City of Valdez

212 Chenega Ave. Valdez, AK 99686



Meeting Minutes - Final

Tuesday, July 17, 2018 6:00 PM

Work Session (Reduction of Hours of Sale for Alcohol) & Regular Meeting

Council Chambers

City Council

WORK SESSION AGENDA - 6:00 pm

Topic: Reduction of Hours of Sale of Alcoholic Beverages on Licensed Premises

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. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

III. ROLL CALL

Present: 6 - Mayor Jeremy O'Neil

Council Member Christopher Moulton

Council Member Lon Needles Council Member Jim Shirrell Council Member Dennis Fleming Council Member Darren Reese

Excused: 1 - Council Member Ron Ruff

Also Present: 4 - City Manager Elke Doom

City Clerk Sheri Pierce Deputy City Clerk Allie Ferko City Attorney Jake Staser

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. City Council Regular Meeting Minutes of July 3, 2018

The City Council regular meeting minutes of July 3, 2018 were approved as presented.

V. PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Mr. Ollie Clubb, Valdez Resident

Mr. Ollie Clubb asked for clarification regarding who owned the recreational land on Robe Lake at the end of Robe Lake Access Road. He explained he heard either the state of Alaska or the City owned the land. He stated many people use the area during nice weather. A dumpster or port-a-potty would be beneficial to cut down on the waste accumulating in the area.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Appointment to City Library Board
- 2. Appointment to the City Parks & Recreation Commission
- 3. Appointments to City Ports & Harbors Commission

- 4. Approval of Renewal of Standard Marijuana Cultivation Facility License for Alaskan Greenery #10043
- Approval To Go Into Executive Session Regarding: Active Litigation Strategy

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

VOTE ON THE MOTION:

Yays: 6 - Mayor O'Neil, Council Member Moulton, Council Member Needles, Council Member Shirrell, Council Member Fleming and Council Member Reese

Excused: 1 - Council Member Ruff

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Appointment to City Planning & Zoning Commission

MOTION: Council Member Moulton moved, seconded by Council Member Needles to appoint Rhonda Wade to the Planning & Zoning Commission. The motion carried by the following vote.

VOTE ON THE MOTION:

Yays: 6 - Mayor O'Neil, Council Member Moulton, Council Member Needles, Council Member Shirrell, Council Member Fleming and Council Member Reese

Excused:1 - Council Member Ruff

2. Discussion Item: Kelsey Dock Phase II

City Capital Facilities Director Nate Duval outlined recent discussions regarding beautification efforts in the Kelsey Dock area. ECI/HYER provided a conceptual design for the yellow warehouse building area. Mr. Duval asked for guidance from the City Council on the project, whether it was a priority, and if he should move forward on exploration of different concepts.

Council Member Shirrell stated during past work sessions, the Council discussed removal of the one third of the building. He asked if this space would be used for community event space and what would happened with the parking area in the back of the building. Mr. Duval said the previously proposed amphitheater component was omitted from the design for budgetary reasons, but could be incorporated back into the plan. He suggested that

could be a third phase, pending funding availability. Another thought process was providing parking and a proper entrance would allow the museum to have a presence on the waterfront to welcome and invite visitors. He said creating a grassy area along the sidewalk could be utilized for small vendor booths during festivals and other events.

Ms. Doom clarified ECI/HYER provided a concept which could be adapted or changed based on Council's guidance. She stated she and Mr. Duval would like to gauge Council's interest in moving forward on Phase 2 of the Kelsey Dock Uplands Improvement Project. If Council wanted staff to move forward, they would request finalized designs from ECI/HYER which could be used to request construction bids. Council Member Fleming asked if input had been provided by the Valdez Museum staff regarding the project. Mr. Duval stated staff from ECI/HYER were in town and walked through the museum annex with the museum team. He understood it was mutually beneficial for both the museum and the City's future plans for the area.

Council Member Shirrell stated any Phase 2 components needed to allow for support of the cruise ship industry. Mr. Duval outlined several areas which could be used for temporary vendor space, food trucks, and informational displays. He explained there is no specific, permanent area set aside for vendors. Mr. Jeremy Talbot, City Ports & Harbors Director, outlined the current cruise ship schedule for 2019 and 2020.

