



MAYOR
Verne E. Rupright

COUNCIL
Taffina Katkus, Seat A
Douglas W. Holler, Deputy Mayor, Seat B
Leone Harris, Seat C
Vacant, 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

REGULAR MEETING

6 P.M.

AUGUST 23, 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. Matanuska-Susitna Borough
 - B. Planning Commission
 - C. Parks and Recreation Commission
 - D. Wasilla Area Seniors, Inc.
 - E. Greater Wasilla Chamber of Commerce

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A. Public Hearings

1. **Ordinance Serial No. 10-25:** Amending WMC 2.04.035, Compensation and Reimbursement, for City Council Members. *(Sponsored by Council Member Woodruff)*
2. **Ordinance Serial No. 10-26:** Accepting and appropriating State of Alaska Department of Transportation Funding in the amount of \$450,000 for Knik-Goose Bay Road and Fern Street Improvements.
3. **Ordinance Serial No. 10-27:** Accepting and appropriating State of Alaska Legislative Grants in the amount of \$1,476,900 for City Capital Projects.
 - a. **Resolution Serial No. 10-25:** Accepting State of Alaska Legislative Grants in the amount of \$2,043,436 for City Capital Projects and transferring funds within an accounting fund for the projects.

B. Persons to be Heard

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes of Preceding Meetings:

1. Regular Meeting: August 9, 2010

B. Introduction of Ordinances: Recommended for Public Hearing on September 13, 2010:

1. **Ordinance Serial No. 10-28:** Amending WMC 13.04.080, Water Rates, and WMC 13.08.070, Sewer – Service Fees, to allow a thirty percent discount on sewer and water services for residents age 65 and over using moderate consumption.

C. Resolutions

1. **Resolution Serial No. 10-26:** Transferring funds in the amount of \$7,849 for a portable multi-sport court/volleyball floor system.
2. **Resolution Serial No. 10-28:** Moving previously appropriated funds in the amount of \$5,000 to provide for public information on City Ballot Proposition 1 that will be voted on at the October 5, 2010, Regular City Election.

D. Action Memorandums

1. **AM No. 10-26:** Contract amendment to QAP in the amount of \$66,250 to close-out the Lucille Street Rehabilitation project.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

1. **AM No. 10-25:** Appointment for a Wasilla City Council Member for Seat D.

XI. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Informational Memorandums

B. Commission Minutes

1. Library Needs Committee: June 7, 2010
2. Parks and Recreation Commission: July 14, 2010
3. Planning Commission: August 10, 2010

XII. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

XIII. MAYOR, CLERK AND ATTORNEY COMMENTS

XIV. COUNCIL COMMENTS

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Annual Evaluation of City Clerk (*Subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person, provided the person may request a public discussion.*) (Continued from August 9, 2010.)

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Wasilla City Council was held on Monday, August 23, 2010, at the Wasilla City Council Chambers, Wasilla, Alaska. Mayor Verne E. Rupright called the meeting to order at 6 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
- Vacant, 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. Troy Tankersley, Controller
- Mr. Archie Giddings, Public Works Director
- Mr. Michael Hughes, Police Chief
- Mr. James Hastings, Recreation and Cultural Services Manager
- Mr. Marvin Yoder, Interim Deputy Administrator
- Mr. Richard Payne, City Attorney

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.

No amendments were noted.

GENERAL CONSENT: The agenda was approved as presented without objection.

V. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY

There were no special orders of the day.

VI. COMMISSION AND AGENCY REPORTS

A. Matanuska-Susitna Borough

Mr. Mark Ewing, Assemblymember, District 4:

- spoke regarding the Assembly's recent meeting schedule;
- commented on a resolution to approve a liquor license transfer from the Matanuska Susitna Borough to the City of Wasilla for Applebees, Inc.; and
- spoke of the upcoming October 5, 2010, election.

B. Planning Commission

Mr. Dan Kelly, Commissioner:

- reported that there is a new planning commissioner, Mr. Dan King;
- spoke regarding current permitting requests; and
- commented on their recent meeting schedule and topics of discussion.

C. Parks and Recreation Commission

Ms. Joan Matthews, Commissioner:

- provided an update on their July meeting;
- noted that most of the discussion revolved around the Parks Master Plan and the trail plan;
- added that at their most recent meeting they also discussed open spaces;
- reported on how the commissioners have dedicated themselves to certain projects and parks throughout the City;
- noted that they have begun working on Wasilla Clean Up Days for next year;
- commented on discussions regarding the need for a dog park in the City; and
- spoke to the empty seat on the Parks and Recreation Commission.

