

Session 19-06 a Regular Meeting of the Homer City Council was called to order on February 25, 2019 by Mayor Pro Tem Heath Smith at 6:00 p.m. at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska, and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith announced Mayor Castner is excused, timely notice was given, and there was no objection expressed.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith asked for a motion to allow Councilmember Stroozas to participate telephonically.

LORD/VENUTI MOVED TO ALLOW COUNCILMEMBER STROOZAS TO PARTICIPATE TELEPHONICALLY

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

PRESENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: ADERHOLD, ERICKSON, LORD, SMITH, STROOZAS
(Telephonic), VENUTI

ABSENT: MAYOR CASTNER (Excused)

STAFF: CITY MANAGER KOESTER
CITY CLERK JACOBSEN

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 2.08.040.)

Mayor Pro Tem Smith asked for a motion for the approval of the agenda as amended.

ERICKSON/VENUTI SO MOVED

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

MAYORAL PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

A. Recognition of former Councilmember John Fenske

Mayor Pro Tem Smith read and presented the recognition to Lou Marion. Mr. Marion thanked Council for the recognition and thanked the community for their support.

PUBLIC COMMENTS UPON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA

Taz Tally, area resident, commented in support of developing a Wayfinding and Streetscape Plan for the City of Homer. These types of attractive and consistent visual guides feature some important component of our marketing infrastructure, which benefits everyone. He explained that the Homer Spit and Harbor walking routes have been improved making the area more welcoming and interesting to tourists and locals, and emphasized that these types of improvements will be beneficial to Pioneer Avenue and downtown Homer.

Larry Slone, city resident, commented regarding the recognition of John Fenske and his understanding that John didn't want a memorial because he was comfortable with what he'd accomplished in this world and his life. He was a renaissance man, a Jack of all Trades, and he will miss John.

Chris Holderied, city resident, shared her appreciation for the recognition of John Fenske. He was an amazing public servant, he gave hugely, and was dedicated to helping others and helping our community. She hopes to emulate those parts of what she saw him bring in what she carries forward. For as much as they disagreed frequently about many things, they were still able to work together, and he lived that model as well.

Alan Parks shared that he was on the Council with John Fenske and he and John were also friends. He shared about working with John on the Council and what John's friendship meant to him. He was a good friend who always put a lot of energy and effort into people. He won't forget what John contributed to his life.

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 February 11, 2019. City Clerk. Recommend adoption.
- B. **Memorandum 19-027** from Planning Re: Providing Further Direction Homer Area Transportation Plan Update. Recommend Approval.
- C. **Ordinance 19-10**, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the Operating Budget in the Amount of \$19,700.00 from the Port and Harbor Reserves for the Purpose of Purchasing and Installing Fencing to Divide Lot 12, Homer Spit Subdivision No. 5 Secured Storage into Regulated and Unregulated Cargo Areas. City Manager/Port Director. Recommended dates Introduction February 25, 2019, Public Hearing and Second Reading March 11, 2019.
- D. **Resolution 19-012**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the Council's Operating Manual Regarding Telephonic Participation, Re-Organizing Sections, Clarifying Language, and Adding Appendices for Homer City Code Excerpts. City Clerk. Recommend adoption.

Moved to Resolutions A. Aderhold

- E. **Resolution 19-013**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Supporting the University of Alaska Underscoring the Key Role the Kachemak Bay Brand of the Kenai Peninsula College has in Homer and Encouraging Full Funding of the University at Existing Levels. Venuti. Recommend Adoption.

Moved to Resolutions B. Aderhold

Item D and E moved to Resolutions A and B. Aderhold

City Clerk Jacobsen read the consent agenda with the recommendations.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith asked for a motion for the adoption of the consent agenda as read.

ERICKSON/VENUTI SO MOVED

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

VISITORS

A. Presentation on Wayfinding and Streetscapes – Economic Development Advisory Commission (10 minutes)

Karin Marks, Economic Development Advisory Commission Chair and Jeffery Johnson, Economic Development Advisory Commissioner, presented to Council. They explained the Commission has been working on a Wayfinding and Streetscape Plan for Homer in response to the Business Retention and Expansion survey the Commission completed last year. Respondents to the survey indicated that beautification improvements, particularly on Pioneer Avenue and the Central Business Districts (CBD), and greenspace and walkability are ways to improve both the business environment and quality of life in Homer.

