

ACTION AGENDA

Monday, May 14, 2012
Committee of the Whole
Regular Meeting

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AGENDA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER, 5:00 P.M.**
- 2. AGENDA APPROVAL** (Only those matters on the noticed agenda may be considered, pursuant to City Council's Operating Manual, pg. 5)

The agenda was approved by consensus of the Council.

- 3. Michelle Drew, Mikunda, Cottrell, & Co., Auditor's Report, 15 minutes.**
- 4. REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**
- 5. COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**
- 6. ADJOURNMENT NO LATER THAN 5:50 P.M.**

Mayor Hornaday adjourned the meeting at 5:41 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Session 12-14 a Regular Meeting of the Homer City Council was called to order on May 14, 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: BURGESS, HOWARD, LEWIS, ROBERTS,
WYTHE, ZAK

STAFF: ACTING CITY MANAGER PAINTER
CITY CLERK JOHNSON
DEPUTY CITY CLERK JACOBSEN
CITY ATTORNEY WELLS
ACTING FINANCE DIRECTOR MOORE
POLICE CHIEF ROBL
PORT AND HARBOR DIRECTOR HAWKINS
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR MEYER
COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COORDINATOR KOESTER

- 2. 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 with the following changes: **RESOLUTIONS - Resolution 12-043**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Accepting and Approving Recommendations Submitted by the Port and Harbor Improvement Committee Regarding Capital Improvements in the Harbor and the Funding Thereof and Authorizing the City Manager to Prepare the Documents Necessary for Grant Funding, a Revenue Bond Sale, and the Fee Adjustments Necessary to Service the Bonds. Howard, Lewis, Wythe. Memorandum 12-082 from Economic Development Advisory Commission as backup.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS UPON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA

There were 7 who commented.

4. RECONSIDERATION

5. 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 and Regular Meeting minutes of April 23, 2012. City Clerk. Recommend adoption.
- B. **Memorandum 12-074**, from Mayor, Re: Reappointment of Roberta Highland to the Transportation Advisory Committee and Angie Newby to the Public Arts Committee.
Memorandum 12-078 from Transportation Advisory Committee as backup.
- C. **Ordinance 12-19**, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Accepting and Appropriating a Commercial Vessel Passenger Tax Program Pass Through Grant from the Kenai Peninsula Borough for FY 2011 in the Amount of \$32,687.50, and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager. Recommended dates: Introduction May 14, 2012, Public Hearing and Second Reading May 29, 2012.

APPROVED without discussion.

6. VISITORS

- A. Michelle Drew, Mikunda, Cottrell, & Co., Auditor's Report, 10 minutes.

Michelle Drew, auditor of record from Mikunda, Cottrell, thanked the Mayor and Council for their business and thanked the finance department and the other managers of city departments. The 2011 audit resulted in a clean audit opinion, the best opinion from an external auditor. In 2011 the city spent \$2.8 million in federal assistance and \$3 million in state financial assistance

necessitating a federal and state single audit in addition to the regular audit. Those audits were completed with a clean audit opinion and reported no findings and no question cost, an excellent thing. In 2011 the city's general fund increased fund balance by \$1.1 million, better than what the city had budgeted, primarily a result of higher than expected sales tax and higher than anticipated state operating grants. On the expense side, the city under spent its budget by approximately \$200,000 with most departments coming in slightly under budget. The change in 2010 of the water and sewer enterprise fund to the utility special revenue enterprise fund resulted in a 2011 net effect was a loss of \$300,000 which includes the effects of issuance of debt in the amount of \$2.1 million, payment of debt of \$1.1 million, and capital construction costs of \$3 million. The port fund is the sole enterprise activity of the city and it incurred an \$800,000 loss which includes the effects of depreciation, \$1.4 million. If it did not have depreciation running through it the port would have shown a \$600,000 increase to fund balance. Its unreserved portion of net assets is \$62,000 which is quite low. The city administers numerous smaller funds which collectively incurred a \$1 million reduction in fund balance, primarily a result of anticipated or budgeted capital projects specifically the city hall remodel and energy efficiency projects made up the bulk of that overall use of fund balance. Ms. Drew encouraged management and council to keep an eye on the utility fund, the port fund, and health insurance internal service funds to ensure they don't swing too far one way or the other. The financial records were in good condition with minimal journal entries to books and records presented for audit. This audit document will be submitted to the Government Finance Officers Association for review in participation of the certificate of achievement for excellence in government financial reporting, an award the city has received for numerous years.

