

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of the Wasilla City Council was held on Monday, March 14, 2011, 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
- Ms. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard, Seat D
- Ms. Dianne Woodruff, Seat E
- Mr. Steve Menard, Seat F

Staff in attendance were:

- Ms. Kristie Smithers, MMC, City Clerk
- Ms. Amanda E. Charles, Deputy City Clerk
- Ms. Joan Miller, Comptroller
- 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.

Council Member Woodruff requested that Ordinance Serial No. 11-12 be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed under New Business.

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

## **V. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY**

### **A. Presentation of Certification to Amanda Charles**

Ms. Smithers spoke to the requirements necessary for receiving the designation of Certified Municipal Clerk and recognized Ms. Charles for receiving that designation.

Mayor Rupright presented Ms. Charles with a pin and plaque in recognition of her certification.

## **VI. COMMISSION AND AGENCY REPORTS**

### **A. Matanuska-Susitna Borough**

Mr. Mark Ewing, Assembly Member, District 4:

- spoke to the differences in housing prisoners in state versus out of state;
- commented on funding for the Nordic ski trails at Hatcher's Pass;
- offered his opinion on inappropriate repercussions to students across the country for minor infractions; and
- noted his hope for increased funding from the Matanuska-Susitna Borough for the City libraries.

### **B. Planning Commission**

Mr. Bruce Webb, Commissioner, stated that the Draft Comprehensive Plan got adopted and they will be looking at the Southcentral foundation building permits soon.

### **C. Parks and Recreation Commission**

There was no report provided.

## **VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

### **A. Public Hearings**

There were no public hearings.

### **B. Persons to be Heard**

Ms. Louis Weir spoke in opposition to the adoption of Ordinance Serial No. 11-12, regarding funding for the Wasilla Area Seniors, Inc.

Ms. Mary Sears, President of Wasilla Area Seniors, Inc., spoke regarding comments provided to the City Council, and welcomed any questions the City Council has to her email address.

Ms. Anne Killkenny spoke regarding working with the Mat-Su Health Foundation on addressing the needs of the community.

Ms. Julie Baird spoke regarding a summer program she has started for teens and young adults.

## VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

### A. Minutes of Preceding Meetings:

1. Regular Meeting: February 28, 2011

### B. Introduction of Ordinances: Recommended for Public Hearing on April 11, 2011:

1. **Ordinance Serial No. 11-13:** Amending the zoning map to change the zoning district from Rural Residential to Multi-Family, for approximately 4.03 acres, consisting of lot 3, Pleasant View Subdivision, Township 17 North, Range 1 West, Section 3, Seward Meridian, Alaska; generally located south of Spruce Street on the west side of Wasilla-Fishhook Road.

### C. Resolutions

1. **Resolution Serial No. 11-10:** Supporting Senate Bill 77 that authorizes a special appropriation of matching funds to certain locally and federally funded public transit projects for operating expenses and related requirements now pending before the 27<sup>th</sup> Alaska State Legislature.

### D. Action Memorandums

1. **AM No. 11-05:** Contract award to USKH in the amount of \$34,747 for airport access road engineering services.

The Clerk read the Consent Agenda into the record.

**MOTION:** Council Member Menard moved to adopt the Consent Agenda as read into the record by the Clerk.

**GENERAL CONSENT:** There was no objection noted and the Consent Agenda was approved as read into the record.

## IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

## **X. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Introduction of Ordinances: Recommended for Public Hearing on April 11, 2011:

1. **Ordinance Serial No. 11-12:** Amending the Fiscal Year 2011 Budget by appropriating \$34,800 for the Wasilla Area Seniors, Inc., nutrition service program. *(Sponsored by Council Member Sullivan-Leonard)*

MOTION: Council Member Sullivan-Leonard moved to introduce Ordinance Serial No. 11-12 and set it for public hearing on April 11, 2011.

Discussion ensued.

POINT OF INQUIRY: Council Member Menard requested clarification on the ability to amend the dollar figure of the ordinance at a public hearing.

