

REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 24, 2023

Session 23-08 a Regular Meeting of the City Council of Homer, Alaska was called to order on April 24, 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  
PORT DIRECTOR HAWKINS  
FINANCE DIRECTOR WALTON  
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR KEISER  
SPECIAL PROJECTS & COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR CARROLL  
FIRE CHIEF KIRKO  
RECREATION MANAGER ILLG  
CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER JIRSA  
NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR SULCZYNSKI  
CITY ATTORNEY HOLMQUIST

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**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: **Consent Agenda** April 10, 2023 Minutes for approval. **Public Hearings** Ordinance 23-20, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Appropriating Funds for the Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025 for the General Fund, the Water Fund, the Sewer Fund, the Port/Harbor Fund, and Internal Services Funds. City Manager. Proposed budget amendment from Council Member Davis. **Resolutions** Resolution 23-046, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Authorizing a Task Order in the amount of \$379,661 to HDR Engineering, Inc. for the Homer Harbor Expansion Study’s In-Kind Engineering Support Services and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/Port Director. Informational slides provided by Ronny McPherson, HDR. **Laydown Items** Memorandum from Finance Director re: Capital Project Open Encumbrances Status Report and Written public comments on the budget.

ADERHOLD/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT THE AGENDA.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

**3. MAYORAL PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**

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

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Kate Finn, city resident, commented in support of Resolution 23-045 and efforts for continued operation of the Mariner Theater and Kate Kuhns Aquatic center open.

Mel Kim, non-resident, introduced himself and shared that he's looking forward to serving on the Economic Development Advisory Commission, listening and learning, and figuring out how to make Homer more successful in the near and long term.

## 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 Council Member.)

- 6.A. Homer City Council Unapproved Regular Meeting Minutes of April 10, 2023. City Clerk. Recommend adoption.
- 6.B. Appointment of Mel Kim to the Economic Development Advisory Commission and Cassidi Sorter to the ADA Advisory Board. Mayor. Recommend approval.
- 6.C. Ordinance 23-22, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska amending the FY23 Capital Budget by Appropriating \$230,000 from the General Fund Fleet Capital Asset Repair and Maintenance Allowance (CARMA) Fund for the Purpose of Purchasing, Refurbishing, and Transporting a Ladder Truck for the Homer Volunteer Fire Department. City Manager/Fire Chief. Recommend Introduction April 24, 2023, Public Hearing and Second Reading May 8, 2023.
- 6.D. Ordinance 23-23, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Appropriating the Funds for the Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025 Capital Budget. City Manager. Recommend Introduction April 24, 2023, Public Hearing May 8 and May 22, 2023, Second Reading May 22, 2023.

Moved to Ordinances. Aderhold.

- 6.E. Ordinance 23-24, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the City of Homer Water and Sewer Rates and Updating the Fee Schedule Accordingly. City Manager/Finance Director. Introduction April 24, 2023, Public Hearing and Second Reading May 8, 2023.
- 6.F. Resolution 23-039, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving a Recreational Use Agreement between the City of Homer and South Peninsula Little League, Inc. regarding the Maintenance and Operation of Little League Activities on City Owned Land at Karen Hornaday Park, and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager. Recommend adoption.
- 6.G. Resolution 23-040, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Expressing Support for the Homer Port Freight Resiliency & Efficiency – Improving Greater Homer Area Transportation

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(FREIGHT) Project, Endorsing the City’s Grant Application to the United States Department of Transportation Maritime Administration’s FY2023 Port Infrastructure Development Program And Committing Local Match Funds. City Manager. Recommend adoption.

6.H. Resolution 23-041, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Authorizing a Task Order in the amount of \$20,000 to Coble Geophysical Services to Support the Beluga Slough Green Infrastructure Storm Water Treatment System and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommend adoption.

6.I. Resolution 23-042, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Awarding a Sole Source Contract to Dibble Creek Rock to Dredge the Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon in Exchange for Dredge Spoils and Zero Dollars, and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/Port Director. Recommend adoption.

6.J. Resolution 23-043, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving the City of Homer 2023 Land Allocation Plan. City Manager. Recommend adoption.