Mayor thanked Ms. Drew and the Finance Department for their good work.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/BOROUGH REPORT/COMMISSION REPORTS

- A. **Mayor's Proclamation** – Peace Officers Memorial Day May 15 and National Police Week May 13 – 19, 2012

Mayor Hornaday read the proclamation and presented it to Police Chief Robl.

- B. **Mayor's Proclamation** - National Public Works Week – May 20 – 26, 2012

Mayor Hornaday read the proclamation and presented it to Public Works Director Meyer.

- C. **Mayor's Proclamation** - National Women's Health Week - May 13 – 19, 2012

Mayor Pro Tempore Wythe read the proclamation and presented it to Jillian Rogers.

- D. **Mayor's Proclamation** – Bike to Work Week - May 14 – 18, 2012

Mayor Hornaday read the proclamation and presented it to Catriona Lowe.

- E. Borough Report

- F. Commissions/Board Reports:
 - 1. Library Advisory Board
 - 2. Homer Advisory Planning Commission
 - 3. Economic Development Advisory Commission
 - 4. Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
 - 5. Port and Harbor Advisory Commission
- G. Letter of thanks from Hospice of Homer

8. PUBLIC HEARING(S)

A. Port and Harbor Revenue Bond Project

There was no public testimony.

- B. **Resolution 12-037**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the City of Homer Fee Schedule for Port and Harbor Fees for the Purpose of Repaying a Revenue Bond and Contributing to the Port and Harbor Enterprise Reserves. City Clerk/Port and Harbor Advisory Commission.

There was no public testimony

- C. **Resolution 12-038**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the Port of Homer Terminal Tariff No. 600 for the Purpose of Repaying a Revenue Bond and Contributing to the Port and Harbor Enterprise Reserves. City Clerk/Port and Harbor Advisory Commission.

There was no public testimony

- D. **Ordinance 12-17(S)**, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Appropriating \$30,000 from the Port and Harbor Reserves to Make Emergency Repairs and/or Replace Damaged Float Piles in the Homer Harbor and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Change Order to the Existing Contract with Pacific Pile and Marine to Conduct the Harbor Float Piling Repair and Replacement Work in an Amount Not to Exceed \$30,000. City Manager.
Memorandums 12-068 and 12-077 from Port and Harbor Director as backup.

There was no public testimony

FAILED with discussion.

- E. **Ordinance 12-18**, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the 2012 Operating Budget to Allow for the Completion of the 2012 Streets Repaving Project Utilizing Homer Accelerated Roads and Trails Program (HART) Funds in

an Amount Not to Exceed \$900,000. City Manager/Public Works Director. Introduction April 23, 2012, Public Hearing and Second Reading May 14, 2012. Memorandum 12-065 from Public Works Director as backup.

There was no public testimony

ADOPTED without discussion.

9. ORDINANCE(S)

- A. **Ordinance 12-20**, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the FY 2012 Operating Budget by Appropriating and Transferring \$3,000 from the General Fund Reserve (Fund Balance) to the Public Arts Committee for the Baycrest Overlook Improvement Gateways Project. City Manager. Recommended dates: Introduction May 14, 2012, Public Hearing and Second Reading May 29, 2012.

Memorandums 12-070 and 12-071 from Public Arts Committee as backup.

ADOPTED without discussion.

10. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- A. City Manager's Report

Acting City Manager Painter explained his report was intended to bring the council up to speed on the state of the Fire Department in Homer and would be happy to answer questions.

Mayor Hornaday commended Chief Painter on a well operating fire department. They seem to be working fine with the paid and unpaid volunteers and we very much appreciate the fire department's work.

