



CITY OF  
WASILLA  
ALASKA

**MAYOR**

Verne E. Rupright

**COUNCIL**

Taffina Katkus, Seat A  
Leone Harris, Seat C  
Dianne Woodruff, Seat E

Douglas W. Holler, Deputy Mayor, Seat B  
Colleen Sullivan-Leonard, Seat D  
Brandon Wall, 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 [www.cityofwasilla.com](http://www.cityofwasilla.com)

**REGULAR MEETING**

**6 P.M.**

**JUNE 25, 2012**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. ROLL CALL**

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA<sup>1</sup>**

**V. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY**

**VI. COMMISSION AND AGENCY REPORTS**

- A. "My House" – Geri McCann
- B. Wasilla Soil and Water Conservation District – Chuck Kaucic
- C. Parks and Recreation Commission
- D. Planning Commission

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<sup>1</sup> Ordinance No. 12-23 was removed from the Consent Agenda and addressed separately under New Business.

## VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

### A. Public Hearings

1. **Ordinance Serial No. 12-17:** Amending the FY 2012 Police Department budget by accepting and appropriating funds from the Alaska Department of Transportation and Highway Safety Office in the amount of \$53,745 for the Wasilla Police Department's Traffic Grant.
2. **Ordinance Serial No. 12-18:** Amending WMC 9.04.010, Definitions, and WMC 9.04.030, Action to Abate Lewd Conduct.
3. **Ordinance Serial No. 12-19:** Amending the FY2012 budget by appropriating \$25,000 for the sewer utility fund.
4. **Ordinance Serial No. 12-20:** Amending provisions of WMC Title 4, Elections, regarding Definitions, Powers and Duties of the Clerk, Voter Qualifications, Candidates, Administration of the Elections, Methods of Voting, Voting Procedures, and Ballot Counting.

### B. Persons to be Heard

## VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

### A. Minutes of Preceding Meetings:

1. Regular Meeting: June 11, 2012

### B. Introduction of Ordinances: Recommended for Public Hearing on July 9, 2012:

### C. Resolutions

### D. Action Memorandums

1. **AM No. 12-24:** Contract award to HDR Alaska, Inc., for the Lake Lucille Spillway Design, Permitting and construction phase services on a time and materials basis in an amount not to exceed \$190,010.
2. **AM No. 12-25:** FY2013 Employee Wage Scale for non-union and union employees of the City of Wasilla.



**IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Introduction of Ordinances: Recommended for Public Hearing on July 9, 2012:

1. **Ordinance Serial No. 12-21:** Honoring the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the City of Wasilla which was founded in 1917, by creating a committee to pay tribute to the occasion. (Sponsored by Council Member Katkus)
2. **Ordinance Serial No. 12-22:** Creating a City of Wasilla 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Incorporation Celebration Committee. (Sponsored by Council Member Sullivan-Leonard)
3. **Ordinance Serial No. 12-23:** Amending Wasilla Municipal Code 5.16.030, 5.16.100 and 5.16.210 to increase the rate of the City sales tax by one percent (1%) to three percent (3%) beginning on January 1, 2013; amending Wasilla Municipal Code 5.16.210 to allocate one half (0.5%) of the sales tax increase to a special account to finance major capital improvements; and submitting the question of such sales tax rate increase to the qualified voters of the City at the October 2, 2012, Regular City Election.

B. Committee of the Whole

1. Code of Conduct Policy Draft and Review

**XI. COMMUNICATIONS**

A. Informational Memorandums

B. Commission Minutes

1. Parks and Recreation Commission: May 9, 2012
2. Planning Commission: June 12, 2012

**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, June 25, 2012, at the Wasilla City Council Chambers, Wasilla, Alaska. Mayor Verne E. Rupright called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Council Members present and establishing a quorum were:

- Ms. Taffina Katkus, Seat A
- Mr. Douglas Holler, Deputy Mayor, Seat B
- Ms. Leone Harris, Seat C
- Ms. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard, Seat D
- Ms. Dianne Woodruff, Seat E
- Mr. Brandon Wall, Seat F (*via teleconference*)

Staff in attendance were:

- Ms. Kristie Smithers, City Clerk
- Ms. Wendy Golter, City Temporary Aide
- Mr. Troy Tankersley, Finance Director
- Mr. Archie Giddings, Public Works Director
- Mr. John Combs, Recreation and Cultural Services Director
- Mr. Gene Belden, Interim Police Chief
- Mr. Richard Payne, City Attorney
- Mr. Bert Cottle, 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 Sullivan-Leonard requested that Ordinance No. 12-23 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

There were no special orders of the day.

