

Session 17-15 a Regular Meeting of the Homer City Council was called to order on June 12, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Zak at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska, and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Department Heads may be called upon from time to time to participate via telephone.

**PRESENT:** COUNCILMEMBERS: ADERHOLD, ERICKSON, LEWIS, REYNOLDS, SMITH,  
STROOZAS

STAFF: CITY MANAGER KOESTER  
CITY CLERK JACOBSEN  
FINANCE DIRECTOR WALTON  
PERSONNEL DIRECTOR BROWNING  
POLICE CHIEF ROBL  
PORT DIRECTOR HAWKINS

Council met from 4:00 until 4:50 to hear from the Port Director and Port and Harbor Advisory Commission regarding the new Port and Harbor Tariff No. 1 and discuss the Police Station Building Task Force recommendations. From 5:00 until 5:50 as Committee of the Whole to discuss the Police Station Building Task Force Recommendation and Consent and Regular Meeting Agenda items.

### **AGENDA APPROVAL**

(Addition of items to or removing items from the agenda will be by unanimous consent of the Council. HCC 2.08.040.)

The following changes were made: **CONSENT AGENDA** - **Resolution 17-058** Amending Personnel Regulations is changed to Resolution 17-063 to correct a duplicated resolution number, **Resolution 17-059**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Encouraging the Restoration of Full Funding to Federal Agencies that Support the Economy of Homer, Alaska, Information provided by the public, **PUBLIC HEARING** - **Ordinance 17-23**, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Appropriating Funds in the Amount of \$2,344,784 from the Homer Permanent Fund to Pay Off the Library Construction Loan and Help Fund a New Police Station, and Repealing HCC Chapter 3.12, Permanent Fund, Written Public Comments; **NEW BUSINESS** – **Memorandum 17-090** Jack Gist Park Plan, Jack Gist Park Map.

Mayor Zak asked for a motion to approve the agenda as amended.

LEWIS/REYNOLDS

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

### **MAYORAL PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**

- A. Recognition of Bryan Hawkins, Port Director/Harbormaster for receiving his Marine Port Executive Accreditation.

Mayor Zak acknowledged Harbormaster Hawkins for receiving his Marine Port Executive Accreditation.

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

Willie Dunn, non resident and Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve Community Council member, commented in support of Resolution 17-059 and funding for the Kachemak Bay Research Reserve. He noted work the reserve has done with the city particularly with erosion, ocean acidification issues, science and education.

George Matz, Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve Community Council Chair, commented in support of Resolution 17-059. He explained the research reserve has a budget of about \$2 million and a staff of around 12. Most of their funding is NOAA funding. He addressed negative impacts the loss of federal funding would create, particularly in three main areas, research and monitoring, education, and coastal training programs.

James Hornaday, city resident and Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve Community Council member, commented in support of Resolution 17-059. He touched on two economic impacts of federal funding, the erosion study, which impacts insurance rates, and the studies of area close to the rivers and streams for salmon spawning and the need for those studies to maintain our healthy salmon population.

Bobby Hickman, city employee, expressed concerns regarding Resolution 17-063. He thinks the regulations are not being followed. He does not agree with the changes regarding 3.14.3 employment for relatives. He has issue with pay increases because if your supervisor has issues with an employee, the employee isn't going to get a pay increase.

### **RECONSIDERATION**

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

(Items listed below will be enacted by one motion. If separate discussion is desired on an item, that item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Meeting Agenda at the request of a Councilmember.)

