

Session 23-16 a Regular Meeting of the City Council of Homer, Alaska was called to order on August 14, 2023 by Mayor Pro Tem Aderhold 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, ERICKSON, HANSEN, LORD, VENUTI

**ABSENT:** MAYOR CASTNER AND COUNCIL MEMBER DAVIS (both excused)

**STAFF:** CITY MANAGER DUMOUCHEL  
CITY CLERK JACOBSEN  
FINANCE DIRECTOR WALTON  
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR KEISER  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER ENGBRETSSEN  
CITY PLANNER FOSTER  
DEPUTY CITY CLERK PETTIT  
CITY ATTORNEY GATTI

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

Mayor Pro Tem Aderhold announced the supplemental information: Memorandum CC-23-175 from City Clerk Re: Liquor License Renewals for Alice's Champagne Palace, The Kannery, and Wild Honey Bistro. Memorandum from Homer Police Department as backup.

LORD/VENUTI MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

### **MAYORAL PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**

### **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 Minute of July 24, 2023. City Clerk. Recommend adoption.

- b. Memorandum CC-23-175 from City Clerk Re: Liquor License Renewals for Alice’s Champagne Palace, The Kannery, and Wild Honey Bistro. Recommend Adoption.
- c. Ordinance 23-47, An Emergency Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Extending the Amendment to the FY23 Capital Budget for Emergency Repairs to the City Telephone System. City Manager. Recommend Adoption.

Memorandum CC-23-173 from City Manager as backup.

- d. Ordinance 23-48, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending Homer City Code Title 20 Animals. Lord. Recommend Introduction August 14, 2023, Public Hearing and Second Reading August 28, 2023.
- e. Resolution 23-074, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving a Task Order to RESPEC Company LLC Not to Exceed Amount of \$100,790 for the Final Design of Renovations to the Beluga Sewage Lift Station and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommend Adoption.

Memorandum CC-23-178 from Public Works Director as backup.

- f. Resolution 23-075, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving a Contract with Raven Ridge Dirtworks, LLC. of Homer, Alaska in the Amount of \$24,000 for the Disposal of Bio-Solids at the City of Homer Wastewater Treatment Plant and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommend Adoption.

Memorandum CC-23-179 from Public Works Director as backup.

- g. Resolution 23-076, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving a Contract to Kachemak Electric Company in the Amount of \$40,000 to Upgrade the Electrical Works at the Fish Grinder Sewage Lift Station and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommend Adoption.

Memorandum CC-23-180 from Public Works Director as backup.

- h. Resolution 23-077, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving a Contract with RESPEC Company LLC in the Not to Exceed Amount of \$42,000 to Design the Paintbrush Booster Station Upgrades and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommend