City of Valdez

212 Chenega Ave.
Valdez, AK 99686

Action Summary

Tuesday, December 12, 2023

7:00 PM

Regular Meeting - Budget Adoption
(Note date change due to AML)
Council Chambers

<u>City Council</u>

REGULAR AGENDA - 7:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Mayor Sharon Scheidt
Mayor Pro Tem Alan Sorum
Council Member Dennis Fleming
Council Member Todd Wegner
Council Member Jimmy Devens
Council Member Olivia Foster
Council Member Austin Love

Also Present:5 - City Clerk Sheri Pierce
City Manager John Parsons Douglas
Assistant City Manager Nathan Duval
Deputy City Clerk Elise Sorum-Birk
City Attorney Jake Staser

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. **Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes - October 17, 2023**

2. **Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes - November 7, 2023**

   Minutes were approved by consent.

V. PUBLIC APPEARANCES

VI. PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. **Appointment to the Permanent Fund Investment Committee, Applicants: Jim Shirrell and Bill Wise**

   City Clerk Sheri Pierce announced Council had voted by ballot and selected Jim Shirrell as the appointee.

   MOTION: Love moved, seconded by Fleming, to appoint Jim Shirrell to the Permanent Fund Investment Committee.

   VOTE ON MOTION
   Yays: 7 - Scheidt, Sorum, Fleming, Wegner, Devens, Foster and Love

MOTION CARRIED.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval of 1-Year Contract Extension to Chugach Cleaning Company, LLC in the Amount of $137,460.00

MOTION: Foster moved, seconded by Love, to approve a 1-year contract extension to Chugach Cleaning Company, LLC in the amount of $137,460.00 for janitorial service.

VOTE ON MOTION
Yays: 7 - Scheidt, Sorum, Fleming, Wegner, Devens, Foster and Love
MOTION CARRIED.

2. Approval of 1-Year Contract Extension to X-DLX Investments Corp in the Amount of $179,650.00

MOTION: Wegner moved, seconded by Fleming, to approve a 1-year contract extension to X-DLX Investments Corp in the amount of $179,650.00 for janitorial services.

VOTE ON MOTION
Yays: 7 - Scheidt, Sorum, Fleming, Wegner, Devens, Foster and Love
MOTION CARRIED.

IX. RESOLUTIONS

1. #23-58 - Adopting the 2024 Budget for the City of Valdez and Appropriating Monies for that Budget

MOTION: Devens moved, seconded by Foster, to approve Resolution 23-58 Adopting the 2024 Budget for the City of Valdez and Appropriating Monies for that Budget.

MOTION TO AMEND: Love moved, seconded by Foster, to amend Resolution #23-58 by removing the appropriations associated with hiring, training and outfitting the new 3 full time firefighters and applying for the FEMA SAFER grant- amending section 2 of the budget resolution to read "in the amount of $69,993,189".

Council Member Fleming encouraged looking into the SAFER grant as a project.

Council Member Devens spoke in opposition to the amendment. He noted there were only two departments required to be maintained as part of the municipal government, and those were Public Works and Public Safety. He stated Public Works was exceeding standards, but Public Safety was not meeting standards and

the issue could be addressed in part with the SAFER grant.

Council Member Love and Council Member Foster stated they felt more time and consideration needed to be given to discussion regarding increasing the fire department service level.

Council Member Sorum expressed his concern over hiring additional full-time employees at this time. He shared his desire to support the volunteers.

Mayor Scheidt stated she did not intend to support the amendment.

VOTE ON MOTION TO AMEND
Yays: 5 - Sorum, Fleming, Wegner, Foster and Love
Nays: 2 - Scheidt and Devens
MOTION CARRIED.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED:
Yays: 7 - Scheidt, Sorum, Fleming, Wegner, Devens, Foster and Love
MOTION CARRIED.

2. #23-59 - Authorizing Lease Amendment #20 with the State of Alaska for the Public Health Nurse Office at the Mary K. Gilson Medical Center

MOTION: Sorum moved, seconded by Foster, to approve Resolution #23-59 Authorizing Lease Amendment #20 with the State of Alaska for the Public Health Nurse Office at the Mary K. Gilson Medical Center.

VOTE ON MOTION
Yays: 7 - Scheidt, Sorum, Fleming, Wegner, Devens, Foster and Love
MOTION CARRIED.

3. #23-60 - Adopting Terminal Tariff No. 100-23 and Repealing Resolutions No. 12-22 Previously Adopting Terminal Tariff No. 100-22

MOTION: Foster moved, seconded by Fleming, to approve Resolution #23-60 Adopting Terminal Tariff No. 100-23 and Repealing Resolutions No. 12-22 Previously Adopting Terminal Tariff No. 100-22.

City Clerk Pierce noted the Terminal Tarriff Number was 100-24.

VOTE ON MOTION
Yays: 7 - Scheidt, Sorum, Fleming, Wegner, Devens, Foster and Love
MOTION CARRIED.

4. #23-61 - Establishing the 2024 Tax Calendar

MOTION: Foster moved, seconded by Love, to approve Resolution #23-61 Establishing the 2024 Tax Calendar

VOTE ON MOTION
Yays: 7 - Scheidt, Sorum, Fleming, Wegner, Devens, Foster and Love
MOTION CARRIED.

5. #23-62 - Amending the 2023 Budget by Accepting Unbudgeted Revenues in the Amount of $1,504.00 and Transferring Same to Reserve Fund to Establish the Animal Medical Reserve Fund

MOTION: Sorum moved, seconded by Fleming, to approve Resolution #23-62 Amending the 2023 Budget by Accepting Unbudgeted Revenues in the Amount of $1,504.00 and Transferring Same to Reserve Fund to Establish the Animal Medical Reserve Fund.