## VI. COMMISSION AND AGENCY REPORTS

### A. ~~"My House"~~ Geri McCann<sup>1</sup>

There was no report provided.

### B. Wasilla Soil and Water Conservation District – Chuck Kaucic

Mr. Kaucic, District Manager of Wasilla Soil and Water:

- spoke about entering into a cooperative agreement with the City of Wasilla regarding creating a conservation district;
- commented on the mission of the Wasilla Soil and Water Conservation District; and
- noted their efforts towards the lakes and streams in the local area.

### C. Parks and Recreation Commission

Mr. John Combs:

- spoke regarding the upcoming July 4, 2012, Independence Day Celebration; which will take place at Iditapark;
- stated that they had signed a contract with Alaska Entertainment for 28 Tuesday Night Fights, which is an increase of six shows from 2011 bringing a minimum increase of \$44,000;
- stated that the ice arena is being assembled for the hockey camps taking place in July;
- commented on fire service checks at the Curtis D. Menard Memorial Sports Center (Sports Center);
- noted that they are going out for bid for a water softening system at the Sports Center due to the mineral deposits in the water;
- spoke to the recent flooding at the Wasilla Meta-Rose Public Library; and
- thanked all the staff for their help in the clean-up effort.

Mayor Rupright reported on the schedule of events for the Independence Day Celebrations.

### D. Planning Commission

Mr. Rob Webb, Commissioner:

- noted that they continue to review several conditional use permits; and
- added that they are working on the downtown area plan.

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<sup>1</sup> Ms. McCann was not present to report on "My House".

## **VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

### **A. Public Hearings**

1. **Ordinance Serial No. 12-17:** Amending the FY 2012 Police Department budget by accepting and appropriating funds from the Alaska Department of Transportation and Highway Safety Office in the amount of \$53,745 for the Wasilla Police Department's Traffic Grant.

Mayor Rupright opened the public hearing on Ordinance Serial No. 12-17. There being no one present who wished to speak, Mayor Rupright closed the public hearing.

**MOTION:** Council Member Sullivan-Leonard moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 12-17.

**VOTE:** The motion to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 12-17 passed unanimously.

2. **Ordinance Serial No. 12-18:** Amending WMC 9.04.010, Definitions, and WMC 9.04.030, Action to Abate Lewd Conduct.

Mayor Rupright opened the public hearing on Ordinance Serial No. 12-18.

Mr. John Dewar requested that spitting be included within the parameters of lewd conduct.

There being no one else present who wished to speak, Mayor Rupright closed the public hearing.

**MOTION:** Council Member Woodruff moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 12-18.

Mr. Payne provided a brief report.

**VOTE:** The motion to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 12-18 passed unanimously.

3. **Ordinance Serial No. 12-19:** Amending the FY2012 budget by appropriating \$25,000 for the sewer utility fund.

Mayor Rupright opened the public hearing on Ordinance Serial No. 12-19.

Ms. Anne Killkenny:

- expressed her appreciation for the ordinance; and
- noted her concerns with possible misuse of City funds which caused this shortage.

Mr. Giddings responded and provided a staff report.



There being no one else present who wished to speak, Mayor Rupright closed the public hearing.

MOTION: Council Member Sullivan-Leonard moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 12-19.

VOTE: The motion to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 12-19 passed unanimously.

4. **Ordinance Serial No. 12-20:** Amending provisions of WMC Title 4, Elections, regarding Definitions, Powers and Duties of the Clerk, Voter Qualifications, Candidates, Administration of the Elections, Methods of Voting, Voting Procedures, and Ballot Counting.

Mayor Rupright opened the public hearing on Ordinance Serial No. 12-20. There being no one present who wished to speak, Mayor Rupright closed the public hearing.

Ms. Smithers provided a staff report.

MOTION: Council Member Woodruff moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 12-20.

VOTE: The motion to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 12-20 passed unanimously.

#### B. Persons to be Heard

Ms. Randy Robinson:

- thanked Council Member Katkus, Mr. Cottle and the Public Work's staff for their work on the community garden;
- stated she was present as a member of the Friends of Wasilla Public Library;
- added that the Friends of Wasilla Public Library support Ordinance Serial No. 12-20 which specifies funds for a new library.