Wayfinding is using landmarks, signage, and pathways to help navigate and experiences a place, and Streetscapes are amenities that promote safety, comfort and an interest in exploring an area on foot. A Wayfinding and Streetscape Plan would identify a system to help orient visitors and assist them in moving around Pioneer Avenue and the CBD using effective signage and land marks, and also increase safety by clearly identifying tsunami evacuation routes and safe zones. The plan will assist in guiding future purchasing and placement of streetscape and public space enhancements along routes and points of interest, and provide a vision to encourage State and private business in areas like placement of wayfinding signs and hosting parks or bench locations.

Mrs. Marks and Mr. Johnson addressed how Homer can benefit and compete for business patronage from tourists and locals through cohesive and thoughtful design, vibrant street environments, and wayfinding improvements to help pedestrians connect our landmarks and amenities. They identified economic benefits that include attracting new and repeat visitors by responding to changing demographic and economic trends, support for local businesses, and local tax revenues. They showed pictures of what we have in the area now, including varying signage and sign clutter, and pictures of creative signage from other communities. The EDC recommendation to City Council is to support their work on a new multi-modal Transportation Plan in which wayfinding-streetscape is included an integral component. If it is not included as part of an update to the Transportation Plan, the EDC recommends City Council consider ways to develop a stand-alone Streetscape-Wayfinding Plan.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/BOROUGH REPORT/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Mayor Pro Tem Report on Committee of the Whole Discussion

Councilmember Aderhold reported the Council reviewed consent and regular agenda items. They spent some time discussing the City Manager’s Report and the March 5th worksession where that will include a legislative update and then discussion with Kachemak City Council

regarding city water service. They also touched on the meeting with the bond bank regarding the regarding the bond for the new police station.

B. Councilmember Report on Worksession Discussion

Councilmember Lord reported the Council reviewed and discussed the letters of interest that were submitted for the HERC and discussed next steps. A resolution will be coming forward at the next meeting by Councilmembers Aderhold and Erickson authorizing an RFP for third part property management to manage leases at the HERC.

C. Borough Report

D. Commissions/Board/Committee Reports (5 minute limit per report)

1. Library Advisory Board

Mark Massion, Library Advisory Boardmember gave a brief report about the Big Read.

2. Homer Advisory Planning Commission

3. Economic Development Advisory Commission

Karin Marks, Economic Development Advisory Commission Chair, reported members of the Homer Hockey Association have been attending their meeting and and have presented information looking at Homer Hockey as an economic engine in the off season. She also encourage people to look at the Chamber of Commerce Visitor Guide. They've made some changes and its moving in a positive direction.

4. Parks Art Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission

5. Port and Harbor Advisory Commission

6. Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance Committee

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

- A. **Ordinance 19-08**, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY 2019 Operating Budget by Appropriating \$39,500 from Fire Reserves to Purchase Replacement Personal Protective Equipment for the Homer Volunteer Fire Department. City Manager/Fire Chief. Introduction February 11, 2019, Public Hearing and Second Reading February 25, 2019.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith opened the public hearing. There were no comments and the public hearing was closed.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith asked for a motion for the adoption of Ordinance 19-08 by reading of title only for second and final reading.

ERICKSON/VENUTI SO MOVED

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

- B. **Ordinance 19-09**, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Accepting and Appropriating a \$100,000 Service Extension Fees and Authorizing the Extension of City of Homer Water Services to Lot 2B, Puffin Acres Milepost 3, East End Road in Kachemak City. Mayor. Introduction February 11, 2019, Public Hearing and Second Reading February 25, 2019.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith opened the public hearing. There were no comments and the public hearing was closed.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith asked for a motion for the adoption of Ordinance 19-09 by reading of title only for second and final reading.

ERICKSON/LORD MOVED TO POSTPONE TO MARCH 11

Councilmember Lord noted that this is being postponed because a worksession has been scheduled on March 5th with Kachemak City Mayor and Council to discuss water service.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

- C. **Ordinance 19-07(S)**, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the FY 2019 Capital Budget by Appropriating FY2019 Community Assistance in the Amount of \$177,172.05 from the Police Station Fund to Set Free Alaska for the Purpose of Securing Matching Funds to Establish an Addiction Treatment Center in Homer. Smith/Erickson. Introduction January 28, 2019, Second Reading and Public Hearing February 11, 2019.

