

City of Valdez

212 Chenega Ave.
Valdez, AK 99686



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Tuesday, August 7, 2018

7:00 PM

Regular Meeting

Council Chambers

City Council

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

Mayor O'Neil called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in Valdez City Council Chambers.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: 6 - Mayor Jeremy O'Neil
Council Member Dennis Fleming
Council Member Ron Ruff
Council Member Christopher Moulton
Council Member Lon Needles
Council Member Darren Reese

Excused: 1 - Council Member Jim Shirrell

Also Present: 4 – City Manager Elke Doom
Records Manager Shelley McMillen
City Attorney Jake Staser

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

III.b. PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOORDavid Lawrence – Valdez Resident

Mr. Lawrence voiced his concern over water pressure issues in his home, how he had attempted to address the issue, and explained why he felt the cost of repairs should be reimbursed by the City. He stated Ms. Doom had agreed to cover the cost of the plumber and he requested Council agree to reimburse the remainder of the cost.

Mayor O'Neil expressed uncertainty over the extent liability could be established, and recommended working with the city manager. Mr. Lawrence stated he had spoken with Ms. Doom and felt the right thing for Council to do was reimburse him the cost of repairs in addition to the cost of the plumber.

Maggie Nylund – Magpies Bakery & On the Fly Coffee Shop

Ms. Nylund shared her desire to increase variety in cruise ship shore excursions, explained her vision of rekindling the vaudeville/boomtown style entertainment and her need for a well-placed presentation space.

Erika Shirk – Valdez Resident

Ms. Shirk expressed her concern over the timing of the pool remodel and its effect on the local student competitive swimming team. Mayor O'Neil suggested she speak with Capital Facilities Director Nate Duval about her concerns.

Jennifer Webber – Valdez Fire Department Volunteer

Ms. Webber requested an update on the new fire station planning process. Ms. Doom explained the soil sample process occurring and the need to prioritize having a site prior to designing a building. Ms. Webber asked for further information on a bond vote. Ms. Doom outlined the purpose of a bond vote and what alternative options were potentially available.

Brandy Smelcer – Valdez Fire Department Volunteer

Ms. Smelcer asked what happened if the bond vote to fund a new fire station failed. Council Member Moulton explained nothing prohibited Council from moving forward with the project if the bond vote failed. The project could then be funded with city funds instead. He stated bonding was being sought as a long term strategic financial tool.

Oly Clubb – Valdez Resident

Mr. Clubb thanked Council for having a dumpster placed at Robe Lake to assist in clean-up efforts for those recreating in the area. He thanked Council Member Needles for his personal efforts in cleaning up trash at Robe Lake.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Appointment to Museum Board for Term Expiring 2019 – Steven Weber**
2. **Appointment to Museum Board for Term Expiring 2021 – Kaitlin Pabo-Eulberg**

MOTION: Council Member Moulton moved, seconded by Council Member Reese to approve the Consent Agenda.

VOTE ON THE MOTION:

Yays: 6 – Mayor O'Neil, Council Member Fleming, Council Member Ruff, Council Member Needles, Council Member Reese, and Council Member Moulton

Excused: 1 – Council Member Shirrell

MOTION CARRIED.

V. NEW BUSINESS**1. Discussion Item: 2019 Budget Process**

Finance Director Brian Carlson outlined the upcoming budget workshop calendar. Council requested Mr. Carlson provide information for review prior to the August 30th workshop.

2. Discussion Item: Update on COV Ransomware Cyber Attack

Ms. Doom provided an update on the FBI's investigation into the cyber-attack on the city. She outlined how departments were currently functioning and what the public could expect based upon the impacts from the attack. She reminded those listening they could find regular updates on the City's webpage. Ms. Doom explained the seven day emergency declaration had been extended an additional seven days while IT worked.

VI. ORDINANCES**1. #18-04 – Amending Title 5, Chapter 5.08 Alcoholic Beverages of the Valdez Municipal Code by Amending Section 5.08.050 Related to Licenses and 5.08.060 Related to Hours of Operation. First Reading, Public Hearing.**

MAIN MOTION: Council Member Reese moved, seconded by Council Member Fleming to approve Ordinance #18-04.

Council Members voiced support of the ordinance as a beginning step, though additional work still needed to occur on the topic.

Mr. Oly Clubb, Valdez resident, provided a ground level view of the recent holiday weekend and encouraged passing the ordinance. He welcomed further conversation on the matter and shared his willingness to facilitate additional meetings with interested local residents.

