

Session 23-01 a Regular Meeting of the City Council of Homer, Alaska was called to order on January 9, 2023 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, DAVIS, ERICKSON, HANSEN, LORD, VENUTI

**STAFF:** CITY MANAGER DUMOUCHEL  
CITY CLERK JACOBSEN  
FINANCE DIRECTOR WALTON  
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR KEISER  
CITY PLANNER ABOUD  
NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR SULCZYNSKI  
CITY ATTORNEY GATTI

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

Mayor Castner announced the supplemental items for the record as follows: **Consent Agenda** - Financial supplement forms for Ordinance 23-02 Funding the purchase of property in the Bridge Creek Watershed Protection District and Ordinance 23-04 funding Parking Pay Kiosks and Software; a copy of the Shared Fisheries Business tax program application as back up to Resolution 23-003 adopting an Alternative Allocation method for the city's application; **Public Hearings** - written public comment for Ordinance 22-40 amending the sign code – **Pending Business** Written public comment for Ordinance 22-72(S) amending title 19 regarding unrestrained dogs in city parks and campgrounds; and **City Manager's report** letter from the US Navy regarding Gulf of Alaska Training Activities, Flyer for the Consular Office of Japan in Anchorage Online Arctic Symposium, and written public comment.

ADERHOLD/VENUTI MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

**3. MAYORAL PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS UPON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA** (The public may comment for three minutes on agenda items not schedule for public hearing.)

**5. RECONSIDERATION**

**6. 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.)

- 6.A. Homer City Council Unapproved Regular Meeting Minutes of November 28, 2022. City Clerk. Recommend adoption.
- 6.B. Reappointment of Ian Pitzman and Bruce Friend to the Port and Harbor Advisory Commission. Mayor. Recommend approval.
- 6.C. Ordinance 23-01, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY23 Capital Budget by Renewing the Appropriation of Funds in the Amount of \$750,000 from the General Fund Fund Balance for the Purpose of Reinitiating and Conducting a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers General Investigation Study for the Homer Large Vessel Port Expansion. City Manager. Recommended dates introduction January 9, 2023 Public Hearing and Second Reading January 23, 2023.
- 6.D. Ordinance 23-02, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY23 Capital Budget by Appropriating an Amount not to Exceed \$70,000 Divided Equally Between the Homer Accelerated Roads and Trails (HART) Trails Fund and the Land Reserves to Purchase a 4.53 Acre Parcel in the Bridge Creek Watershed Protection District. Aderhold. Recommended dates introduction January 9, 2023 Public Hearing and Second Reading January 23, 2023.
- 6.E. Ordinance 23-03, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY23 Capital Budget by Appropriating \$24,000 from the United States Coast Guard (USCG) Hickory Maintenance Reserves for the Purpose of Contracting with Alaska Industrial Services for Fender Repairs to the Hickory Berth and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/Port Director. Recommended dates introduction January 9, 2023 Public Hearing and Second Reading January 23, 2023.
- 6.F. Ordinance 23-04, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY23 Capital Budget by Appropriating \$38,775 from the Port Reserves for the Purpose of Purchasing Two Additional Parking Pay Kiosks and UPSafety Parking Management Software Package. City Manager/Port Director. Recommended dates introduction January 9, 2023 Public Hearing and Second Reading January 23, 2023.
- 6.G. Resolution 23-001, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Confirming the City Manager's Appointment of Melissa Jacobsen as Acting City Manager for Calendar Year 2023. City Manager. Recommend adoption.
- 6.H. Resolution 23-002, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Confirming the Appointment of Elizabeth Walton as Treasurer and Jenna DeLumeau as Deputy Treasurer for Calendar Year 2023. City Manager. Recommend adoption.
- 6.I. Resolution 23-003, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Adopting an Alternative Allocation Method for the FY23 Shared Fisheries Business Tax Program and Certifying that this Allocation Method Fairly Represents the Distribution of Significant Effects of Fisheries Business Activity in FMA 14: Cook Inlet Area. City Manager. Recommend adoption.