6.K. Resolution 23-044, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving New One-Year Contracts with Premera Blue Cross, VSP, and Prudential with a Renewal Date of July 1, 2023. City Manager. Recommend adoption.

6.L. Resolution 23-045, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Expressing Support for Continued Operations of the Mariner Theater and the Kate Kuhns Aquatic Center and Indicating Council Interest in Initiating Discussions with the Kenai Peninsula Borough and the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Regarding Potential Partnership Opportunities. Lord. Recommend adoption.

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

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

**7. VISITORS (10 minutes each)**

7.A Safe and Healthy Kids Fair – Red Asselin Martin, Sprout Family Services

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Red Asselin shared information regarding the upcoming Safe and Healthy Kids Fair, it's the 30<sup>th</sup> year of the event in the community. She shared their mission and continued goal to promote the health, safety, and wellness of the youth in our community, what organizations are involved, and activities available at the fair.

7.B. Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve Report - Coowe Walker

Coowe Walker, Manager of the Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, and Ben Peters, Administrative Specialist with the Reserve, shared that the Reserve has been a partner with the City for since the Reserve was designated. They do long term water quality monitoring in the harbor, work with the City to help understand the water budget for the reservoir, conduct training on Green Infrastructure, and lead efforts with climate resilience. They recently partnered with City staff to propose funding for peatlands in the Beluga Slough area to help the City with their storm water management by implementing green infrastructure. She announced they received the award of \$1.287 million, and a large majority of the award going to the City, they're excited to partner in this meaningful way. Ms. Walker recognized Public Works Director Keiser, Economic Development Manager Engebretsen, and Special Projects & Communications Coordinator Carroll for their assistance in writing the proposal.

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

8.A. Work Session

City Manager Dumouchel reported Public Works Director Keiser and Finance Director Walton presented and answered questions regarding water and sewer rates during the work session.

8.B. Committee of the Whole

Council Member Aderhold reported Council discussed Resolution 23-046 and the scope of work for HDR to continue work with the City and Corps of Engineers. They also discussed the Land Allocation Plan, and the FY24/24 draft operating and budgets.

8.C. Mayor's Report

Mayor Castner reported on a meeting with Admiral Sucato, Commander Navy Region Northwest, regarding the Northern Edge exercise, the USS Momson visit, and naval presence in our region. Mayor Castner noted seeing news coverage of the northern passage and the activities occurring above Alaska and Canada and strategic presence in that area.

8.D. Borough Report

Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly Member Lane Chesley reported the Borough Clerk position is open. He extended an invitation the Mayor, Manager, and Port Director to present to the Assembly on the Harbor Expansion. Dale Banks approached him about a resolution to support the parking lot development out East End Road. He and Assembly Member Tupper sponsored the resolution and it passed at their last meeting. The Borough Mayor understands the importance of having the transfer station open in Homer on Sundays and

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supports it, so he's standing by to see how it's presented in the budget. They continue to work on the material site ordinance related to gravel extraction on the peninsula.

8.E. ADA Advisory Board

Council Member Aderhold reported at their last meeting they reviewed and commented on the draft parks and campground transition plan, which they hope to complete this summer. They discussed an ADA Accessibility Survey and city wide distribution to get feedback from the public on accessibility of City buildings, parks, and services. They discussed mobi mats and made a recommendation that the City purchase them and their 2023 annual calendar. She's happy they have a new member.

Cassidi Sorter was in attendance and the Mayor invited her to comment. She thanked Council for the appointment and explained she has a son with non-verbal autism so she's looking forward to work on issues that affect him and others with disabilities.

8.F. Economic Development Advisory Commission

Commissioner Tulio Perez reported at their last meeting they discussed the Land Allocation Plan, the Homer Chamber of Commerce and Small Business Development Center budget request. They are developing their mission statement and working to stay abreast of major issues like the port expansion study to be able to serve as a communication point with the community. He welcomed Mel Kim to the group.

8.G. Planning Commission

8.H. Library Advisory Board

Board Member Red Asslin Martin wished all, Happy Right to Read Day, a great reminder to borrow a book from the library. At their last meeting the Board welcomed new member Kathy Carrsow and returning member Clark Fair, they elected Kate Finn as Chair and Marcia Kuzmaul as Vice Chair. They had a training on parliamentary procedure and the open meetings act, developed a process for review of library policies, and discussed infrastructure needs. She noted upcoming library events.