Ordinance 19-07(S-2), An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the FY 2019 Capital Budget by Appropriating FY2019 Community Assistance in the Amount of \$177,172.05 from the Police Station Fund to **Mobilizing for Action Through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) for the Opioid Task Force Coordination; Homer Foundation for City Of Homer Grants Related to Addiction Prevention, Treatment, Harm Reduction, and Recovery; and** Set Free Alaska For The Purpose Of Establishing an **a Residential** Addiction Treatment Center in Homer. **Smith/Erickson Aderhold/Venuti.**

Ordinance 19-07(S-3), An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY 2019 Capital Budget by Appropriating FY2019 Community Assistance in the Amount of \$177,172.05 from the Police Station Fund **and \$7,827.95 from the General Fund** to **Homer Foundation for City of Homer Grants Related to Addiction Prevention, Treatment, Harm Reduction, and Recovery; and** Set Free Alaska for the Purpose of **to aid the Construction of a Residential and Out-Patient** Addiction Treatment Center in Homer. **Aderhold/Venuti/Smith/Erickson**

Mayor Pro Tem Smith opened the public hearing.

Sherry Hill, Operations Director of Set Free Alaska, commented they are a substance abuse treatment center in the MatSu Valley, providing outpatient and residential treatment, and also children's behavioral health services. They are looking at opening a 16 bed residential treatment center for men only in Homer, and at some point follow up with outpatient treatment for men and women. They have applied for a grant from the State for their \$2.7 million project and this will help them complete the project. They appreciate the opportunity to come to Homer and serve the clients in the community who are needing services, and look forward to collaborating with other efforts in the community.

Jull Lush, Executive Director of Sprout Family Services, member of the MAPP Steering Committee and Leadership Team for the Resilience Coalition, expressed her support for Ordinance 19-07(S-2). She appreciates Set Free's leadership in finding Homer as an open community to help support families in need, and also the attention given to local efforts surrounding opioid and substance use and misuse.

Brett Glidden commented she supports a local treatment center and questioned if there will be a seat at the table of the Board of Directors. She's concerned with the track record of services in Homer that aren't governed locally, or supported locally. She suggests addressing that before giving money.

Kate Finn, city resident, commented she has mixed reactions to the Set Free being the right organization to provide the service of a residential treatment center in Homer. People are on board with the City taking action for the mitigation, prevention, and treatment of addiction. Faith and spirituality are components of healing, but calling this a faith based organization

may be taking the focus way from some of the other aspects of our whole selves. She appreciates the intent of having local medical clinic back-up on this, but questions if it's enough. The idea that some treatment center is better than none is false because harm can be done in the least likely circumstances. City money going toward a faith based organization is probably not appropriate, but maybe it's time for the City to decide how much money it's willing to commit to outreach funding for local existing and to be created programs for prevention, education, and treatment.

Sandra Garrity, commenting on her behalf and Progressive Women in Homer who believe in separation of church and state and believe supporting a comprehensive medical model is a better use of public money. She shared information she learned about the Serenity House in Soldotna that took 10 years of planning and has been in effect for 20 years. They have a year-long comprehensive program that starts with detox, followed by intensive residential treatment, intensive outpatient program, then a less demanding outpatient program, and following that, group therapy is available to clients. They help with housing, transportation, and job placement. Research shows people who have long term results have at least one year of solid therapeutic support. There is a clinic associated with Serenity House, a provider who visits clients once a week, and a provider on call 24-7. They couldn't give her a success rate because it's different with every person because they have different goals. This seems like something that could be a community initiated and nurtured organization. So many people have seen the crisis and are willing to support something.

Paul Hueper, city resident, commented in support of Set Free coming to Homer. He learned about them a few years ago and they have a very successful program in place. It's run by professionals and their success rate is 80-90%. He addressed the economic advantage with the grant money set up in front of them and they'll have 15 employees coming in who are very well paid that would bring an economic boon to our community.

Justin Wade, resident of Atlanta but of Homer soon, briefly shared his experience of recovery as an opioid addict for 11 years. He's been 14 months free from chemicals working through a faith based program and currently teaches at one in Georgia. Addiction is a disease that's killing people daily. It's like cancer and it doesn't discriminate. He hasn't heard anyone fighting cancer discriminating whether their Doctor is faith based or of a certain belief system, if you need help, you need help. People are dying. This is a recovery program that would help this city and better the lives of men to pour back into the community. People are dying while this is being debated.

