



Homer City Hall
491 E. Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603
www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

**City of Homer
Action Agenda
City Council Committee of the Whole
Regular Meeting
Monday, April 27, 2020 at 5:00 PM
City Hall Cowles Council Chambers via Zoom Webinar**

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

CALL TO ORDER, 5:00 P.M.

Department Heads may be called on to participate.

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

Councilmember Hansen-Cavasos was excused, timely notice was given.

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 20-054 from Human Resources Re: City Manager Job Posting Update and Process Recommendation
- b. 2020 Budget

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

ADJOURNMENT No Later than 5:50 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting is Monday, May 11, 2020 at 6:00 p.m., Committee of the Whole at 5:00 p.m. All meetings scheduled to be held virtually by Zoom Webinar from the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

Mayor Castner adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

Session 20-14 a Regular Meeting of the Homer City Council was called to order on April 27, 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, and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: ADERHOLD, EVENSEN, LORD, SMITH, VENUTI

ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBER HANSEN-CAVASOS (excused)

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.)

The following changes were made: **Visitors** Unified Command Update (10 minutes) **Public Hearings** 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. Written Public Comments **Pending Business** Resolution 20-008(S), A Resolution of the Homer City Council Designating Homer Spit Amended Lot 31, Known as Seafarer's Memorial, as Green Space and Adopting a Land Management Policy that Preserves Lot 31 for Wildlife and as a Natural Agent for Erosion Mitigation. Evensen/Hansen-Cavasos. Resolution 20-008(S-2), provided by Evensen/Hansen-Cavasos, with the same title.

ADOPTED as amended without discussion.

MAYORAL PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA

One person commented.

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. Homer City Council Unapproved Meeting Minutes of April 13, 2020. City Clerk. Recommend approval.
- b. Memorandum 20-050 from City Clerk Re: Vacation of a 33' Section Line Easement located within Lot 6a-1 Virginia Lynn 2006 Replat (Plat HM 2006-20) and as dedicated

on 6A-1 Virginia Lynn 2006 Replat (Plat HM 2006-20). KPB File 2020-021V2. Recommend approval.

- c. Resolution 20-040, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Extending the Moratorium on Cutting, Clearing or Removal of Trees and Vegetation Located within Public Rights-of-Way (ROW) from May 1, 2020 to June 1, 2020. City Manager. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum 20-051 from Public Works Director as backup

Moved to Resolutions Item b. Smith.

Item c. was moved to Resolutions item b. Smith.

APPROVED without discussion.

VISITORS

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

South Peninsula Hospital PIO Derotha Ferraro shared brief hospital update on COVID-19 testing, antibody testing, soft reopen of services, and alternate care site plan. Information can be found at www.sphosp.org. City of Homer PIO Jenny Carroll provided a review and update on the State's 5 phase approach to resume economic activity for Alaska, Mandate 17 regarding protective measures for independent commercial fishing vessels, and public messages from the City. Public Health Nurse Lorne Carroll reviewed COVID-19 counts globally, in the US, and statewide. He shared the message from Dr. Anne Zink, Alaska's Chief Medical Officer, that our numbers are trending down and while this is definitely a moment to celebrate but it doesn't mean we can let our guard down and that we're counting on Alaskans to keep taking measures to prevent COVID-19 from spreading in our communities. Fire Chief Mark Kirko reported on the City's Emergency Operations Center efforts locally.

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

- a. Committee of the Whole Report

Councilmember Lord reported Council discussed the consent and regular meeting agendas, Ordinance 20-19, Memorandum from Human Resources on the City Manager hiring process, and started the discussion on the 2020 budget, focusing on potential CARES Act Federal Funding and the State's current plan to allocate those funds to municipalities.

- b. Worksession Report

Mayor Castner noted there will be a worksession next week to continue the budget discussion.

- c. Special Meeting Report
- d. Mayor's Report

Mayor Castner reported the North Pacific Management Council is taking up an emergency regulation on May 15th and accepting written comments only. They'll be addressing IFQ Transferability and modification of halibut charter limits for the 2020 season. He commented further regarding CARE Act funds and regulations, and the Governor's plan to reopen the state and the sideboards that continue to focus on public health and safety, including the importance of wearing masks.

- e. Borough Report
- f. Library Advisory Board
 - i. Library Advisory Board Written Report

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

- a. 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. Introduction April 13, 2020, Public Hearing and Second Reading April 27, 2020.

Memorandum 20-053 from City Clerk as backup

Memorandum 20-046 from Public Works Director as backup

There was no public testimony.

POSTPONED to May 26, 2020 with discussion.

- b. 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. Introduction April 13, 2020, Public Hearing and Second Reading April 27, 2020.

There was no public testimony.

FAILED with discussion.

ORDINANCE(S)

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- a. City Manager's Report

City Manager Yoder noted his written report and noted the March comparable provided from the Finance Director as a laydown this evening. It's early to see any trends, but we'll continue monitoring the information and provide updates. He reported there has been a lot of meetings regarding COVID and the City's ability to open up and the challenge working with the public to ensure proper sanitation measures are met. He also addressed CARES funding and the need to be cautious and ensure it's used properly.