- A. Homer City Council unapproved Regular meeting minutes of May 30, 2017 and Special Meeting minutes of May 31, 2017. City Clerk. Recommend adoption.
- B. **Memorandum 17-084** from Finance Director Re: 2018 Proposed Budget Schedule. Recommend approval.
- C. **Memorandum 17-085** from City Clerk Re: Vacation of a 30' Wide Portion (approximately 0.113 acres) of Greatland Street Right of Way Adjacent to the West Boundaries of Lots 18-A and 19-A, as Dedicated on the Chamberlain and Watson Subdivision, Plat HM 1950-24; located within the NE ¼ SE ¼ of Section 19, T6S, R13W, Seward Meridian, Alaska, Within the City of Homer and the Kenai Peninsula Borough; KPB File 2017-056V. Recommend approval.
- D. **Ordinance 17-24**, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska authorizing the City Manager to purchase Kenai Peninsula Borough Parcel No. 17305408, Lot 8, Block 1, Kelly Ranch Estates for \$21,000 and designating its use for the purpose of protecting the Bridge Creek Watershed. City Manager. Recommended Dates: Introduction June 12, 2017; Public Hearing and Second Reading June 26, 2017.
- E. **Ordinance 17-25**, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Repealing Homer City Code 2.52 Department of Public Safety and Reenacting as the Police Department and Creating HCC 2.53 Fire Department Under Title 2. Administration and Personnel. City Manager/Police Chief. Recommended Dates: Introduction June 12, 2017; Public Hearing and Second Reading June 26, 2017.
- F. **Resolution 17-063**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the City of Homer Personnel Regulations Chapter 2, Section 2.2.3 Division, Chapter 3, Section 3.14.3 Employment of Relatives, Chapter 5, Section 5.3.3 Pay Increases, Chapter 6, Section 6.1 Recognized Holidays, Section 6.8 Sick Leave, and Chapter 12, Section 12.3 Layoffs. City Manager/Personnel Director. Recommend adoption.

**Memorandum 17-086** from Personnel Director as back up.

**Memorandum 17-092** from Employee Committee

Moved to Resolutions, Item A. Reynolds.

G. **Resolution 17-059**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Encouraging the Restoration of Full Funding to Federal Agencies that Support the Economy of Homer, Alaska. Lewis. Recommend adoption.

H. **Resolution 17-060**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Adopting the Revised Port and Harbor Tariff 1. City Manager/Port and Harbor Director. Recommend Public Hearing June 26, 2017.

**Memorandum 17-087**, from Port and Harbor Director as back up.

I. **Resolution 17-061**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the Fee Schedule under Port and Harbor to Reflect the Changes from the Port and Harbor Tariff 1. City Manager/Port and Harbor Director. Recommend Public Hearing June 26, 2017.

**Memorandum 17-088**, from Port and Harbor Director as back up.

J. **Resolution 17-062**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Awarding a Sole Source Contract for Dispatch Console Replacement to ProComm Alaska in the Amount of \$296,111 and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager. Recommend adoption.

**Memorandum 17-089** from Police Chief as back up.

Mayor Zak asked for a motion for the adoption of the consent agenda.

LEWIS/REYNOLDS SO MOVED

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

## **VISITORS**

A. Emily Sloth, SPARC Building Update (5 minutes)

Emily Sloth, General Manager for SPARC, provided a brief update to the Council on the new SPARC building and said they are welcoming ideas, so stop by or email [sparchomer@gmail.com](mailto:sparchomer@gmail.com). She thanked the city and the community for all the support to get SPARC where it is today. Their mission statement is to provide our community with a safe indoor space primarily for healthy youth recreational activities, to provide a safe indoor space

for recreational activities to all other age groups, and to offer a community space for activities that help the facility offset costs and operate sustainably.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/BOROUGH REPORT/COMMISSION REPORTS**

**(10 minute limit per report)**

A. Borough Report

Willie Dunn, District 9 Borough Assembly member, commented that the assembly passed their budget at their last meeting, including school funding, funding for the Kenai Peninsula College, and minor adjustment to a few of the non-profits in the economic development part of the Borough. He was disappointed they didn't use revenues to fund the entire budget so there is \$4 million deficit and they are hoping to come up with some revenue measures over the next few months to address that. He noted the proposal to collect sales tax on non-prepared food from three months to six months failed as did the proposal to increase the mil rate and to increase the Mayor's salary. They approved a pilot composting program in Kachemak City.