Council Member Reese stated he would like to see the whole building gone and replaced with a community events area including green space, a portable stage and seating. Mayor O'Neil stated he would is absolutely in favor of keeping the Old Town exhibit open and accessible to the public as it is the root of Valdez history. However, the current yellow warehouse is aesthetically a deterrent to the public visiting the museum annex. He explained he would like to see the exterior of the building refreshed so the exhibit would be attractive to cruise ship passengers, visitors, and the community. If vendor and refreshment options could be included, all the better.

Council Member Shirrell reiterated it rains quite a bit in Valdez and a permanent, covered area for vendors would provide for a better quality experience for both visitors and community members.

Mr. Rick Wade, Valdez resident, stated he missed the discussion regarding the design for the Kelsey Dock area. He asked if there was an opportunity for businesses and the public to provide input, as sometimes this step is overlooked during project design. Ms. Doom stated there had been much discussion on the future of the museum annex. She explained the rest of the design for the area was still in the preliminary phase. Once City Council provided staff direction to

move forward, staff could then sit down with business owners, vendors, the museum, and others to determine needs and ideas. She stated sometimes the best thing to do to move forward is to provide a preliminary concept for everyone to review. She explained the concept should focus not just on the cruise ship industry, but be a space for community members and all types of visitors.

Ms. Patty Relay, Valdez Museum & Historical Archive Executive Director, expressed her appreciation for Mr. Duval and City Council's efforts to compromise and continue to provide a temporary location for the museum annex collection until a larger museum facility could be constructed in the future. She explained the museum currently holds a \$25,000 reserve fund which is designated for annex exterior improvements in the form of new signage. She encouraged the project team to include the community as part of the discussion and the concept design is a starting point which can be refined to meet everyone's needs.

Mr. Duval explained any modifications to the northern end of the yellow warehouse would trigger additional requirements. He added everyone bear in mind, changing the conceptual design would also change project costs. Mayor O'Neil asked if Council provided direction for the conceptual designs as presented. Mr. Duval explained ECI/HYER had visited Valdez four times and met with Council in several work sessions to discuss concepts for the area. Council briefly discussed future plans for cruise ship visits to Valdez in 2019 and beyond.

Ms. Terry Simmons raised concerns about the lack of restroom facilities at the City Dog Park and Karen Stewart Memorial Garden. Council reminded Ms. Simmons the current discussion was about the Kelsey Dock Uplands Phase II project. Mayor O'Neil stated he would follow up on Ms. Simmons' concerns.

Council provided Ms. Doom and Mr. Duval with consensus and direction to move forward with ECI/HYER on the conceptual design for Phase II, with the understanding any final design would be brought back to Council for review and edits prior to being put out for construction bids.

VIII. 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.

MOTION: Council Member Shirrell moved, seconded by Council Member Moulton, to approve Ordinance #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 for Public Hearing. The motion carried by the following vote after the following discussion occurred.

MOTION TO AMEND: Council Member Shirrell moved, seconded to Council Member Fleming to amend Ordinance #18-04 changing bar closure time from 3:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. The motion to amend carried by the following vote after the following discussion occurred.

Mayor O'Neil clarified the amendment stated licensed premises would be required to close from 2:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. every day of the week.

VOTE ON MOTION TO AMEND:

Yays: 5 - Mayor O'Neil, Council Member Needles, Council Member Shirrell, Council Member Fleming and Council Member Reese

Nays: 1 - Council Member Moulton,

Excused:1 - Council Member Ruff

Ms. Pierce clarified since there was a substantial change to the ordinance, it was required to be brought back for another first reading/public hearing at the next regular City Council meeting.

VOTE ON THE MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED:

Yays: 6 - Mayor O'Neil, Council Member Moulton, Council Member Needles, Council Member Shirrell, Council Member Fleming and Council Member Reese

Excused:1 - Council Member Ruff

IX. RESOLUTIONS

1. #18-26 - Accepting the 2019 LEPC Grant from the Alaska Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management in the Amount of \$12,300 and Approving its Expenditure

MOTION: Council Member Moulton moved, seconded by Council Member Reese, to approve Resolution #18-26 accepting the 2019 LEPC Grant from the Alaska Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management in the amount of \$12,300 and approving its expenditure. The motion carried by the following vote.