Councilmember Burgess questioned availability of funds to recapitalize the aging equipment and a budget shortfall of 50% for ambulance services. Fire Chief Painter responded that they have looked at collections regarding ambulance service. We lost some revenue when the service area took over their own operations a few years ago, but it was not a significant impact as it only accounted for 20% of overall call volume. The finance department does the ambulance billing and they have been working with finance to recoup some of the lost revenues. There isn't much room to do anything in the fee schedules. Most clientele would be covered under some type of insurance, which is helpful in offsetting ambulance costs. They don't charge for many other services other than fire standby and contract with the division of forestry. There hasn't been much in the way of wild land season the last couple years and this season is looking hopeful for a safe wild land season, but potential is always there. They cooperate with the division of forestry so could be called to go anywhere on the peninsula.

Mayor Hornaday noted they got a report that the Governor did not veto any of Homer's projects this year. He thanked everyone who worked on that.

B. Bid Report

11. CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

City Attorney Wells did not have a report and there were no questions from Council.

12. 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

13. PENDING BUSINESS

A. **Resolution 11-090**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Supporting the Concept and Construction of Non-Motorized Pathways to Increase the Safety for Motorized and Non-Motorized Users Along Kachemak Drive Located Within the City Limits, from the Base of the Homer Spit to East End Road. Lewis/Zak/Parks and Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission.

Resolution 11-090(S), A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Supporting ~~The Concept And~~ Construction of a Non-Motorized Pathways to Increase ~~The~~ Safety for Motorized and Non-Motorized Users Along Kachemak Drive Located Within the **Homer** City Limits, from the Base of the Homer Spit to East End Road. Lewis/Zak/Parks and Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission.

SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION FAILED with discussion.

ORIGINAL RESOLUTION AMENDED-

- Strike “and construction” in title and line 23
- Strike line 32, “lowering the speed limit”
- Add Therefore Be it Further Resolved that the Trails Committee work with the Transportation Advisory Committee and develop the package more fully recognizing and identifying what are the permits, what has to go into it, and rough cost.

ADOPTED as amended with discussion.

14. NEW BUSINESS

15. RESOLUTIONS

- A. **Resolution 12-039**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Accepting the 2011 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report with Audit and Financial Statements and Acknowledging the Management Letter Submitted by the City's Independent Auditor, Mikunda, Cottrell, & Co. and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute the Financial Report. City Manager/Finance.

ADOPTED without discussion.

- B. **Resolution 12-040**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Extending the City of Homer Prisoner Meal Service Contract for One Year to the Firm of Caribou Family Restaurant of Homer, Alaska, and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Clerk.

Memorandum 12-075 from Police Chief as backup.

ADOPTED without discussion.

- C. **Resolution 12-041**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Designating Community Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Priorities and Requesting that the City Economic Development Advisory Commission Review These Priorities and Provide Recommendations Regarding Implementation Strategies Including Timetables, Responsible Parties, and Funding. Wythe.

ADOPTED with discussion.

- D. **Resolution 12-042**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Requesting That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Transfer its Share of State Fisheries Business Tax Proceeds that are Collected in the City of Homer to the City of Homer to Assist It with Maintenance, Repair, and Replacement of Critical Port and Harbor Infrastructure. Howard, Lewis, Wythe.

ADOPTED without discussion.

- E. **Resolution 12-043**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Accepting and Approving Recommendations Submitted by the Port and Harbor Improvement Committee Regarding Capital Improvements in the Harbor and the Funding Thereof and Authorizing the City Manager to Prepare the Documents Necessary for Grant Funding, a Revenue Bond Sale, and the Fee Adjustments Necessary to Service the Bonds. Howard, Lewis, Wythe.

Memorandum 12-076 from Port and Harbor Improvement Committee as backup.

Memorandum 12-079 from Port and Harbor Advisory Commission as backup.

ADOPTED with discussion.

- F. **Resolution 12-044**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Expressing Its Intent to Initiate a Broad and Inclusive Community Review Process on the Merits of Public Financing for Construction of a Natural Gas Distribution System Within the City and Setting a Workshop Date for June 4, 2012 to Begin the Process. Burgess.

Memorandum 12-080 from Economic Development Advisory Commission as backup.

Councilmember Wythe was recused from participating based on a previous determination and left the room.

ADOPTED without discussion.

Councilmember Wythe returned to the table.

- G. **Resolution 12-045**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Awarding the Wastewater Treatment Plant Boiler Replacement Project to the Firm of Orca Specialties, Inc. of Homer, Alaska, in the Amount of \$17,437.50 and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Clerk/Public Works Director.

Memorandum 12-081 from Public Works Director as backup.

