

City of Valdez

212 Chenega Ave.
Valdez, AK 99686



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Tuesday, March 2, 2021

7:00 PM

Regular Meeting

Council Chambers

City Council

REGULAR AGENDA - 7:00 PM**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Scheidt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in Valdez City Council Chambers.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

City Council led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

III. ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Mayor Sharon Scheidt
Council Member Ron Ruff (*by telephone*)
Council Member Susan Love
Council Member Dawson Moore
Council Member Jimmy Devens
Mayor Pro Tem Dennis Fleming (*by telephone*)
Council Member Alan Sorum

Also Present: 7 - City Manager Mark Detter
Assistant City Manager Nathan Duval
Assistant City Manager Roxanne Murphy
City Clerk Sheri Pierce
Deputy City Clerk Allie Ferko (*by telephone*)
Records Manager Shelley McMillen
City Attorney Jake Staser

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**1. City Council Regular Meeting Minutes of February 16, 2021**

The City Council regular meeting minutes of February 16, 2021 were approved as presented.

2. City Council 2019 Minutes: (1) Regular Meeting Minutes of March 5, 2019, (2) Special Meeting Minutes of February 26, 2019, (3) Regular Meeting Minutes of February 19, 2019, and (4) Regular Meeting Minutes of February 5, 2019

The City Council regular meeting minutes of March 5, 2019; special meeting minutes of February 26, 2019; regular meeting minutes of February 19, 2019; and regular meeting minutes of February 5, 2019 were approved as presented.

V. PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Lanette Oliver – Valdez Adventure Alliance Executive Director

Ms. Oliver shared a video and provided a brief update on the recent Ice Climbing Festival, including an economic impact report.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

1. ~~Approval of Amendment No. 2 to the Valdez Container Terminal Scale House Use Agreement with Samson Tug and Barge (Moved to New Business #5)~~
2. **Appointment to Regional Citizens' Advisory Council Board of Directors (Applicant: Amanda Bauer)**

MOTION: Council Member Moore moved, seconded by Council Member Love to approve the Consent Agenda.

VOTE ON THE MOTION:

Yays: 6 - Mayor Scheidt, Council Member Love, Council Member Moore, Council Member Devens, Mayor Pro Tem Fleming and Council Member Ruff

Abstain: 1 - Council Member Sorum

MOTION CARRIED.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Discussion Item: COVID-19 Update**

Mr. Detter updated Council on current local and state case counts. Public Health Nurse Terri Lynch provided a vaccination update. Mayor Scheidt asked if Valdez would move ahead to the next tier if vaccines were still available after completing the current tier. Ms. Lynch outlined the Alaska Department of Health & Social Services approval process to move forward ahead of the rest of the state. Ms. Lynch detailed case trends around the state.

Council Member Sorum stated he believed holding annual mass vaccination exercises in Valdez over the years directly contributed to the current success of local COVID-19 vaccine point of dispensing clinics.

Mr. Detter provided an update on the Business Economic Recovery Grant and the Advertising Marketing Grant programs.

2. **Approval of Public Health Mandate 003, Amendment #6 (Mask Mandate)**

MOTION: Council Member Sorum moved, seconded by Council Member Devens, to approve Public Health Mandate 003, Amendment #6 (mask mandate).

Mr. Detter stated he would return with a full recommendation for the future of the mask mandate and declaration of emergency from the Valdez COVID-19 Unified

Command at the next regular Council meeting.

VOTE ON THE MOTION:

Yays: 6 - Mayor Scheidt, Council Member Love, Council Member Moore, Council Member Devens, Mayor Pro Tem Fleming and Council Member Sorum

Nays: 1 - Council Member Ruff

MOTION CARRIED.

3. Approval to Purchase Providence Valdez Medical Center Capital/Equipment in the Amount of \$43,931.84

MOTION: Council Member Love moved, seconded by Council Member Sorum, to approve purchase of Providence Valdez Medical Center capital equipment in the amount of \$43,931.84.

A representative from Providence Valdez Medical Center (PVMC) explained the timing of the purchase of the new infant warmers. She stated the purchase had been budgeted for the prior year, but had been postponed due to COVID-19.

VOTE ON THE MOTION:

Yays: 7 - Mayor Scheidt, Council Member Love, Council Member Moore, Council Member Devens, Mayor Pro Tem Fleming, Council Member Sorum, and Council Member Ruff

MOTION CARRIED.

4. Discussion Item: Return on Investment Analysis of New Valdez Commercial Harbor Fueling Facility

Ports and Harbor Director Jeremy Talbott introduced Meilani Schijvens, director of Rain Coast Data. Ms. Schijvens explained the multiple approaches her team took to assess the need for the new Valdez commercial harbor fueling facility. She reviewed the draft Return on Investment Analysis included in the agenda packet.

Council Member Sorum shared his support of the project.

Council Member Love asked for a reminder on the results of a request for proposals for a fuel facility put out the prior year. Mr. Talbott stated only one proposal had been received and had come from the company currently operating the fuel dock in the original boat harbor. He shared his enthusiasm for the data contained in the analysis. He stated the Valdez Harbormaster would be reaching out to Crowley to discuss expanded hours at the current fuel dock. Council Member Love asked if the scope of the prior RFP had been a public/private partnership. Mr. Talbott stated the scope had been privately constructed and

privately run.