In response to questions about the budget deficit he said some things that have been suggested but not put on the table yet are increasing the sales tax cap that is currently at \$500, and an excise tax on lodging. He noted that sales tax goes to fund schools and there isn't enough to do so adequately. The fallback option would be to take money from the general fund savings.

B. Commissions/Board Reports:

1. Library Advisory Board
2. Homer Advisory Planning Commission

Syvrina Abrahamson, Planning Commissioner, reported that in addition to a couple of vacations, replats, and subdivisions their main work is an update to the City of Homer Comprehensive Plan. Right now they are working on chapter four Land Use and have almost complete initial discussions for a draft chapter four that will be ready for public comments. The update is mainly focused on crossing off items the city has accomplished. The update is also a pulse check on items the city has chosen not to act on for one reason or another, including feasibility of the implementation measures due to expected budget constraints for the foreseeable future.

3. Economic Development Advisory Commission

4. Parks Art Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission
5. Port and Harbor Advisory Commission
6. Cannabis Advisory Commission

### **PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

- A. **Ordinance 17-21**, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the FY 2017 Operating Budget by Appropriating \$8,000 from the Homer Accelerated Roads and Trails Program (HART) in Addition to In-Kind Contributions to Build the Woodard Creek Upper Trail at Karen Hornaday Park. Smith. Introduction May 30, 2017, Public Hearing and Second Reading June 12, 2017.

Mayor Zak opened the public hearing.

Deb Lowney, city resident and Parks Art Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission, commented in support of Ordinance 17-21, noting that it has full approval from the Commission. She reviewed the area where the trail would be located and the safety aspect of the trail for getting people off the road and to the park safely.

Robert Archibald, city resident, commented in support of Ordinance 17-21, about his involvement with the Friends of Woodard Creek and Hornaday Park, and the work they've done in trying to establish a trail to get people off the road and enhance the area.

Mayor Zak closed the public hearing.

Mayor Zak asked for a motion for the adoption of Ordinance 17-21 by reading of title only for second and final reading.

LEWIS/REYNOLDS SO MOVED.

There were brief comments that this is a good idea, it gets people off the road and safely to the park.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- B. **Ordinance 17-22**, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending Homer City Code 19.04.090 to Allow Upright and Flat Memorial Markers at the Hickerson Memorial Cemetery and Defining Their Dimensions and Composite. City Manager/City

Clerk. Introduction May 30, 2017, Public Hearing and Second Reading June 12, 2017.

Mayor Zak opened the public hearing.

There was no public testimony and Mayor Zak closed the public hearing.

Mayor Zak asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance 17-22 by reading of title only for second and final reading.

LEWIS/REYNOLDS SO MOVED

There was brief discussion that there are already upright markers being placed now and this will help set some criteria for those markers.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

- C. **Ordinance 17-23**, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Appropriating Funds in the Amount of \$2,344,784 from the Homer Permanent Fund to Pay Off the Library Construction Loan and Help Fund a New Police Station, and Repealing HCC Chapter 3.12, Permanent Fund. Lewis. Introduction May 30, 2017, Public Hearing and Second Reading June 12, 2017.

Mayor Zak opened the public hearing.

Ray Kranich, city resident, commented in opposition to Ordinance 17-23. He thinks it is short sided to deplete the funds for a non emergency situation. He pointed out that bonding and making payments for the library was approved by the voters and funding for the police station has not been approved by the voters.

Coletta Walker, city resident, commented in support of Ordinance 17-23 noting the interest the fund is accumulating is far less than the cost of the interest we are paying on the library loan.

Larry Slone, city resident, commented that the previous commenters make excellent points. He agrees that it's hard to walk away from that much savings and a lot of it could be applied back to the library. He isn't aware of any specific benefit to the citizens from the fund, but agrees with the point that the citizens have not approved the police station building and thinks it would be wrong to dedicate a fund for it.

Mayor Zak closed the public hearing.

Mayor Zak asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance 17-23 by reading of title only for second and final reading.