Ms. Smithers stated that the amount can be lowered but not increased above the set amount of \$34,800 without an additional public hearing.

Discussion resumed.

MOTION: Council Member Menard called for the question (to stop debate).

GENERAL CONSENT: There was no objection noted.

VOTE: The motion to introduce Ordinance Serial No. 11-12 and set it for public hearing on April 11, 2011 passed with Council Members Holler, Menard, Sullivan-Leonard and Woodruff in support and Council Members Harris and Katkus in opposition.

## **XI. COMMUNICATIONS**

A. Informational Memorandums

1. **IM No. 11-04:** Providing the hearing officer's Final Order and Notice of Right to Appeal on Case Nos. 10-01 and 10-02, regarding the firing range, and providing information on the associated costs.

B. Commission Minutes

1. Parks and Recreation Commission: February 9, 2011
2. Planning Commission: February 22, 2011

Ms. Smithers noted that the amount listed within IM No. 11-04 is not final due to the fact that a Request for Reconsideration has been filed with the Hearing Officer.

There was no action taken on the communication item.

## **XII. AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

Ms. Kaplan invited the Council Members to schedule appointments with her, or call her, if they would like to discuss any matter.

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

Ms. Smithers:

- spoke to available travel to Juneau for Council Members; and
- stated that she would be visiting the redistricting Board on Wednesday, March 16, 2011.

Mr. Richard Payne:

- commented on a Request for Reconsideration that the City filed in regards to the firing range appeals; and
- stated that he had received a notice that the appellants of the firing range appeals had filed an appeal in the Superior Court.

Mayor Rupright:

- stated that he spoke with the Borough Site Selection Committee regarding a proposed Iditarod School Project and commented on his discussions with them; and
- introduced the new interim Police Chief, Mr. Gene Belden, and provided a brief background on him.

## **XIV. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Council Member Woodruff stated that she will not be making a meeting with Ms. Sondra Kaplan.

Council Member Menard:

- asked that the presentation provided by Ms. Fran Seager-Boss on the history of Wasilla be put on to the City website; and
- commented on the close of the legislative session for 2011 and the importance for the Council to be present the last week.

Council Member Menard requested to attend the legislative session during the last week of session if Deputy Mayor Holler or Council Member Harris are unable to attend.

**GENERAL CONSENT:** There was no objection noted.

Council Member Menard:

- spoke to the cost of running the local library;
- opined that a sales tax increase is needed to fund a new Valley Performing Arts theater, a new library and better parks; and
- spoke to the need for public rest stops.

Council Member Harris apologized for missing the joint meeting with the City of Palmer on March 7, 2011.

Council Member Sullivan-Leonard:

- spoke to the importance of open and accessible information;
- noted that her son-in-law will be deployed to Iraq next week; and
- added that her son is currently deployed to Japan.

Deputy Mayor Holler reminded the Council to concentrate on the seniors and not on the local media as it relates to funding for the Wasilla Area Seniors, Inc.

Council Member Katkus:

- spoke regarding the increased population of seniors in the area;
- encouraged the community's attendances at the Neighborhoods, USA 2011 Conference in Anchorage; and
- thanked Ms. Baird for starting her business.

## **XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

### **A. Land Acquisition.**

**MOTION:** Council Member Menard moved to enter into executive session to discuss land acquisition.

**GENERAL CONSENT:** There was no objection noted and the entire Council, Mayor, City Clerk, Finance Director, City Attorney, and Deputy Administrator entered into executive session at 7:20 p.m.

*(The regular meeting recessed at 7:10 p.m. and reconvened at 7:20 p.m. at which time they immediately entered into Executive Session in the Council Conference Room.)*

**MOTION:** Council Member Menard moved to exit executive session.

**GENERAL CONSENT:** There was no objection noted and the Council exited executive session at 7:38 p.m.

**XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business at hand, Mayor Rupright adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

  
VERNE E. RUPRIGHT, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
KRISTIE SMITHERS, MMC, City Clerk

Minutes approved: April 11, 2011