Follow up comments from Councilmembers addressed the FAA funding and ensuring it trickles down to the City and not used up by administrative costs; the information from Finance and encouraging the city is work to stretch the dollars before the full revenue loss comes to bear, including limiting capital purchases that aren't necessary; potential scheduling for meetings that may be needed; and correspondence regarding the Large Vessel Harbor.

PENDING BUSINESS

- a. Resolution 20-008(S), A Resolution of the Homer City Council Designating Homer Spit Amended Lot 31, Known as Seafarer's Memorial, as Green Space and Adopting a Land Management Policy that Preserves Lot 31 for Wildlife and as a Natural Agent for Erosion Mitigation. Evensen/Hansen-Cavasos.

Memorandum 20-052 from Deputy City Planner as backup

Resolution 20-008(S-2), A Resolution of the Homer City Council Designating Homer Spit Amended Lot 31, Known as Seafarer's Memorial, as Green Space and Adopting a Land Management Policy that Preserves Lot 31 for Wildlife and as a Natural Agent for Erosion Mitigation. Evensen/Hansen-Cavasos.

POSTPONED to May 11, 2020 with discussion.

APPROVED Suspending the Rules to take up Resolution 20-040.

- b. Resolution 20-040, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Extending the Moratorium on Cutting, Clearing or Removal of Trees and Vegetation Located within Public Rights-of-Way (ROW) from May 1, 2020 to June 1, 2020. City Manager. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum 20-051 from Public Works Director as backup

ADOPTED as amended with discussion.

Amended June 1, 2020 to June 9, 2020.

- c. 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.

FAILED with discussion.

- c. Resolution 20-039, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Establishing a 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

FAILED with discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Memorandum 20-054 from Human Resources Re: City Manager Job Posting Update and Process Recommendation.

APPROVED recommendation to implement City Manager Hiring Advisory Committee and allowing comments from staff with discussion.

RESOLUTIONS

- a. Resolution 20-041, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Affirming Measures to Provide Increased Time for Lease Payments to Reduce Financial Hardships During the COVID-19 Emergency. Lord/Smith/Aderhold.

Memorandum 20-055 from City Manager as backup

ADOPTED with discussion.

- b. Resolution 20-040, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Extending the Moratorium on Cutting, Clearing or Removal of Trees and Vegetation Located within Public Rights-of-Way (ROW) from May 1, 2020 to June 1, 2020. City Manager. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum 20-051 from Public Works Director as backup

Suspended the rules to take up under Pending Business item b.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

COMMENTS OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

COMMENTS OF THE CITY CLERK

City Clerk Jacobsen had no comments.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Yoder shared that the Homer Chamber of Commerce is looking at rescheduling the Halibut Tournament from June to July 2nd and 3rd. He also noted they're working on getting some banners to display as a way to help congratulate this year's graduating seniors.

COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Castner implored everyone to help keep our COVID-19 case count low and it will take work to do that. During the course of the meeting he received a call from Ravn that they need some help, they'd like to talk with the City, and will need some political help.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Councilmember Venuti shared this year is the 50th anniversary of Kenai Peninsula College graduates. This year the Kachemak Bay Campus (KBC) and Kenai River Campus (KRC) are joining for a virtual commencement at 6:00 p.m. on May 7th on their Facebook page. She recognized this year's KBC graduates, Amber Grady, Chloe Pleznac, Neal Wimmerstedt, Aaron Herrick, and Lillian Connor.

Councilmember Aderhold said she loves the KBC commencement and will tune in. She shared her appreciation for what the City has been doing through the Emergency Operations Center and the efforts by City staff in response to the pandemic. She reminded listeners that this is not the flu, it's completely different, and it isn't a media hoax. We have no immunity to this, so please take it seriously. She hopes everyone has a little time to enjoy the sunshine after the meeting this evening.

Councilmember Lord thanked everyone for another good as can be Zoom meeting. She noted the Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District is doing another Peninsula-wide survey for businesses that is due May 1st or 5th, and there's more information at www.kpedd.org. She's impressed by businesses and people in the community who are able to pivot toward the space were in right now, she believes its temporary for an undetermined amount of time, but we're good at doing hard things and we can do this. She and Councilmember Hansen-Cavasos plan to have a resolution at the next meeting to celebrate this year's seniors. She shared that she's tried a Zoom with a Councilmember and encouraged people to reach out if they're interested.

Councilmember Smith noted the Police Chief's earlier comments about enforcement and shared a quote from the Governor of Illinois, "To be honest, we do not have the resources, the capacity or the desire to police every individual's behavior. Enforcement comes in many forms and our first and best option is to rely on Illinoisans", or in our case, Alaskans, "to be good members of their communities and good citizens working together to keep each other safe. I have instructed the law enforcement to monitor for violations take action when necessary, but that is not an option that anyone prefers." He hopes the community will acknowledge their key role in the way this plays out, and we can't police everyone's behavior. He shared he has a senior graduating this year and has a banner up in recognition, and there is work being done to provide a safe venue for this year's graduation.

Councilmember Evensen congratulated this year's KBC graduates, it's a huge accomplishment. He thanked the Unified Command for their excellent report, and the Mayor and City Manager for their great examples of community leadership.

ADJOURNMENT

Next Regular Meeting is Monday, May 11, 2020 at 6:00 p.m., Committee of the Whole at 5:00 p.m. All meetings scheduled to be held virtually by Zoom Webinar from the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

Mayor Castner adjourned the meeting at 8:12 p.m.