

# City of Valdez

*212 Chenega Ave.  
Valdez, AK 99686*



## DRAFT Meeting Minutes

**Tuesday, March 3, 2026**

**7:00 PM**

**Regular Meeting**

**Council Chambers**

**City Council**

**REGULAR AGENDA - 7:00 PM**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Pro Tempore Austin Love called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 6 - Council Member Austin Love  
Council Member Jimmy Devens  
Council Member Olivia Foster  
Council Member Joseph Lally  
Council Member Joy Witte  
Council Member Lester Greene

**Excused:** 1 - Mayor Dennis Fleming

**Also Present:** Deputy City Clerk Elise Sorum Birk  
Assistant City Manager Jordan Nelson  
City Attorney Jack Staser  
Administrative Assistant Katie Carr

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- 1. Approval of Minutes for Regular Council Meeting of January 6, 2026**
- 2. Approval of Minutes for Regular Council Meeting of February 17, 2026**

Minutes were approved by consent.

**V. PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

**VI. CONSENT AGENDA**

- 1. Appointments to PVMC Community Advisory Council - Applicants: Kate Dugan and Pam Shirrell**
- 2. Approval of Liquor License Renewal: Mike's Palace (License #892)**
- 3. Approval of Memorandum of Agreement Between United States Coast Guard Sector Field Office Valdez and Valdez Fire & EMS Department**
- 4. Approval To Go Into Executive Session Re: Discussion of Implications for City Revenues and Litigation Strategy Regarding Trans Alaska Pipeline System Ad Valorem Tax Issues**

MOTION: Council Member Lally moved, seconded by Council Member Witte, to approve all items on the consent agenda.

VOTE ON MOTION

Yays: 6 - Love, Devens, Foster, Lally, Witte and Greene

Absent: 1 - Fleming

MOTION CARRIED

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Appointment to VMHA Board of Directors - Applicants: Rachelle Barrus and Karen Mitchell**

Deputy City Clerk Elise Sorum-Birk tallied ballots and ballots indicated that Karen Mitchell had received the majority of votes.

MOTION: Council Member Lally moved, seconded by Council Member Greene, to appoint Karen Mitchell to the VMHA Board of Directors.

VOTE ON MOTION

Yays: 6 - Love, Devens, Foster, Lally, Witte and Greene

Absent: 1 - Fleming

MOTION CARRIED

**VIII. CITY MANAGER / CITY CLERK / CITY ATTORNEY / MAYOR REPORTS**

**1. City Manager Report**

Assistant City Manager Jordan Nelson noted that he did not have anything in addition to the written report submitted by City Manager Duval.

**2. City Clerk Report**

Deputy City Clerk Sorum-Birk reminded everyone of upcoming dates related to elections and property tax appeals.

**3. City Attorney Report**

City Attorney Jake Staser shared that the preliminary assessment had been received from the state assessor for Trans Alaska Pipeline System property subject to taxation under AS 43.56 and noted implications of the assessment would be discussed in executive session.

**4. City Mayor Report**

Mayor Pro Tempore Love had nothing to report.

**IX. COUNCIL BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Council Members thanked staff for organizing the “I Voted Sticker Challenge” and complimented the artwork from the children.

Council Member Lally encouraged the public to run for office.

Council Member Foster thanked Parks Maintenance staff for grooming the winter trail system.

**X. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Pro Tempore Love announced that the meeting would go into executive session.

**XI. RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Pro Tempore Love announced that direction had been given to the City Attorneys on how to proceed related to Trans Alaska Pipeline System valuation and tax issues.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Pro Tempore Love adjourned the meeting at 8:06 p.m.