8.I. Parks Art Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission

Commissioner Robert Archibald reported at their last meeting Cameale Johnson from Homer Trails Alliance presented on trail plans for improvement that would include the Diamond Creek Recreation Area. Jennifer Norton presented on Pier 1 summer programs. They heard reports from staff and drafted a memo to Council for funding for the recreational software and a staff person. He thanked Homer Drawdown for their work filling sandbags for sanding trails around town. The Commission discussed the state of City parks and progress on a new master plan for Jack Gist Park and Bayview Park. They'll be visiting two parks prior to their next meeting. He thanked Special Projects & Communications Coordinator Jenny Carroll for her efforts in searching out and applying for grant applications which if approved will improve our town.

8.J. AML Legislative Committee Report –Aderhold

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Council Member Aderhold reported they've been discussing the state budget, primarily education spending, PFD, and the capital budget. The AML lobbyists are seeing there's a lot of awareness in the legislation about the need for new revenues and a comprehensive plan to solve our fiscal problem, and they think something will be happening this year, since it's not an election year.

8.K. Lunch with a Council Member - Aderhold

Council Member Aderhold reported they had as many as nine people in attendance and they talked about a lot of different topics like the Comp Plan, HERC and its history, harbor expansion, water availability, a dog park, library western lot, and water and sewer extensions. It was fun and rewarding.

**9. PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

9.A. Resolution 23-035, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Adopting the Revised Port and Harbor Tariff No. 1. City Manager/Port Director.

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

ADERHOLD/LORD MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 23-035 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY.

Council Member Erickson explained feedback she's been hearing is from people with boats in the harbor having to pay for parking. She asked if Port Director Hawkins could comment for the listening audience about what's happening with parking.

Port Director Hawkins explained the only parking change occurring this year is the day use parking lots, ramps 1 through 4 and the pavilion parking lot fees went from \$5 to \$10 per day. Season passes for parking in those fee lots are staying at \$250. They've been talking about expanding to lots at ramp 3 to 4 lot, but it won't happen this year. We have to work with DOT to amend our agreement, the same with the Seafarer Memorial lot.

Council Member Lord appreciates that parking has been a robust conversation with the Port & Harbor Advisory Commission. She appreciates other changes within the tariff both in clarification and fee schedule.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

9.B. Ordinance 23-17, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending Homer City Code 19.08.110 Disposition of Revenues, to Deposit all Revenue from Fees Paid for Parking or Camping in City Campgrounds Located on the Homer Spit to the Port Operations Fund. City Manager. Introduction April 10, 2023, Public Hearing and Second Reading April 24, 2023.

Mayor Castner opened the public hearing.

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Scott Adams, city resident, commented with this change the general fund will be losing revenue and he requested an amendment that a quarter of the revenue go to parks and recreation.

There were no further comments and the hearing was closed.

ADERHOLD/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 23-17 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING.

Council Member Lord commented this moves forward under the City Manager’s purview to structure and organize and she’s curious how it will play out. She’d like to get some candid conversation after the season as to how it went.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

9.C. Ordinance 23-18, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY23 Operating Budget to Provide for Necessary Adjustments Connected to the Redirection of Campground Revenues in the Amount of \$60,000 from the General Fund to the Port Operations Fund. City Manager/Port Director. Introduction April 10, 2023, Public Hearing and Second Reading April 24, 2023.

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

ADERHOLD/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 23-18 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

9.D. Ordinance 23-19, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY23 Capital Budget by Authorizing a Transfer of \$144,360 from the Port Capital Projects Fund to the Port Reserves Fund to Establish a Dedicated Reserve for Required Maintenance or Repairs of the United States Coast Guard Cutter Berth Space. City Manager/Finance Director. Introduction April 10, 2023, Public Hearing and Second Reading April 24, 2023.

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

ADERHOLD/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 23-19 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY.

Mayor Castner provided a brief explanation of the purpose of this ordinance.