Adam Hykes, city resident, shared his understanding that the money being allocated is the same as what voters voted on for the police station. He questioned if the money for other organizations is being vetted the same as Set Free Alaska is now. Regarding separation of church and state, it is not actually in the Constitution, but paraphrased from Thomas Jefferson and describe the first amendment which reads "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof". He doesn't believe there is

a legal issue. Others more qualified have identified reasons that fully funding Set Free is the best move. On a personal note for him in the process of drug recovery it wasn't just getting off the substance, it was also acknowledging other spiritual beings, angels, demons, and the like. He was personally set free on two occasions from the influence of evil spirits and that is something Christians are equipped to do and medical professionals aren't.

Ginny Espenshade, city resident, she's saddened that we're at a place where almost everyone who doesn't have to be here, is here because they care about other humans and their struggles. We have so much in common but this process has created unnecessary division. She supports and understands the need for residential treatment services accessible to our community. We need to be strategic with what that looks like, and she wants our community to deal with this as a public health issue, not as a moral failure but as a disease, and to the extent Councilmembers feel it's their function to help fund it, she hopes they do it strategically.

Alan Parks appreciates what was just said. People suffering from addiction are not clients they are patients suffering from a health issue. It shouldn't be seen as an economic value, it's an economic crisis. In his family he's dealt with cancer and with an opioid crisis. He has been to treatment centers across the country, and one in Washington that's a hub of a variety of different treatment facilities. It's a very complex issue and there's not data on recovery that's been peer reviewed and proven correct. Recovery is different for everyone. It's awesome to hear what's worked for some who have shared, but there are others who have found recovery on a different platform. It's kind of like cancer, there are a lot of different treatment programs out there. If you're going to support this treatment center, what about the next one that has a good track record too? You need to be strategic, you need to be thoughtful, and move forward in a non-emotional way.

Marilyn Hueper, city resident, commented in support of all that's been said. If Serenity House were here now she'd say let's look for funds for them. It shouldn't be an either/or question, but the opportunity that there is one right now and people willing to step in and help. This is a small portion of matching funds and the State views Set Free as an organization that completely protects freedom from or to faith. If the State is going to issue a \$1.5 million grant, they've asked these questions and been vetted. She's a board member of Refuge Chapel, the location for the program and shared briefly how that came about with a transition in leadership and the availability of space in their building.

Ardith Mumma, city resident, State Chair of Addiction Policy Forum, member of the South Peninsula Opioid Task Force and the Kenai Re-entry Coalition, shared that she volunteers at the local prison on a weekly basis where she sees people who need treatment. Set Free ministries is a well-established business model that has been getting Medicaid and other insurances for 10 years now. They are expanding their business model into our community where we have no treatment. We haven't been able to sustain treatment here until Dr. Sara Spencer started the MAT which is just getting off the ground. Set Free's residential treatment center is vitally needed in our community. She questions that if this were some other entity

that wasn't faith based if they'd get the same push-back that Set Free is getting. It's a well-run business that's making a difference in peoples lives. There isn't any reason we can't support it because people are dying in our community.

Steve Zimmerman, city resident, said he supports something because there is a problem here. He questions how much money we have. The State's out of money and we're dredging for money elsewhere. This money came from the State Revenue Sharing and was put in Police Station fund. Now you want to take it back out. The fund hasn't had the bond let yet, there's more than you need so taking some out. You're taking this money we're going to pay for with a .3% sales tax, and he questions if the voters realize the police station fund might be paying for projects like this. To say it's not part of the fund isn't right, it could lower the amount of the bond. He questioned the best approach, maybe its prevention, maybe treatment, he's not sure. He agrees something needs to be done. He hopes someone's looked at their grant application as was suggested last meeting. His biggest concern is where the money is coming from and they denial that it's not coming from the police station fund, because it is.

There were no further comments.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith recapped that at the February 11th meeting a motion was made by Erickson/Smith to adopt Ordinance 19-07(S) by reading of title only. Following that a motion was made by Aderhold/Venuti to Substitute Ordinance 19-07(S-2) for 19-07(S), and then a motion to postpone was made and passed. The motion on the floor is:

ADERHOLD/VENUTI MOVED TO SUBSTITUTE ORDINANCE 19-07(S-2) FOR 19-07(S)

He asked if there's any further discussion on the motion to substitute ORDINANCE 19-07(S-2) FOR 19-07(S)?

