



**Homer City Hall**  
491 E. Pioneer Avenue  
Homer, Alaska 99603  
[www.cityofhomer-ak.gov](http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov)

## **City of Homer Action Agenda**

**City Council Committee of the Whole  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, April 13, 2020 at 5:00 PM  
City Hall Cowles Council Chambers  
Via Zoom Webinar**

### **CALL TO ORDER, 5:00 P.M.**

Mayor Castner called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Department Heads may be called on to participate.

**AGENDA APPROVAL** (Only those matters on the noticed agenda may be considered, pursuant to City Council's Operating Manual, pg. 6)

APPROVED without discussion.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

### **REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

### **DISCUSSION TOPIC(S)**

- a. Memorandum 20-044 from Personnel Director Re: City Manager Job Posting and Draft Schedule

### **COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**

There were no public comments.

### **ADJOURNMENT NO LATER THAN 5:50 P.M.**

Next Regular Meeting is Monday, April 27, 2020 at 6:00 p.m., 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.

Mayor Castner adjourned the meeting at 5:40 p.m.

### **REGULAR MEETING**

Session 20-13 a Regular Meeting of the Homer City Council was called to order on April 13, 2020 by Mayor Ken Castner at 6:00 p.m. at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska, via Zoom Webinar, and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRESENT:** COUNCILMEMBERS: ADERHOLD, EVENSEN, HANSEN-CAVASOS, LORD,  
SMITH, VENUTI

**STAFF:** CITY MANAGER YODER  
CITY CLERK JACOBSEN

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

APPROVED without discussion

## **MAYORAL PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**

## **PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA**

Two people testified.

## **RECONSIDERATION**

**CONSENT AGENDA** (Items listed below will be enacted by one motion. If a 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. City Council unapproved Regular Meeting Minutes of March 23, 2020. City Clerk. Recommend adoption.

Moved to New Business Item A. Evensen.

- b. Memorandum 20-045 from Councilmember Aderhold Re: Alaska Climate Change Planning Cohort Support. Recommend approval.
- c. Ordinance 20-19, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending Homer City Code Title 19 to add Chapter 19.01 Closures of Use Areas to Reflect the City Manager's Authority to Close City Parks, Campgrounds, and Public Places in an Emergency or other Exigent Circumstances. City Manager. Recommended dates Introduction April 13, 2020, Public Hearing and Second Reading April 27, 2020.

Memorandum 20-046 from Public Works Director as backup

- d. Resolution 20-032, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Ratifying and Confirming the Appointment of Marvin Yoder as Interim City Manager, and Providing for Related Matters. Mayor. Recommend adoption.
- e. Resolution 20-033, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Designating Signatories of City Accounts and Superseding any Previous Resolutions so Designating. City Manager. Recommend approval.

- f. Resolution 20-034, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving the City to Apply for Membership to ICLEI USA-Local Governments for Sustainability. Aderhold. Recommend approval.
- g. Resolution 20-035, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Supporting the Establishment of a Kenai Peninsula Borough Resilience and Security Commission. Aderhold. Recommend adoption.
- h. Resolution 20-036, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving a Five Year Lease with Sea Tow South Central Alaska for the City Property Located at 4667 Homer Spit Road and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum 20-049 from Port Director/Harbormaster as backup

- i. Resolution 20-037, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Affirming Measures to Provide Increased Time for Certain Payments to Reduce Financial Hardship during the COVID-19 Emergency. Lord/Smith/Aderhold. Recommend adoption.

ADOPTED without discussion.

## **VISITORS**

- a. Legislative Update - Senator Gary Stevens (10 Minutes)

Senator Stevens provided a brief legislative update and responded to questions.

- b. Unified Command Update Re: COVID-19 (10 minutes)

Fire Chief Mark Kirko provided an update of Emergency Operation efforts by the City and their work with other agencies to date. Public Health Nurse Lorne Carroll, South Peninsula Hospital PIO Derotha Ferraro, and City of Homer PIO Jenny Carroll reported on statewide and local COVID-19 cases and shared information on resources available locally.

- c. Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District Update - Tim Dillon, Executive Director (10 minutes)

KPEDD Executive Director Tim Dillon provided an overview of the COVID-19 impacts to local businesses throughout the Kenai Peninsula Borough and strongly encouraged participation in the 2020 Census.

- d. Homer Foundation Grant Update - Mike Miller, Executive Director (10 minutes)

Homer Foundation Executive Director Mike Miller reported on the Homer Foundation grants awarded through the City of Homer Grant Program.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS / PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS** (5 Minute limit per report)

- a. Committee of the Whole Report

Councilmember Lord reported the Council discussed the right-of-way legislation on the regular agenda, and also the timeline for City Manager hiring.

b. Mayor's Report

Mayor Castner reported on work with the ACOM about what the new normal will look like people start getting back to work. They're working on a proposal to the Governor on a business COVID compliant business plan in an effort to get people back to work and follow mandates. He noted the significant damage on the spit with recent winds and high tides and administrative effort that will be needed with other agencies to continue to address this. He also received a request for a letter of support for electric vehicle charging station national grant and is inclined to write the letter unless there's objection, the deadline is April 20, 2020. He reiterated participation in the 2020 Census. Lastly he reported he's hearing a lot from people that we need to get back to work, and he's doing what he can to get there in a smart way. What we're doing now with the masking, staying home, washing hands is working well and we need to continue that until a responsible plan is in place for people to go back to work.

c. Borough Report

d. Library Advisory Board

i. Library Advisory Board Report

**PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

- a. Ordinance 20-14, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending Homer City Code Chapter 5.42 Single-Use Plastic Carryout Bags Section 5.42.040 Exceptions to Change the Deadline for Providing Single-Use Plastic Carryout Bags from February 14, 2020 to September 15, 2020. Smith. Introduction March 23, 2020, Public Hearing and Second Reading April 13, 2020.

