla Area Seniors Inc.
  - E. Iditarod Trail Committee – Stan Hooley, Executive Director

## VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

### A. Public Hearings

1. **Ordinance Serial No. 10-03:** Amending the FY10 Police Department budget by accepting and appropriating funds from the United States Department of Justice in the amount of \$625 to purchase bullet proof vests for the Wasilla Police Department.
2. **Ordinance Serial No. 10-05:** Amending the FY10 budget by appropriating \$83,200 to payoff debt service related to the special assessment 83S1 and USDA Loan 92-05, regarding the 1987 Sewer Improvement District Bond Fund.

### B. Persons to be Heard

## VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

### A. Minutes of Preceding Meetings:

1. Regular Meeting: January 11, 2010
2. Special Meeting: January 18, 2010

### B. Introduction of Ordinances: Recommended for Public Hearing on February 8, 2010:

1. **Ordinance Serial No. 10-04:** Authorizing the City of Wasilla to amend the FY10 budget by accepting and appropriating funds from the Edward Byrne Memorial justice assistance grant in the amount of \$35,233 for the Wasilla Police Department to cover the purchase of digital evidence locker equipment.
2. **Ordinance Serial No. 10-06:** Amending the FY10 budget by appropriating \$48,880 in expenditures to fund property maintenance of the Meta Rose Square.
3. **Ordinance Serial No. 10-07:** Amending WMC 2.44.010(B), extending the term limit for special purpose committee members from one year to three years.

### C. Resolutions

### D. Action Memorandums

1. **AM No. 10-03:** Establishing goals and initiatives for FY11 and FY12.

**IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

**XI. COMMUNICATIONS**

A. Informational Memorandums

1. **IM No. 10-02:** Monthly financial funding progress report for November 2009, submitted by Wasilla Area Seniors, Inc.
2. **IM No. 10-03:** Monthly financial funding progress report for December 2009, submitted by Wasilla Area Seniors, Inc.

B. Commission Minutes

1. Library Steering Committee: January 5, 2010
2. Parks and Recreation Commission: December 9, 2009

**XII. AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

**XIII. MAYOR, CLERK AND ATTORNEY COMMENTS**

**XIV. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of the Wasilla City Council was held on Monday, January 25, 2010, at the Wasilla City Council Chambers, Wasilla, Alaska. Mayor Verne E. Rupright called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Council Members present and establishing a quorum were:

Ms. Taffina Katkus, Seat A  
Deputy Mayor Doug Holler, Seat B  
Ms. Leone Harris, Seat C  
Ms. Nancy R. Hall, Seat D  
Ms. Dianne Woodruff, Seat E  
Mr. Kristofer Larson, Seat F

Staff in attendance were:

Ms. Kristie Smithers, City Clerk  
Ms. Amanda E. Charles, Deputy Clerk  
Mr. Joan Miller, Controller  
Mr. Archie Giddings, Public Works Director  
Mr. Larry Dickerson, Acting Police Chief  
Mr. James Hastings, Recreation and Cultural Services Manager  
Mr. Marvin Yoder, Interim Deputy Administrator

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Rupright led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Rupright asked if there were any changes to the agenda.

Council Member Katkus requested that AM No. 10-03, regarding the City's goals and initiatives, be removed from the Consent Agenda and addressed separately.

**GENERAL CONSENT:** The agenda was approved as amended without objection.

**V. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY**

There were no special orders of the day.

## VI. COMMISSION AND AGENCY REPORTS

### A. Planning Commission

Mr. Dan Kelly, Commissioner:

- provided an update on the Planning Commission's previous meeting; and
- spoke to upcoming agenda items for the Planning Commission.

### B. Parks and Recreation Commission

No report was provided.

### C. Matanuska-Susitna Borough

Mr. Mark Ewing, Assembly Member, District 4:

- stated the Assembly had a meeting regarding MSB Ordinance Serial No. 09-110, regarding gravel extraction, scheduled for February 9, 2010;
- encouraged the City Council Members to attend the Assembly regular meetings to provide a report from the City of Wasilla;
- spoke to a public awareness pieces that will advertise on KMBQ regarding Borough code requirements; and
- noted that he is a member of the National Rifle Association.

### E. Iditarod Trail Committee – Stan Hooley, Executive Director

Mr. Stan Hooley, Executive Director:

- spoke regarding the Iditarod race and how it can be an economic tool;
- stated that the Iditarod Trail Committee had no intent of removing their business at mile 2.2 of Knik Goose Bay Road;
- provided figures on the advertisement of the Iditarod throughout the world; and
- spoke to how any financial support that the City could offer would be greatly appreciated.

### D. Wasilla Area Seniors, Inc.

Ms. Sandra Kaplan:

- spoke to the winter budget for the Wasilla Area Senior, Inc.;
- stated that for the first time in the past year they are in the black financially;
- provided the statistics regarding how many people had been fed over the last several months through their programs; and
- stated that the Mayor would ride with the Meals-On-Wheels delivery program on March 24, 2010.

## VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

### A. Public Hearings

1. **Ordinance Serial No. 10-03:** Amending the FY10 Police Department budget by accepting and appropriating funds from the United States Department of Justice in the amount of \$625 to purchase bullet proof vests for the Wasilla Police Department.

Mayor Rupright opened the public hearing.

There being no one present who wished to speak the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the Council.

MOTION: Council Member Hall moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 10-03.

VOTE: The motion to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 10-03 passed unanimously.

2. **Ordinance Serial No. 10-05:** Amending the FY10 budget by appropriating \$83,200 to payoff debt service related to the special assessment 83S1 and USDA Loan 92-05, regarding the 1987 Sewer Improvement District Bond Fund.

Mayor Rupright opened the public hearing.

There being no one present who wished to speak the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the Council.

MOTION: Council Member Larson moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 10-05.

VOTE: The motion to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 10-05 passed unanimously.

### B. Persons to be Heard

The following persons spoke in favor of a firing range within the City of Wasilla: Mr. David Mitchell; Mr. Len Betts, member of the Alaska Second Amendment Task Force; Ms. Angela Briggs, member of the Alaska Second Amendment Sisterhood; Mr. Robert Goodman, National Rifle Association (NRA) member; Mr. Neil Moss, Range Safety Officer for the NRA; Mr. Wayne Kubat; Mr. Dennis Adamson, NRA member; Mr. Paul Sooter, NRA member; Mr. David Asche; Mr. Bryan Agee; member of the Alaska Second Amendment Task Force; Mr. Dave Jenkins, NRA member; Mr. Thomas Greiling, NRA member; Ms. Jaime Keena; and Mr. Eric Beckmann, NRA Instructor.

POINT OF ORDER: Council Member Katkus called a point of order, stating that the Mayor sorely misused his position as Mayor to bring forth the crowd tonight.

POINT OF ORDER: Council Member Harris called a point of order, stating that Council Member Katkus was out of line in her statements.

Council Member Harris stated that this is not the time and place to accuse the Mayor of any wrong doing.

Council Member Katkus stated that the Mayor had allowed an administrative leak regarding her desire for an amendment to remove the firing from the fiscal year 2011 and 2012 goals and initiatives.

Discussion ensued.

The following persons spoke in favor of a firing range within the City of Wasilla: Ms. Barbara Beckman; Mr. Robin Hawk; Mr. Andy O'Brien; Mr. Mel Grove, Board Member of the Alaska Outdoor Alliance; Mr. Dano Bardwell; Mr. Luke Cantrell; Ms. Judy Hills; Mr. Eric Vogt, member of the Alaska Second Amendment Task Force; Ms. Jeannie Bettine, NRA member; Mr. Penny Nixon, United States Military; Mr. Dane Crowley, Executive Director for Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife Alaska; Mr. Grant Rathall, and Mr. Chuck Westphale.

The following person spoke regarding research on hand firings: Mr. Art Hippler.

Mr. Noel Woods, Matanuska Valley Sportsman, spoke regarding the possibility of having an indoor firing range collocated with the proposed outdoor firing range.

Mr. Alan Damkoehler spoke regarding the need for public notification regarding a firing range.

The following persons spoke regarding the effects of a firing range if it were to be placed within an area with surrounding residents: Mr. Brad Laybourn and Ms. Melissa Biggs.

Ms. Jeanne Troshynski, President of the Friends of Wasilla Library:

- noted her opposition to a firing range at the Curtis D. Menard Memorial Sports Center;
- spoke regarding an immediate need for a new library; and
- commented on the lack of consistent procedures at City Council meetings, specifically to whether or not someone states they are a City resident.

Mr. Margaret Heaven spoke regarding the City's goals and initiatives and her concerns regarding their placement on the agenda and how they were discussed at the meeting.

Ms. Anne Meyer spoke regarding her support for a firing range in an appropriate location, and not at the proposed location.

## VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

### A. Minutes of Preceding Meetings:

1. Regular Meeting: January 11, 2010
2. Special Meeting: January 18, 2010

### A. Introduction of Ordinances: Recommended for Public Hearing on February 8, 2010:

1. **Ordinance Serial No. 10-04:** Authorizing the City of Wasilla to amend the FY10 budget by accepting and appropriating funds from the Edward Byrne Memorial justice assistance grant in the amount of \$35,233 for the Wasilla Police Department to cover the purchase of digital evidence locker equipment.
2. **Ordinance Serial No. 10-06:** Amending the FY10 budget by appropriating \$48,880 in expenditures to fund property maintenance of the Meta Rose Square.
3. **Ordinance Serial No. 10-07:** Amending WMC 2.44.010(B), extending the term limit for special purpose committee members from one year to three years.

### B. Resolutions

Council Member Woodruff moved to approve the Consent Agenda as read into the record by the Clerk.

There was no objection noted.

## IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

## X. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Action Memorandums

1. **AM No. 10-03:** Establishing goals and initiatives for FY11 and FY12.