VOTE ON THE MOTION:

Yays: 6 - Mayor O'Neil, Council Member Moulton, Council Member Needles, Council Member Shirrell, Council Member Fleming and Council Member Reese

Excused:1 - Council Member Ruff

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X. REPORTS

City Council

1. Contract Amendment Report - Roof Replacement - School District Office, Teen Center and Harbormaster

Council Member Shirrell asked for clarification on whether this project was a good financial investment related to the fire station portion of City Hall, with the understanding a new fire station building may be built in the near future. Mr. Duval explained the project was a good investment in City infrastructure. Even if a new fire station was built, it would take several years to construct and the fire department staff needed to live and work in the facility in the interim. Additionally, that portion of City Hall could be repurposed once the fire department moved to a new facility. The cost of fixing the roof leaks now was minimal compared to the cost of fixing damage later.

2. June 2018 New Boat Harbor Report

Council Member Fleming asked for clarification on the total costs thus far for the project. The not-to-exceed budget originally set was \$82.6 million. Mr. Duval explained relative to the budget of the project, the underlying estimate at completion has remained unchanged. Everything thus far is on track, with a contingency to cover any needs that have arisen thus far. There is still some risk to high ticket items, such as pile driving and blasting activities. Mr. Duval stated the project is just shy of 50% complete for Phase 2. He explained funding committed is not necessarily funding spent to date. Contracts included \$80.42 million, with approximately \$2 million in contingency funding.

Mr. Duval provided an update regarding some of the challenges encountered with recent blasting operations.

3. Monthly Treasury Reports - April & May, 2018

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

1. City Manager Report

Ms. Doom thanked Ms. Debbie Roberts and other City staff who pitched in to help coordinate the Fireweed 400 race and 4th of July Festival in the absence of a City Events Coordinator.

Ms. Doom explained a representative from the Aleut Corporation, which runs the Aleutian Village Mobile Home Park, reached out to her about potential development plans to improve the park utilities. She stated the representative also indicated several people were interested in potentially taking over the management of the property.

Ms. Doom provided a brief overview of the upcoming Chainsaw Carving Competition being sponsored by the City.

2. City Clerk Report

Ms. Pierce worked with City Council to schedule upcoming City 2019 budget work sessions, effective meetings training, and a Flood Task Force meeting.

3. City Attorney Report

Mr. Staser said he would defer his report to executive session. He explained Mr. Robin Brena would also provide a thorough briefing regarding ongoing litigation strategies in executive session.

4. City Mayor Report

Mayor O'Neil said he'd received a lot of good public feedback, including concerns about road conditions in the Robe River Subdivision, speeders at Robe Lake, parking at the harbor, private use of public equipment, the scheduling or constitution of the Economic Diversification Commission, and the Flood Task Force. He said he forwarded these concerns to either the City Manager or appropriate department director for action. He echoed Ms. Doom's kudos to Debbie Roberts and stated it was a pleasure to see the community host hundreds of cyclists.

Mayor O'Neil stated he exchanged communication with Mr. Chuck Volanti about the Airmen's Memorial at the new boat harbor, who expressed gratitude toward City staff for making it possible.

XII. COUNCIL BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Several Council Members expressed their appreciation for those who worked on the 4th of July festival.

Council provided direction to the city manager to address the restroom issue at the Valdez Dog Park.

Council Member Fleming stated the new fire station was designated as a Council priority and asked for an update. Mr. Duval explained the Phase 1 analysis of the skate park property was complete. First availability for soil sampling is the first week in August. Council Member Fleming asked staff to advise them if Council could do anything to speed up the process.

Several Council members discussed upcoming community events, including the kids salmon derby.

Council Member Moulton recommended meeting with the Providence Health Advisory Council in a work session to discuss how the two groups might collaborate in the future.

Council Member Shirrell asked if the full budget schedule could be set in advance so Council, staff, and the public could plan ahead. He also asked if there could be future discussions about usage concerns regarding the public beach at Robe Lake.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

City Council transitioned into Executive Session at 8:20 p.m.

XIV. RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

City Council transitioned out of Executive Session at 10:19 p.m.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor O'Neil adjourned the meeting at 10:20 p.m.