LEWIS/REYNOLDS SO MOVED

Councilmember Erickson commented the only way she would want to see the money for the police station be used is specifically on the actual building, not into putting together the plans for the building, and it should stay in the fund until they are ready to build. She thinks it makes sense to pay off the library loan and it would be good for the library to be making payments back to the city. It's something they should look at as another option.

STROOZAS/ERICKSON MOVED TO AMEND TO STRIKE THE LINES THAT SAY AND HELP FUND A NEW POLICE STATION AND REPEALING HCC CHAPTER 3.12 PERMANENT FUND.

It was clarified the amendment is striking lines 43-47 and in the title lines 9 and 10.

There was brief discussion that this change would warrant a second public hearing. City Manager Koester added it would need reviewed by the City Attorney because we would have to specifically exempt the expenditure to the library from the permanent fund if we aren't repealing the fund in city code.

Councilmembers Smith and Reynolds commented the ordinance should be adopted as is and they don't support the amendment.

There was further discussion about how the funds are invested now and that they could be invested more aggressively.

VOTE: YES: STROOZAS

NO: LEWIS, SMITH, ADERHOLD, REYNOLDS, ERICKSON

Motion failed.

Councilmember Reynolds commented that this is low earning savings and it would be prudent to pay off the high cost library loan, and agrees it would be best to use the police station portion for the building to lower the amount needed through bonding or funding another way. It could be an instrumental piece of moving the police station forward and getting police staff into a more effective and efficient place to work.

Councilmember Stroozas agreed with paying off the library loan, but he doesn't want to see anything earmarked at this point for construction of the police station until such time as we get there.



Councilmember Smith thinks they need to show the citizens we are using money we already have in a way that reflects their best interest. Leaving this money in low yielding accounts isn't a reflection of making good decisions with their money. In using this money to offset the cost to citizens when it's time to build a new police station, they'll see it as a sign of good faith and best use of the money.

Councilmember Aderhold noted the origin of this money was from the Exxon Valdez oil spill settlement and noted that Cordova used their settlement funds to build the Cordova Center that houses their city council chambers, city offices, a museum, community space, a theater, and their library. It's just an example of how another community chose to use the funds. Homer has a need to pay off the library, a building the community wanted, and we have a need for a new police station.

ERICKSON/REYNOLDS MOVED TO AMEND LINE 45 AND INCLUDE FROM THE HOMER PERMANENT FUND TO THE ACTUAL CONSTRUCTION OF A POLICE STATION.

There was brief comment in support of this but there will be costs leading up to construction and the money will have to come from somewhere.

VOTE (amendment): YES: ADERHOLD, REYNOLDS, LEWIS, STROOZAS, SMITH, ERICKSON

Motion carried.

ERICKSON MOVED TO AMEND THAT THE LIBRARY WOULD BUDGET 2% BACK TO THE CITY ON WHAT THEY WOULD BE PAYING.

Motion failed for lack of a second.

VOTE (main motion as amended): YES: REYNOLDS, ADERHOLD, ERICKSON, STROOZAS, SMITH, LEWIS

D. **Resolution 17-056**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Adopting the Policies and Guidelines for the Hickerson Memorial Cemetery. City Manager/City Clerk. Recommend Public Hearing June 12, 2017.

Mayor Zak opened the public hearing. There was no testimony and the hearing was closed.

Mayor Zak asked for a motion to adopt Resolution 17-056 by reading of title only.

STROOZAS/REYNOLDS SO MOVED

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

Mayor Zak called for a break at 7:16 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

## **ORDINANCE(S)**

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

#### A. City Manager's Report

City Manager Koester commented that the entertainment vessel, Wild Alaskan, is anchored off the Homer Spit, and is just outside city limits. The Police Department and Harbormaster are aware of and keeping an eye on activity surrounding it, but it is in the Trooper's jurisdiction.

She reported the last utility billing was sent out without an accurate reflection of sales tax due to the accounting software not calculating tax correctly. We are currently negotiating with Cassell, our account management software, and if we're unable to come to an agreement we will need to write off some amount of that. It's about \$8,000 that wasn't collected.

