

ACTION AGENDA

Monday, September 9, 2013

Worksession

Committee of the Whole

Regular Meeting

WORKSESSION AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER, 4:00 P.M.

Councilmember Zak has requested telephonic participation.

Mayor Wythe called the meeting to order at 4:00 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. 2014 - 2019 Capital Improvement Plan & FY 2015 Legislative Requests

A. Public Safety Building

4. COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

There was one who commented.

5. ADJOURNMENT NO LATER THAN 4:50 P.M.

Mayor Wythe adjourned the meeting at 4:41 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AGENDA

2. CALL TO ORDER, 5:00 P.M.

Councilmember Zak has requested telephonic participation.

Mayor Wythe called the meeting to order at 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. Capital Improvement Request for Information Technology

Memorandum 13-130 from IT Manager as backup.

- 4. CONSENT AGENDA**
- 5. REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**
- 6. COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**

There was one who commented.

- 7. ADJOURNMENT NO LATER THAN 5:50 P.M.**

Mayor Wythe adjourned the meeting at 5:34 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Session 13-18, a Regular Meeting of the Homer City Council was called to order on September 9, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Mary E. Wythe at the Homer City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska, and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: BURGESS, DOLMA, HOWARD, LEWIS, ROBERTS, ZAK
(telephonic)

STAFF: CITY MANAGER WREDE
CITY CLERK JOHNSON
CITY ATTORNEY WELLS
COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COORDINATOR KOESTER
IT MANAGER POOLOS
LIBRARY DIRECTOR DIXON
PORT AND HARBOR DIRECTOR HAWKINS

Councilmember Zak has requested telephonic participation.

APPROVED without discussion.

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

- 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 following changes were made:

PUBLIC HEARINGS - Resolution 13-087(A), A Resolution of the Homer City Council Adopting the 2014-2019 Capital Improvement Plan and Establishing Capital Project Legislative Priorities for Fiscal Year 2015. Mayor/City Council. Memorandum 13-131 from Community and Economic Development Coordinator as backup. Written public comments. **CITY ATTORNEY REPORT** - City Attorney Report of August, 2013.

The agenda as amended was approved by consensus of the Council.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS UPON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA

There was no public comment.

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 Regular meeting minutes of August 26, 2013. City Clerk. Recommend adoption.
- B. **Ordinance 13-38**, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the FY 2013 Capital Budget by Appropriating \$300,000 From a Combination of the Fire Department, Police Department, and General Depreciation Reserve Funds to Begin Preliminary Engineering and Design Work on the Proposed New Public Safety Building. Mayor/City Council. Recommended dates: Introduction September 9, 2013, Public Hearing and Second Reading September 23, 2013.

Memorandum 13-129 from City Manager as backup.

- C. **Resolution 13-090**, A Resolution of the Homer City Council Amending the Preliminary Assessment Roll for the Homer Natural Gas Special Assessment District by Exempting Certain Properties and Making Amendments for Recorded Property Plat Actions Through August 27, 2013. City Clerk. Recommend Adoption

Memorandum 13-128 from Planning Technician as backup.

- D. **Resolution 13-091**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Dedicating the Proceeds of a Future Sale of the Fire Hall and Police Station Property to a Special Fund Earmarked for Financing Construction of the Proposed New Public Safety Building. Mayor/City Council. Recommend Adoption

Item D – Resolution 13-091 was moved to Resolutions.

The consent agenda as amended was approved by consensus of the Council.

6. VISITORS

- A. **Homer Voice for Business**, Mike Dye, 10 minutes.

Mike Dye introduced Tom Stroozas, publisher of America's Cuisine Dining Guide. Mr. Stroozas provided Council with information on Homer Voice for Business.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/BOROUGH REPORT/COMMISSION REPORTS

- A. Borough Report

- B. Commissions/Board Reports:

1. Library Advisory Board
 - a. Chair David Groesbeck, 2014 Budget Requests

David Groesbeck, Library Advisory Board Chair, had a PowerPoint presentation on the Library's needs.

2. Homer Advisory Planning Commission
3. Economic Development Advisory Commission
4. Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission

Robert Archibald, Parks and Recreation Advisory Commissioner, provided an update on the commission's activities.

5. Port and Harbor Advisory Commission

8. PUBLIC HEARING(S)

- A. **Resolution 13-087(A)**, A Resolution of the Homer City Council Adopting the 2014-2019 Capital Improvement Plan and Establishing Capital Project Legislative Priorities for Fiscal Year 2015. Mayor/City Council. (Postponed from August 26, 2013)

Memorandum 13-131 from Community and Economic Development Coordinator as backup.

There were four who testified.

Councilmember Burgess disclosed a possible conflict on interest on the CIP. He is an adjacent property owner that would benefit with the water improvement on the CIP.

Mayor Wythe ruled Councilmember Burgess did not have a conflict as he would be voting on the CIP as a whole, not on individual projects. There was no objection from the Council.

AMENDED: Page 4 of the CIP Public Safety Building under Plans and Progress to delete all the words and replace with: The City of Homer has identified a site at the Homer Education and Recreation Center (HERC) at the corner of Sterling Highway and Pioneer. Funds have been appropriated for a preliminary design.

RECONSIDERED.

AMENDED: Page 7 of the CIP East to West Transportation Corridor City of Homer Match 25% of the total projected project costs from the HART Fund.