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VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- 9.E. Ordinance 23-20, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Appropriating Funds for the Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025 for the General Fund, the Water Fund, the Sewer Fund, the Port/Harbor Fund, and Internal Services Funds. City Manager. Introduction April 10, 2023, Public Hearing April 24 and May 8, 2023, Second Reading May 8, 2023.

Mayor Castner opened the public hearing.

Brad Anderson, Executive Director of the Homer Chamber of Commerce (HCOC) commented in support of an amendment to increase the City's allocation for Chamber Funding, noting the amount hasn't changed since 2017 and highlighting the services they provide.

Michael Daniel, HCOC Board President, commented in support of increasing the proposed funding for the Chamber in the upcoming year and shared efforts by the Chamber to attract more visitors to Homer and help businesses thrive.

Bruce Friend, city resident and member of Homer Marine Trades Association, commented in support of increasing funding to the HCOC and explained how the Chamber works with the Marine Trades Association.

Robert Archibald, city resident, commented in support of getting plumbed bathrooms at the city parks, and at a minimum getting water to Jack Gist Park for field maintenance.

Jan Knutson, Director of HCOC Visitor Center, commented in support of increased funding to the HCOC and shared how the funding benefits the HCOC Visitor Center.

There were no further comments and the hearing was closed.

Mayor Castner opened the floor to the Council for discussion.

DAVIS/ERICKSON MOVED TO AMEND ORDINANCE 23-20 AS LAID OUT IN THE PROPOSED BUDGET AMENDMENT FORM ON PAGE 15 OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL PACKET IN A WAY THAT WOULD INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF THE CITY'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BY \$24,000 TO A TOTAL OF \$75,000.

Council Member Davis commented the City had been partnering with the Chamber to conduct tourism marketing on our behalf. There is a strong case to be made that the amount we give the Chamber is more than offset by the increased sales tax revenue from visitors because of their outreach. They've argued strongly this increase would allow them to do more in promoting Homer as a destination.



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City Manager Dumouchel noted that he's submitted a balanced operating budget so any amendments will have to be offset by taking funding from something to balance it. He asked that they keep in mind that part how he balanced the budget is by freezing a position that is currently vacant.

There was discussion confirming it needs to be clear with budget increases, where the money is coming from.

Council Member Venuti commented in opposition to increasing funding to the HCOC because it works primarily for its members and questioned whether they've looked at increasing member rates. She also note in past years they've been in opposition of a bed tax.

Council Member Erickson countered that the HCOC provides information to people trying to relocate to Homer. She also feels the bed tax issue is moot because we have to become home rule to implement a bed tax on our own.

Council Member Hansen understands both perspectives but is inclined to support the amendment because they are broadening activities to the community.

Council Member Lord noted that a bed tax can be approved at the borough level and implemented in Homer, her understanding is it has failed in the past. She thinks there's an opportunity to revisit it. She added she's hard pressed to support non-departmental spending beyond what we've intuitively done.

Council Member Davis added the HCOC has specific marketing they do with the money from the City, and the funds would come from the general fund fund balance. He feels it better to wait on this until all the amendments are before them.

DAVIS/ERICKSON MOVED TO POSTPONE TO THE NEXT MEETING.

There was no discussion on the motion to postpone.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Mayor Castner called for at break at 7:45 p.m. and called the meeting back to order at 7:55 p.m.

**10. ORDINANCE(S)**

- 10.A. Ordinance 23-23, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Appropriating the Funds for the Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025 Capital Budget. City Manager. Recommend Introduction April 24, 2023, Public Hearing May 8 and May 22, 2023, Second Reading May 22, 2023.

ADERHOLD/VENUTI MOVED TO INTRODUCE ORDINANCE 23-23 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY.

In response to questions City Manager Dumouchel confirmed the Port & Harbor FY24/25 parking lot storm drain project for \$1.2 million is not in the Capital Improvement Plan but is a project where there are potential funding opportunities so it's included in the capital budget to communicate an idea that may come before them in the

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next few years. Regarding projects he didn't approve the next draft will have a section that includes reasoning for the denial. The fuel island replacement is at a point where the appropriation expired and it was brought back because it's something we should do, but need to have a better idea if and where Public Works will be before moving forward on it.

Council Member Lord noted the comments related to parks restroom projects in the next biennium as a look forward, it gives them the opportunity to start putting money aside for those projects as part of this budget.