D. Wasilla Area Seniors, Inc.

No report was provided.

E. Greater Wasilla Chamber of Commerce

Ms. Lyn Carden, Executive Director:

- noted that Mayor Dan Sullivan, Municipality of Anchorage, will be at their next meeting;
- commented on the summer season and work done during the summer;
- reported that they have partnered with the Wasilla Area Senior, Inc.;
- spoke regarding upcoming events for the Greater Wasilla Chamber of Commerce; and
- commented on the growing relationship between the Chamber and the City of Wasilla.

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A. Public Hearings

1. **Ordinance Serial No. 10-25:** Amending WMC 2.04.035, Compensation and Reimbursement, for City Council Members. (*Sponsored by Council Member Woodruff*)

Mayor Rupright opened the public hearing.

Ms. Anne Killkenny:

- commented on the history for Council compensation and how it related to attendance; and
- noted her support for Ordinance Serial No. 10-25.

Ms. Mary Kvalheim:

- supported Ms. Killkenny's statements; and
- added her support for Ordinance Serial No. 10-25.

Mr. Mark Ewing:

- noted that when he sat on the City Council previously he had voted against increasing the wages;
- stated that he is against pay raises for public officials;
- acknowledged that the intent of the ordinance is good but noted the potential salary for a council member could end up being above the current \$6,000.

Mr. Steve Menard:

- provided a history on why the City Council went towards a flat \$6,000 rate; and
- noted that it was largely for accounting purposes.

Ms. Nicky Taysom opined that serving the community is the honorable thing to do and that one does not necessarily have to be reimbursed for it.

MOTION: Council Member Woodruff moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 10-25.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Holler moved a primary amendment to Ordinance Serial No. 10-25 to strike the language "or special meeting or work session attended."

VOTE: The primary amendment passed with Council Members Harris, Holler, Larson, and Woodruff in favor and Council Member Katkus in opposition.

VOTE: The motion to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 10-25 as amended passed unanimously.

[CLERK'S NOTE: Ordinance Serial No. 10-25 was amended to take out the words "or special" and " or work session" and retained the words "meetings" and " attended" to read as follows: Council members shall be compensated two hundred twenty-five dollars (\$225.00) for each regular meeting attended.]

2. **Ordinance Serial No. 10-26:** Accepting and appropriating State of Alaska Department of Transportation Funding in the amount of \$450,000 for Knik-Goose Bay Road and Fern Street Improvements.

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. 10-26.

Council Member Larson noted his favor for passing Ordinance Serial No. 10-26.

VOTE: The main motion passed unanimously.

3. **Ordinance Serial No. 10-27:** Accepting and appropriating State of Alaska Legislative Grants in the amount of \$1,476,900 for City Capital Projects.
 - a. **Resolution Serial No. 10-25:** Accepting State of Alaska Legislative Grants in the amount of \$2,043,436 for City Capital Projects and transferring funds within an accounting fund for the projects.

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 Woodruff moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 10-27 and Resolution Serial No. 10-25.

Council Member Woodruff noted her favor for passing Ordinance Serial No. 10-27 and Resolution Serial No. 10-25.

VOTE: The motion to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 10-27 and Resolution Serial No. 10-25 passed unanimously.

B. Persons to be Heard

Mr. John Harp:

- noted that he lived in Center Point Subdivision and was a director for the home owners association;
- stated that the subdivision is on metered water yet being charged a bulk rate; and

- added that the homeowners are confused on why they are paying for water they don't use instead of water they do use.

Mr. Archie Giddings provided an explanation on why there is a minimum cost amount.

Mr. John Harp spoke regarding the lift systems for the subdivision and how it relates to the City sewer and noted his displeasure with the sewage rates.

Ms. Nicki Taysom:

- reported on her attendance at City Council, Assembly and School Board meetings;
- spoke regarding the improper actions happening throughout the cities and borough and local businesses and how those actions effect the community; and
- commented on public perception of the businesses that go up in the City.

Ms. Anne Killkenny:

- spoke regarding Ordinance Serial No. 10-28, which amends the water and sewer rates for those individuals 65 and over;
- provided statistics from Valley Hospital on projections for those individuals 65 and over within the Borough;
- spoke regarding how the rate structure should attempt to reach a fair billing schedule;
- opined that small users should not have to subsidize the use of large buildings; and
- asked that everyone be billed on usage.