MOTION: Council Member Katkus moved to adopt the AM No. 10-03.

MOTION: Council Member Katkus moved a primary amendment to initiative number 50 to insert the word "indoor" before the word firing to read as follows: Establish an **indoor** firing range in order to allow for the safe discharge of firearms within the City.

Discussion ensued.

VOTE: The primary amendment to initiative number 50 to add the word "indoor" failed with Council Members Hall, Harris, Larson, Woodruff and Deputy Mayor in opposition and Council Member Katkus in favor.

MOTION: Council Member Woodruff moved a primary amendment to add the words "or near" after the word "within" to read as follows: Establish a firing range in order to allow for the safe discharge of firearms within or near the City of Wasilla.

Discussion ensued.

VOTE: The primary amendment to add the words "or near" passed unanimously.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION: Council Member Woodruff moved a primary amendment to initiative number 37 to add the words "and to improve the" after the word "Review" and to delete the words "to include an Americans with Disabilities Act complaint reporting within the facility" to read as follows: Review and to improve the physical security of the Police Department building ~~to include an Americans with Disabilities Act complaint reporting within the facility.~~

VOTE: The primary amendment to add the words "and to improve the" after the word "Review" and to delete the words "to include an Americans with Disabilities Act complaint reporting within the facility" passed unanimously.

Discussion ensued.

VOTE: The main motion to adopt the AM No. 10-03, as amended, passed unanimously.

## XI. COMMUNICATIONS

### A. Informational Memorandums

1. **IM No. 10-02:** Monthly financial funding progress report for November 2009, submitted by Wasilla Area Seniors, Inc.
2. **IM No. 10-03:** Monthly financial funding progress report for December 2009, submitted by Wasilla Area Seniors, Inc.

A. Commission Minutes

1. Library Steering Committee: January 5, 2010
2. Parks and Recreation Commission: December 9, 2009

There was no action taken on the communication items.

**XII. AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

Mr. Neil Moss:

- spoke regarding teaching civilians how to shoot;
- stated that the NRA is the recognized experts in the area;
- spoke to NRA approved ranges throughout the world that work flawlessly;
- noted that shooting is a lifetime sport; and
- opined that the Sports Center is an ideal location for the firing range.

Mr. David Asche:

- spoke to the Northstar Speedway and other things that have been built recently which have noise;
- opined that the Sports Center is an ideal location for the firing range; and
- spoke to the parameters required for an indoor range which are much more stringent than an outdoor range.

Mr. Robert Goodman spoke regarding how Alaska and its residents stand for freedom.

Mr. Andy O'Brien noted that if a Council Member had property near the proposed firing range, it would be a conflict of interest for them to stand in on the issue when it comes before the Council.

**XIII. MAYOR, CLERK AND ATTORNEY COMMENTS**

Mayor Rupright:

- spoke to the upcoming Joint Borough and Tri-Cities meeting on February 10, 2010;
- commented on his trip to Washington D.C. in 2009 and the costs involved therein;
- advised that he doesn't plan on traveling to D.C. at this time;
- stated that Senator Lisa Murkowski would be visiting the City on March 30, 2010; and
- stated that if the Mayor, a staff member, and three City Council Members were to all to go to Washington D.C. it should be a trip with a full schedule, with a concentration on visiting more entities than they have previously visited.

Ms. Smithers:

- stated that she would keep the Council informed of any meetings that are planned locally with our delegation;
- covered items of discussion for the joint meeting with the Borough; and

- reminded the Council of their meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 27, 2010, regarding the library and associated issues.

#### **XIV. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Council Member Katkus:

- stated that she would continue to work towards representing her position in the best way possible; and
- thanked the public for their attendance.

Council Member Woodruff:

- asked the Council to consider setting a schedule for Council Members to attend regular Borough meetings;
- spoke to the First Annual Mayors' Ball which is a fund raiser for the food bank;
- thanked WASI for their detailed reporting and asked the Finance Department to continue to follow-up to ensure that the expenditures meet the requirements of the grant; and
- commented on needed meetings between the public and the City's commissions regarding a City firing range.

Council Member Harris:

- thanked the public for their attendance; and
- spoke to moving forward with a City firing range.

Deputy Mayor Holler asked Mr. Hastings if a model of the proposed firing range was in place at the Curtis D. Menard Memorial Sports Center. Mr. Hastings affirmed the query.

Deputy Mayor Holler spoke to the public process for all City items.

Council Member Larson commented on the requirements for being a city resident and spoke to how people may still consider themselves a resident even if they do not reside within the boundaries.

Council Member Hall:

- opined her favor for a firing range; and
- requested that the public attend the meetings at the Planning Commission level when it returns to their agenda.

#### **XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no executive session held.

**XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business at hand, Mayor Rupright, adjourned the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

  
VERNE E. RUPRIGHT, Mayor

ATTEST:



KRISTIE SMITHERS, MMC, City Clerk

Minutes approved: January 8, 2010