In response to questions about requests from the Port and Fire Department regarding snow plows, both departments have blades, the Port would put their current plow blade on a new truck, he's unsure if the intent of the Fire Department is to repurpose their blade or get a new one.

Mayor Castner announced he'll be proposing amendments for engineering water and sewer at Jack Gist Park and Karen Hornaday Park in 2024 and infrastructure at Jack Gist in 2025. He may also address setting money aside for HERC, similar to the way Council put money aside for the Police Department.

Council Member Venuti will be submitting amendments to add Community Recreation Software and the Small Business Development Center funding.

Council Member Lord would like more information from administration on what the software entails.

Council Member Hansen and Erickson shared support the Community Recreation software.

There was brief discussion with the City Manager regarding how he makes determinations on what's included and what isn't. Related to the software request he's working with one of the Special Project's Coordinators to do with existing and close to free resources that wouldn't have an ongoing annual fee, or revisiting it at the mid-biennium when the financial situation might be different. We have limited resources to implement this as the IT department is focused on cybersecurity and upgrading old equipment.

There was continued discussion of recreation and parks needs and need for visioning.

VOTE (introduction): NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

**11. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

11.A. City Manager's Report

City Manager Dumouchel commented regarding the installment of updates to the 2022 visioning worksession, a residential fuel spill, and City Planner Abboud's resignation.

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There was brief discussion regarding the 2022 priorities and refreshing the Emergency Operations Procedures.

**12. PENDING BUSINESS**

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- 12.A. Resolution 23-036, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Directing the Port and Harbor Advisory Commission for Research and Reporting during the process of the Harbor Expansion General Investigation Study and Float Replacement Projects. Erickson/Venuti.

Resolution 23-036(S), A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Directing the Port and Harbor Advisory Commission for Research and Reporting during the process of the Harbor Expansion General Investigation Study and Float Replacement Projects. Erickson/Venuti.

Mayor Castner announced there is a motion on the floor from April 10<sup>th</sup> to adopt Resolution 23-036 by reading of title only.

ERICKSON/VENUTI MOVED TO SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION 23-036(S) FOR 23-036.

Council Member Erickson commented they fine-tuned the resolution following the Council/Commission joint work session.

VOTE (substitution): NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Council Members expressed appreciation for the joint worksession and it was clarified there that the Commission can put what they want on the agenda and they can bring what's listed in the resolution and bring them forward. There was some confusion on that but now they're in a good position to move forward.

Council discussed the necessity of the resolution. It was suggested letting things play out for a bit and if the Commission is still struggling then work can be done to develop a more refined and specific scope. Others noted the resolution clarifies they can collect information and if the commission as a whole feels it merits attention from Council they can send it to Council, there isn't any harm in passing it.

City Clerk Jacobsen noted at the work session it was clarified that the Chair doesn't have authority to direct Commissioners individually and suggested amending line 47 after directed by the Chair, to add "with approval of the Commission".

ERICKSON/VENUTI MOVED TO AMEND AFTER DIRECTED BY THE CHAIR "WITH APPROVAL OF THE COMMISSION"

There was brief discussion in support of the amendment.

VOTE (amendment): NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Council Member Lord clarified that she opposes the resolution because it's direction from Council, regardless of the time limit. She doesn't think there's anything stopping the Commission from doing these things and this

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doesn't comport in her mind as something that is a useful directive as a Council Member to a Commission in this broad of a sweep.

VOTE: YES: VENUTI, ERICKSON, DAVIS, HANSEN  
NO: ADERHOLD, LORD

Motion carried.

**13. NEW BUSINESS**

**14. RESOLUTIONS**

- 14.A. Resolution 23-046, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Authorizing a Task Order in the amount of \$379,661 to HDR Engineering, Inc. for the Homer Harbor Expansion Study's In-Kind Engineering Support Services and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/Port Director.

ADERHOLD/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 23-046 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY.

Council Member Lord noted Council discussed this at the Committee of the Whole and noted for the listing audience that the original task order is on the Harbor Expansion Study website.

Mayor Castner requested this resolution be referred to the Port and Harbor Commission and brought back to Council on May 8<sup>th</sup>. He wants the Commission to have the opportunity to read through it and ask questions about it. This is a document there should be more eyes on.