Ms. Julie Ede:

- stated she was present as a member of the Friends of Wasilla Public Library; and
- thanked everyone who has been part of bringing forth a new library.

Mr. John Luberger:

- expressed his concerns with City spending; and
- noted his concerns with the increasing budget.

Ms. Margaret Heaven thanked everyone for their work in keeping the City clean and for working towards getting a new library.

Ms. Anne Killkenny:

- supported a half percent tax increase for a new library;
- spoke against a half percent tax increase for the general fund;
- commented on superfluous spending by the City;
- supported reinstating a property tax with an exemption for the first \$300,000; and
- stated that the half percent tax increase for the new library should have a sunset clause.

Ms. Marcie Hawkins:

- spoke in favor of the half percent tax increase for building a new library and maintaining it; and
- supported the half percent for other city projects after the new library is funded.

Mr. Brad Laybourn:

- commented on the misuse of the Sports Center by the Arctic Motor Club out of Anchorage and noted his displeasure with the associated noise; and
- added that the Sports Center was voted on by the people for use by the local youth, of which there were none at the Arctic Motor Club event.

## **VIII. CONSENT AGENDA**

A. Minutes of Preceding Meetings:

1. Regular Meeting: June 11, 2012

B. Introduction of Ordinances: Recommended for Public Hearing on July 9, 2012:

C. Resolutions

D. Action Memorandums

1. **AM No. 12-24:** Contract award to HDR Alaska, Inc., for the Lake Lucille Spillway Design, permitting and construction phase services on a time and materials basis in an amount not to exceed \$190,010.

2. **AM No. 12-25:** FY2013 Employee Wage Scale for non-union and union employees of the City of Wasilla.

MOTION: Council Member Sullivan-Leonard moved to adopt the consent agenda as read into the record by the City Clerk.

MOTION: Council Member Sullivan-Leonard moved a primary amendment to the minutes of June 11, 2012, to strike the words:

*[CLERK'S NOTE: Council Member Woodruff inquired if a motion was needed on a policy amendment. Mayor Rupright stated that the meeting was adjourned and he would take care of the policy change.]*

Discussion ensued regarding the primary amendment.

*[CLERK'S NOTE: The City Council directed the City Clerk to review the audio tape and bring back the minutes with amendments if needed at the July 9, 2012, Regular City Council Meeting. The Consent Agenda was therefore amended to remove the minutes.]*

GENERAL CONSENT: There was no objection noted.

## **IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

## **X. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Introduction of Ordinances: Recommended for Public Hearing on July 9, 2012:

1. **Ordinance Serial No. 12-21:** Honoring the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the City of Wasilla which was founded in 1917, by creating a committee to pay tribute to the occasion. (Sponsored by Council Member Katkus)

MOTION: Council Member Katkus moved to introduce Ordinance Serial No. 12-21 and to set it for public hearing on July 9, 2012.

Discussion moved to the Council.

Mayor Rupright invited Ms. Margaret Heaven forward to speak on the introduction of the ordinance.

Ms. Heaven, Wasilla Knik Historical Society Member, spoke in favor of Ordinance Serial No. 12-20 and stressed the importance of starting the planning process earlier rather than later.

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

There was no objection noted.

VOTE: The motion to introduce Ordinance Serial No. 12-21 and to set it for public hearing on July 9, 2012, passed unanimously.

2. **Ordinance Serial No. 12-22:** Creating a City of Wasilla 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Incorporation Celebration Committee. (Sponsored by Council Member Sullivan-Leonard)

MOTION: Council Member Sullivan-Leonard moved to introduce Ordinance Serial No. 12-22 and to set it for public hearing on July 9, 2012.

Discussion moved to the Council.

VOTE: The motion to introduce Ordinance Serial No. 12-22 and to set it for public hearing on July 9, 2012, passed unanimously.

3. **Ordinance Serial No. 12-23:** Amending Wasilla Municipal Code 5.16.030, 5.16.100 and 5.16.210 to increase the rate of the City sales tax by one percent (1%) to three percent (3%) beginning on January 1, 2013; amending Wasilla Municipal Code 5.16.210 to allocate one half (0.5%) of the sales tax increase to a special account to finance major capital improvements; and submitting the question of such sales tax rate increase to the qualified voters of the City at the October 2, 2012, Regular City Election.