Mr. Mark Ewing:

- noted his concerns with water rates;
- opined that disabled veterans should be added to Ordinance Serial No. 10-28; and
- expressed his desire for a minimum usage rate analysis to better determine what the minimum water and sewage rates should be.

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B. Resolutions

1. **Resolution Serial No. 10-26:** Transferring funds in the amount of \$7,849 for a portable multi-sport court/volleyball floor system.
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D. Action Memorandums

1. **AM No. 10-26:** Contract amendment to QAP in the amount of \$66,250 to close-out the Lucille Street Rehabilitation project.

Council Member Larson 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

1. **AM No. 10-25:** Appointment for a Wasilla City Council Member for Seat D.

Ms. Smithers provided a history on how the appointment process had occurred in prior years.

Discussion ensued regarding how to proceed.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Holler moved to interview the applicants in alphabetical order by last name.

VOTE: The motion failed with Council Members Larson, Woodruff and Harris voting in opposition and Council Member Katkus and Deputy Mayor Holler in favor.

The Mayor proceeded to draw names of applicants at random to determine the order that they would be interviewed.

The order of precedence was determined to be as follows:

- Mr. Gary Hale
- Ms. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard
- Mr. Steve Menard

- Ms. Stephanie Massie
- Mr. John Luburger
- Mr. Steven Dehart

[CLERK'S NOTE: All applicants were asked to leave the room until the time of their interview and the audio was turned off in the lobby where they would wait.]

(The regular meeting recessed at 7:10 p.m. and reconvened at 7:18 p.m.)

Mayor Rupright invited Mr. Gary Hale into the Council Chambers to address the Council.

Mr. Gary Hale addressed the Council and provided a brief personal history.

The Council asked questions of Mr. Hale.....

(CLERK'S NOTE: Upon the conclusion of the interview Mr. Hale was excused and exited the room. Ms. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard entered the room.)

Mayor Rupright invited Ms. Sullivan-Leonard forward to address the Council.

Ms. Sullivan-Leonard addressed the Council and provided a brief personal history.

The Council asked questions of Mr. Sullivan-Leonard.

(CLERK'S NOTE: Upon the conclusion of the interview Ms. Sullivan-Leonard was excused and exited the room. Mr. Steve Menard entered the room.)

Mayor Rupright invited Mr. Menard forward to address the Council.

Mr. Menard addressed the Council and provided a brief personal history.

The Council asked questions of Mr. Menard

(CLERK'S NOTE: Upon the conclusion of the interview Mr. Menard was excused and exited the room. Ms. Stephanie Massie entered the room.)

Mayor Rupright invited Ms. Massie forward to address the Council.

Ms. Massie addressed the Council and provided a brief personal history and noted that she will be an election official in October 2010.

The Council asked questions of Ms. Massie.

Ms. Smithers asked Ms. Massie if she had any objection to be spoken about in executive session.

Ms. Massie had no objection.

(CLERK'S NOTE: Upon the conclusion of the interview Ms. Massie was excused and exited the room. Mr. John Luberger entered the room.)

Mayor Rupright invited Mr. Luberger forward to address the Council.

Mr. Luberger addressed the Council and provided a brief personal history.

The Council asked questions of Mr. Luberger.

Ms. Smithers asked Mr. Luberger if he had any objection to be spoken about in executive session.

Mr. Luberger had no objection.

[CLERK'S NOTE: Mr. Luberger was excused and exited the room. Mr. Steven Dehart entered the room.]

Mayor Menard invited Mr. Dehart forward to address the Council.

Mr. Dehart addressed the Council and provided a brief personal history.

The Council asked questions of Mr. Luberger.

Ms. Smithers asked Mr. Dehart if he had any objection to be spoken about in executive session.

Mr. Dehart had no objection.

[CLERK'S NOTE: All applicants were asked to step back into the Council Chambers, which they did.]

Ms. Smithers asked Mr. Hale, Ms. Sullivan-Leonard and Mr. Menard if they had any objection to being spoken about in executive session.

Mr. Menard, Mr. Hale and Ms. Sullivan-Leonard responded that they had no objection.

(The regular meeting recessed at 7:59 p.m. and reconvened at 8:07 p.m.)

MOTION: Council Member Larson moved to enter into executive session for subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person, provided the person may request a public discussion, specifically to discuss the appointment of Seat D.

The applicants had declined a public discussion so the entire Council, the City Clerk and City Attorney entered executive session in the Council Conference Room beginning at 8:08 p.m. The executive session exited at 8:21 p.m.