Lastly, she mentioned that we are down in revenue at city campgrounds. Last year the fee was increased to \$20 per night for RV's. Her plan is to look at the entire year and address in the fee schedule, but the parks department might be looking for a change sooner.

Councilmember Erickson noted that things are down at her campground right now as well, but July will be great.

Councilmember Lewis noted the weather hasn't been very good in June and that could be part of it. He also asked City Manager Koester to check with the Borough about collecting sales tax on the water taxis going from out dock to the ship.

#### B. Bid Report

### **CITY ATTORNEY REPORT**

### **COMMITTEE REPORT**

#### A. Employee Committee Report

Matt Clarke, Employee Committee Chair, reviewed Memorandum 17-092 in the packet, noting the committee approved the recommendations for the Personnel Regulations with the

exception of chapter 5, 5.33 annual merit increases, and chapter 12, 12. layoffs, which were approved by majority vote.

B. Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance Committee

Councilmember Aderhold commented City Clerk Jacobsen reported to the committee on her trip to the National ADA Symposium and they scheduled building assessments in July at the library and restrooms on the spit and in town.

C. Police Station Building Task Force

**PENDING BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

A. **Memorandum 17-090**, from Councilmember Smith Re: Jack Gist Park Plan.

Mayor Zak asked for a motion to forward Memorandum 17-090 to the Parks Art Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission to advise Council on development plans for Jack Gist Park.

REYNOLDS/SMITH SO MOVED

Discussion ensued regarding some history in developing Jack Gist Park. It was noted that the soccer association had been involved in discussion of the development, but the demand for use by the association has diminished.

Councilmember Smith explained he is interested in getting a clearer vision of what to do with the park.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

B. **Memorandum 17-091**, from Councilmember Aderhold Re: Main Street Sidewalk.

Mayor Zak asked for a motion to forward Memorandum 17-091 to the Parks Art Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission to explore the challenges, opportunities and possible partnerships for constructing a sidewalk on upper Main Street.

ADERHOLD/LEWIS SO MOVED

Councilmember Erickson commented about attending the Pioneer Paving meeting, talking to the project people about putting that sidewalk in. There is a need to continue coordinating

with them and address the needs for the intersection at Main and Pioneer to be aligned for safer crossing.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

- A. Resolution 17-063**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the City of Homer Personnel Regulations Chapter 2, Section 2.2.3 Division, Chapter 3, Section 3.14.3 Employment of Relatives, Chapter 5, Section 5.3.3 Pay Increases, Chapter 6, Section 6.1 Recognized Holidays, Section 6.8 Sick Leave, and Chapter 12, Section 12.3 Layoffs. City Manager/Personnel Director.

Mayor Zak asked for a motion to adopt Resolution 17-063 by reading of title only.

REYNOLDS/LEWIS SO MOVED

REYNOLDS/LEWIS MOVED TO AMEND LINE 37 AFTER THE WORD HOURS ADD, AND SECTION 6.5 ANNUAL MANDATORY LEAVE REQUIREMENT TO INCREASE MANDATORY LEAVE USE TO 80 HOURS.

Councilmember Reynolds commented that this language is included in the memorandum and needs to be included in the resolution as well.

VOTE (amendment): NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

There was no discussion on the main motion as amended.

VOTE (main motion): YES: ERICKSON, LEWIS, REYNOLDS, STROOZAS, ADERHOLD, SMITH

Motion carried.

## **COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**

Wes Head, city resident and owner of Beluga Air, said he was disconcerted to hear on KBBi that there was a public meeting regarding aircraft safety and noise. His image in the community is important to him and he would have liked to have received notice and attended the meeting. It's distressing that none of the commercial operators were noticed about this meeting. All the

pilots he knows of are dedicated to safety and don't want to upset the community. He encouraged that the commercial operators want to be involved in the community discussions and talk with community members who may have issues or concerns with their operations. They want to be part of the solution if there is a problem.