Councilmember Aderhold said she appreciates everyone who has testified and comments from people outside the meeting. She noted two issues she sees with this, one is do we use city funds for this project and the other, is it legal to use city funds for it. She noted the information she provided in the supplemental packet regarding the Community Assistance Program, State Statutes, and regulations, and referenced 3AAC180.010 (3). She'd like a legal opinion from the City Attorney on whether we can use Community Assistant Grant funds for this purpose. She also noted the comments from former Councilmember Reynolds at an earlier meeting about the quarterly worksessions Council held with the group that preceded the Opioid Task Force and Council told that group that they'd support them with resolutions, letters, or code changes, but we don't have funds to put toward anything, and our finances haven't changed. She said these are things she's struggling with.

Councilmember Venuti also expressed concern about the legality of this process, and noted the recent invocation issue that the Borough was sued over and lost. She also shared that there isn't enough data on their success rates and noted Mr. Parks' comments about measuring

statistics. Lastly she commented about the budget and these state funds probably won't be available again this year.

Councilmember Erickson asked City Manager Koester to explain where this funding is coming from.

City Manager Koester explained the \$177,000, the State FY2019 Community Assistance, was put into the police station fund by ordinance. At budget time Council identified a \$250,000 surplus in general fund revenue and dedicated that to the police station fund by amendment. We committed to funding \$2.5 million of the project through City revenue and bonding for \$5 million. Through those actions of putting away community assistance and the surplus the City exceeded the \$2.5 million target that Council set for the project. In the past community assistance had been used for community wide projects so the sponsors identified re-appropriating those funds to this project. Spending them on something else still leaves more than the \$2.5 million of City funds Council has committed to matching for the police station project.

Councilmember Erickson commented in the original ordinance, if they do not get the grant, those monies would stay in the police station fund. Her issue with the second substitute is that we are taking away \$50,000 from what we've endorsed as our commitment in the grant, and it messes with what she believes they've turned into the State. She appreciates what the Opioid Task Force has been working on in the City. She feels like S-3 is a more comfortable way of moving forward for all.

Councilmember Lord thanked everyone who has testified and shared comments with her. She fully supports the efforts and the project, but shared her frustration is the question of do we support paying City government dollars into this project and what it looks like. She understands the tight timeline, but the entity put forward a grant application with City of Homer dollars as a match, contingent on the Council passing that. This is public money and we are bound to be mindful and take time with these public funds. There are a lot of questions about this project, questions about faith, social services, what are the core services of the City, what is the budget process, what is the accountability for the city dollars going into this, and how are we strategic looking at how we spend our funds and look forward. We have a habit of throwing money at projects and she's uncomfortable with that system because it doesn't bode well with responsibly using City dollars. Government is not a place for tight timelines and we are limited in what we can do. She doesn't think they should be in this position of being on the hook for this money in this way and on this timeline, but the idea there are other community efforts going on and we have an opportunity to potentially support them through the substitute on the table.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith commented we're in a different place with our operational budget then we were two years ago when we were borrowing HART funds to balance the budget. We're

now running on a balanced budget. We've followed the same process here as with anything else and we either determine this is a safety and health issue for our community or it is not. We just passed \$39,000 for equipment for our fire hall with no discussion, it's a given they need it to succeed at their job. Set Free brought this to them through a collaborative effort with other organizations in the community that identified the need for a treatment center here. There hasn't been objection from any other organized effort to fight this problem. The percentages are clarified in the letter included in the packet, it's not the success rate as much as their feeling respected through the process. He can understand concerns but the reality is there will be different methods of treatment, but there is one before them, not multiple requests for a treatment center in Homer. There isn't an answer that is going to appease everyone, but he has faith in the community that we can come together and be divided. If there was a legal issue he doesn't think the State will approve it. Regarding the substitute, he recognizes the hard work of the task force and other components with MAPP clawing their way through the process the way they did creates resiliency within that group to really succeed over time, and had money been given in the beginning in hope it went in the right directions may not have been effective. Those efforts have led us to this point and going to allow us the opportunity to have Set Free here. He reiterated that the City is in a different place financially now than two years ago and this is a way to leverage the money in to form the police station fund which is for public safety and health, and leverage it in another way to help our officers. He won't support S-2 because it doesn't provide the same threshold of accountability and would be more in favor of putting it into a grant situation and apply through project specific needs.