Ms. Lindsay Haase, Valdez resident, thanked Council for taking the time to look at the issue. She shared her desire to find additional ways to improve safety in the community.

MOTION TO POSTPONE: Council Member Moulton moved, seconded by Council Member Ruff to postpone approval of Ordinance #18-04 to the next regular City Council meeting of August 22, 2018.

Chief of Police Bart Hinkle stated he would not be at the August 22nd meeting

and supported a work session on the subject.

VOTE ON THE MOTION TO POSTPONE:

Yays: 3 – Council Member Ruff, Council Member Needles, Council Member Moulton

Nays: 3 – Mayor O’Neil, Council Member Fleming, and Council Member Reese

Excused: 1 – Council Member Shirrell

MOTION TO POSTPONE FAILED.

VOTE ON THE MAIN MOTION:

Yays: 4 – Mayor O’Neil, Council Member Fleming, Council Member Reese, and Council Member Moulton

Nays: 2 – Council Member Needles and Council Member Ruff

Excused: 1 – Council Member Shirrell

MAIN MOTION CARRIED.

VII. RESOLUTIONS

- #18-27 – Amending the 2018 City of Valdez Budget by Accepting National Forest Receipts Revenues in the Amount of \$1,237,554.96, Transferring These Funds to the Major Maintenance Reserve Fund and Appropriating \$1,234,554.96 to the School Administrative Building Water Damage Abatement Project**

MOTION: Council Member Moulton moved, seconded by Council Member Fleming to approve Resolution #18-27.

Mr. Duval stated the cash outlay should be no more than the insurance deductible. Council asked what steps would be taken to heat the building prior to the installation of the new boilers. Mr. Duval explained a rental boiler would be provided and the cost would potentially be covered by insurance.

VOTE ON THE MOTION:

Yays: 6 – Mayor O’Neil, Council Member Fleming, Council Member Ruff, Council Member Needles, Council Member Reese, and Council Member Moulton

Excused: 1 – Council Member Shirrell

MOTION CARRIED.

2. #18-28 – Amending the 2018 City of Valdez Budget by Transferring \$170,000 from the Reserve Fund to the General Fund Information Services Department and Appropriating Same for Contractual Services Pertaining to the City’s Data Network Rebuild

MAIN MOTION: Council Member Moulton moved, seconded by Council Member Reese to approve Resolution #18-28.

Mr. Carlson explained the need to amend the resolution from \$170,000 to \$200,000.

MOTION TO AMEND: Council Member Moulton moved, seconded by Council Member Reese to amend #18-28 by replacing \$170,000 with \$200,000 for the transfer of funds.

VOTE ON THE MOTION TO AMEND:

Yays: 6 – Mayor O’Neil, Council Member Fleming, Council Member Ruff, Council Member Needles, Council Member Reese, and Council Member Moulton

Excused: 1 – Council Member Shirrell

MOTION TO AMEND CARRIED.

VOTE ON THE MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED:

Yays: 6 – Mayor O’Neil, Council Member Fleming, Council Member Ruff, Council Member Needles, Council Member Reese, and Council Member Moulton

Excused: 1 – Council Member Shirrell

MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED CARRIED.

VIII. CITY MANAGER REPORT

Ms. Doom provided updates on city projects, including Meals Hill and the chainsaw carving event. She reminded Council of the Flood Task Force meeting on August 21st at noon.

IX. CITY CLERK REPORT

Ms. McMillen informed Council City Clerk Sheri Pierce and Deputy City Clerk Allie Ferko would both return to the office later in the week. She reminded Council of the upcoming Primary Election on August 21st.

X. MAYOR REPORT

Mayor O'Neil thanked Council Member Fleming for taking on renewing the state of emergency for the cyber-attack. He thanked Ryan McCune and those involved in the chainsaw competition for their participation. He congratulated the Gold Rush Board on another year of success and fun. He congratulated TBA on the success of their youth theatre program. He thanked Mr. Staser for his presentation on the Open Meetings Act. He congratulated Edison Chouest on their new partnership with Alyeska, which was celebrated at the Alyeska Community BBQ. He thanked Mr. Duval and his team for keeping important projects moving forward in spite of the cyber-attack, as well as the IT Department for their efforts in the wake of the cyber-attack.

XI. CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

Mr. Staser outlined projects and provided updates on cases his firm is working on behalf of the City, including the AK LNG Project, the Cummings litigation, the C-Plan, and Barton v. the City of Valdez.

XII. COUNCIL BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

No members of the Council provided comments from the floor.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor O'Neil adjourned the meeting at 8:51 p.m.