



MAYOR
Verne E. Rupright

COUNCIL
Taffina Katkus, Seat A
Douglas W. Holler, Deputy Mayor, Seat B
Leone Harris, Seat C
Colleen Sullivan-Leonard, Seat D
Dianne Woodruff, Seat E
Steve Menard, Seat F

**WASILLA CITY COUNCIL
MEETING AGENDA**

WASILLA CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Wasilla City Hall, 290 E. Herring Avenue, Wasilla, AK 99654
907.373.9090 www.cityofwasilla.com

REGULAR MEETING

6 P.M.

SEPTEMBER 12, 2011

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. Friends of Wasilla Public Library

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- A. Public Hearings
 - 1. **Ordinance Serial No. 11-30:** Amending WMC 16.28.110, Variance, to include sign variances; and add WMC 16.32.260, Variance Provisions, to allow variances to the sign code and create sign variance criteria and process requirements.
- B. Persons to be Heard

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes of Preceding Meetings:
 - 1. Regular Meeting: August 22, 2011

- B. Introduction of Ordinances: Recommended for Public Hearing on September 26, 2011:
 - 1. **Ordinance Serial No. 11-31:** Accepting and appropriating funds from Target in the amount of \$2,000 for the 2012 Summer Reading Program.
 - 2. **Ordinance Serial No. 11-32:** Accepting and appropriating funds from Alaska State Library Interlibrary Cooperation Grant funded by federal monies from the Institute of Museum and Library Services in the amount of \$3,600 for an e-Readers Pilot Project.

- C. Resolutions
 - 1. **Resolution Serial No. 11-32:** Supporting a new Services and Operation Center for Mat-Su Services for Children and Adults, Inc.
 - 2. **Resolution Serial No. 11-33:** Amending the City of Wasilla Public Employees' Retirement System Plan to exclude all seasonal employees in the City of Wasilla Public Employees' Retirement System plan pursuant to AS 39.35.680(39).
 - 3. **Resolution Serial No. 11-34:** Authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Matanuska Telephone Association, Inc., extending to 2014, a settlement of claims related to the payment of telephone cooperative gross receipts tax to the City.
 - 4. **Resolution Serial No. 11-35:** Establishing a Code of Ethics and Conduct for public officials to include the Mayor, City Council, City Clerk, City Attorney, department heads and members of appointed commissions, boards and committees of the City of Wasilla. *(Sponsored by Council Member Sullivan-Leonard)*
 - 5. **Resolution Serial No. 11-36:** Creating an Ethics Tasks Force and prescribing its duties. *(Sponsored by Council Member Sullivan-Leonard)*
 - 6. **Resolution Serial No. 11-37:** Transferring funds within an accounting fund in the amount of \$22,820 for downtown parking lot paving.

D. Action Memorandums

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

XI. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Informational Memorandums

B. Commission Minutes

1. Parks and Recreation Commission: July 13, 2011

2. Planning Commission: August 9, 2011, Special Joint Meeting with the Parks and Recreation Commission; August 23, 2011

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, September 12, 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
- Mr. Doug Holler, Deputy Mayor, Seat B
- Ms. Leone Harris, Seat C
- Ms. Dianne Woodruff, Seat E
- Mr. Steve Menard, Seat F

Mayor Rupright noted that Ms. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard, Seat D, was absent and excused.

Staff in attendance were:

- Ms. Kristie Smithers, MMC, City Clerk
- Ms. Amanda E. Charles, CMC, Deputy City Clerk
- Mr. Troy Tankersley, Finance Director
- Mr. Archie Giddings, Public Works Director
- Mr. Gene Belden, Interim Police Chief
- Mr. James Hastings, Recreation and Cultural Services Manager
- Mr. Bert Cottle, Interim Deputy Administrator
- Mr. Richard Payne, City Attorney
- Ms. Tina Crawford, AICP, City Planner

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.

MOTION: Council Member Menard moved to remove Resolution Serial Nos. 11-35 and 11-36 from the agenda and requested that they be added to the September 26, 2011, Regular City Council Meeting Agenda due to the fact that the sponsor, Council Member Sullivan-Leonard, was not present and had requested that they be moved.

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. Matanuska-Susitna Borough

No report was provided.

B. Planning Commission

Mr. Robert Webb, Commissioner:

- spoke to the Planning Commission's last meeting of August 23, 2011, where they passed a resolution in support of a lease to Valley Performing Arts; and
- advised the body on the Mat-Su Transportation Fair which would be taking place at Raven Hall, Alaska State Fair Grounds, 2075 Glenn Highway, Palmer, on September 15, 2011, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

C. Friends of Wasilla Public Library

[CLERK'S NOTE: Due to a late arrival the report was provided during audience comments.]

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A. Public Hearings

1. **Ordinance Serial No. 11-** Amending WMC 16.28.110, Variance, to include sign variances; and add WMC 16.32.260, Variance Provisions, to allow variances to the sign code and create sign variance criteria and process requirements.

Ms. Tina Crawford provided a staff report.

MOTION: Council Member Woodruff moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 11-30.

MOTION: Council Member Woodruff moved a primary amendment to Section 3 of Ordinance Serial No. 11-30 to replace the words "is consistent" with "consistency" to read as follows:

Variances to the setbacks, sign area, number of signs per parcel, and height of signs may be requested by a property owner, or authorized agent. The application process, notice requirements, and variance standards shall be the same as those for variances in Section 16.28.110. In granting a sign variance, the planning commission may prescribe conditions and safeguards to assure conformity with the purpose and intent of this chapter and **consistency** with the city comprehensive plan and any other applicable adopted city plans.

Discussion moved to the Council.

There was no objection noted.

VOTE: The motion to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 11-30 passed unanimously.

