



**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 Worksession  
Committee of the Whole  
Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, May 26, 2020 at 4:00 PM  
City Hall Cowles Council Chambers via Zoom Webinar**

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

Mayor Castner called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

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

APPROVED without discussion.

**DISCUSSION TOPIC(S)**

- a. City Manager Candidate Review and Selection for Telephonic Interviews

**COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE** (3 minutes)

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

Next Regular Meeting is Monday, June 8, 2020 at 6:00 p.m., Worksession 4:00 p.m. Committee of the Whole at 5:00 p.m. All meetings scheduled to be held virtually from the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

Mayor Castner adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AGENDA**

**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 20-060 from Special Projects and Communications Coordinator Re: FEMA DR-4533 Public Assistance Grant Training Information
- b. Municipal CARES Act Spending
- c. Resuming Advisory Body Meetings and In Person Meetings

### **COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**

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

Next Regular Meeting is Monday, June 8, 2020 at 6:00 p.m., Committee of the Whole at 5:00 p.m. All meetings scheduled to be held virtually 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 AGENDA**

Session 20-16 a Regular Meeting of the Homer City Council was called to order on May 26, 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 20-049 A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Establishing a 2020 Mill Rate of 9.962541 Mills for the Ocean Drive Loop Special Service District. City Manager. Memorandum 20-067 from City Manager as backup; **Ordinances**- Ordinance 20-24, An Emergency Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the 2020 Budget by Appropriating Funds in the Amount of \$255,000 for the Purpose of Overtime, Emergency, and Standby Personnel Costs Associated with COVID-19 Preparation and Response. City Manager. Memorandum 20-068 from Finance Director as backup. Ordinance 20-25, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Accepting and

Appropriating the First Payment for COVID-19 Related Expenditures under the CARES Act in the Amount of \$3,854,686. Mayor/Smith. Memorandum 20-066 from Mayor as back up.

APPROVED as amended without discussion.

### **MAYORAL PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**

- a. Mary Epperson Day, June 6, 2020

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

### **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 May 11, 2020. City Clerk. Recommend adoption.
- b. Memorandum 20-061 from Special Projects and Communications Coordinator Carroll Re: 2021-2026 CIP; FY2022 Legislative Request Development Schedule. Recommend approval.
- c. Resolution 20-048 A Resolution of the Homer City Council Establishing the City of Homer Property Tax Mill Levy at 4.5 Mills for 2020. City Manager. Recommend adoption.
- d. Resolution 20-049 A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Establishing a 2020 Mill Rate of 9.962541 Mills for the Ocean Drive Loop Special Service District. City Manager. Recommend adoption.

Moved to Resolutions item c. Aderhold.

Item d. moved to Resolutions item c. Aderhold.

APPROVED without discussion.

### **VISITORS**

- a. Unified Command Report (10 Minutes)

Lorne Carroll, Public Health Nurse, shared the a COVID-19 situational update, that currently there are 5.6 million confirmed cases and 350,000 deaths globally, surpassing H1N1 from 2009 by far. In the United States we're at 1.7 million reported cases reported and 100,000 reported deaths, and 380,000 recovered. In Alaska were at 411 reported cases, 88% have recovered, 45 hospitalizations, 10 deaths, and in the Kenia Peninsula 27 reported cases, 4 in Homer and all 4

have recovered. He noted these are known reported cases thus far. Mr. Carroll explained 80% of the known cases are very mild indicating there is a lot of activity we're unaware of. With fisheries opening up, mandates, and other seasonal work that comes with summer, and an increase access to asymptomatic testing we'll see more cases, resulting in more contact investigations, and more contact tracing. Asymptomatic could mean a case that never has symptoms throughout the course of the virus, that a person doesn't have signs or symptoms prior to the onset of the virus, or deny signs and symptoms of COVID. He also explained how the State gear up their system if needed to train for working through increased cases and contact tracing.

Derotha Ferraro, South Peninsula Hospital (SPH) PIO, reported SPH has submitted 915 COVID-19 tests, 883 were negative, 6 positive, and 26 pending. They've sent 21 anti-body tests in with no positives to date. SPH is working toward increased testing capabilities to allow for more reliable rapid test processing on-site and the ability to provide reliable results within an hour. Services are opening up at the hospital and clinics with in person visits, telemedicine, or phone consult. Expect universal masking, advanced phone screenings before and upon arrival, defined waiting areas, reduced occupancy, and required COVID-19 testing prior to some specific processes. Drive up testing remains opens 24/7 with no charge to the individual.