Larry Slone, city resident, said he attended the FAA meeting and essentially, what it came down to is there are some aircraft, likely transients, who cross the ridge on departure at a lower altitude than they should. The determination from the FAA representative is they need to be documented and reported, it's the extent of what they can do until they receive feedback from the public. Excess noise doesn't directly concern the FAA so he thinks it's an issue that will continue to be pressed by those effected.

Greg McCullough, city resident and former police dispatcher, commented that during his time in dispatch he received numerous complaints from the public about aircraft noise. They were situations out of anyone's control because a lot of the people lived out on Ocean Drive, right under the departure of runway 2-1, and complained about flying at dark hours. He pointed out pilots have to qualify to fly at night to be able to carry passengers after dark. Regarding loud aircraft, it isn't technologically possible to fix that right now. It's a moot point.

Deb Lowney, city resident, commented Parks and Rec did discuss camp fees at their last meeting and noted when the camping rates were changed, they didn't include a weekly rate and want to consider a recommendation for that. She thanked Council for the support of the Woodard Creek trail and noted the Friends of Woodard Creek meet every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. if anyone would like to join them. Lastly, she expressed her appreciation for the City Council. She agrees that the diversity of the council represents the community well and hopes after the election the same six members are in their seats.

Robert Archibald, city resident, commented that he's spent a lot of time on boards and it takes a lot of process, patience, and guts. The seated councilmembers have a lot of heart and he applauds them. Kachemak Bay Water Trail has their timber frame pavilion at the trailhead and it was built through volunteer efforts for less than \$40,000. It shows what a community effort can do for not a lot of money. They are having a ceremony Saturday from noon to 3:00 p.m. and everyone's invited.

Kelly Cooper, Borough Assembly member, commented that having served in an elected position and on a body that's very diverse and at time slanted one way or the other, she appreciates when we have a balance. Some of her best debates are with people who have opposite opinions as long as they agree to debate fairly. To the three who don't know what their future's look like tomorrow, she thanked them and for the others, she knows they appreciate the conversations that begin when there are different opinions. If we all have like minds, we won't make a lot of progress.

Willie Dunn, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly member, commented that being an elected official is a lot of work. It's dedication to give to his community and he appreciates Ms. Cooper's comments about civil debate and discussion of ideas. He thinks it's the foundation of our democracy to be able to discuss ideas. He's sponsored a lot of resolutions at the Borough level, some that very unpopular, but the assembly was able to debate, vote, and move on. It's an important process and he hopes the voters will honor the process. He hopes to see everyone here at the next council meeting and continue the democratic process and the American way.

Susan Winter-Cox, non resident, commented about retired City Clerk Jo Johnson. Jo is one of the most amazing women she's known and been a friend for two years now. She left this job so sad and disappointed about everything that happened, primarily the attacks. She loved her job and was sad and just recently started sounding like it's okay again. We need to remember it's their name on the paper, but it's not their blood you want. She was hurt by the city and did nothing to deserve it.

Coletta Walker, city resident, quoted Thomas Jefferson, "*When a man assumes a public trust he should consider himself public property*". She knows it's been a long winter and spring and as one of the people who wanted the recall she thanked the councilmembers, and thanked the opportunity to get involved again with public process. She appreciates being made aware in enjoying her freedoms, and being reminded that she needs to be aware of those that are trying to make the rules and regulations around her and her community. She thinks if all American citizens would sit up and listen to what's going on in each of our communities we'd all be more involved and make each of the councilmember's jobs lighter. She hopes whatever the turnout is tomorrow she hopes for a compassionate gathering community of friends and neighbors.

#### **COMMENTS OF THE CITY ATTORNEY**

The City Attorney was not present.

#### **COMMENTS OF THE CITY CLERK**

City Clerk Jacobsen reminded listeners that the polls will be open for the special election from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m., that Alaska Statutes prohibits campaigning within 200 feet of an entrance to a polling place, and she apologized in advance that the I Voted stickers will likely run out because of a high absentee voting turnout.

#### **COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER**

City Manager Koester had no comment.