B. Persons to be Heard

Mr. John Dewer spoke regarding flooding on Lake Street, near his home, due to a City water and sewer line connection project.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

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B. Introduction of Ordinances: Recommended for Public Hearing on September 26, 2011:

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C. Resolutions

1. **Resolution Serial No. 11-32:** Supporting a new Services and Operation Center for Mat-Su Services for Children and Adults, Inc.
2. **Resolution Serial No. 11-33:** Amending the City of Wasilla Public Employees' Retirement System Plan to exclude all seasonal employees in the City of Wasilla Public Employees' Retirement System plan pursuant to AS 39.35.680(39).
3. **Resolution Serial No. 11-34:** Authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Matanuska Telephone Association, Inc., extending to 2014, a settlement of claims related to the payment of telephone cooperative gross receipts tax to the City.
4. **Resolution Serial No. 11-37:** Transferring funds within an accounting fund in the amount of \$22,820 for downtown parking lot paving.

D. Action Memorandums

There were no action memorandums.

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

There was no new business.

XI. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Informational Memorandums

There were informational memorandums.

B. Commission Minutes

1. Parks and Recreation Commission: July 13, 2011
2. Planning Commission: August 9, 2011, Special Joint Meeting with the Parks and Recreation Commission; August 23, 2011

There was no action taken on the communication item.

XII. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Ms. Colleen Cottle:

- noted concerns with the proceedings at the Curtis D. Menard Memorial Sports Center; and
- spoke to her concerns with the concessions vendor contract.

Mr. Hastings responded to Ms. Cottle's concerns.

Ms. Jeanne Troshynski, Executive Director:

- spoke regarding confusion with their Facebook page; and
- commended Mr. Hastings for the improved sound system at the Curtis D. Menard Memorial Sports Center.

Ms. Anne Killkenny:

- spoke regarding her concerns with the perceptions put upon the City in the advertisement for the Mat-Su Salute; and

- noted her concerns with Resolution Serial Nos. 11-35 and 11-36, regarding ethics. Mr. John Dewar thanked the City for their involvement with the Mat-Su Salute.

Mr. Art Kohanes:

- asked if the City required a business to have any sort of bonding before issuing a business license;
- opined that the City should have a code with more repercussions; and
- spoke to the cost of services in the United States.

Mayor Rupright directed the City Attorney to speak with Mr. Kohanes after the adjournment of the meeting.

XIII. MAYOR, CLERK AND ATTORNEY COMMENTS

Ms. Smithers:

- reminded the Council that early voting begins Monday, September 19, 2011, and continues through October 3, 2011;
- introduced Mr. Troy Doller of SIRE Technologies; and
- explained that SIRE Technologies is the electronic records management software solution that the Clerk's Office has spoke about in the past.

[CLERK'S NOTE: The meeting resumed with Audience Comments for additional comments from Mr. Kohanes, see comments above. At the conclusion of his comments the meeting continued with Mr. Payne's comments.]

Mr. Payne:

- noted his appreciation for September 11, 2011, Remembrance Memorial event that took place at the Curtis D. Menard Memorial Center;
- commended Mr. Hastings on the event; and
- spoke to Resolution Serial Nos. 11-35 and 11-36, regarding ethics, and to conversations he had with the sponsor, Council Member Sullivan Leonard.

XIV. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Woodruff thanked Target for their support of the summer reading program and requested an update on the firing range appeal.

Mr. Payne provided an update on the firing range appeal.

Mayor Rupright stated that the City of Wasilla is a stake holder in the firing range project that will be developed at Alcantra.

Council Member Woodruff queried Mr. Hastings regarding the concessions contract and payments.

Mr. Hastings spoke to previous concession contracts and to third party contracts.

Council Member Woodruff requested a copy of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough's most recent ethics ordinance and asked that it be forwarded on to the City Council for review.

Council Member Katkus asked Mr. Hastings if he was being compensated by the Healing Hearts.

Mr. Hastings stated that he signed a Statement of Non-Conflict which is on file at the City and noted that the non-profit organization is paying the facility rental fee.

Council Member Katkus asked if Tailgaters is raising funds for the Mat-Su Salute.

Mr. Hastings stated Tailgaters is doing their own private fund raising event and clarified that the City is not involved with that fund raiser.

Council Member Katkus queried Ms. Joanna Gray's involvement with the Mat-Su Salute and stated that Ms. Gray's advertised contact phone number connects to Mr. Rupright's law practice.

Mr. Hastings stated that Ms. Gray is a member of the committee and informed the Council that he had told Ms. Gray that she was not to use City phone lines or fax lines.

Council Member Katkus stressed her concerns with the phone number.

Deputy Mayor Holler spoke to his concerns with the concessions contract at the Curtis D. Menard Memorial Sports Center.

Mr. Hastings spoke to the evolution of the contract. Discussions ensued regarding the contract and third party agreements.

Council Member Menard requested an update on Lake Lucille.

Mr. Giddings provided clarification on funding as it pertains to dredging and the dam.

Council Member Menard:

- thanked Mr. Hastings for his reporting; and
- asked where the City stood with the painting of the railroad car.

Mr. Giddings stated that he is working with the Environmental Protection Agency and explained that they are involved due to the lead based paint that is present on the rail car.

Council Member Menard:

- spoke to the need for additional parking at City parks;
- commented on the September 11, 2011, memorial; and
- noted his disfavor for campaigning at memorial events.

Council Member Harris asked how many hours a week Mr. Hastings is spending per week on filling Public Records Requests and queried who the requests were coming from.

Discussion ensued regarding public records requests.

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session held.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business at hand, Mayor Rupright adjourned the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

ATTEST:



KRISTIE SMITHERS, MMC, City Clerk


VERNE E. RUPRIGHT, Mayor

Minutes approved: September 26, 2011