Two people commented.

ADOPTED with discussion.

**ORDINANCE(S)**

- a. Ordinance 20-20, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Repealing Homer City Code 11.36 Vegetation in Rights-of-Way. Evensen/Mayor.

APPROVED introduction with discussion.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

- a. City Manager's Report
  - COVID-19 Economic Impact Report
  - New Police Status Update
  - April Employee Anniversaries

City Manager Yoder noted upcoming challenges with the summer season and businesses in Homer. We're trying to follow the State mandates and the intrastate travel will be revisited April 21<sup>st</sup>, and that will have a lot do with how we move forward. It's going to impact businesses and also sales tax to the City. It will be difficult to keep up with what this looks like and may likely prompt future discussion on city services. He addressed stimulus funding that may be coming for smaller cities that the League of Cities is looking at. In light of the recent bankruptcy declaration by Ravn Air, the Attorney brought in a specialist on bankruptcy whose view is it will be some time before we have any answers on what's going to happen regarding their reorganization. Administration will continue to learn and stay up to date on the CARES Act. There is progress in the remote sales tax effort with the Borough which will be very helpful for the City. He explained he's talked with Harbormaster Hawkins about the damage on the spit, they'll get out there to take a look and talk to the agencies involved on what can be done.

## **PENDING BUSINESS**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. City Council unapproved Regular Meeting Minutes of March 23, 2020. City Clerk.

ADOPTED with discussion.

### **RESOLUTIONS**

- a. Resolution 20-038, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Restating the City's Right of Way Policy to be Consistent with Climate Action and Citizen's Needs. Evensen/Mayor. (Follows Ordinance 20-20)

POSTPONED to April 27, 2020 with discussion.

- b. Resolution 20-039, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Establishing Policy Regarding the Clearing of Vegetation within Street Right-of-Way by the Public Works Department. Lord.

Memorandum 20-047 from Councilmember Lord as backup  
Memorandum 20-048 from City Engineer as backup

POSTPONED to April 27, 2020 with discussion.

## **AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

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

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

City Clerk Jacobsen thanked everyone for their patience in their first Zoom meeting. She share that there is information on the city website called Stay in Touch with Council where people can submit written comments or request to participate telephonically. She noted the need to submit comments in time for Council to read them before the meeting, and to register for telephonic participation before the meetings begin.

## **COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER**

City Manager Yoder said it's good to be here and working with everyone.

## **COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR**

Mayor Castner noted City Manager Yoder will be sworn in by the City Clerk outside of the meeting. He thanked Council for working through the meeting and encouraged everyone to stay safe to help the town get through this.

## **COMMENTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

Councilmember Venuti thanked staff for the work to get the Zoom meeting together. Earth Day is April 22<sup>nd</sup> and she encouraged when people are out walking that they pick up trash along the way. She welcomed Mr. Yoder and looks forward to working with him. She shared about a family friend who recently took their own life and encouraged people who are struggling during this COVID crisis, or any time, to please reach out for help to get through a dark time.

Councilmember Aderhold agreed this is a difficult time, sending hugs out to everyone dealing with this. She acknowledge city staff and community members who have stepped up to help out in the current situation, and business are figuring out ways to support health care staff and community members. She gave a shout out to Joni Wise and the Homer Bear Hunt, people are excited about it and how the kids love to find the bears, she even enjoys finding them. She reiterated the importance of filing out the census at [2020census.gov.](https://2020census.gov), and welcomed Mr. Yoder.

Councilmember Hansen-Cavasos shared her pride in South Peninsula Hospital, her employer, for their work with the community. She's blessed to be able to work from home and stay safe. She shared about the challenges of home-schooling now that her kids are home, and if it weren't for all the hard work by the teachers, she isn't sure it would be going very well. She appreciates all the efforts by the school district.

Councilmember Smith shared he has a greater appreciation for home-schooling, it's challenging and he appreciate peoples patience with it. He agrees the Census is important to ensure were property represented to receive federal dollars. He thinks were doing great in the community efforts regarding COVID, and we need to keep it up. He heard from someone who received some confirmation on their stimulus check deposit, that's good news.

Councilmember Lord echoed comments on a successful Zoom meeting. She thanked the Emergency Operations Team and partner agencies for their work; and also shared about home-schooling challenges and appreciation of teacher's efforts for this. She commented about the CCC gym, a place where she's been with her kids for years, being set up as an alternate care facility and her appreciation for the efforts being made during this crisis. She shared sadness for the loss of John Prine and reflected about seeing him perform in Homer. The Alaska Food Hub will go online May 1<sup>st</sup> and encouraged people to check it out, [alaskafoodhub.org](https://alaskafoodhub.org). Lastly she noted the street sweepers are out now that is warming up and she appreciates it.

Councilmember Evensen thanked everyone for their thoughtful remarks, and thanked Councilmember Aderhold for the Climate Change Cohort information tonight. He thanked all the people who work at Safeway and Save U More for being out on the front lines every day. He understand there have been negative interactions from patrons who are stressed and encouraged that we all be patient and kind, we'd be lost without our grocery store workers.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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Mayor Castner adjourned the meeting at 9:03 p.m.