Councilmember Lord commented she'd like to have more conversation about the grant process with the State as his comfort level with the vetting. That's what her question and concern is, and when you compare this ordinance to the appropriation of money to replace fire helmets at the fire hall is unfair to our Fire Department. That's our department and our employees and funding their equipment is not the same as spending \$177,000 on an outside entity of the city. She reiterated her concerns of accountably and process, the need for more information regarding the grant, and the allocation of City funds.

Councilmember Stroozas shared his agreement that the grant money they would receive from the State has been properly vetted and the State is doing their proper due diligence and the Title 2 issue raised earlier doesn't hold water with him.

Councilmember Aderhold suggested it might be helpful to see the request for proposals Set Free responded to. That would include the standards and stipulations placed on that grant by the State. They may not be the same standards placed on a municipality.

VOTE: NO: VENUTI, SMITH, ADERHOLD, LORD, STROOZAS, ERICKSON

Motion failed.

ERICKSON/VENUTI MOVED TO SUBSTITUTE ORDINANCE 19-07(S-3) FOR 19-07(S)

Councilmember Aderhold commented there are things she likes about S-3 over S-2 and asked why the sponsors dropped the funding for the Opioid Task Force.

Councilmember Smith explained the intent is to make some money available to other organizations working toward these ends but that it be based on a project specific merit based process that comes forward with a deliverable that has a budget and what their expectation of the City would be in helping bring it to fruition.

Councilmember Erickson added that setting it up with the Homer Foundation is it's a place for people to give and be able the funds.

There was discussion to confirm if the motion to substitute passes it will require another public hearing.

ADERHOLD/LORD MOVED TO AMEND LINES 18 AND 136 TO SAY TREATMENT FACILITY IN THE CITY OF HOMER.

Councilmember Aderhold said this clarifies the intent that the facility will be inside the city limits.

VOTE (Amendment): NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

There was no further discussion on the motion to substitute.

VOTE: YES: ADERHOLD, LORD, VENUTI, STROOZAS, SMITH, ERICKSON

Motion carried.

LORD/VENUTI MOVED TO SCHEDULE ORDINANCE 19-07(S-3) FOR PUBLIC HEARING AT THEIR NEXT MEETING.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith called for a recess at 8:04 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

ORDINANCE(S)

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- A. City Manager's Report
- B. Bid Report
- C. Records Destruction Report

PENDING BUSINESS

- A. **Resolution 19-007**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Establishing a Transportation Advisory Task Force with the Expressed Purpose of Advising the Advisory Planning Commission on the Homer Area Transportation Plan. Erickson.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith asked for a motion for the adoption of Resolution 19-007 by reading of title only.

No motion was made.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS

- A. **Resolution 19-012**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the Council's Operating Manual Regarding Telephonic Participation, Re-Organizing Sections, Clarifying Language, and Adding Appendices for Homer City Code Excerpts. City Clerk.

LORD/ADERHOLD MOVED TO POSTPONE RESOLUTION 19-012 TO MARCH 11TH.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

- B. **Resolution 19-013**, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Supporting the University of Alaska Underscoring the Key Role the Kachemak Bay Brand of the Kenai

Peninsula College has in Homer and Encouraging Full Funding of the University at Existing Levels. Venuti.

ADERHOLD/VENUTI MOVED TO POSTPONE RESOLUTION 19-013 TO MARCH 11TH.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

Steve Zimmerman, city resident, said it's been an interesting meeting and he appreciates the heartfelt discussion they've had, it's been interesting to watch. Regarding the police station fund, every penny that's left in the fund is a penny they don't have to bond and pay interest on. It's good to put more in there and keep it up as they can. He noted an earlier comment about the trail to Homer, and it says on our City Seal where the Land Ends and the Sea Begins, he has a 1976 Homer Commemorative Coin that reads Where the Trail Ends and the Sea Begins.

Lynn Spence, city resident, shared regarding Kachemak City that it seems fundamentally wrong to only one property outside city limits. She understands the line is out there already, but it doesn't seem fair. She thinks they need a process for it rather than selecting one site because you like the project. That doesn't seem like a good reason to change the policy.