There were comments that this is will ultimately be decided by the Council, the Mayor has identified concerns so it's valuable for Council to be aware of those concerns, and that referring it to the Commission is not objectionable, but there needs to be clear direction as to what's expected of the Commission.

Mayor Castner explained its 97% soft costs and 3% hard costs. The ratio of benefits is going to be associated with hard costs and what are going to be the benefits to the United States in that certain ratio that has to be met.

Ronny McPherson with HDR was provided an opportunity to give a brief presentation to Council explaining the current contract allows HDR to work as owner representative for the overall Homer Harbor Expansion, the USACE Feasibility Study officially began last week and is only one part of the Homer Harbor Expansion, this amendment allows HDR to provide work in kind services on the Feasibility Study as an extension of the City, and work in kind services is for preliminary engineer of harbor design alternatives.

In response to questions Mr. McPherson explained that if we did not pursue this work in kind task order the Corps would perform the preliminary engineering design in house if they had capacity within the district, but more than likely they would farm it out the Engineering Research and Development Center in Vicksburg, Mississippi.

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There was discussion clarifying work in kind, that it only applies to what the Corps specifically wants from the City and identified in the task order, and how work in kind is charged to the project. They also addressed processes for cost estimating the project, and for keeping Council and staff apprised of costs throughout.

ADERHOLD/LORD MOVE TO POSTPONE TO OUR MAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MEETING AND SEND THE RESOLUTION TO THE PORT AND HARBOR COMMISSION TO RECEIVE THIS PRESENTATION FROM HDR AND HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ASK QUESTIONS.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

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

Mike Illg, city resident and Recreation Manager for the City, commented registration for Homer Steps Up is open. He clarified the Community Recreation tried some software before with COVID funds, he spent many hours trying to figure out how it worked and there was poor customer service, so we didn't renew the agreement with them. He acknowledged Chris Etwiler who recently passed away and recognized his contributions to community recreation and the community as a whole.

Wayne Aderhold, city resident and KBBI Board Member, reminded listeners that Friday and Saturday is their Spring Fund Drive.

Robert Archibald, city resident, thanked Council for their discussion about parks and noted the PARCAC park walk through is June 15.

**16. COMMENTS OF THE CITY ATTORNEY**

Attorney Holmquist had no comments.

**17. COMMENTS OF THE CITY CLERK**

City Clerk Jacobsen thanked Assembly Member Chelsey for his vote of confidence related to the Borough Clerk position, but there are a lot of cool things to be done here so she'll be sticking around. She announced April 30 through May 6 is municipal clerk's week.

**18. COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER**

City Manager Dumouchel announced current job openings for the City.

**19. COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR**

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Mayor Castner said he's thankful they shifted the fiscal year. Going in to their 2<sup>nd</sup> two year budget has generated more interest and conversation.

**20. COMMENTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

Council Member Hansen had no comment.

Council Member Erickson thanked Rick Abboud, she enjoyed working with him and thinks the community will miss him. She echoes the earlier comments about Chris Etwiler, the community has lost a really great volunteer and good friend.

Council Member Davis encouraged attending the Guiding Growth event, and Saturday is electronics recycling day.

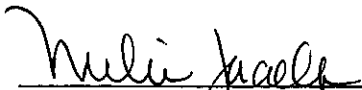
Council Member Aderhold noted the slogan nothing works without clerks and anyone who's interested in knowing what's going on in the city the Deputy City Clerk position would be a nice job to apply for. She announced events and activities coming up in May.

Council Member Venuti shared that KBC graduation is May 10<sup>th</sup>. She appreciates the clean streets and the volunteers who helped clear the soccer fields, and thanked Rick Abboud for his work.

Council Member Lord wished everyone an enjoyable dinner and 15 minutes until bed time.

**21. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before Council Mayor Castner adjourned the meeting at 9:41 p.m. The next Regular Meeting is Monday, May 8, 2023 at 6:00 p.m., Committee of the Whole at 5:00 p.m. There is a Work Session April 28, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. and a Special Meeting May 1, 2023 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.

  
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Melissa Jacobsen, MMC, City Clerk

Approved: 5.22.23