



# City of Valdez

212 Chenega Ave.  
Valdez, AK 99686

## Meeting Agenda

### Beautification Commission

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Thursday, November 7, 2024

5:00 PM

City Council Chambers

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#### Regular Meeting

#### REGULAR AGENDA - 5:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [Approval of Minutes from the September 4, 2024 Beautification Commission Meeting](#)
2. [Approval of Minutes from the August 7, 2024 Beautification Commission Meeting](#)

IV. PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

V. NEW BUSINESS

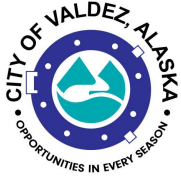
1. [Deferral of 2024 Beautification Matching Grant to Mark's Repair Inc.](#)

VI. REPORTS

1. [Report: Beautification Commission Staff Update](#)

VII. COMMISSION BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

VIII. ADJOURNMENT



Legislation Text

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**File #:** 23-0087, **Version:** 1

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**ITEM TITLE:**

Approval of Minutes from the September 4, 2024 Beautification Commission Meeting

**SUBMITTED BY:** Elise Sorum-Birk, Deputy City Clerk

**FISCAL NOTES:**

Expenditure Required: n/a

Unencumbered Balance: n/a

Funding Source: n/a

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Review and approve.

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:**

Minutes from the September 4, 2024 meeting of the Beautification Commission are attached for review.

**City of Valdez**

*212 Chenega Ave.  
Valdez, AK 99686*



**DRAFT MINUTES**

**Wednesday, September 4, 2024**

**5:00 PM**

**Regular Meeting**

**City Council Chambers**

**Beautification Commission**

**REGULAR AGENDA - 5:00 PM**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Beautification Commission was called to order at 5:03 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

**Present** 6 - Chair Magdalena McCay  
Chair Pro Tempore Donna Lane  
Commissioner Kathy Nielsen  
Commissioner Keena Miller  
Commissioner Meg Weaver  
Commissioner Timi Miner  
(One Vacancy)

**Also Present** Deputy City Clerk Elise Sorum-Birk

III. PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

There was no public business from the floor.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion Item: Regular Beautification Commission Meeting Time

The Commission determined by consensus that their new meeting day would be the First Thursday of each month instead of the Frist Wednesday but that the meeting time would remain at 5:00 p.m.

2. Discussion Item: Initial Timelines for Our Town Grant Proposal and Public Art Policy Subcommittee Work

Commission discussion included the following:

- The Public Art Policy and Our Town Grant were separate but interrelated projects.
- The Our Town Grant application could benefit from a two year planning process, with the intention to apply in 2026 instead of 2025.
- The significant partnership building and public engagement that would be need for a successful Our Town Grant project.
- That the Public Art Policy could be the main focus for 2025.
- That the Public Art Policy Subcommittee would report back after they had an opportunity to meet.

- 3. Action Item: Approval of Recommendation to City Council to Capitalize the Beautification Reserve Fund to a Starting Balance of \$200,000 for 2025.

**MOTION: Lane moved, seconded by Weaver, to approve the recommendation to City Council to capitalize the Beautification Reserve Fund to a balance of \$200,000 for 2025.**

The Commission discussed whether it would be appropriate to reduce 2025 reserve fund capitalization request to \$150,000 since the Our Town grant application process would be taking place in 2026. They came to a consensus that it would be helpful to have funding other than the amount designed to the Beautification Matching Grant Program available for other priority projects or ideas that would emerge in the coming year. It was noted that the unspent reserve fund balance rolled over each year and that all proposed spending would need Council approval, regardless of the amount in the fund.

**VOTE ON MOTION**

**Yays:** 6 - Nielsen, Miller, Commission Member McCay, Lane, Weaver, and Miner

**MOTION CARRIED**

V. REPORTS

- 1. Report: Next Steps on Nuisance Abatement Collaboration

Commission staff gave a brief summary of the Code Enforcement/Nuisance Abatement work session held by City Council and informed commissioners that City Council has requested a joint work session with the Beautification Commission at a later date on the topic.

Commissioner Nielsen added to the report by highlighting the potential for a zone-based approach for abatement and by sharing her excitement about the scrap barge proposal.

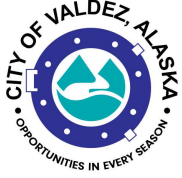
Commissioners discussed the history of the Code Enforcement Officer position and the interplay between Title 8 provision related to Nuisance Abatement and the new adopted Titel 17 zoning code. Commissioners expressed a desire to work on public education related to the nuisance abatement reporting process and to assist with any proactive future clean-up efforts.

VI. COMMISSION BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

There was no commission business from the floor.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.



Legislation Text

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**File #:** 24-0443, **Version:** 1

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**ITEM TITLE:**

Approval of Minutes from the August 7, 2024 Beautification Commission Meeting

**SUBMITTED BY:** Elise Sorum-Birk, Deputy City Clerk

**FISCAL NOTES:**

Expenditure Required: n/a

Unencumbered Balance: n/a

Funding Source: n/a

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Review and approve.

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:**

Minutes from the August 7, 2024 meeting of the Beautification Commission are attached for review.