MOTION: Council Member Sullivan-Leonard moved to set three work sessions between staff and the City Council prior to August 10, 2012.

Discussion moved to the Council.

*[CLERK'S NOTE: Ms. Smithers noted that there would be four meetings scheduled on this subject. Under Committee of the Whole at July 9, 2012, Regular City Council Meeting, and additional special meetings at 5 p.m. on July 16, 23, and 30, 2012.]*

VOTE: The motion to set three work sessions between the staff and the City Council prior to August 10, 2012, passed unanimously.

*(The regular meeting recessed at 7:31 p.m. and reconvened at 7:47 p.m.)*

B. Committee of the Whole

1. Code of Conduct Policy Draft and Review

MOTION: Council Member Woodruff moved to enter into Committee of the Whole to discuss Code of Conduct Policy Draft and Review.

GENERAL CONSENT: There was no objection noted and the Council entered into Committee of the Whole at 7:48 p.m.

Discussion moved to the Council weighting the pros and cons of the proposed draft.

*[CLERK'S NOTE: It was decided that the Council would encourage City residents to apply for the Ethics Task Force; if enough residents applied the establishment of the members would be moved forward via an action memorandum at the August 13, 2012, Regular City Council Meeting.]*

MOTION: Council Member Woodruff moved to exit Committee of the Whole.

GENERAL CONSENT: There was no objection noted and the Council exited Committee of the Whole at 8:16 p.m.

## **XI. COMMUNICATIONS**

### A. Informational Memorandums

1. **IM No. 12-09:** Monthly financial reports for the period ending April 2012 to include the month-to-date expenditure report and disbursements greater than \$5,000.
2. **IM No. 12-12:** Update to Council regarding employee health benefit arrangements for FY2013.

### B. Commission Minutes

1. Airport Advisory Commission: November 17, 2011; February 16, 2012
2. Parks and Recreation Commission: April 11, 2012; April 25, 2012
3. Planning Commission: May 8, 2012; May 22, 2012

There was no action taken on the communication items.

## **XII. AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

Mr. John Dewar:

- complimented the Public Works flower crew for their hard work;
- complimented the Police Department for their speedy and efficient work; and
- commented on Council Member Katkus' draft Code of Conduct.

Mr. Brad Laybourn suggested the City adopt the Matanuska-Susitna Borough's noise ordinance.

Ms. Anne Killkenny:

- spoke regarding the mismanagement of funds by City staff; and
- commented on commentary by the public and the Council during the meetings.

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

Ms. Smithers:

commented on the upcoming filing period; and reviewed the upcoming special meeting schedule to discuss the proposed sales tax ordinance, Ordinance Serial No. 12-23.

Mr. Payne spoke regarding oral argument at the superior court regarding the firing range litigation.

### **XIV. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Council Member Woodruff queried the status of the negotiations with the Alaska State Troopers for dispatch services.

Troy Tankersley and Chief Belden provided an update.

Council Member Woodruff queried the ability to have the cameras within City Hall to be monitored by dispatch.

Mayor Rupright responded.

Council Member Woodruff:

- stated that she had requested a draft of the utility study and a copy of the policy and procedures manual when the new policy is added; and
- noted her displeasure that the City of Wasilla had considered purchasing a liquor license.

Mayor Rupright responded.

Council Member Woodruff:

- suggested that the City of Wasilla do an annual safety award to an employee who excels in the area;
- complimented Ms. Bethany Buckingham, Museum Curator, for her work with getting the current crab exhibit in place.

Council Member Harris commented on the stop light that was out at the Parks Highway and Main Street intersection.

Council Member Wall thanked the City Clerk for facilitating the teleconference for him this evening and thanked public works for their efficiency.

Council Member Katkus thanked Mr. Combs for taking care of the deferred maintenance at the Sports Center and spoke regarding alcohol at the Sports Center.

Deputy Mayor Holler encouraged the City to discontinue their contract with the Arctic Motor Club for their use of City property at the Sports Center.

Council Member Sullivan-Leonard noted her support for funding a new library and future projects with a sales tax, with the caveat that it would need a sunset clause.


Mayor Rupright:

- spoke to Wasilla Municipal Code Title 4 and the bid requirements therein; and
- spoke to the use of alcohol in City parks.

**XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business at hand, Mayor Rupright adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

  
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VERNE E. RUPRIGHT, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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KRISTIE SMITHERS, MMC, City Clerk

Minutes approved: July 9, 2012