Council Member Moore asked why there was not more information in the study on why Valdez, the most commonly cited historical example of the public/private model, had transitioned away from said model in the past. Ms. Schijvens stated she had included the information because she found it interesting, but had not reached out to contacts who were involved in making the decision thirty years prior.

5. Approval of Amendment No. 2 to the Valdez Container Terminal Scale House Use Agreement with Samson Tug and Barge (*Moved from Consent Agenda*)

MOTION: Council Member Love moved, seconded by Council Member Moore to approve Amendment No. 2 to the Valdez Container Terminal Scale House Use Agreement with Samson Tug and Barge.

Council Member Love asked why Samson was vacating. Mr. Talbott explained why the Port was encouraging Samson to vacate and explained alternate options being considered.

VOTE ON THE MOTION:

Yays: 7 - Mayor Scheidt, Council Member Love, Council Member Moore, Council Member Devens, Mayor Pro Tem Fleming, Council Member Sorum, and Council Member Ruff

MOTION CARRIED.

VIII. ORDINANCES

1. Ordinance #21-02 - Adoption of New Official Zoning Maps. Second Reading. Adoption.

MOTION: Council Member Love moved, seconded by Council Member Devens, to approve Ordinance #21-02. Second Reading. Adoption.

VOTE ON THE MOTION:

Yays: 7 - Mayor Scheidt, Council Member Love, Council Member Moore, Council Member Devens, Mayor Pro Tem Fleming, Council Member Sorum, and Council Member Ruff

MOTION CARRIED.

IX. RESOLUTIONS

- 1. #21-10 - Adopting the City of Valdez Employee Personnel Regulations and Creating an Effective Date**

MOTION: Council Member Moore moved, seconded by Council Member Love, to approve Resolution #21-10.

VOTE ON THE MOTION:

Yays: 7 - Mayor Scheidt, Council Member Love, Council Member Moore, Council Member Devens, Mayor Pro Tem Fleming, Council Member Sorum, and Council Member Ruff

MOTION CARRIED.

X. REPORTS

- 1. Change Order Report: Change Order with Orion Construction for HHES and VHS Generator Replacement in the Amount of \$15,660.00**
- 2. Report: Temporary Land Use Permit #21-01 for Valdez Motor Sports Club for a 2-acre Portion of USS 439 (Pipeyard)**
- 3. Information Technology Department Report - Verbal Presentation**

IT Director Matthew Osburn provided a verbal briefing of IT Department operations, responsibilities, the effects of the 2018 cyber-attack on the department, a five year budget history, and completed & ongoing projects.

Mayor Scheidt asked who was able to update the city webpage. Mr. Osburn responded a majority of departments had a dedicated staff member with access to update the webpage.

Council Member Love requested information on radio and FCC licensing. Mr. Osburn outlined an audit performed by IT and the process to update FCC licensing.

Council Member Love and Mayor Scheidt expressed their appreciation for the large scope of work covered by the IT Department.

Council Member Fleming pointed out Mr. Osburn had been instrumental both during and after the cyber-attack. He stated he looked forward to seeing future great work by the IT Department.

Mr. Detter requested Mr. Osburn address the reason behind city cell phones being distributed and not allowing network access to city email on personal devices. Mr. Osburn explained the purpose was mainly to protect personal information contained on personal cell phones and ensure compliance with the Alaska Public Records Act.

Council Member Sorum shared his gratitude for Mr. Osburn and his staff.

XI. CITY MANAGER / CITY CLERK / CITY ATTORNEY / MAYOR REPORTS**1. City Manager Report**

Mr. Detter reminded Council of the emergency warning siren test occurring the following day, as well as an upcoming work session regarding disposition of city owned property. He suggested Council look at reinstating late fees for city services and would be bringing the topic before Council during an upcoming regular meeting. He updated Council on health insurance, the City Permanent Fund, and the Comprehensive Plan.

2. City Clerk Report

Ms. Pierce reviewed the upcoming Council calendar. She provided a reminder that anyone interested in running for office for the upcoming municipal election must file a nominating petition with the Clerk's Office by March 15th at 5pm. She shared two new publications by City Parks Maintenance which provided detailed historical information for one of the two local cemeteries.

3. City Attorney Report

Mr. Staser outlined projects and provided updates on cases his firm is working on behalf of the City, including Pacific Pile & Marine, Alaska Trappers Association, redistricting, escaped property, state budgeting including SB13, and Personnel Regulations.

4. City Mayor Report

Mayor Scheidt updated Council on the Alaska Gasline Port Authority Board, the Beautification Task Force, and her recent conversation with Representative Rauscher.

XII. COUNCIL BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Council Member Fleming stated he would be unable to attend the Council meeting on the 16th.

Council Member Ruff expressed interest amending Title 6 in relation to animals, to update the definition of restraint. Chief of Police Bart Hinkle stated he would plan to bring the topic forward during the April 6th regular Council meeting.

Council Member Devens thanked Finance Department staff for the effort put into the City Permanent Fund meeting.

Council Member Sorum addressed the anniversary of the beginning of the pandemic and shared his appreciation for local vaccination efforts.

Council Member Moore thanked Mr. Osburn for his work in the IT Department.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Scheidt adjourned the meeting at 8:53 p.m.