

Session 12-02 a Regular Meeting of the Homer City Council was called to order on January 9, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor James C. Hornaday 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: HOGAN, HOWARD, LEWIS, ROBERTS,
WYTHE, ZAK

STAFF: CITY MANAGER WREDE
CITY CLERK JOHNSON
CITY ATTORNEY KLINKNER
CITY PLANNER ABOUD
COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COORDINATOR KOESTER
FINANCE DIRECTOR MAURAS
LIBRARY DIRECTOR DIXON
PORT AND HARBOR DIRECTOR HAWKINS
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR MEYER

Council met for a Special Meeting from 4:00 p.m. to 4:17 p.m. and conducted an Executive Session. Council met for a Worksession from 4:17 p.m. to 4:54 p.m. to discuss Ordinances 12-01 and 12-01(S) and met as a Committee of the Whole from 5:00 p.m. to 5:43 p.m. to discuss Revolving Energy Fund and Regular Meeting Agenda items.

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

AGENDA APPROVAL

(Addition of items to or removing items from the agenda will be by unanimous consent of the Council. HCC 1.24.040.)

The agenda was approved by consensus of the Council.

PUBLIC COMMENTS UPON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA

Chris Holderied, city resident, spoke in support of Resolution 12-005 for the Pratt Museum.

Rachel Lord, city resident, commented on the benefits of Big Brothers Big Sisters and encouraged everyone to get involved in the organization.

Paul Hueper, city resident, expressed support for Ordinance 12-03 to repair the Seawall.

Ken Bergman commented on the benefits of Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Alaine Miller, city resident and senior at Homer High, recounted her positive experience with her involvement in Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Don McNamara, city resident, asked Council to let him out of the Ocean Drive Loop Seawall Special Service District. He asked what the tax cap would be on his property.

City Attorney Klinkner advised the 30% property tax is an overall cap that includes all real property taxation. It is not the only limitation on real property taxation; there is another formula in state statute that kicks in for some cases.

Donna Rae Faulkner, city resident, asked Council to let her out of the Ocean Drive Loop Seawall Special Service District. She has asked the Army Corps for a good faith transfer.

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 Special Meeting minutes of December 12 and 19, 2011 and Regular Meeting minutes of December 12, 2011. City Clerk. Recommend adoption.
- B. **Memorandum 12-001**, from Deputy City Clerk, Re: Liquor License Renewal for Oaken Keg, BPO Elks Lodge, The Alibi, Salty Dawg Saloon, Captain Patties Fish House.
- C. **Memorandum 12-002**, from Mayor, Re: Appointment of Phil Gordon to the Library Advisory Board and Reappointment of Carla Stanley to the Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council.

Mayor Hornaday called for a motion to approve the recommendations of the consent agenda.

WYTHE/ZAK – SO MOVED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: YES. NON OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

VISITORS

- A. **Susan Kirn**, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Alaska

Susan Kirn advocated for the Big Brother Big Sister program as mentoring is a powerful way to give back and make a difference in a child's life. She encouraged Council to think of different ways they can mentor a child. It makes a difference in a child's life and a huge difference in an adult's life.

There is a community based program and school based program. The school based program meets during lunch recess and they have the summers off. Bigs and Littles and been a part of clean up day, trails day, and the Shorebird Festival. She thanked the businesses that provide discounts for Bigs and Littles.

Joel Cooper thanked Council for their support for Big Brothers Big Sisters. He is having a lot of fun with his Little match. It is a relearning experience for him doing new things with his Little, named Tim.

Tim spoke in favor of the program and the fun things and new experiences he has had with his Big, Joel.

B. Representative Paul Seaton, Oil and Gas Issues

Representative Paul Seaton reported the Legislative Session starts January 17th. Heather Beggs has been hired to replace Katie Koester who now works for the City. Information on Vitamin D was passed out.

Since the South Peninsula Gas Line was not in the Governor's budget we will be looking for citizen's participation. A natural gas surcharge titled Homer Extension Surcharge is proposed at a rate of \$1 per Mcf. Natural gas rates are \$8 per Mcf, so the \$1 surcharge would be a 12% increase for users. The surcharge would last for ten years and then cease. The RCA (Regulatory Commission of Alaska) will clarify the surcharge would be in effect for ten years. Even with the surcharge, savings for natural gas versus oil heating would average 38%. House Speaker Chenault supports the \$1 Mcf and has already talked to the Governor about it.

There is a perception the entire Homer area is in opposition to any oil and gas development. Obviously that is not the case because we have the North Fork gas field. The City of Homer has been in contact with Buchaneer about over wintering the drilling rig used in the upper Cook Inlet. He encouraged Council to have a broad public conversation and find out if the community supports the drilling rig coming to Homer. The City currently has a Deep Water Dock project on the Capital Improvement Plan. If drilling rigs anticipate tying up to the Deep Water Dock there may be a need for additional bulkheads or pilings to be added to this capital budget.

Representative Seaton has received numerous questions about the \$250,000 allocated to Karen Hornaday Park Phase I. There have been questions if the money should be held to get some more money to complete Phase II. Phase I had definite things the money was allocated for so a reappropriation would be needed to change the allocations.

Aces or Not was a presentation Representation Seaton made to the Anchorage Downtown Rotary Club and Law Seminars International to look at current oil taxes and proposals for HB110. It shows a \$1.5B deficit for each new oil field. The information is available on his website at: <http://housemajority.org/seaton>

Mayor Hornaday commented John Hendrix, a local Homer kid, is head of Apache Oil and Gas Company. We are trying to invite him to a council meeting.

Councilmember Zak asked if getting the Seawall on the CIP list would enlist state or federal government help. Representative Seaton answered he has not looked at the project and it would depend on how it is prioritized. The Legislature looks at priority lists and things that are beneficial to the citizens of Homer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/BOROUGH REPORT/COMMISSION REPORTS

A. Mayor's Proclamation, January as Mentor Month

Mayor Hornaday read and presented the proclamation to Susan Kirn and Jenny Martin.

B. Borough Report

Bill Smith, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assemblyman, reported the idea of sharing the cruise ship tax that the Borough received with Seldovia is not legally defensible, thus has gone away. The full \$36,000 will be appropriated to the City of Homer. The Borough appropriated \$44,000 for an employee for the Kenai River Center since they are communicating with everyone adjacent to anadromous streams. The Fish and Game has identified the Beluga Slough as an anadromous stream because it is rearing habitat for coho. Anything that happens within 50 ft. of the slough is subject to additional regulations.

Assemblyman Smith is still pressing for a composting study for the feasibility of doing composting to create a useable product and reduce costs of hauling waste to Soldotna.

Asked by Mayor Hornaday about the feasibility of methane gas, Assemblyman Smith reported there is methane collection on the Central Peninsula. He has not heard of any plans to collect methane at the Homer landfill.

C. Commissions/Board Reports:

1. Library Advisory Board

Eileen Faulkner, Library Advisory Board Chair, thanked Council for approving Phil Gordon as a board member. Two more members are needed since two will be retiring in March. Chair Faulkner explained Resolution 12-006 addresses fees for mp3 players and kindle players recently donated by the Friends of the Library. If a fee schedule for the items is set, they may be checked out next week. The Board is currently updating 17 policies, 5 will come forward at Council's next meeting. The LAB will set up a rotating schedule to review policies.

2. Homer Advisory Planning Commission

Sharon Minsch, Planning Commission Chair, reported Council will receive the sign code ordinance and then the East End mixed use. The commission is following the recommendations and policies based on the Comprehensive Plan. The proposed East End mixed use area covers a wide variety of commercial and heavy industrial, but it does allow residential and retail. Existing residential is allowed, but new residential has to be done in conjunction with a business. She asked Council to forward any questions to the City Manager and give staff the opportunity to have the answers available.

The East End mixed use is coming straight from the recommendations in the Comprehensive Plan. The commission is doing it for a town of 5,000 people, rather than the minority that talks about things. When ordinances come to Council they will be vetted by the Planning Commission, City Planner, and City Attorney. The City Planner is very committed to the Comprehensive Plan and doesn't like to waiver from it. Chair Minsch referenced the recent accessory use ordinance and last minute questions resulting in amendments. She asked if there was anything the Planning Commission could do to make the process better.

