

Session 16-14 a Regular Meeting of the Public Safety Building Review Committee was called to order by Chair Ken Castner at 5:30 p.m. on October 12, 2016 at the City Hall Conference Room located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: COMMITTEE MEMBERS HUTT, PAINTER, CASTNER AND HOWARD

ABSENT: COMMITTEE MEMBER ROBL (EXCUSED)

STAFF: CAREY MEYER, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
RENEE KRAUSE, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

AGENDA APPROVAL

The agenda was approved by consensus of the committee.

PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

RECONSIDERATION

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. September 29, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved by consensus of the Committee.

VISITORS

STAFF AND COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS/BOROUGH REPORTS

A. Council Report

B. Staff & Design Team Report – Carey Meyer

1. Fire Hall Improvement Project

Mr. Meyer provided a status update on the fire hall as follows:

- a full set of plans was submitted and foundation was approved by the Fire Marshall
- Contractor is ready to start
- waiting on a cost estimate for the expansion still
- weather permitting they still intend to get the shell complete before winter sets in
- moved forward on getting the natural gas to the building and Council introduced the ordinance for appropriation of funds from the revolving energy fund to convert the Fire Hall in the amount of \$115,000
- there may be a grant that will assist in paying for the ventilation in a Fire Hall that they can apply for
 - if they get a grant agreement then they can return some of the \$1 million back to Council
 - the amount authorized so far is \$72,000 which a significant portion has been spent for design
 - authorized the floor slab for \$35,000
 - authorized some civil site work

2. Public Safety Building, Phase I, Police Station

Chair Castner asked if there were any comments, or lessons learned after the fact.

Mrs. Howard had no comments.

Chair Castner commented that he thought having a divided Council really hurt the project. He then noted that some comments he received on the ballot issue not going through was that if the public authorized \$12 million the City would spend the whole amount. He offered apologies to Lt. Will Hutt.

He then tendered his resignation from the Committee, and requested confirmation from the Clerk on the Council's intent to keep the committee.

Deputy City Clerk Krause responded that it would be a decision of the Council since they tasked the committee with overseeing the improvements to the fire station.

Chair Castner added that as he stated in his email he does not feel that there is a requirement for the Committee to oversee Public Works job.

PUBLIC HEARING

PENDING BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

A. Next Steps

This items was not formally addressed on the agenda.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

Bruce Hess, city resident, commented that he thought the vote was close, that there wasn't any doubt within the community on the need for a new police station and he would hope that the Council would keep this committee going even if the membership changed because there is no question that the facility is needed. They need to figure out what the community is willing to spend and how that will be accomplished he was not sure. Whether they do it informally through surveys or something, he acknowledged that the committee members may feel defeated and it is unfortunate but the dollar amount was not acceptable to the community. We need to go back to the drawing board, have a special election and get the funds and get this thing built.

Chair Castner responded that the committee went through some considerable efforts find other ways to get the programmatic elements delivered that the police needed at a less expensive price and he made no secret at what he thought this would come in at by the time they were done going through everything, someone just pulled a number from the air and they were never really prepared, he told council a number of times that he did not know what it would cost since the design criteria was never figured out, but using the HERC building reduced the cost of the project as low as can be; but he is working on schools that cost \$35 million dollars and it's a very hard thing to comprehend sometimes,

especially when people say I don't know what it should cost but it should be less than that; he added that Skagway spent \$12 million dollars on something much smaller.

Mr. Hess agreed and responded that this is something the community needs. They just need to figure it out.

COMMENTS OF CITY STAFF

Public Works Director Meyer had no comments.

Deputy City Clerk Krause had no further comments.

COMMENTS OF THE COUNCILMEMBER

COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR

Chair Castner had no further comments.

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

Mrs. Howard submitted her written resignation.

Lt. Hutt thanked everyone again for all their hard work and efforts and that it was a shame that it didn't work out.

Chief Painter had no comments.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Committee the meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m. The next regular meeting is to be determined by Council.

RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

Approved: _____