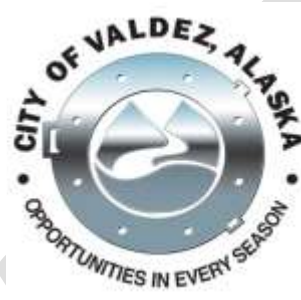


# City of Valdez

212 Chenega Ave.  
Valdez, AK 99686



## Meeting Minutes - Draft

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

7:00 PM

Regular Meeting (Note Date Change due to Special Election)

Council Chambers

**City Council**

**REGULAR AGENDA - 7:00 PM**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. ROLL CALL**

Present: 5 - Mayor Pro Tem Alan Sorum  
Council Member Dennis Fleming  
Council Member Olivia Foster  
Council Member Susan Love  
Council Member Jimmy Devens

Excused: 2 - Mayor Sharon Scheidt  
Council Member Todd Wegner

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

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

**V. PUBLIC APPEARANCES**

**1. Kate Dugan, Valdez Zero to Three with Families Alliance**

Ms. Dugan updated Council on the upcoming Child Care Symposium.

**VI. PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Mr. Kory Maillet, Valdez Adventure Alliance, updated Council on the upcoming Ice Climbing Festival.

Mr. Joe Prax, Valdez resident, requested Council consider a review of its policy on Conflict of Interest.

**VII. CONSENT AGENDA**

**1. Approval of Budgeted Travel for Commissioner Colleen Stephens to Attend Seatrade Cruise Conference**

**2. Acceptance of Late File Application for 2023 Disabled Veteran**

**Property Tax Exemption - Chad Clements**

- 3. Approval of Reappointment of Pam Shirrell as the PVMC Community Advisory Council representative on the Providence Alaska Region Board**
- 4. Appointment to VMHA Board of Directors - Applicant: Martha Barberio**
- 5. Approval to Go Into Executive Session Re: (1) Alaska Trappers Litigation (2) Proposed Legislation Regarding AS4356 Production Tax**
- 6. Proclamation: Black History Month**
- 7. Proclamation: Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month**

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

**VOTE ON THE MOTION:**

Yays: 5 - Mayor Pro Tem Sorum, Council Member Fleming, Council Member Foster, Council Member Love and Council Member Devens

Excused: 2 - Mayor Scheidt and Council Member Wegner

MOTION CARRIED.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. Certification of Results of the February 7, 2023 Special Municipal Election**

MOTION: Council Member Devens moved, seconded by Council Member Love, to approve the Certification of Results of the February 7, 2023 Special Municipal Election.

**VOTE ON THE MOTION:**

Yays: 5 - Mayor Pro Tem Sorum, Council Member Fleming, Council Member Foster, Council Member Love and Council Member Devens

Excused: 2 - Mayor Scheidt and Council Member Wegner

MOTION CARRIED.

- 2. Approval of Contract Amendment #1 with Thompson & Co. for 2023 Marketing Campaign in the Amount of \$145,000**

MOTION: Council Member Foster moved, seconded by Council Member Love, to approve the Contract Amendment #1 with Thompson & Co. for 2023 Marketing Campaign in the Amount of \$145,000.

Council Member Fleming asked if Economic Diversification Director Martha Barberio,

would be providing quarterly reports. Director Barberio confirmed.

Joe Prax, Valdez Resident, expressed his concern over the type of advertising. He expounded on options he considered more reasonable and effective.

**VOTE ON THE MOTION:**

Yays: 3 - Mayor Pro Tem Sorum, Council Member Love and Council Member Devens

Nays: 2 - Council Member Fleming and Council Member Foster

Excused: 2 - Mayor Scheidt and Council Member Wegner

**MOTION FAILED.**

**3. Approval of Contract Amendment with Harris Sand and Gravel, INC. regarding the Valdez Small Boat Harbor H-K Major Reconstruction Project in the Amount of \$120,000.00.**

MOTION: Council Member Fleming moved, seconded by Council Member Foster, to approve the contract amendment with Harris Sand and Gravel, INC. regarding the Valdez Small Boat Harbor H-K Major Reconstruction Project in the amount of \$120,000.00.

**VOTE ON THE MOTION:**

Yays: 5 - Mayor Pro Tem Sorum, Council Member Fleming, Council Member Foster, Council Member Love and Council Member Devens

Excused: 2 - Mayor Scheidt and Council Member Wegner

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**4. Approval to Accept HCC as Stop Loss Insurance Carrier as a Component of the 2023-2024 Benefit Renewal**

MOTION: Council Member Love moved, seconded by Council Member Fleming, to accept HCC as Stop Loss Insurance Carrier as a Component of the 2023-2024 Benefit Renewal.

Ms. Rhea Cragun, Human Resources Director, outlined the significant, almost 16%, savings included in moving to HCC as Stop Loss Insurance Carrier.

Council Member Love asked if there would be any drastic reductions in benefits provided to City employees. Ms. Cragun stated she did not anticipate any reductions, though there may be some enhancements in benefits after the first meeting in March.

