

City of Valdez

212 Chenega Ave.
Valdez, AK 99686



Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

7:00 PM

Regular Meeting (note date change due to Municipal Election)

Council Chambers

City Council

REGULAR AGENDA - 7:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

Present: 6 - Mayor Dennis Fleming
Mayor Pro Tem Austin Love
Council Member Sharon Scheidt
Council Member Jimmy Devens
Council Member Olivia Foster
Council Member Joseph Lally

Excused: 1 - Council Member Alan Sorum

Also Present: 3 – Acting City Manager Nathan Duval
City Clerk Sheri Pierce
Deputy City Clerk Elise Sorum-Birk

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of Minutes for Regular Council Meeting of March 18, 2025

V. PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Amber Dennis, Valdez Museum Communications Manager, provided an update to Council on current exhibits and upcoming events at the museum.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval To Go Into Executive Session - Re: City Manager Contract

2. Proclamation: Public Service Recognition Week 2025

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

VOTE ON THE MOTION

Yays: 6 - Fleming, Love, Scheidt, Devens, Foster, Lally

MOTION CARRIED.

VII. NEW BUSINESS**1. Certification of Election Results for the May 6, 2025 Regular Municipal Election**

MOTION: Council Member Lally moved, seconded by Council Member Scheidt, to certify the election results for the May 6th, 2025 Regular Municipal Election.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

Yays: 6 - Fleming, Love, Scheidt, Devens, Foster, Lally

MOTION CARRIED.

2. Approval of Amendment #2 to Contract with X-DLX Investments for Maintenance of Turf, Landscape and Pond Water in the Amount of \$5000

MOTION: Council Member Devens moved, seconded by Council Member Lally, to approve Amendment #2 to contract with X-DLX Investments for Maintenance of Turf, Landscape and Pond Water in the amount of \$5000.

Council Member Love asked about the state's responsibility in the area.

Acting City Manager Duval outlined the limitations to landscape maintenance that the state could provide and highlighted that the item was before Council for approval, even with a low dollar amount, due to the implications of the decision to take over maintenance on state owned lands.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

Yays: 6 - Fleming, Love, Scheidt, Devens, Foster, Lally

MOTION CARRIED.

3. Approval of Change Order #1 with Harris Sand & Gravel for Pavement Management Phase IIIB Pioneer Drive in the Amount of \$104,650.

MOTION: Council Member Love moved, seconded by Council Member Lally, to approve Change Order #1 with Harris Sand & Gravel for Pavement Management Phase IIIB Pioneer Drive in the amount of \$104,650.

Council Member Love asked why this was not included in the initial scope of the project.

Acting City Manager Duval stated it was not included in the original design, and it was of better value to use a change order instead of going out to bid on a separate project.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

Yays: 7 - Fleming, Love, Scheidt, Devens, Foster, Lally

MOTION CARRIED.

4. Approval of Purchase Agreement with L3Harris for Police and Fire Radios in the amount of \$695,000.

MOTION: Council Member Love moved, seconded by Council Member Lally, to approve purchase agreement with L3Harris for Police and Fire radios in the amount of \$695,000.

Council Member Love asked if the quote had been selected from multiple quotes. IT Director Matthew Osburn outlined the process used to select the company.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

Yays: 6 - Fleming, Love, Sorum, Scheidt, Devens, Foster and Lally

MOTION CARRIED.

5. Approval of City Manager Contract with Nathan Duval

Item moved to after executive session.

VIII. ORDINANCES

1. #25-04 - Amending Chapter 10.20 of the Valdez Municipal Code Titled Recreational Vehicle Parks and Tent Camping. Second Reading. POSTPONED 4/15/25, 4/30/25, 5/7/25

MOTION: Council Member Devens moved, seconded by Council Member Scheidt, to approve Ordinance 25-04 on second reading for adoption.

Interim City Manager Duval updated Council on the upcoming meeting with local businesses to review the ordinance.