Fire Chief Mark Kirko reported on the City's Emergency Operation Center "new normal" operational picture, reviewing some of the scaled back functions and continuation of others, primarily for the Public Information and Finance teams. Emergency disaster declarations are still in place and we still have active cases in the state and community, and we need to remain vigilant as we experience more travel and social interaction under the Governor's re-opening responsibly plan. He's continuing to review City of Homer re-opening plans provided by Department Heads are providing to ensure they reflect opening in a safe and measureable manner that meets the safety outlines and precautions of the mandates. He reported on other activities he's involved in related to incident command, and the continued efforts of the Public Information Officers Jenny Carroll and Rachel Tussey.

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

a. Committee of the Whole Report

Councilmember Lord reported Council discussed information regarding FEMA and CARES Act funding, and funding and reimbursement strategy for the City moving forward. The discussed CARES Act funding coming to the City through the State, and discussed the support for the Commissions and Board to continue to meet remotely at least through June, with more assessment to follow.

b. Worksession Report

City Manager Yoder reported Council reviewed the City Manager applications and will schedule telephonic interview with six applicants.

c. Mayor's Report

Mayor Castner reported he's been hearing complaints about both sides of masking related to the virus. He explained the businesses get to decide on how to address masking at their establishment and encouraged respecting their decisions. The virus is still out there and with all the mixing around the state right now, so we'll see what's going to happen.

d. Borough Report

e. Library Advisory Board

i. Library Advisory Board Report

Marcia Kuszmaul, Library Advisory Board Chair, reported on the anticipated Library soft re-opening on June 8<sup>th</sup>, and that the Summer Reading Program, Food for Kids and Teens, and Bob the Bookmobile are getting started. The Board's next meeting is scheduled for August 8<sup>th</sup> and they're attempting to plan a worksession before then to discuss the Library Endowment Fund. They have two vacancies on the Board and also a seat for their Student Representative.

f. Planning Commission

i. Planning Commission 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 20-045 from Public Works Director as backup

Ordinance 20-19(S), An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending Homer City Code Title 19 to add Chapter 19.01 Closures of **Public** 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 Owned Public Use Areas upon Written Findings that it's in the Public's Interest to do so.** City Manager.

ADOPTED Substitute as amended with discussion.

Amended:

- Line 24 to read closure of public use areas;
  - Line 27 add in addition to the written findings the City Manager will provide the conditions that must be met in order to re-open any areas closed and a projected date of re-opening.
- b. 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

Ordinance 20-21(S), An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending Homer City Code by ~~Repealing~~ **Amending** 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~~ **to Allow for Exceptions in Emergency Circumstances and in Notification of Intent to Teleconference for Good Cause Shown. Lord/Venuti**

Memorandum 20-064 from City Clerk as backup

Memorandum 20-056 from City Clerk as backup

ADOPTED Substitute as amended with discussion.

Amended:

- Delete lines 56-59 that read d. If the Mayor participates ~~telephonically~~ **by teleconference**, the Mayor may vote telephonically to break a tie as permitted in HCC 2.08.040(h), but the Mayor Pro Tem, or the senior Council member in the Mayor Pro Tem's absence, shall preside over and perform all other functions of the Mayor at the meeting.
- Delete lines 143-147 that read b. Participation by teleconference may be denied whenever the physical presence of the individual is considered essential to effective participation in the meeting or to the proper conduct of the business to be addressed at the meeting.
- c. If teleconferencing is denied the individual will be listed as absent.

7 minute break

### **ORDINANCE(S)**

- a. Ordinance 20-24, An Emergency Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the 2020 Budget by Appropriating Funds in the Amount of \$255,000 for the Purpose of Overtime, Emergency, and Standby Personnel Costs Associated with COVID-19 Preparation and Response. City Manager.

Memorandum 20-063 from City Manager as backup  
Memorandum 20-065 from Finance Director as backup

ADOPTED with discussion.

- b. Ordinance 20-25, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Accepting and Appropriating the First Payment for COVID-19 Related Expenditures under the CARES Act in the Amount of \$3,854,686. Mayor/Smith. Recommended Dates Introduction May 26, 2020, Public Hearing and Second Reading June 8, 2020.