- 6.J. Resolution 23-004, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving a Contract Amendment with Homer Animal Services, LLC which allows for the Retention of Fees for Services Provided by Homer Animal Services, LLC Staff and Authorizes the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager. Recommend adoption.
- 6.K. Resolution 23-005, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Supporting the Recertification of the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens Advisory Council by the United States Coast Guard through PWSRCAC Recertification Docket USCG-2022-0707. Aderhold. Recommend adoption.

City Clerk Jacobsen read the consent agenda and recommendations into the record.

ADERHOLD/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONSENT AGENDA AS READ.

There was brief discussion confirming that additional information regarding Ordinance 23-02 at the next meeting regarding total net cost to the City and liens on the property.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

**7. VISITORS**

**8. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS (5 minutes each)**

- 8.A. Worksession/Committee of the Whole Report

City Manager Dumouchel reported on the presentation provided by HDR that was focused on CIP project evaluation and federal grant recommendations.

Council Member Aderhold reported at the Committee of the Whole they continued the discussion about opportunities related to federal grants and the HERC which is not included for federal funding at this time.

- 8.B. Mayor's Report

Mayor Castner reported that this Friday will be the last day for the COVID test clinic. He announced his top priorities for this year which include an overall financial plan, an ordinance for City wide business licensing, storm water and drainage, and progress with the Port expansion project.

- 8.C. Borough Report
- 8.D. Planning Commission Report
- 8.E. Port & Harbor Advisory Commission Report

Port and Harbor Advisory Commissioner Bob Shavelson commented regarding an article in the Homer News about a sailboat that sank in the Harbor and Harbor staff's quick response to the matter. At their last meeting the Commission heard a report that the Department of Natural Resources is going through the process of making rules for abandoned and derelict vessels, kiosk and software for spit parking and parking day rate increase from \$5 to \$10, funding replacement of aging floats, and the upcoming worksession on the Large Vessel Harbor Project.

8.F. AML Travel Report

Written reports from Council Members Erickson and Aderhold were provided in the packet.

**9. PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

- 9.A. Ordinance 22-70, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending Homer City Code, Section 21.60.100 Signs Exempt from Regulation to Exempt Signs Not Visible from Public Rights of Way. Lord. Introduction October 24, 2022, Public Hearing and Second Reading Postponed to November 28 and Referred to Planning Commission. Public Hearing and Second Reading Postponed to January 9, 2023.

Mayor Castner opened the public hearing. There were no comments and the hearing was closed.

LORD/ERICKSON MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 22-70 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING.

LORD/ADERHOLD MOVED TO AMEND LINES 9, 20, 24, AND 26 TO STRIKE VISIBLE AND REPLACE IT WITH LEGIBLE.

Council Member Lord noted the Planning Commission received public comment regarding this and sent the recommendation to Council for the title, and this amendment makes it consistent throughout.

VOTE (amendment): NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

There was no further discussion on the main motion.

VOTE (main motion as amended): NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

**10. ORDINANCE(S)**

**11. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

- 11.A. City Manager's Report

City Manager Dumouchel noted his written report in the packet and highlighted the budget process is getting under way, he's suspending camping at Karen Hornaday Park, and 2022 Council Visioning follow-up. He also noted change from his report regarding a housing forum, there are others in the community working on the same thing so we're going join forces and will have a broader stakeholders group which will be a positive thing.

There was brief discussion regarding the Homer Foundation funding for Hornaday Park playground maintenance and repair and the ADA Parks Transition Plan that's in process. There was also discussion regarding the campground closure.

## **12. PENDING BUSINESS**

- 12.A. Ordinance 22-72, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending Homer City Code Title 20 Animals, Sections 20.04.020 Definitions, 20.08.010 Animals At Large, 20.08.040 Nuisance Animals And 20.32.020 Fine Schedule to Refine the Definition of "At Large", Clarify Areas Where Animals Are To Be On Leash At All Times and Amend Related Fines. Venuti/Erickson. Introduction October 24, 2022 postponed to January 9, 2023 and Referred to Parks Art Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission. Public Hearing and Second Reading January 23, 2023.

