



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, May 11, 2020
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. CARES Funding and 2020 Budget
- b. City Manager Hiring Process Update
- c. City Council Meeting Calendar

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

ADJOURNMENT

Next Regular Meeting is Tuesday, May 26, 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 5:30 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Session 20-15 a Regular Meeting of the Homer City Council was called to order on May 11, 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, 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.)

The following changes were made: **Consent Agenda** Resolution 20-044, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Recommending the Kenai Peninsula Borough Enact Ordinance 2020-24 which would Provide for a Vote By Mail System for Elections Borough Wide. Aderhold/City Clerk. Written public comment **Reports** Planning Commission Written Report **City Manager's Report** Memorandum from City Clerk Re: Commission and Board Meeting Suspension, Police Station Building Update, and 4th quarter expenditure report and **Pending Business** 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. Written public comment.

APPROVED as amended.

MAYORAL PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA

Two members of the public requested telephonic participation regarding Resolution 20-047, but connections couldn't be made. Council agreed to try later in the meeting.

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 Regular Meeting Minutes of April 27, 2020. City Clerk. Recommend approval.
- b. Resolution 20-042, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Awarding the Contract for the Public Works Gravel Supply for 2020, 2021, and 2022 to the Firm of R/C Land Improvement of Anchor Point, Alaska and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Clerk. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum 20-057 from Public Works Superintendent as back up

- c. Resolution 20-043, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Approving A Lease Assignment from Icicle Seafoods, Inc. to Ocean Beauty Icicle, LLC, and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute the Appropriate Documents for the Continuation of the Current

Twenty Year Lease with Term Ending December 31, 2036 with Options for Two Consecutive Five Year Renewals for Lot 41 & 42, as Shown on the Subdivision Plat 89-34 Entitled Homer Spit Amended ADL 18009, at an Initial Annual Base Rent of \$69,876.96. City Manager. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum 20-059 from Port Director/Harbormaster as backup

- d. Resolution 20-044, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Recommending the Kenai Peninsula Borough Enact Ordinance 2020-24 which would Provide for a Vote By Mail System for Elections Borough Wide. Aderhold/City Clerk. Recommend adoption.

Moved to Resolutions item d. Smith.

Item d was moved to Resolutions Item d. Smith.

ADOPTED without discussion.

VISITORS

- a. Unified Command Update (10 Minutes)

Lorne Carroll, Public Health Nurse, shared the a COVID-19 situational update, that currently there are 4.1 million confirmed cases and 290,000 deaths globally, and in the United States is just over 1 million confirmed cases reported and 80,000 reported deaths, and 233,000 recovered. As of noon in Alaska were at 379 cases, 10 deaths, and 324 have recovered. Kenai Peninsula has 24 cases, with two in Anchor Point, four in Homer and three recovered in Homer. He shared about the national guidance regarding reporting of COVID -19 deaths, and fishing industry mandates with the goal of decreasing transmission.

Derotha Ferraro, South Peninsula Hospital PIO, reported SPH has submitted 548 COVID-19 tests. 505 were negative, four were positive and 39 are pending. 17 antibody tests have been sent to the Mayo Clinic, none have resulted in positive to date. The hospital remains prepare to care for one or an influx of COVID-19 patients as necessary. She shared about the accommodations being made and ability to quickly expand as needed.

Jenny Carroll, City of Homer PIO, reviewed Phase Two of Reopening Alaska plan and recent mandates. She highlighted general guidelines including continued social distancing, cloth face coverings, regular hand washing, telephone and online ordering and pickup, pre-shift screenings and symptomatic or ill employees not allowed to work, and allowance for walk-ins provided a log is kept with sufficient information to be able to contact the visitor. She also touched on capacity limitations for various businesses as outlined in the plan.

Fire Chief Mark Kirko reported on the efforts of the Incident Management Team working in a Unified Command Structure that includes the City, SPH, the Public Health Office in the parameters of the State EOC and plan. The priority is keeping everyone as safe as possibly through information sharing and details to work with safe practices handed down from the

State's Incident Management Team. He commented regarding the efforts being made to help with the reopening locally of City operations.