INTRODUCED with discussion.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

- a. City Manager's Report

City manager Yoder commented regarding the seawall worksession and an issue that came up is if something catastrophic did happen to the seawall it would impact more than just the current owners and whether we should expand it. We believe there's a way forward to do something similar assessing the repairs on an area-wide basis.

Councilmember Aderhold asked he could provide an update on the demolition study for the HERC at their next meeting.

### **PENDING BUSINESS**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

### **RESOLUTIONS**

- a. Resolution 20-050, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Delaying Certain Non-Critical Capital Projects and Encouraging Conservative Operational Spending with the Intent to Reassess Capital and Operating Expenses after the First and Second Fiscal Quarters with Developing Financial Scenarios for FY2020 and FY2021. Lord/Smith.

ADOPTED with discussion.

- b. Resolution 20-051, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Authoring Acceptance of Coronavirus Relief Funds in the Amount of \$7,899,085.29 for Costs that are Necessary Expenditures Incurred due to the Public Health Emergency with Respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), from the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute the Grant Agreement. City Manager.

Memorandum 20-062 from City Manager as backup

ADOPTED with discussion.

- c. Resolution 20-049 A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Establishing a 2020 Mill Rate of 9.962541 Mills for the Ocean Drive Loop Special Service District. City Manager.

ADOPTED as amended with discussion.

Amended: Line 16 delete the word insurance.

### **COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**

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

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

City Clerk Jacobsen announced openings on the Library Advisory Board, including Student Representative, and on the Economic Development Advisory Commission.

### **COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER**

City Manager Yoder said it's been an interesting meeting, he has a full page of notes for things he needs to get working on before the next meeting.

### **COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR**

Mayor Castner commented that it was a good meeting.

### **COMMENTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

Councilmember Smith recognized National EMS Appreciate Week and Memorial Day. Last year he and a few others had the opportunity to fly out to the USS Roosevelt, and he shared his respect for those who currently serve, have served, and those who died in the service of our Country.

Councilmember Hansen-Cavasos commented the community was amazing for high school graduation, it was one of the better ones and there was great community support.

Councilmember Venuti thanked the Mayor for recognizing Mary Epperson Day on June 6<sup>th</sup> and recognized her contributions our community. She thanked the businesses along Pioneer Avenue for their patience through a long winter and now the road work going on. She appreciates KBBI for their continued service in broadcasting meeting and encouraged the public to continue attending and providing feedback on agenda items.



Councilmember Aderhold said she walked over and watched graduation and it was the best. Watching the graduates drive by was wonderful and it was so nice to get out and celebrate something. Kudos to the School District and everyone who helped plan the graduation. The Cook Inletkeeper and Kachemak Bay Conservation Society and other groups are reading the book *Drawdown* and looking at climate solution that the Homer Community can implement. Information to participate is the Cook Inletkeeper website. On Memorial Day she spent time reflecting on what it means, and also our response to the pandemic. We're approaching 100,00 who have died in the country from COVID-19, more than the number of people who died in the Viet Nam and Korean Wars combined over just a few months. The New York Times had an online article where they touched on a number of people who have died, with their names, where they're from, and one line about who they were. She encouraged looking at it and taking it seriously. In Alaska we implemented health measures early which has made a lot of difference and we need to continue to keep up with washing hands, wearing masks, and maintaining physical distance, even though some of the mandates have been lifted.

Councilmember Lord followed those same thoughts and implore us all to try and be kind and patient. She's seen kindness and also some rude interactions in stores around town. She feels for everyone working a job where it's not their choice or decision, but their boss who's telling them what to enforce. We can all be kind to the extent possible and have grace and patience for those around us. If you feel sick stay home. The Governor has put onus on all of us to make responsible choices for ourselves and our community. She shared the Farmer's Market is opening up with some changes to the look and feel, and she's excited about the Summer Reading Program starting up.

Councilmember Evensen thanked everyone for their thoughtful comments. Spring fever coming of a long after a long winter and COVID. He reminded everyone doing projects to call 811 before you dig, it's a small step for safety.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Next Regular Meeting is Monday, June 8, 2020 at 6:00 p.m., Worksession 4:00 p.m. Committee of the Whole at 5:00 p.m. All meetings scheduled to be held virtually from the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

Note Time: \_\_\_\_\_ 8:49 \_\_\_\_\_