#### **COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR**

Mayor Zak thanked the Council for passing the resolution regarding NOAA. He had the opportunity to go with the Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies (CACs) to do a marine debris clean up on Mt. Augustine Island. A group of students went over with their teachers to learn about the marine debris situation. It was made possible by a NOAA grant to the CACS. This week in Homer is the State Chamber of Commerce will be arriving tomorrow and he and Katie will be speak to them. The Writer's Conference is here now and meeting at Land's End.

### **COMMENTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

Councilmember Stroozas commented that Wednesday, June 14<sup>th</sup> is Flag Day. He encourage everyone to fly their flags in display of Americanism and our annual Flag Day celebration.

Councilmember Reynolds announced tomorrow evening at 5:00 p.m. there is a Green Dot gathering at Grace Ridge Brewing Company for anyone wanting to know more about it or to become more involved. Friday morning MAPP community meeting will be at the Kachemak Bay Campus there will follow-up conversation to many of the opioid issues we've been discussing as a community. Lastly, the Spit Run has a new component of a half-marathon as well as the 10k, contact Kachemak Bay Running Club for more information. She thanked everyone for a good meeting.

Councilmember Smith welcomed Hayley Smith our new Deputy Clerk and she's got more than capable folks to work with to get her on board. He expressed his appreciation for all the volunteers on the Commissions, Committees, and Task Forces, it's clear they are devoted to serving in the best interest of the community and providing Council with information they would not otherwise have. He said it's clear to him that everyone who sits at this table acts in sincerity and a way they believe is in the best interest of the community, and he appreciates that. He recognized the passing of his dear friend Alice Loveland and it occurs to him that we need to take the opportunity to truly express our gratitude to those who have a positive impact for good in our individual lives at every opportunity we can. He was able to do that and tell her she was one of his most favorite people in the world before she passed. What he wants is, as a community, we appreciate each other. We're all working toward a common end and we might have different ideas what it looks like, but we're in it together and we want the best outcome. He hopes we keep that in mind as we look each other in the eye, shake hands, and work side by side.

Councilmember Erickson commented that this has been a difficult week for her. She's watched people who claim tolerance on both sides be intolerant to others to the point of being violent, rude behavior, and slander of others. We need to get back to where we really are, a community who at the drop of a hat would help their neighbor through a crisis, and most of all enjoy the place in which we live. People ask how we will move forward from this and she has too. Her conclusion is unity begins with me. I have to choose to forgive others, I have to choose to believe the best about people, I have to choose to walk in unity, even when someone isn't worthy of that trust. It doesn't mean I'm irresponsible with that trust but have to make some

choices. Respect for others is critical. I can respect your opinion and still agree or disagree. We have to choose respect over disdain. Stirring the emotions of others instead of creating unity needs to stop. Our social media needs to be pictures of baby moose and sunny days instead of a place to crucify each other for the rest of the year. Please friends, let's make this week a much better place to live and enjoy the people around us.

Councilmember Lewis commented that a lot of hurtful things have been said, insinuated, and it's not going to be easy. He's not going to go to the campfire and sing Kumbaya after this. It will be a long time healing for a lot people. A lot of nasty things have been thrown around and it's not just going to happen overnight.

Councilmember Aderhold commented about attending the writer's conference and that it's an amazing resource. She ended the evening with the poem *Advise from an Estuary* by Wendy Erd:

*Look ordinary  
Don't ask for much  
Travel to your edge, then go further  
Empty out  
Let the moon refill you  
Embrace opposites easily  
Host travelers without borders, feed them  
Listen to the distance in their songs  
Nurture the invisible, harbor the young  
Send those you've raised out into the world  
Digest insults. Reframe and cleanse them  
Adopt silence while others speaks all around you  
Measure change calmly  
Mirror the sky  
At times,  
Be still.*

## **ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Zak adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m. The next Regular Meeting is Monday, June 26, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. a Worksession at 4:00 p.m. and Committee of the Whole 5:00 p.m. There is a Special Meeting scheduled for June 19, 2017 at 4:00 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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MELISSA JACOBSEN, MMC, CITY CLERK

Date:\_\_\_\_\_