MOTION: Council Member Harris moved to adopt AM No. 10-25 by filling the council member vacancy in Seat D with Mr. John Luburger.

VOTE: The motion to adopt AM No. 10-25 and fill vacant council member Seat D with Mr. John Luburger passed unanimously.

XI. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Informational Memorandums

There were no informational memorandums.

B. Commission Minutes

1. Library Needs Committee: June 7, 2010
2. Parks and Recreation Commission: July 14, 2010
3. Planning Commission: August 10, 2010

There was no action taken on the communication items.

XII. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Ms. Anne Killkenny:

- spoke regarding the water and sewer rates proposal; and
- spoke to Ordinance Serial No. 10-28 and to her concerns with the ordinance.

Ms. Eileen Johnson:

- spoke to concerns with the intersections around Knik Goosebay Road, Railroad Avenue and Susitna Drive; and
- spoke to problems with City water and sewer.

Ms. Nicki Taysom:

- spoke to water and sewer rates and how it should be based on actual usage; and
- opined that it should be equal for all users.

Mr. John Luburger:

- spoke to problems with determining an appropriate minimum amount to pay for sewer and water; and
- thanked the Council for appointing him to Seat D.

XIII. MAYOR, CLERK AND ATTORNEY COMMENTS

Mr. Payne gave an update on the appeals regarding the firing range.

Mayor Rupright:

- provided a report on the Alaska Municipal League Conference which he attended during the prior week;
- spoke to areas of interest from the conference; and
- complimented a video that was done by Mr. Josh Fryfogle of Make-A-Scene Magazine that was well done and stated that it would be distributed.

Ms. Smithers reminded the Council that tomorrow is the Primary Election and of the joint meeting next Monday, August 30, 2010, at 6 p.m. regarding library issues.

XIV. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Larson commented on all the discussion revolving around water billing issues and spoke to additional issues related to the subject other than just consumption.

Council Member Harris:

- thanked the applicants for taking the time to apply and be interviewed for the vacant seat on the Council;
- opined that the cost of city water should be an issue that is addressed; and
- congratulated Mr. Luberger.

Council Member Katkus:

- spoke regarding the importance of planning for the future as it relates to the water and sewer costs;
- noted her appreciation for the six applicants for the temporary Seat D and nine candidates for the upcoming election;
- opined that the quantity of applicants says a lot about community involvement; and
- commented briefly on her trip to Kodiak for the Alaska Municipal League (AML).

Council Member Woodruff:

- spoke regarding the Police Department and their interaction with minors after curfew;
- commented on the complexity involved when telling businesses what they can and cannot sell;
- spoke to water mains which could potentially break and how the City's plan needs to be solvent in order to address this potential issue;
- noted concerns with Ordinance Serial No. 10-28;
- requested to see the language that will be going out on the proposition which shall appear on the October 5, 2010, Regular City Election ballot;
- requested that the City Attorney have the opportunity to review it; and

- spoke briefly about her trip to Kodiak for AML and issues that were brought up at the meetings regarding PERS.

Deputy Mayor Holler:

- thanked all the applicants who applied for temporary Seat D;
- wished good luck to the three City Council candidates who are in attendance;
- thanked the City for their attempt at solving the traffic issue at Knik Goosebay Road and Railroad Avenue; and
- spoke to signage issues in that area.

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Rupright excused himself from the meeting and passed the duties of the chair to Deputy Mayor Holler at 8:45 p.m.

- A. Annual Evaluation of City Clerk (*Subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person, provided the person may request a public discussion.*) (Continued from August 9, 2010)

MOTION: Council Member Larson moved to enter executive session for subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person, provided the person may request a public discussion, specifically the annual evaluation of the City Clerk.

The City Clerk declined a public discussion so the entire Council, the City Clerk and Finance Director entered executive session in the Council Conference Room beginning at 8:46 p.m. The executive session exited at 9:04 p.m.

MOTION: Council Member Larson moved to increase the annual salary of the City Clerk by 5.2% retroactive to July 1, 2010. [CLERK'S NOTE: Annual Salary of \$94,20.5]

VOTE The motion passed without objection.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business at hand, Deputy Mayor Holler, adjourned the meeting at 9:05 p.m.


VERNE E. RUPRIGHT, Mayor

ATTEST:


KRISTIE SMITHERS, MMC, City Clerk

Minutes approved: September 13, 2010