3. Economic Development Advisory Commission
4. Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
5. Port and Harbor Advisory Commission

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

- A. **Ordinance 11-48**, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the FY 2012 Capital Budget by Accepting and Appropriating a Legislative Grant in the Amount of \$6,000,000 for the Purpose of Constructing Deep Water / Cruise Ship Dock and Passenger Facility Improvements. City Manager. Recommended dates: Introduction December 12, 2011, Public Hearing and Second Reading January 9, 2012.

Mayor Hornaday opened the public hearing. In the absence of public testimony, Mayor Hornaday closed the public hearing.

Mayor Hornaday called for a motion for the adoption of Ordinance 11-48 by reading of title only for second and final reading.

WYTHE/LEWIS - SO MOVED.

Councilmember Zak noted there was discussion on adding additional anchors to the Deep Water Dock to accommodate jack-up rigs. Representative Seaton had suggested we send a message that we would allow the jack-up-rigs to tie up to the dock. He asked if the language could be amended to add anchors or other equipment.

City Manager Wrede answered Representative Seaton was talking about the coming year, if we specifically called out that oil and gas rigs were welcome and we might make accommodations. It would not refer to this grant.

Councilmember Hogan expressed concern of designating the Deep Water Dock as a cruise ship facility. It was originally built as a freight dock, but we have never used it as such since upgrades are needed to the trestle. He wants to make sure we have freight capability and are not compromising that.

City Manager Wrede answered the improvements here would not compromise freight deliveries and may improve them. We are starting out with new camels, bollards, and fenders. Restrooms, staging areas, and trails would enhance the dock for the passengers. In a different allocation from this grant we have \$3M, \$2M is an earmark and \$1M was granted by the Legislature last year for a study for expansion.

VOTE: YES. NON OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

ORDINANCE(S)

A. **Ordinance 12-01**, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending Homer City Code 21.60.040, Definitions; Homer City Code 21.60.060, Signs Allowed on Private Property With and Without Permits; Homer City Code 21.60.070, Permits Required; Homer City Code 21.60.080 Design, Construction, and Maintenance; Homer City Code 21.60.090, Signs in the Public Right-of-Way; Homer City Code 21.60.095, Electoral Signs; Homer City Code 21.60.100, Signs Exempt From Regulation Under this Chapter; Homer City Code 21.60.110 Signs Prohibited Under this Chapter; Homer City Code 21.60.130, Temporary Signs-Private Property; Homer City Code 21.60.150, Time of Compliance-Nonconforming Signs and Signs Without Permits; and Homer City Code 21.60.170, Enforcement and Remedies; and Repealing Homer City Code 21.60.120, General Permit Procedures; Homer City Code 21.60.140, Temporary Signs-Public Rights-of-Way; and Homer City Code 21.60.160, Violations; Regarding the Regulation of Signs. Planning. Recommended dates: Introduction January 9, 2012, Public Hearing and Second Reading January 23, 2012.

Ordinance 12-01(S), An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending Homer City Code 21.60.040, Definitions; Homer City Code 21.60.060, Signs Allowed on Private Property With and Without Permits; Homer City Code 21.60.070, Permits Required; Homer City Code 21.60.080 Design, Construction, and Maintenance; Homer City Code 21.60.090, Signs in the Public Right-of-Way; Homer City Code 21.60.100, Signs Exempt From Regulation Under This Chapter; Homer City Code 21.60.110 Signs Prohibited Under This Chapter; Homer City Code 21.60.130, Temporary Signs-Private Property; Homer City Code 21.60.150, Time of Compliance-Nonconforming Signs and Signs Without Permits; and Homer City Code 21.60.170, Enforcement and Remedies; and Repealing Homer City Code 21.60.095, Electoral Signs; Homer City Code

21.60.120, General Permit Procedures; Homer City Code 21.60.140, Temporary Signs-Public Rights-of-Way; and Homer City Code 21.60.160, Violations; Regarding the Regulation of Signs.

Memorandum 12-007 from City Planner as backup.
Memorandum 12-008 from City Attorney as backup.

Mayor Hornaday called for a motion for the adoption of Ordinance 12-01 for introduction and first reading by reading of title only.

WYTHER/ROBERTS – SO MOVED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: YES. NON OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Mayor Hornaday called for a motion to substitute Ordinance 12-01(S) for Ordinance 12-01.

