

City of Valdez

212 Chenega Ave.
Valdez, AK 99686



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 4, 2025

7:00 PM

Regular Meeting

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 Alan Sorum
Council Member Sharon Scheidt
Council Member Jimmy Devens
Council Member Joseph Lally

Excused: 1 - Council Member Olivia Foster

Also Present: 5 - City Manager John Douglas
Deputy City Clerk Elise Sorum-Birk
Assistant City Manager Bart Hinkle
Assistant City Manager Jordan Nelson
Administrative Assistant Katie Carr

IV. PUBLIC APPEARANCES

1. Jeremy O'Neil - Sound Mental Health

Matt Wadsworth, Sound Mental Health, provided an overview of the mental health services provided by Sound Mental Health to date and the mental health needs in the community.

V. PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Approval To Go Into Executive Session Regarding Legal Implications of 2024 C-Plan Decision on Informal Review and Potential Request for Adjudicatory Hearing**
- 2. Approval of Advocates for Victims of Violence and City of Valdez Snowtown Ice Classic Agreement**

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

VOTE ON THE MOTION

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

Absent: 1 - Foster

MOTION CARRIED.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Annual Renewal of City/School Health Insurance Benefit Plan for Period Beginning 4/1/2025

MOTION: Council Member Lally moved, seconded by Council Member Scheidt, to approve the renewal of City/School Health Insurance Benefit Plan for the period beginning 4/1/2025.

Council Member Love requested information on the increase in cost. Keva Peairs, IMA representative, explained the effect of the increase in claimants on the increase in cost.

Council Member Scheidt asked for clarification on a budget error. Finance Director Jordan Nelson explained the formula error in calculating the budget he had made, (4% on 4% of the employee portion of the cost) and how it was being corrected.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

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

Absent: 1 - Foster

MOTION CARRIED.

2. Discussion Item: Scrap Barge Project Update & Council Review

Capital Facilities Director Duval reviewed the timeline, planning, expense estimates, and purpose behind the Scrap Barge Project.

Council Member Love clarified that the scope of phase one in 2025 would be scrap metal the City already had access to as well as scrap metal being voluntarily brought in, and phase two would begin next year and focus more on nuisance abatement properties. Duval confirmed.

Duval noted the company would also train the baler crew on how to use a processing rack for vehicles, which would save time and funds in the long run as opposed to continuing to tow nuisance abatement vehicles out of town.

Council Member Sorum stated he felt whatever could be done to address code enforcement needs should be done sooner if possible.

Council Member Lally asked where the vehicle processing rack would come from. Director Duval responded the city would purchase the equipment, then the company would supply the training.

Mayor Fleming and Council Member Scheidt shared their support of the program.

3. Approval of Contract Award with Build Alaska General Contracting, LLC for the Library Window Replacement Project in the Amount of \$444,190.00

MOTION: Council Member Lally moved, seconded by Council Member Sorum, to Approve the contract award with Build Alaska General Contracting, LLC for the Library Window Replacement Project in the amount of \$444,190.00.

Council Member Love inquired about issues with the contractor in the past. Capital Facilities Director Duval stated his team had vetted their number and felt confident the project could be accomplished on time and on budget.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

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

Absent: 1 - Foster

MOTION CARRIED.

4. Approval to Purchase Portable and Mobile Radios from L3Harris Technologies for the Valdez Police Department in the Amount of \$121,549.70

MOTION: Council Member Love moved, seconded by Council Member Lally, to purchase 15 Radios for Police Department from L3Harris Technologies in the amount of \$121,549.70 using Federal Fiscal Year 2024 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) Grant Funding.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

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

Absent: 1 - Foster

MOTION CARRIED.

5. Approval of Sale by Public Auction of a Surplus 2015 Chevrolet Tahoe on GovDeal.com

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Love moved, seconded by Council Member Scheidt, to approve the sale of a surplus 2015 Chevrolet Tahoe with a reserve price set at \$10,551.80, which is 30% below the vehicle's appraised value of \$15,074.00, in accordance with VMC 4.06.020.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

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

Absent: 1 - Foster

MOTION CARRIED.

VIII. RESOLUTIONS

1. #25-13 - Authorizing Lease Amendment No. 4 for a Lease with Alyeska Pipeline Service Company (SERVS) Dock for an 11.35 Acre Portion of ATS 564 Tidelands

MOTION: Council Member Love moved, seconded by Council Member Lally, to

approve Resolution #25-13 authorizing Lease Amendment No. 4 for a lease with Alyeska Pipeline Service Company (SERVS) dock for an 11.35 acre portion of ATS 564 Tidelands.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

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

2. #25-14 - Authorizing a Lease with Crowley Fuels, LLC for a 6,230 Square Foot Portion of USS 495 Tidelands (North Fuel Dock)

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Love moved, seconded by Council Member Lally, to Approve resolution 25-14 authorizing a lease with Crowley Fuels, LLC for a 6,230 square foot portion of USS 495 Tidelands (North Fuel Dock).

VOTE ON THE MOTION

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

3. #25-15 - Authorizing a Lease with Crowley Fuels, LLC for an 8,400 Square Foot Portion of USS 495 Tidelands (South Fuel Dock)

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Love moved, seconded by Council Member Lally, to Approve resolution #25-15 authorizing a lease with Crowley Fuels, LLC for an 8,400 square foot portion of USS 495 Tidelands (South Fuel Dock).

VOTE ON THE MOTION

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

IX. REPORTS

- 1. Procurement Report: Agreement for Professional Services - Valdez Wastewater Treatment Facility APDES Permit Renewal**
- 2. Auction Report: 2003 Ford Expedition**

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

1. City Manager Report

City Manager Douglas reported the warning status of Mt. Spurr was being monitored by the local incident management team, in addition to state level monitoring.

2. City Clerk Report

Deputy Clerk Sorum-Birk reminded those listening of the petition deadline for running for City Council or School Board in the upcoming Municipal Election, thanked Council for the opportunity to attend the Juneau trip, and reviewed the upcoming Council Calendar.

3. City Attorney Report

City Attorney Staser provided an update on cases his office was working on behalf of the city, including the C-Plan.

4. City Mayor Report

Mayor Fleming thanked Deputy Clerk Sorum-Birk and Police Chief Hinkle for their assistance and support on the Juneau trip. He shared his enthusiasm for recent local events including basketball games, snowmachine races, and the Polar Bear Splash.

XI. COUNCIL BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Council members thanked those who traveled to Juneau and shared their experiences.

Council Member Scheidt thanked Council on behalf of CVEA for allowing them to hold a work session to provide their update.

Council Member Love thanked CVEA for the work session.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Meeting went into Recess

XIII. RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

XV. APPENDIX

1. March 2025 Council Calendar

CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA

ATTEST:


Sheri L. Pierce, MMC, City Clerk


Dennis Fleming, Mayor