**City of Valdez**

*212 Chenega Ave.  
Valdez, AK 99686*



**DRAFT MINUTES**

**Wednesday, August 7, 2024**

**5:00 PM**

**Regular Meeting**

**City Council Chambers**

**Beautification Commission**



**REGULAR AGENDA - 5:00 PM**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of the Beautification Commission was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

**II. SWEAR IN NEWLY APPOINTED COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Meg Weaver and Commissioner Timi Miner were sworn in.

**III. ROLL CALL**

- Present**            5 - Chair Kathy Nielsen  
                                          Commissioner Magdalena McCay  
                                          Commissioner Donna Lane  
                                          Commissioner Meg Weaver  
                                          Commissioner Timi Miner
- Excused**            1 - Commissioner Kenna Miller  
                                          (*One vacancy*)

**IV. PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Jeff Saxe of Eagle's Rest RV Park brought forward a request for assistance with maintenance of the grass on the median along Egan Drive.

**V. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND CHAIR PRO TEMPORE**

Commissioner Lane nominated Commissioner McCay to serve as Beautification Commission Chair. There were no additional nominations.

Commissioner McCay was named Chair by consent

Commissioner Weaver nominated Commissioner Lane for Commission Chair Pro Tempore. There were no additional nominations.

Commissioner Lane was named Chair Pro Tempore by consent.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Discussion Item: Updating Lighting on Egan Drive**

Commissioner Weaver gave an update on her efforts to connect with the vendor who would be able to provide quotes for LED lights and the vendor's lack of responsiveness. Weaver touched on her conversations with building maintenance staff on the topic.

The commission discussed ideas around alternatives to the current lighting that was at the end of its useful life. There was a general discussion of the need to replace the

current light and the challenges that the existing lights created for maintenance. A need to determine annual schedules for lamp post and lighting maintenance was discussed.

VII. REPORTS

1. Report: Beautification Commission Staff Update

Deputy City Clerk gave a brief update to the commission on:

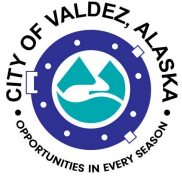
- The “Our Town” grant opportunity from the National Endowment for the Arts
- The Clerk’s Office plans to provide an additional commissioner training for those who missed July 29,2024 training
- A summary of the draft ordinance relating to Boards and Commissions composition
- An overview of the 2025 COV Budget timeline

VIII. COMMISSION BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Commissioners welcomed Commissioner Miner as a new member and shared what kinds of ideas were typically discussed under Commission Business from the Floor.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:41 p.m.



Legislation Text

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**File #:** 24-0441, **Version:** 1

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**ITEM TITLE:**

Deferral of 2024 Beautification Matching Grant to Mark's Repair Inc.

**SUBMITTED BY:** Elise Sorum-Birk, Deputy City Clerk

**FISCAL NOTES:**

Expenditure Required: n/a

Unencumbered Balance: n/a

Funding Source: n/a

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Defer 2024 Beautification Matching Grant to Mark's Repair Inc.

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:**

The Beautification Commission received written notification on October 25, 2024, that Mark's Repair Inc. is unable to complete their 2024 beautification project ahead of the deadline due to issues with contractor availability.

The grantees are requesting a one-time extension and hope to complete work on their project during the 2025 building season.

The request for an extension was received in the required timeframe outlined in the grant packet. Correspondence is attached.

# Mark's Repair, Inc.

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PO Box 1001  
Valdez, AK 99686  
907-835-2709  
hamerlystrucking@gmail.com

**October 24, 2024**

Beautification Grant Committee,

I am asking for and hoping to receive an extension on the grant I received from your committee for upgrades to Mark's Repair, Inc.

The contractor who will be doing the work for me was already fully booked for the summer of 2024. He will be able to do the work for me in the summer of 2025.

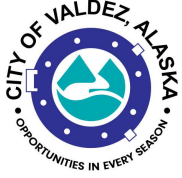
Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,



**Ryan Hamerly**





Legislation Text

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**File #:** 24-0442, **Version:** 1

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**ITEM TITLE:**

Report: Beautification Commission Staff Update

**SUBMITTED BY:** Elise Sorum-Birk, Deputy City Clerk

**FISCAL NOTES:**

Expenditure Required: n/a

Unencumbered Balance: n/a

Funding Source: n/a

**RECOMMENDATION:**

n/a

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:**

Elise Sorum-Birk, staff to the commission, will provide an update/ discuss the following with members of the Beautification Commission:

- Email from Communications Director Ana Stroup requesting on seasonal color changes to Egan Drive lights
- Update on 2024 Matching Grant Program status
- Update on 2025 COV Budget process and reserve fund request
- Future impacts of now adopted Boards and Commissions Composition ordinance

## Elise Sorum-Birk

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**From:** Ana Stroup  
**Sent:** Friday, November 1, 2024 1:25 PM  
**To:** Nathan Duval; Elise Sorum-Birk  
**Subject:** lamp post lights on Egan Drive

Hi Nate and Elise,

Elise – I sent a request to Nate, and he asked that I send an email to both of you for the Beautification Commission.

I requested the lamp post lights on Egan Drive change colors depending on the months of the year:

October – purple and orange

November – warm colors (red, orange, yellow)

December – green and red

January – cool colors for winter and snow (blue, light blue, white)

February – red and white or include a pink if the lights have that option

March – green and white

April and May – a bright array of colors – signifying spring (all colors or a variety of colors for spring flowers, etc.) Until the lights are taken down or turned off.

Ana



**Ana Stroup**  
Communications Director / PIO

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Cell: 907.313.0094

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