WYTHER/ROBERTS – SO MOVED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: YES. NON OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

ROBERTS/WYTHER - MOVED TO CHANGE SECTION 10 ON PAGE 135 TO THE SECTION 10 FOUND ON PAGE 118, LINES 291 TO 296 AND TO REPLACE THEM.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: (amendment) YES. NON OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

VOTE: (main motion as amended) YES. NON OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- B. **Ordinance 12-02**, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the FY 2012 Operating Budget by Appropriating \$114,288 from the Sewer Reserve Account for the Polymer Equipment Replacement Project. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommended dates: Introduction January 9, 2012, Public Hearing and Second Reading January 23, 2012.

Memorandum 12-003 from Public Works Director as backup.

Mayor Hornaday called for a motion for the adoption of Ordinance 12-02 for introduction and first reading by reading of title only.

WYTHE/ROBERTS - SO MOVED.

ROBERTS/WYTHE - MOVED TO CHANGE LINE 26 TO 2012.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: (amendment) YES. NON OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Discussion on a Request for Proposals and whether the money has already been spent ensued.

City Manager Wrede answered we generally do not come to Council to authorize a RFP, only to ask for money to spend. No money has been spent besides some of the \$35,000 previously allocated.

Public Works Director Meyer reported it is fairly specialized equipment. Four suppliers were contacted to RFP, and three responses were received. The recommendation made represents the lowest cost equipment we could find. Original funds were spent for design.

VOTE: YES. NON OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- C. **Ordinance 12-03**, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the FY 2012 Operating Budget by Appropriating and Transferring \$60,000 from the General Fund Reserves to the Seawall Maintenance Reserve for the Purpose of Repairing and Maintaining the Wall. City Manager. Recommended dates: Introduction January 9, 2012, Public Hearing and Second Reading January 23, 2012.

Mayor Hornaday called for the adoption of Ordinance 12-03 for introduction and first reading by reading of title only.

LEWIS/ROBERTS – SO MOVED.

Councilmember Zak will not support the ordinance as written unless amended on line 34 to put a period after activities. We have a special service district set up and are now going to fund the reserves. The \$60,000 is an arbitrary number; there are no bids. One property owner talked about a \$5,000 to \$7,000 maintenance issue that has grown to much larger. If the funds are appropriated we are starting to create an account with an unforeseen ceiling for property owners. We have not come to a long term solution.

Councilmember Howard noted we still have the permit with the Corps of Engineers and are still somewhat responsible for the Seawall. The appropriation is to take care of fixing the wall now while pursuing other avenues for a long term solution.

Councilmember Roberts expressed support the funds be transferred, with the understanding the entire sum of \$60,000 would not be spent.

City Manager Wrede defended it is not an arbitrary number as we have a couple estimates from the firm that generally does the repairs on the Seawall. They have provided three different scenarios, including immediate repairs, a mid-term estimate to fix the current damage, and the \$60,000 quote that includes expenditures that could be done as preventative maintenance to get ahead of repairs. He does not intend to spend the \$60,000 now.

Councilmember Zak noted the homeowners along the wall are incurring a debt, the \$60,000 is an obligation for the property owners within the special service district.

Asked what happens to the money if Council does not follow up to make the special service district permanent, City Manager Wrede answered if some money is spent it is pretty much gone. The excess could be re-appropriated from the Seawall reserve account to another account. If the Seawall special service district does not pass by permanent ordinance, the funds would come out of the general fund.

VOTE: YES. ROBERTS, WYTHER, HOWARD, HOGAN, LEWIS

VOTE: NO. ZAK

Motion carried.

D. **Ordinance 12-04**, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the Deep Water Dock Security Gates and Video Surveillance Equipment Project Budget by Appropriating an Additional \$9,623.41 from the Port and Harbor Reserves for the Purpose of Addressing Unanticipated Conditions Encountered During Construction. City Manager/Port and Harbor Director. Recommended dates: Introduction January 9, 2012, Public Hearing and Second Reading January 23, 2012.

Memorandum 12-004 from Port and Harbor Director as backup.

Mayor Hornaday called for a motion for the adoption of Ordinance 12-04 for introduction and first reading by reading of title only.

WYTHER/LEWIS - SO MOVED.

