

Session 14-24 a Special Meeting of the Homer City Council was called to order on September 29, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Mary E. Wythe at the Homer City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska, and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRESENT:** COUNCILMEMBERS: BURGESS, HOWARD, LEWIS, ROBERTS,  
VAN DYKE, ZAK (telephonic)

STAFF: CITY CLERK JOHNSON  
HR COORDINATOR BROWNING  
CITY PLANNER ABBOUD

Councilmember Zak has requested telephonic participation.

Mayor Wythe called for a motion to allow Councilmember Zak to participate by telephone.

BURGESS/LEWIS - SO MOVED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: YES. NON OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Councilmember Howard arrived at 5:07 p.m.

**AGENDA APPROVAL** (Only those matters on the noticed agenda may be considered, pursuant to City Council's Operating Manual, pg. 5)

Mayor Wythe called for a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

LEWIS/ROBERTS – SO MOVED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: YES. NON OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS UPON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA**

Catriona Lowe, city resident, wondered if the home rule will create difficulties in attracting a city manager.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. CITY MANAGER RECRUITMENT**

With City Manager Wrede's notice to resign when his contract expires at the end of year, the Council is trying to avoid a big gap in service.

The Council consented to a smaller group to review applications. HR Director Browning can push applications to the Mayor and Council as they come in since the City uses the online application portal for all applicants.

Mayor Wythe proposed a first opening to internal applicants. The employment notice could be posted tomorrow, applications due by the end of the week, and interviews scheduled for October 13. If there was no determination we could go public on October 14.

The consensus of the Council was to forego the internal recruitment and see all applicants together with a national recruitment. It is likely a few people within the City qualify for the position with education and experience. Their applications will be considered with all applicants.

HR Director Browning advised the Council there was \$2,000 to \$3,000 budgeted for local advertising. Alaska Municipal League allows job postings and they have an interim city manager process.

LEWIS/BURGESS - MOVED THAT WE DO THE REVIEW PROCESS WITH A SMALL GROUP.

The Council requested all initial applications be sent to the Mayor and Council.

VOTE: YES. LEWIS, BURGESS, HOWARD, ZAK, VAN DYKE

VOTE: NO. ROBERTS

Motion carried.

ROBERTS/BURGESS - MOVED TO COMPOSE OUR SMALL GROUP OF THE MAYOR AND THREE COUNCILMEMBERS.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: YES. NON OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

VAN DYKE/ROBERTS - MOVED TO APPROVE ZAK, VAN DYKE, ROBERTS, AND THE MAYOR AS A SHORT COMMITTEE TO ELECT THE CITY MANAGER.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: YES. NON OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

The Council discussed salary but did not set an amount for potential candidates. They requested applicants have a bachelor's degree and at least one year experience with a coastal community.

Meetings for the City Manager Selection Committee were scheduled for October 8 and 22, November 12 and 26 at 5:30 p.m.

LEWIS - MOVED THAT INTERVIEWS WITH PEOPLE OUT OF STATE BE CONDUCTED ON A SATURDAY.

Motion died for lack of a second.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Wythe adjourned the meeting at 5:44 p.m. The next Regular Meeting is Monday, October 13, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. and Committee of the Whole 5:00 p.m. A Special Meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 20, 2014 at 6:00 p.m., and a Worksession on Saturday, October 25, 2014 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. All meetings scheduled to be held in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

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JO JOHNSON, MMC, CITY CLERK

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_