

# City of Valdez

212 Chenega Ave.  
Valdez, AK 99686



## Meeting Minutes - Draft

Tuesday, January 7, 2020

7:00 PM

Regular Meeting

Civic Center

**City Council**

**REGULAR AGENDA - 7:00 PM****I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor O'Neil called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. in the Valdez Civic Center.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Valdez City Council led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

**III. ROLL CALL**

Present: 6 - Mayor Jeremy O'Neil  
Council Member Ron Ruff  
Council Member Sharon Scheidt  
Council Member Darren Reese  
Council Member Dennis Fleming  
Council Member Alan Sorum

Excused: 1 - Council Member Christopher Moulton

Also Present: 6 - City Manager Mark Detter  
Assistant City Manager Nathan Duval  
Assistant City Manager Roxanne Murphy  
City Clerk Sheri Pierce  
Deputy City Clerk Allie Ferko  
City Attorney Jake Staser (*participated via teleconference*)

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES****1. City Council Regular Meeting Minutes of December 3, 2019**

The City Council regular meeting minutes of December 3, 2019 were approved as presented.

**V. PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Ms. Patty Relay, executive director of the Valdez Museum & Historical Archive (VMHA), provided a series of invitations related to upcoming museum events and exhibits. She announced the VMHA was recently awarded a community arts development grant in an amount yet to be determined.

Ms. Relay explained the VMHA would be hosting a community open house on January 9, 2020 regarding new museum site options. The Museum Board Building Committee would then meet with ECI and city capital facilities staff to develop materials for the City Council work session on the topic on January 16, 2020.

**VI. CONSENT AGENDA**

1. **Acceptance of Resignation from Valdez Museum & Historical Archive Association Board of Directors (Kaitlin Pabo-Eulberg)**
2. **Approval To Go Into Executive Session Re: Confidential HR Matters**

MOTION: Council Member Ruff moved, seconded by Council Member Scheidt to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote.

VOTE ON THE MOTION:

Yays: 6 - Mayor O'Neil, Council Member Ruff, Council Member Scheidt, Council Member Reese, Council Member Fleming and Council Member Sorum

Excused: 1 - Council Member Moulton

**VII. ORDINANCES**

1. **#19-07 - Amending Title 4 of the Valdez Municipal Code by Creating Chapter 4.10, Titled Acquisition of Real Property. Second Reading. Adoption.**

MOTION: Council Member Reese moved, seconded by Council Member Fleming to approve Ordinance #19-07. The motion carried by the following vote.

VOTE ON THE MOTION:

Yays: 6 - Mayor O'Neil, Council Member Ruff, Council Member Scheidt, Council Member Reese, Council Member Fleming and Council Member Sorum

Excused: 1 - Council Member Moulton

2. **#19-08 - Amending Title 4 of the Valdez Municipal Code by Creating Chapter 4.09, Titled Lease of City Buildings. Second Reading. Adoption.**

MOTION: Council Member Sorum moved, seconded by Council Member Reese to approve Ordinance #19-08. The motion carried by the following vote.

VOTE ON THE MOTION:

Yays: 6 - Mayor O'Neil, Council Member Ruff, Council Member Scheidt, Council Member Reese, Council Member Fleming and Council Member Sorum

Excused: 1 - Council Member Moulton

**VIII. RESOLUTIONS****1. #20-01 - Establishing the Tax Calendar for the 2020 Tax Year**

MOTION: Council Member Reese moved, seconded by Council Member Fleming to approve Resolution #20-01. The motion carried by the following vote.

VOTE ON THE MOTION:

Yays: 6 - Mayor O'Neil, Council Member Ruff, Council Member Scheidt, Council Member Reese, Council Member Fleming and Council Member Sorum

Excused: 1 - Council Member Moulton

**2. #20-02 - Authorizing a Lease with Valdez Motor Sports Club, Inc. for a 10-Acre Portion of USS 439 (Pipeyard)**

MOTION: Council Member Sorum moved, seconded by Council Member Ruff to approve Resolution #20-02. The motion carried by the following vote after the following discussion occurred.

Council Member Ruff asked if the fee would be waived for this lease. Ms. Nicole LeRoy, city planning technician, explained the lease fee would be reduced to \$0.00, as requested by the applicant, with an affirmative vote of six or more council members. She stated the applicant would still be responsible for paying property taxes under the lease terms.

Ms. Pierce stated there would be an administrative correction to the resolution language. In section five of the resolution, the word "maximum" would be replaced with "minimum" when describing the time period for providing notice of lease termination. City Council expressed no objection to this administrative correction.

VOTE ON THE MOTION:

Yays: 6 - Mayor O'Neil, Council Member Ruff, Council Member Scheidt, Council Member Reese, Council Member Fleming and Council Member Sorum

Excused: 1 - Council Member Moulton

**IX. REPORTS**

- 1. Monthly Treasury Report - October, 2019**
- 2. Change Order Report: Contract Amendment with DOWL, LLC for the Mineral Creek Construction Assistance contract.**
- 3. Procurement Report: Professional Services Agreement with ECI/HYER, Inc. for the New Museum Programming.**

**X. CITY MANAGER / CITY CLERK / CITY ATTORNEY / MAYOR REPORTS****1. City Manager Report**

Mr. Detter announced he has extended a job offer as city planning director to Ms. Kate Huber. Ms. Huber served as interim planning director following the retirement of the previous planning director. Mr. Detter described the interview and hiring process leading to Ms. Huber's selection. He expressed his appreciation for the planning department staff stepping up as a team over the last three months.

Mr. Detter explained a selection for the comprehensive plan firm would be made next week, with the contract appearing before Council by February.

**2. City Clerk Report**

Ms. Pierce reviewed dates for upcoming Council meetings and work sessions. She explained the process for developing Council's 2020 state legislative priorities.

**3. City Attorney Report**

Mr. Staser reserved his comments for executive session.

**4. City Mayor Report**

Mayor O'Neil thanked local school teachers and staff for a great start to another school semester. He stated he has been invited by Gilson Middle School to participate in a program to help educate students on the role of the mayor in local government. The program is in conjunction with a national writing competition which challenges students to describe what they might wish to accomplish if they were the mayor of their city.

Mayor O'Neil reminded Council the state legislative fly-in to Juneau would likely occur the week of February 9<sup>th</sup>. He asked that any other council members interested in attending contact Ms. Pierce. The following week he would be attending the Alaska Municipal League Conference in Juneau.

**XI. COUNCIL BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Council Member Scheidt asked for an update on the status of the childcare issue. Mayor O'Neil explained Stepping Stones is awaiting confirmation from the state for approval to relocate. He stated they are aiming to be in the new facility on February 1<sup>st</sup>. At that time, they will be able to open up the waiting list. He asked Mr. Detter to reach out to Stepping Stones to see if they needed assistance with the state processes.

Mr. Detter stated he hopes the new Stepping Stones facility is a short-term solution to the childcare issue. He explained, however, further conversation and action needs to happen around a long-term, comprehensive solution. Mayor O'Neil stated Providence Valdez Medical Center has created a "0-3 With Families" population health working group to help work on childcare and other early childhood concerns.

Mr. Detter explained he and Ms. Pierce were working to put together a federal legislative fly-in to Washington, D.C on March 7-12, 2020. He stated the Mayor intended

to participate and asked that any other council members interested contact Ms. Pierce.

## **XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

City Council transitioned into Executive Session at 7:28 p.m.

## **XIII. RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

City Council transitioned out of Executive Session at 8:02 p.m.

## **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mayor O'Neil adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

DRAFT