Ordinance 22-72(S), An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending Homer City Code Title 19, Parks, Campgrounds, and Public Places and Section 19.08.070, Certain Acts Prohibited; Section 19.20.020 General Rules, and Title 1, General Provisions, Section 1.16.040 Disposition of Scheduled Offenses. City Manager.

Mayor Castner announced there is a motion on the floor for the introduction of Ord 22-72 from October 24, 2022 and opened the floor for discussion.

ERICKSON/VENUTI MOVED TO SUBSTITUTE ORDINANCE 22-72(S) FOR 22-72.

There was no discussion on the motion to substitute.

VOTE (substitution): NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

There were comments in support of introduction and confirming with the City Manager that the City Attorney had reviewed the substitute ordinance.

VOTE (introduction): NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

## **13. NEW BUSINESS**

## **14. RESOLUTIONS**

**15. COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE** (The public may comment for three minutes on any topic.)

**16. COMMENTS OF THE CITY ATTORNEY**

City Attorney Gatti had no comments.

**17. COMMENTS OF THE CITY CLERK**

City Clerk Jacobsen shared there is an opening on the ADA Advisory Board and that absentee in person voting for the Borough Special Election will be conducted at the Borough Annex building.

**18. COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER**

City Manager Dumouchel had no comments.

**19. COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR**

Mayor Castner thanked those who attended the Kenia Peninsula Economic Development District (KPEDD) Industry Outlook Forum. This is a year the residents need to make a score card because there are going to be a lot of projects in the millions of dollars, Council has a priority list, and he encouraged the public to start attending the Council, Board, and Commission meetings.

**20. COMMENTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

Council Member Cavasos said it was a good meeting and she hopes to be in person next time.

Council Member Aderhold said Happy New Year, it was a good first meeting. She's in Cordova and will be in Anchorage for the next meeting and will be remote again. The Industry Outlook Forum was well done and she appreciates the scope has expanded to important topics beyond the oil industry. She added that Drawdown in coming back, their focus is non-motorized transportation and encouraged people to attend if they're interested.

Council Member Erickson thanked the Homer Police Department for their pro-tips and interaction with other police departments. At AML they talked about how people have isolated over the last couple of year and we've not always been coming together in healthy ways, and have had trouble reconnecting. It's important this year that we focusing together and have good discussion about different issues. Council will have a lot of weighty decisions to make regarding the grants that will be coming up, and how they will responsibly say yes this is what we need and are willing to pay for. She concurred with the Mayor that we're all going to have to draw together to make these decisions. She wished everyone happy New Year.

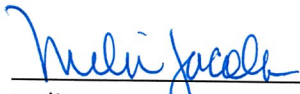
Council Member Davis also appreciated KPEDD's work and the Industry Outlook Forum. He'll be absent at the next meeting and will see everyone in February.

Council Member Venuti agreed it was a great Industry Outlook Forum. She noted Martin Luther King Day is Monday and encouraged using that day to reflect on the principles of racial equality and non-violent social change. She also shared regarding a recent school shooting in Virginia where a 6 year old shot his first grade

teacher. It's a tragedy and she encouraged parents to be mindful of their children's anger and signs of danger, contact mental health if needed, and keep gun cabinet's lock. She wished everyone happy new year.

Council Member Lord said happy 2023. She shared about the recent Friday Night Lights ski event hosted by the Kachemak Nordic Ski Club and thanked the groomers for their work on the trails. She appreciated being able to attend the KPEDD event virtually.

- 21. ADJOURNMENT** There being no further business to come before the Council Mayor Castner adjourned the meeting at 6:53 p.m. The next Regular Meeting is Monday, January 23, 2022 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.



Melissa Jacobsen, MMC, City Clerk

Approved: 1-23-23