Mayor Hornaday disclosed that he did legal work for Orca Specialties many years back. He has no financial interest at this time. Mayor Pro Tempore Wythe found he had no conflict and could participate and there was no objection from council.

ADOPTED with discussion.

- H. **Resolution 12-046**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Authorizing the City Manager to Enter Into a New Short Term Lease with the Homer Boys and Girls Club and to Extend the Club's Occupancy of the Lower Level of the Homer Education and Recreation Complex Building (HERC) Until September 1, 2012. Burgess/Howard.

AMENDED:

- Change September 1 to December 31 throughout the resolution.

ADOPTED as amended with discussion.

16. COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

Audience comments upon any matter. 3 minutes. Sign in!!

There were two who commented.

17. COMMENTS OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

City Attorney Wells said she enjoys being here and hopes to come more often.

18. COMMENTS OF THE CITY CLERK

City Clerk Johnson had no comment.

19. COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER

Acting City Manager Painter thanked the Council for going easy on him tonight.

20. COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Hornaday had no comments.

21. COMMENTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Councilmember Wythe stated that she is not opposed to the Boys and Girls Club, she is not opposed to trails and parks, or any of these projects, she thinks they are all great. The problem is this city has decided they don't want to collect sales tax year round on food. That in and of itself doesn't sound like an onerous thing to do, but the impact of that on the city's finances is sizable and puts the people at this table in a position to have to say we just cut our revenue by five or six hundred thousand dollars, but two years later we have yet to cut a program and every time we try to change anything with a program we have the same out crying of we need this program or all of our children will be on the streets behaving badly. She doesn't necessarily believe that is true as there are activities and programs in the community for our children. Boys and Girls Club and Community Recreation are great opportunities and she appreciates and understands all of them, but the big picture is eventually something has to go. She doesn't feel we can quit having police or fire department support, or quit plowing roads or providing a water and sewer system. In looking what has to be done to make up for the revenues that have been lost, it has to start somewhere. Every time we have this discussion, she always feels like she walks away being the bad guy because she says we can't afford to pay for all of this yet we continue taking money out of reserves to make sure these things happen. Eventually we will come to the end line and she hopes they find that place before they really get to far into the reserves.

Councilmember Lewis echoes Councilmember Wythe and that if we want certain things we have to be willing to pay for them. That is the bottom line. He congratulated the boys and girls high school soccer teams and wished the boys luck at regions. It is the boys first undefeated season since becoming a regular sanctioned sport and they have a good chance of taking regions.

Councilmember Zak commented that the water tastes great. He has never felt better about what is happening in the community. With the passage of the gas line in the capital budget they will be looking at proposal options and looking at what the savings will be for the business owners, government entities and the overall community. The Kachemak Drive path needs a little more thought put into it, and consideration by the Transportation Committee but the key points of connectivity and safety were brought up. In the future if it could be moved up on the CIP and

they can continue to support it. He commented regarding the HOPP project and build week coming up at Hornaday Park, he has never seen more community energy and positive up beat people getting involved. He also commented about the Shorebird Festival and Chamber bringing so many people to the community. He is optimistic about our future and was pleased with the report from the auditors.

Councilmember Roberts said she is glad to hear the gas line in moving forward and thanked Representative Seaton for working with the city on that. She congratulated the Police Department and Public Works for their good work for the city, they are unseen but the community relies on them and she is glad to see they are celebrating them this week. She wanted to remind everyone about the HOPP building program next week and encouraged people to sign up on line and help. She has heard that people from other communities say it is an experience to be remembered.

Councilmember Howard noted that the problem with being nearly last is that she has nothing else to add.

Councilmember Burgess wanted to reiterate for the bike path people that they would like to help them move forward and let them know if they can better articulate their needs. Gas distribution to Homer is great, he looks forward to talking about what they are going to when it gets here. He commented in regard to Councilmember Wythe's comments that it is hard to be in the position to say no because we don't have the money, he respects her position and thinks we need to acknowledge if that's the case. He hopes they can find a way for her not to be recused from discussion on the gas distribution system.

22. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Hornaday adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m. The next Regular Meeting is Tuesday, May 29, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. and Committee of the Whole 5:00 p.m. All meetings scheduled to be held in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.