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

a. Committee of the Whole Report

Councilmember Lord reported Council met and discussed CARES Act funding that is pending, Resolution 20-044, further action regarding economic impacts on City operations and budget questions, a City Manager Hiring update, and scheduling for their May 18th executive session and worksession focused on the seawall.

b. Mayor's Report

Mayor Castner reported on the Fly-Over of the US Air Force and National Guard jets, CARES Act funding noting there are limitations on what the funds can be used for and the City is waiting on its first of three payments. He addressed the lessening of health mandates and encouraged people to remember the virus is still out there, and remember it all summer long. He commented regarding businesses re-opening and the safety of employees.

c. Borough Report

Borough Assembly President Kelly Cooper reported the Assembly is working to refinance their 2010 school bonds for a potential savings of \$699,000 and can be reissued as tax exempt bonds. She cosponsored an ordinance to establish a Resilience and Security Advisory Commission in response to the 2019 Comp Plan and primary goals are to guide our response to changing climate, support energy and food security, improve efficiency of buildings and transportation, and increase lifetime of our land fill. The 2019 Swan Lake Fire cost \$46 million to suppress and the SBA declared the Peninsula an economic injury zone with an estimated loss of up to 20% of the annual revenue. An ordinance has been introduced regarding Borough Elections to provide for a hybrid vote by mail election, time between regular election and runoff, and remove proposition statements. Per the agreement with Alaska Human Rights Commission they specified they'd have an ADA compliant election process in place by the end of 2020. The Assembly is working diligently on the budget, receiving presentations from Service Areas and Departments, and public hearings on May 19 and June 2. They're expecting a \$10 million in revenues for FY2021. The proposed budget reflects a 3% decrease from the prior year's budget, no tax increases have been suggested, and proposed school district funding is \$50 million, \$2.5 million below the cap. They are expecting to spend about \$16 million of their fund balance and have a plan for a three year recovery.

d. Planning Commission

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

ORDINANCE(S)

- a. Ordinance 20-21, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending Homer City Code by Repealing 2.08.100 Teleconference Participation in Meetings, 2.08.110,

Teleconference Procedures, 2.08.120 Teleconference Limitations, and Reenacting 2.08.100 Teleconference and Web-Hosted Meetings. City Clerk. Recommended dates: Introduction May 11, 2020, Public Hearing and Second Reading May 26, 2020

Memorandum 20-056 from City Clerk as backup

APPROVED introduction with discussion.

- b. Emergency Ordinance 20-22, An Emergency Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the 2020 Budget by Appropriating Funds in the Amount of \$80,000 from the General Fund Fund Balance for the Purpose of COVID-19 Preparation and Response. City Manager. Recommended dates: Introduction and Public Hearing May 11, 2020

Memorandum 20-058 from City Manager as backup

ADOPTED with discussion.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- a. City Manager's Report

PENDING BUSINESS

- a. 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.

Memorandum 20-052 from Deputy City Planner as backup

Resolution 20-008(S-3), A Resolution of the Homer City Council Designating Homer Spit Amended Lot 31, ~~Known as~~ **Adjacent to** 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.

ADOPTED Resolution 20-008(S-3) as amended with discussion.

Amendments: **Line 42:** ...undeveloped land left **at the end of** the Homer Spit... **Lines 58-61** Delete and replace with: WHEREAS, erosion is a critical concern along the Homer Spit, and current beaches, vegetation, and infrastructure will be considered and assessed as part of the General Investigation Study for Homer Spit Erosion Mitigation and subsequent Spit Erosion Maintenance and Management Plan the City is actively pursuing with the US Army Corps of Engineers **Lines 69-73** BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that **a survey shall be completed to establish the current spatial extent of the current parking area on Lot 31 and** any part of the property that is not developed as of the passage of this resolution shall be maintained in perpetuity as green space and open to the public, free from buildings, parking, camping, hardscaping of any kind, and earthmoving of any kind. ~~beyond regular parking space maintenance, which is spatially limited to present 45 parking spaces.~~

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS

- a. Resolution 20-045, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Recognizing and Celebrating Graduating High School Seniors and Committing City Support to their Graduation Ceremonies and Celebrations During the COVID-19 Pandemic. Lord/Hansen-Cavasos.

ADOPTED with discussion.

- b. Resolution 20-046, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Addressing the Impacts COVID-19 has on City Finances, Requesting Additional Financial Support to Restore Shortfalls in Anticipated 2020 Revenues from the State of Alaska and Federal Government, and Thanking State and Federal Officials for their Response to the Pandemic. Aderhold.