**VOTE ON THE MOTION:**

Yays: 5 - Mayor Pro Tem Sorum, Council Member Fleming, Council Member Foster, Council Member Love and Council Member Devens

Excused: 2 - Mayor Scheidt and Council Member Wegner

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**IX. ORDINANCES****1. #23-01 - Repealing and Re-enacting Chapter 3.12 Titled Property Taxes. Second Reading. Adoption.**

MOTION: Council Member Love moved, seconded by Council Member Fleming, to approve Ordinance #23-01.

VOTE ON THE MOTION:

Yays: 5 - Mayor Pro Tem Sorum, Council Member Fleming, Council Member Foster, Council Member Love and Council Member Devens

Excused: 2 - Mayor Scheidt and Council Member Wegner

MOTION CARRIED.

**2. #23-02 - Amending Chapter 9.12, Section 9.12.070, Titled Fireworks, Explosives, Stench Bombs. Second Reading. Adoption.**

MOTION: Council Member Foster moved, seconded by Council Member Fleming, to approve Ordinance #23-02.

VOTE ON THE MOTION:

Yays: 5 - Mayor Pro Tem Sorum, Council Member Fleming, Council Member Foster, Council Member Love and Council Member Devens

Excused: 2 - Mayor Scheidt and Council Member Wegner

MOTION CARRIED.

**X. RESOLUTIONS****1. #23-05 - Authorizing Lease Amendment No. 1 for a Lease with the Valdez Motor Sports Club, Inc. for a 52.3-Acre Portion of USS 439 (Pipeyard)**

MOTION: Council Member Devens moved, seconded by Council Member Fleming, to approve Resolution #23-05.

Council Member Foster asked if having the Club carry their own insurance would decrease the City's liability. Mr. Staser stated the City was equally protected regardless of the way they did it, absent unique circumstances which were not present in this situation and generally did not exist in the City's leases.

Council Member Fleming asked if the Club would be required to follow City Code in regards to the club house. Ms. Kate Huber, Planning Director, explained they would have to follow the applicable building code in the construction of the building. She noted the building was included in the current lease agreement.

**VOTE ON THE MOTION:**

Yays: 5 - Mayor Pro Tem Sorum, Council Member Fleming, Council Member Foster, Council Member Love and Council Member Devens

Excused: 2 - Mayor Scheidt and Council Member Wegner

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**XI. REPORTS**

- 1. GIS Map Viewer Website Launch**
- 2. Report: Zoning Code Revision Project - Existing Code and Plan Valdez Analysis**
- 3. Report on the Implementation of the Hazard Mitigation Plan**
- 4. Procurement Report: Agreement for Professional Services with HDR Alaska, for contract #1999 - ADEC Analysis and Reporting.**
- 5. Procurement Report: Agreement for Professional Services with HDR Alaska, for contract #2000 - 2023 Landfill Ground Water Sample Collection**
- 6. Procurement Report: Professional Services Agreement with AMC Engineers in the Amount of \$90,681.00**
- 7. Monthly Treasury Report; December, 2022**

**XII. CITY MANAGER / CITY CLERK / CITY ATTORNEY / MAYOR REPORTS****1. City Manager Report****1. City Manager's Report February 8, 2023**

Mr. Detter reviewed his report included in the agenda packet, highlighting the Washington DC trip, the Director's Retreat, property values, the first 2023 Newsletter, the RFP for the City Communications plan, and the Resolution for the Valdez Childcare/Early Education Task Force.

Mr. Duval updated Council on the snow load.

**2. City Clerk Report**

Ms. Pierce reviewed the upcoming Council calendar.

### **3. City Attorney Report**

Mr. Staser outlined projects and provided updates on cases his firm is working on behalf of the city and other items, including Alderwood, escaped property, Alaska Trappers, and SB-50.

### **4. City Mayor Report**

## **XIII. COUNCIL BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Council Member Devens reviewed the effect of the 2023 Special Municipal Election on the Primary Household Exemption, and the process it took to get there.

Council Member Foster thanked those involved in the election, and complimented Ms. Ana Hinkle, Communications Director, on the newsletter. She reminded those listening there was a current uptick in respiratory illness in the community and encouraged the use of proper and frequent hand hygiene and self-care.

Council Member Love expressed gratitude to the City on behalf of the Valdez Zero to Three with Families Alliance. She shared her excitement for the GIS Map Viewer Website Launch and the Zoning Code Revision Project.

Council Member Fleming stated he had received a multitude of compliments on the newsletter. He stated he had looked at the GIS website and it was pretty cool. He reminded those listening to support the Valdez High School during the upcoming Elks Basketball Tournament. Additionally, he had attended a swim club meet over the weekend and the swimmers did great.

Mayor Pro Tempore Sorum thanked the Clerk's Office and the Election Workers. He stated he knew the appeals process wasn't much fun, but he felt Council was going into it better prepared after the ballot measure passed and with the launch of the GIS Map Viewer Website. He looked forward to the upcoming Board of Equalization training.

## **XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

## **XV. RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

## **XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

## **XVII. APPENDIX**

- 1. City Council Calendar for February 2023**
- 2. Legal Billing Summary - December 2022**
- 3. Thank you letter to City Council- 2022 Holiday Party**