ADOPTED as AMENDED with discussion.

- B. **Ordinance 13-36**, An Ordinance of the Homer City Council Appropriating Five Percent (5%) of the Tax Revenue Generated by the Drill Rig Endeavour, an Amount of \$9,054.36, to The Homer Foundation. City Clerk/Permanent Fund Committee. Introduction August 26, 2013, Public Hearing and Second Reading September 9, 2013.

There was no public testimony.

ADOPTED without discussion.

9. **ORDINANCE(S)**

10. **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

- A. City Manager's Report
 - 1. Water Treatment Plant and Sewer Treatment Plant Articles
 - 2. Employee Anniversary letter

City Manager Wrede referenced the articles on the water and wastewater treatment plants. They are both top notch facilities and with highly skilled and trained employees.

Cutting has begun for the trees obstructing flight paths near the airport according to a member of the Kachemak Drive Path Association.

Mayor Wythe acknowledged 56 years of service being celebrated by 9 employees. A second long term employee from Public Works is retiring. They have lost over 50 years of service in the last few weeks.

- B. Bid Report
- C. Games Report
 - 1. Homer Chamber of Commerce

11. CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

1. City Attorney Report for August 2013

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
- G. Port and Harbor Building Task Force

Councilmember Howard reported the task force is off to a good start. At their first meeting they were briefed on office space needs and site location needs by the architect and engineer. Their next meeting is September 20th; they will set a timeline and public hearings.

13. PENDING BUSINESS

- A. **Resolution 13-088**, A Resolution of the Homer City Council Confirming the Assessment Roll, Establishing Dates for Payment of Special Assessments and Establishing Delinquency, Penalty, and Interest Provisions for the Kachemak Drive Phase II Water and Sewer Special Assessment District. City Clerk. (Postponed from August 26, 2013.)

ADOPTED without discussion.

14. NEW BUSINESS

15. RESOLUTIONS

- A. **Resolution 13-091**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Dedicating the Proceeds of a Future Sale of the Fire Hall and Police Station Property to a Special Fund Earmarked for Financing Construction of the Proposed New Public Safety Building. Mayor/City Council. Recommend adoption.

AMENDED: Lines 7, 25, and 30 to say the proceeds “of any potential” future sale. Line 35 amended to add: “in the case that any indebtedness or debt obligation for the construction of new public safety facilities currently exist.”

ADOPTED as AMENDED with discussion.

16. COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

There were five who commented.

17. COMMENTS OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

City Attorney Wells had no comment.

18. COMMENTS OF THE CITY CLERK

City Clerk Johnson announced absentee voting begins on September 16 and continues through October 1st. Absentee voting will be available at the Clerk’s office and the Borough will be also be conducting absentee voting in the lobby 8-5 Monday through Friday.

19. COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Wrede had no comment.

20. COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Wythe commented they heard from very diverse groups including Homer Voice for Business, the Library Advisory Board, and recreation people. A lot of people want to partner with Council; we need people to provide a financial backer for all the things we want to fund. We have a single budget that incorporates all these things. The responsibility of the Council is to provide life safety issues and to maintain the roads. If there is money left we can maintain the library and have parks and recreation. We are functioning on a budget that has been reduced by over \$3M in the last eight years. We are down many city employees and have not filled some jobs for four years. We struggle with hiring new employees as we are not competitive. There are a lot of challenges that are decades old, including poorly maintained or inadequately funded facilities. We are trying to make up the gap, but we have to prioritize. We changed the philosophy for the CIP to figure out a smarter way to do business and manage the business of the City of Homer. When we ask for state or federal funding they will see the City as a structured professional organization that is seeking financial partners. It is a succinct change in the way the City does business; there are still years of business to get caught up. Never presume when we are not in agreement that we are not listening. We are always listening, but don’t always have the ability.

21. COMMENTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Councilmember Roberts commented we have just discovered tonight that many councilmembers have not been getting city email regularly. If you sent email in the last 2-3 weeks with no response, perhaps it is the email problem. She appreciated the Kachemak Ski Club coming in and asking to be included in the CIP.

Councilmember Dolma commented it was nice to see a lot of folks in the audience, including students, parks and recreation people, library people, and Homer Voice for Business. We can do all the things all of you ask for if we raise your taxes. Tell us what you want, but tell us how to pay for it.

Councilmember Burgess agreed the alternative to not being fiscally responsible as a council is saddling our children and our future city and future ability to provide core services. Homer is in an enviable position as we have done good budgeting with a reasonable reserve. We are running a tight ship and are feeling the strain of it. The alternative is a lot worse. He thanked the Homer Voice for Business for coming out. It is important that the people put together a cohesive voice for their ideas and policy. When it comes before the Council he looks forward to their ideas.

Councilmember Lewis congratulated Zoe Story on winning the Channel 2 News Future Fund Scholarship. On the library we saw that the other communities spend a lot more money on books. Soldotna is talking about expanding their sports center. These are all towns that did not take a tax holiday when the City of Homer did. You get what you pay for. If you don't want it you don't pay for it, but you can't have it and not pay for it and that will be the story from now on.

Councilmember Howard wished everyone a good evening.

Councilmember Zak commented he voted against the CIP. The remainder of his comments were inaudible.

22. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Wythe adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m. The next Regular Meeting is Monday, September 23, 2013 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.