Councilmember Hogan expressed concern for the project that has mushroomed to over \$100,000 for just a security gate and camera system. He asked why the extra costs do not come back on the contractor's bond.

Port and Harbor Director Hawkins answered we didn't do an accurate locate so when the power cable was struck it had to be repaired. The whole line from the trestle to the vault had to be replaced. The original construction 20 years ago was in metal conduit and had completely corroded. It is the City's responsibility to do the line locate from the vault to the dock; HEA does the line locate to the vault only.

Councilmember Hogan commented the project started out at \$30,000 and now we are above \$100,000 and covering the errors and performance of the contractor.

Port and Harbor Director Hawkins added the project had unintended consequences and the cable would have been replaced anyway due to its deteriorating condition.

VOTE: YES. LEWIS, ROBERTS, WYTHER, ZAK, HOWARD

VOTE: NO. HOGAN

Motion carried.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

A. City Manager's Report

1. Memorandum 12-005 from Public Works Director, Re: City Hall Expansion and Renovation Progress Update.

1. Revolving Energy Fund: A good portion of the Committee of the Whole meeting is devoted to a general discussion regarding the Revolving Energy Fund. Your packet contains a memorandum from the Finance Director which outlines some of the issues and concerns about the Fund and its full implementation that we referred to in prior reports. No action is scheduled for this meeting but the memorandum contains recommendations for action at future meeting. The primary author of the memorandum is Regina but Carey and I both had input and made contributions.
2. Legislative Priorities: The Legislature is getting ready to convene in Juneau toward the middle of this month. We have been thinking about what the legislative lobbying priorities should be this year. Katie and I have been talking about it and we had a meeting with Linda and Yuri on the phone this past week. I am planning to send Katie to Juneau in early February to get some early face time with key legislators. Some of the key strategy issues revolve around how to move ahead on the fish tax issue, what to do about the gas line now that the Governor has not included it in his budget but has hinted about what it would take to avoid another veto, other projects that have a chance this year that we should put energy into, and how to get some of Homer's projects included in potential statewide transportation and harbor GO Bond sales. Please let me know how the Council would like to be involved in helping to establish this year's priorities and strategy. I will try to set up a teleconference report for you with Linda for the next meeting on the 23rd.
3. Fishing Hole Funds: The FY 2011 Operating Budget contained \$7,000 as a contribution to fish stocking at the Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon. As we were reviewing year-end expenditure reports in December, we noticed that this money had not been spent and found

that no invoice had ever been received. We checked with both ADF&G and the Cook Inlet Acquaculture Corporation. It turns out that the City's contribution is usually used to purchase fry from Cook Inlet Acquaculture. ADF&G supplies the early run Kings and the Acquaculture Corp. hatchery supplied the late run Silvers. No late run Silvers were purchased this year. ADF&G said that they had no use for the money so we allowed the funds to lapse back into the G.F. Fund balance. Further, with the new ADF&G hatchery on line at Elmendorf AFB, ADF&G believes that it can supply fish within its own budget and it is questionable whether the FY 2012 appropriation will be needed either.