VOTE ON MOTION
Yays: 7 - Scheidt, Sorum, Fleming, Wegner, Devens, Foster and Love
MOTION CARRIED.

6. #23-63 - Amending the 2023 City Budget by Accepting a thread Child Care Community INNOVATION Grant for Implementation of Valdez Child Care Crisis Task Force Recommendations in the Amount of $880,000

MOTION: Devens moved, seconded by Fleming, to approve Resolution #23-63 Amending the 2023 City Budget by Accepting a thread Child Care Community INNOVATION Grant for Implementation of Valdez Child Care Crisis Task Force Recommendations in the Amount of $880,000.

Council Member Love inquired if grant funds could be used in establishing an account to support child care stabilization efforts. Deputy City Clerk Sorum-Birk noted grant fund needed to be expended in full by June 2025. Finance Director Nelson spoke to the requirement to keep grant funds separate from other monies.

Council Member Foster noted she served on the thread board of directors but had not been involved in the grant process. Council Member Love noted his spouse, Susan Love, was the chair of the Child Care Crisis Task Force. Both members were required to vote.

City Clerk Pierce recognized Deputy City Clerk Sorum-Birk's efforts with the Child Care Task Force and the thread grant.

VOTE ON MOTION
Yays: 7 - Scheidt, Sorum, Fleming, Wegner, Devens, Foster and Love
MOTION CARRIED.

7. #23-64 - Amending the 2023 City Budget by Appropriating $328,620 in New Revenues, Appropriating $108,800 in New Expenses, and Reallocating Prior Appropriations

MOTION: Love moved, seconded by Foster, to approve Resolution #23-64 Amending the 2023 City Budget by Appropriating $328,620 in New Revenues, Appropriating $108,800 in New Expenses, and Reallocating Prior Appropriations.

Council Member Love asked about the Valdez Container Terminal (VCT) revenues. Capital Facilities Director Duval and Ports and Harbors Director Talbot provided context of the extra revenues coming from a large volume of fish being stored in VCT reefers during the 2023 season.

VOTE ON MOTION
Yays: 7 - Scheidt, Sorum, Fleming, Wegner, Devens, Foster and Love
MOTION CARRIED.

8. #23-65 - Amending the 2023 City Budget by Accepting Book Basket Auction Proceeds in the Amount of $7,781 and Transferring the Same to the Book Auction and Donation Reserve Account.

MOTION: Wegner moved, seconded by Devens, to approve Resolution #23-65 Amending the 2023 City Budget by Accepting Book Basket Auction Proceeds in the Amount of $7,781 and Transferring the Same to the Book Auction and Donation Reserve Account.

Council Member Sorum and Council Member Devens complimented the Library staff and Library Board volunteers for a successful event.

VOTE ON MOTION
Yays: 7 - Scheidt, Sorum, Fleming, Wegner, Devens, Foster and Love
MOTION CARRIED.

9. #23-66 - Authorizing the City Attorney to Submit Comments Regarding the Valdez Marine Terminal Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan

MOTION: Sorum moved, seconded by Love, to approve Resolution #23-66 Authorizing the City Attorney to Submit Comments Regarding the Valdez Marine Terminal Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan.

City Attorney Staser provided Council with a brief overview of the comment process and timeline.

VOTE ON MOTION

Yays: 6 - Scheidt, Sorum, Wegner, Devens, Foster and Love
Abstained:1 - Fleming
MOTION CARRIED.

X. REPORTS

1. **Robe Lake Habitat Restoration Feasibility Public Meeting Report**

2. **Title 17 Zoning Code Revision Project Report**

3. **Monthly Treasury Report: September, 2023**

XI. CITY MANAGER / CITY CLERK / CITY ATTORNEY / MAYOR REPORTS

1. City Manager Report

City Manager Douglas thanked the Parks & Recreation Department for hosting the City Holiday Party. He shared his gratitude for the opportunity to attend the Alaska Municipal League (AML) conference.

2. City Clerk Report

City Clerk Pierce shared what was discussed during the Alaska Municipal Clerk's Conference, including emphasis put on Election Security. She shared dates the lobbyist, Kim Hutchison, was available to come to Valdez.

3. City Attorney Report

Attorney Staser outlined projects and provided updates on cases his firm is working on behalf of the City, including the VMTC Plan, and escaped properties.

4. City Mayor Report

Mayor Scheidt thanked those involved in the City Holiday Party. She shared her gratitude for being able to attend AML and the Conference of Mayors. She thanked those involved in snow removal around the community. She reminded Council to complete City Clerk Pierce's evaluation.

XII. COUNCIL BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Council thanked those involved in organizing and putting on the City Holiday Party. They shared experiences from AML, and their gratitude for the opportunities offered through attendance.

Council Member Devens thanked the Valdez City staff for being assets to the community and a key point in the City's success.

Council Member Foster reminded those listening to participate in the Winter Wellness Challenge. She encouraged those listening to help celebrate the graduation of the University of Alaska nursing students at Prince William Sound College on Thursday, December 14th.

Council Member Love reminded those listening to be snow aware when walking under eves, due to snow shed. He updated Council on the status of the draft of comments put together by himself, and Council Members Devens and Foster regarding the Meals Hill Art Installation.

Council Member Fleming stated he looked forward to continuing the conversation regarding the SAFER grant and increasing the number of fire fighters, and identified it as needing to be at the top of the list for the upcoming year.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

XIV. APPENDIX

1. **December 2023 City Council Calendar**
2. **Legal Billing Summary - September 2023**
3. **FY 24 COV Budget Adoption Ledger**