ADOPTED with discussion.

- c. Resolution 20-047, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Supporting an Adjustment to the 2020 Halibut Charter Fleet Regulations. Mayor/Venuti.

Two people commented.

ADOPTED as amended with discussion.

Amendment: Line 31 replace the word modification with liberalization; Lines 8 and 32 to add in response to COVID-19 health mandates.

- d. Resolution 20-044, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Recommending the Kenai Peninsula Borough Enact Ordinance 2020-24 which would Provide for a Vote By Mail System for Elections Borough Wide. Aderhold/City Clerk. Recommend adoption.

ADOPTED as amended with discussion.

Amendment: Line 54 add: VBMS, **a hybrid system that allows a voter to either vote by mail or in person at a vote center established in each municipality**; and

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

COMMENTS OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

City Attorney Gatti had no comments.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY CLERK

City Clerk Jacobsen had no comments.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Yoder reported Special Projects and Communications Coordinator Carroll is working on an EDA Grant for communications out at the port that will require a 20% match from the City. As we look at trying to open campgrounds and the library, the Emergency Operation Center is doing a great job in reviewing the mandates and making sure we're following the right processes.

COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Castner reported on an update from the House Majority that the funding is \$568 million and he suspects the Governor will send us money soon. He asked people to be cautious now that the sun is out, fishing is better, all the good stuff, but the virus is still out there. He encourage increasing the measure of personal responsibility, make a personal protection plan and be safe.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Councilmember Evensen congratulated our high school graduates. A unique and different graduation and commencement can also a very special thing. He hopes the graduates take time to appreciate and celebrate their accomplishments, and celebrate the uniqueness of it.

Councilmember Venuti noted flags are at half-mast in honor of former Lt. Governor Byron Mallott who passed away this week. She shared that the Kachemak Bay Campus will be open in the fall and encouraged students who may need to take classes to check it out. She encouraged the community to be careful and to wear masks to help keep themselves and others safe.

Councilmember Aderhold this past weekend should have been Shorebird Festival Weekend. She hopes people have been getting out and seeing the migrants moving through. She discovered out by the Deep Water Dock there is a memorial to dead seabirds that died last year in the bird die off in the Chukchi Sea. The memorial has a representation for every bird that was marked as dead. It's a good reminder of the seabirds that are dying in our marine ecosystem and their connection to the food chain.

Councilmember Smith shared when he was at AML in Juneau a few years ago, Lt. Governor Mallott spoke at one of the sessions and it was apparent how he cared deeply for the State, and he appreciates his service. The graduates are embarking on an adult life now, and it's an important rite of passage. There's a lot of uncertainty on what the fall is going to bring, but it's about embracing what you do have and enjoying what's presently before you. He trusts things are going to play out just right. In listening to the community, COVID-19 is different things to different people, because it can have a very different effect on whoever contracts it. He wants us to be respectful to those differences and somehow make the community safe for everyone to be out in. It may mean we need to compromise in the way we go out in public and interact, and he thinks that's perfectly reasonable.

Councilmember Lord echoed the condolences and note of appreciation for Lt. Governor Mallott, she also had the pleasure of meeting him and hearing him speak. She appreciates his service to the State, the Tlingit People, and his community. The Mayor of Nome, Richard Beneville, died and she offered condolences to his community. She's been spending time delivering flowers and listening to the soundtrack from Hamilton, and it incorporates all the things she loves, hip-hop, political history, and musicals. It's been an interesting time to listen and think about our nation, what we stand for, and what we're trying to do. We're a nation founded on extreme differences of opinion that are valid and important, so we have to be able to have civil discourse as neighbors and community members, and still help each other out. She's proud of our local government, it's truly a community.

Councilmember Hansen-Cavasos noted she works for Homer Medical and commended the South Peninsula Hospital health care staff for their great and efficient work. She became ill and was very worried and nervous, she didn't want to be a statistic but knew she had to get tested. She was tested for strep and went back to test for COVID. The staff was primo, respectful of her privacy and she felt very taken care of. She tested negative and got better. She's proud of our high school seniors for taking all of this with grace as they move toward graduation. She share a happy belated Mother's Day, and her appreciation for her mother.

ADJOURNMENT

Next Regular Meeting is Tuesday, May 26, 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 9:32 p.m.