4. City Hall Expansion and Renovation Update: Attached is a progress report from Public Works Director Carey Meyer.
5. Cost Estimating / Harbor Revenue Bond Projects: The Port and Harbor Revenue Bond Committee has requested that the City contract with qualified engineers and/or other professionals to obtain current and more precise cost estimating for the harbor projects which may be part of a revenue bond sale. The Council added money for this purpose to the FY 2012 Budget. The purpose for doing this is so that Council will have better and more reliable information on how much it would have to borrow and how much it would have to raise fees in order to make bond payments. Representative Seaton has also requested better cost estimates so that he can work on getting some of these projects into the Capital Budget, perhaps as part of a statewide G.O. Bond sale. The City has obtained a proposal from PN&D, a qualified marine engineering firm to perform this work. The work product will be Rough Order of Magnitude (ROM) estimates and it can be delivered in less than 30 days. The cost is \$7,500, less than one half of the appropriation. The City has issued a Notice to Proceed. This will allow us to obtain the numbers quickly, as requested by the Committee.
6. ISO Workshop: Councilmember Hogan recently contacted me with some questions about the City's ISO rating. He wanted to know what the City could do to improve the rating. I asked Chief Painter to place a copy of the last ISO report in your boxes. This report outlines the scoring criteria and discusses where the City is weak and what it can do to improve its rating. Kevin asked if we could have a workshop to discuss the rating. Council can certainly do that if it wishes; especially if the ISO Report does not answer any questions you may have about how the rating is determined and what the City can do to improve it.
7. Gasline Task Force: Kachemak City Mayor Phil Morris called last week to let me know that a Task Force is being created to keep the pressure up on the gas line. The purpose of the Task Force is to raise public awareness and to strategize about a lobbying strategy for this year. The group wants to work with the business community to make sure their voice is heard by the Governor and the Legislature. The group is looking for members who have good contacts in the community and are willing to do a little work. The folks starting the Task Force are all from Kachemak City including the Mayor and at least one Councilmember. They would like to have at least one Councilmember from Homer as a member. Please let me know if you are interested or you can contact Phil directly.
8. Proposed Deep Water Dock CIP Project: Funding for additional feasibility work on the proposed Deep Water Dock Expansion is on the Top 15 CIP Priority List. Representative Seaton has suggested that it would be a good idea to change this project to one that specifically targeted improvements to the dock that benefitted oil and gas drilling rigs, whether that be feasibility studies or capital construction. The idea is that it would demonstrate that Homer is indeed open for business that supports the oil and gas industry. He believes this would change the image of Homer and perhaps some attitudes. It might make it

easier to get funding and smooth the way for gasline funding as well. He may come and talk to you about this. If Council wanted to do this, it would require a new project description and a resolution amending the CIP Priority List. This is something I would not recommend doing without a public hearing and some opportunity for the public to weigh in. All of the other projects on the CIP List have been vetted over a series of months and last minute changes like this have the potential to trivialize the process if not handled carefully.

9. Personnel Policies: We are presently looking at changes to the Personnel Policies that affect part time employee benefits and how holiday pay is calculated. There are other changes contemplated as well including the changes to the PERS benefit discussed during the budget hearings. Once we have these proposed changes ready, we will bring them to the Council for consideration.
10. Procurement Policies: The City's procurement policies have not been revised for many years and are outdated. The Finance Department has initiated a revision of those policies which will then be reviewed by the department heads. We anticipate have this to Council for consideration within the next few months.
11. Karen Hornaday Park: One of Katie's first assignments is to try and bring all of the various interest groups together and decide on a strategic plan for how to spend the money we have for implementation of Phase I of the Park Plan. Several things are driving the need to get on top of this. First, the HoPP organization is preparing to apply for a Rasmussen Grant. They would like to see a \$50,000 contribution from the City in order to provide a match and show strong local support. Some of the other interest Groups have expressed concern that the money will be spent before they get a chance at it and the broader spending plan is agreed to. Park and playground advocates have approached Representative Seaton about additional funding. He has stated that he cannot consider more funding until the existing grant money is expended. There is also confusion about the money set aside for engineering, contingency, and as a possible match for a future Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant. In short, there are lots of ideas and lots of people who care about the park. We need to get everyone on the same page and move this project ahead. This topic will be discussed at the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on the 5th and perhaps one of the members will report on it during Commission reports.
12. Training Opportunity? Holly Wells is coming to Homer to conduct a 3 or 4 hour training session for the Planning Commission the afternoon of January 24. This is the day after the Council meeting. Rick inquired as to whether the Council would like to participate. If so, topics could be selected that are important to both bodies, like the open meetings act and ex-parte contact, for example. Let us know what you think. I think it would be beneficial for all of us to sit in on a Planning Commission training even if it is tailored specifically for them.

City Manager Wrede reported he and Katie Koester, Community & Economic Development Coordinator, had a meeting with the lobbyists to discuss legislative priorities. They talked about the pipeline and the fish tax. There is discussion of big statewide general obligation bonds, some for transportation projects and some for port and harbor projects. We have an interest in getting the port and harbor projects included; some of the projects are those we are discussing bonding for. He is interested in finding other ways to pay for them. He asked if Council wanted to be involved in where to focus the energy.

Councilmember Hogan asked if the statewide general obligation bonds were driven by the Anchorage project. It is expected the Legislature will add on projects. Anchorage Mayor Sullivan and Governor Parnell are supportive of the general obligation bonds.