Ginny Espenshade, city resident, said she appreciates what they are working through and especially how they are working through it. She thinks as an entity whose matching funding is cited in a grant, you should at least be able to see the budget and the budget narrative of the grant. Regarding wayfinding, she thinks it should be written into the HERC RFP, because that's a major corner and it could be where you showcase this is how we're going to start doing wayfinding in Homer.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

City Attorney Wells was not in attendance.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY CLERK

City Clerk Jacobsen had no comment.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Koester had no comment.

COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Castner was absent.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Councilmember Aderhold thanked Mayor Pro Tem Smith for the recognition of John Fenske, it was very important and appropriate. She thanked the City and community for allowing her to represent them in Juneau at the Alaska Municipal League. The Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve will have a Lunch and Learn at Kachemak Bay Campus at noon, Friday, March 1st on climate adaptation and mitigation and includes the City's Climate Action Plan. Representative Vance will be in town this weekend and there are opportunities to meet with her Friday March 1st at 5:00 p.m. at Ninilchik Traditional Council and Saturday March 2nd at 10:00 a.m. at Kachemak Bay Campus, and she encouraged people to attend. She asked the City Manager if she could work on a refresher training on for Council on the Open Meetings Act, and advised she will be absent for the March 5th worksession.

Councilmember Erickson commented regarding the Senior Official All Hazards Training with City Employees, and people from the Borough and different local agencies. One thing she came away with is Interim Fire Chief Purcell is really prepared and it's nice to realize the depth and level of people in our community to lead us through something that could be catastrophic. It was also good to know how far along we are in our plans, she feels like we're doing well. It's important for us to have plans for our families and our neighbors should we have another major earthquake, and it's important as a business owner to have a plan also. On a lighter note, she encouraged everyone to get out and enjoy the ski trails, fat tire bike trails, and snow machine trails. It's a great time of year to get out and enjoy life.

Councilmember Lord commented her tulips and seed starts are starting to pop up. She thanked everyone who testified and Councilmembers for their discussion tonight. She appreciates the ability to have hard conversations. She hopes people are communicating with their legislators not only on the budget but also legislation that might be of interest to them. She encouraged asking legislators what their vision looks like for schools, Medicade, DHHS, and other areas of interest. Paul Banks PTA is holding an education funding forum for parents and community members next Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. She also noted the college is doing free, non-partisan sessions about how to be an advocate over the next few Mondays. This is a small state and it's our state so she hopes people find their voices and use them.

Councilmember Venuti commented the wayfinding plan fits in well with our evacuation plan, which was something they talked about at the All Hazards training last week. She thought what

the EDC proposed is important and she's going to make sure it doesn't get shelved. She cares about Pioneer Avenue and has a vision of it being just as busy as the Spit. She appreciated the recognition of John Fenske, he was a wonderful, giving man. She reiterated that for the next few Mondays from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. there will be a non-partisan group discussing how to be an advocate for anything you care about in our government. The heat is on and our legislators need to hear from us. Lastly she thanked the people who testified tonight, it means a lot.

Councilmember Stroozas thanked the EDC for the information about a Wayfinding Plan for Homer, it coincides with a great book he borrowed from Planning and Zoning on the topic, and he encouraged others to read it when he's done. He said the tulips and daffodils are blooming in the Deep South, and he commented about the Chamber of Commerce State of the City Luncheon and encourage folk to attend.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith also commented about the All Hazards training and emphasized the importance of having a plan for the city and also as individuals. Trish Davis from the Red Cross attended and shared that people struggle to find shelter in times of need because there aren't trained people in Homer. If we want the Red Cross to participate during those times, then we need to have qualified people to run the shelters. He encouraged people to think about whether that's something they'd be willing to do, and said he suggested the representative contact the churches as those are ideal locations for some of these shelters. The high school won't be enough when there is a large need. He attended AML in Juneau, it was educational, he's grateful they're organized and they're going to work. He remains hopeful.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council Mayor Pro Tem Smith adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p.m. The next Regular Meeting is Monday, March 11, 2019 at 6:00 p.m., Special Meeting 4:00 p.m. and Committee of the Whole at 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.

Melissa Jacobsen, MMC, City Clerk

Approved: _____