MOTION: Council Member Devens moved, seconded by Council Member Lally, to postpone Ordinance 25-04 to the next regular meeting, May 20th, 2025.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

Yays: 7 - Fleming, Love, Sorum, Scheidt, Devens, Foster and Lally
MOTION CARRIED.

2. #25-06 - Amending Chapter 3.30 of the Valdez Municipal Code Entitled Oil and Gas Exploration Production, Pipeline Transportation, and Spill Prevention and Response Property Tax. Second Reading. Adoption.

MOTION: Council Member Devens moved, seconded by Council Member Foster, to approve Ordinance 25-06.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

Yays: 4 - Love, Scheidt, Devens and Foster
Nays: 1 - Lally
Abstained: 1 - Fleming

MOTION CARRIED.

IX. RESOLUTIONS

1. #25-24 - Amending the 2025 City of Valdez Budget to Recognize Fuel Flowage Revenue from Crowley Fuels LLC Fuel Dock Lease Agreements

MOTION: Council Member Devens moved, seconded by Council Member Love, to approve Resolution 25-24.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

Yays: 6 - Fleming, Love, Scheidt, Devens, Foster and Lally

MOTION CARRIED.

2. #25-25 - Establishing the 2025 Rate of Real and Personal Property Tax and Designating the Number of Mills for Each Dollar of Real Property to be Levied for Municipal and School Purposes

MOTION: Council Member Foster moved, seconded by Council Member Devens, to approve Resolution 25-25.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

Yays: 6 - Fleming, Love, Scheidt, Devens, Foster, Lally

MOTION CARRIED.

X. REPORTS

1. Community Service Organization Grant Program; Progress Report

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

1. City Manager Report

Acting City Manager Duval reviewed his report, highlighting the CSO Grant report and the preparation of upcoming budgeting and events, the housing survey, Public Service Recognition Week, the Small Business Conference. He also shared updates on the status of pending state legislation including HB 13, related to optional municipal tax exemptions, and HB 212, related to funding for school districts.

2. City Clerk Report

City Clerk Pierce went over the upcoming Council calendar, including the strategic planning session and the Boards & Commissions dinner.

Deputy City Clerk Sorum-Birk noted that she had provided inaccurate information to Council at the previous meeting on the number of All America City Scholarship applications and requested that council form an application review committee. Mayor Fleming, Council Member Foster, and Council Member Devens volunteered.

3. City Attorney Report

City Attorney Staser provided an update on pending legal matters, including the Valdez Marine Terminal Contingency Plan appeal process, escaped property litigation, and communications with Alaska Ventures.

4. City Mayor Report

Mayor Fleming shared his experience at the first local Small Business Conference and the plaque ceremony for the cruise ship Viking Venus.

He encouraged those listening to attend the Pups in the Park event.

XII. COUNCIL BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Council members shared their gratitude for Council Member Sorum and Council Member Scheidt's service to the community and wished them well.

Council members thanked those involved with the election for their efforts, including candidates, the Clerk's Office, and the election staff.

Council Member Lally thanked Mayor Pro Temp Love for welcoming the attendees at the PWS RCAC Board Meeting and shared his enthusiasm for the official press release regarding the USCG Cutter Blacktip.

Council Member Scheidt thanked those who supported her during her terms serving on council.

Council Member Love thanked the Parks Recreation and Cultural Services department for preparing the Gold Fields for the little league season.

Council Member Foster thanked the city staff for all they do, noting how meaningful the work they do truly is. She encouraged those listening to wish their nurses a Happy Nurse's Week.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

XIV. RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

XV. NEW BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

5. Approval of City Manager Contract with Nathan Duval

MOTION: Council Member Scheidt moved, seconded by Council Member Lally, to approve City Manager contract with Nathan Duval.

Council Member Love voiced his support for Duval's future leadership as City Manager.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

Yays: 6 - Fleming, Love, Scheidt, Devens, Foster, Lally

MOTION CARRIED.

Council congratulated Nathan Duval on his new role as City Manger.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

XVII. APPENDIX

1. May 2025 Council Calendar