Councilmember Lewis asked for a push for funding for the Fishing Hole that is used by a lot of people out of the area. Council recently appropriated \$100,000 to maintain it. If the Legislature ensures the Fishing Hole is restored to its original condition we will make sure it stays there.

Councilmember Wythe asked that the \$7,000 allocated to provide fry (Item #3) be moved to the maintenance fund if the fry are not needed.

Councilmember Howard asked if the training session (Item #12) with the City Attorney could include the practical approach to amending ordinances on the floor.

B. Games Report

1. Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic
 - a. Pull Tab Vendor Registration – The Alibi & AJ’s Steakhouse

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

City Attorney Klinkner reported the November and December reports were supplied to Council and he is working on getting monthly progress reports in a more timely manner.

COMMITTEE REPORT

- A. Public Arts Committee
- B. Transportation Advisory Committee
- C. Permanent Fund Committee
- D. Lease Committee
- E. Port and Harbor Improvement Committee
- F. Employee Committee Report

PENDING BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS

- A. **Resolution 12-001**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Confirming the City Manager's Appointment of Robert Painter as Acting City Manager for the Calendar Year 2012. City Manager.

Mayor Hornaday called for a motion for the adoption of Resolution 12-001 by reading of title only.

WYTHE/LEWIS - SO MOVED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: YES. NON OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- B. **Resolution 12-002**, A Resolution of the Homer City Council Confirming the Appointments of Regina Mauras as Treasurer and Laurie Moore as Deputy Treasurer for Calendar Year 2012. City Manager.

Mayor Hornaday called for a motion for the adoption of Resolution 12-002 by reading of title only.

WYTHE/LEWIS - SO MOVED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: YES. NON OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- C. **Resolution 12-003**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Designating Signatories of City Accounts and Superseding Any Previous Resolution So Designating. City Manager.

Mayor Hornaday called for a motion for the adoption of Resolution 12-003 by reading of title only.

WYTHE/LEWIS - SO MOVED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: YES. NON OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- D. **Resolution 12-004**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the Homer Advisory Planning Commission Bylaws and Policies and Procedures Manual. Planning.

Mayor Hornaday called for a motion for the adoption of Resolution 12-004 by reading of title only.

WYTHE/ZAK - SO MOVED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: YES. NON OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- E. **Resolution 12-005**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Expressing Support for the Pratt Museum's Legislative Grant Request in the Amount of \$650,000 for the Design Phase of its New Facility and Site Redesign Project. Roberts.

ROBERTS/HOWARD - MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 12-005.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: YES. NON OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- F. **Resolution 12-006**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the Fee Schedule for Library Fees to Include Overdue Items, Photocopies, Interlibrary Loan Fee, Replacement/Repair of Items, and Improper Return of Digital Devices. City Clerk/Library Director.

Memorandum 12-010 from Library Director as backup.

Mayor Hornaday called for a motion for the adoption of Resolution 12-006 by reading of title only.

WYTHE/LEWIS - SO MOVED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: YES. NON OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

Donna Rae Faulkner, city resident, questioned Council's intent to create a special service district for the Seawall. She asked if the City really wants to visually monitor the seawall and respond to complaints, blowouts, trespassing issues, and work on private property. It is shocking and she is frightened for both the City and herself.

Don McNamara, city resident, commented the Seawall homeowners let the wall fail. He asked that the homeowners take care of it. The City has already helped homeowners immensely over the years. He requested the estimate from the contractor for needed repairs. The City is putting their insurance on the line for private property.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

City Attorney Klinkner wished everyone a Happy New Year.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY CLERK

City Clerk Johnson wished everyone a Happy New Year.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Wrede wished everyone a Happy New Year.

COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Hornaday praised the city road maintenance crews for the great job they are doing.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Councilmember Roberts commented she is glad to be in the new room. The people that remodeled the old part of the building have done a good job, especially with the new furniture. She asked how task forces are established, whether it is always by council, or if committees and commissions can establish them without approval.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Hornaday adjourned the meeting at 7:39 p.m. The next Regular Meeting is Monday, January 23, 2012 at 6:00 p.m., Committee of the Whole 5:00 p.m., and Special Meeting 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.

JO JOHNSON, CMC, CITY CLERK

Approved: _____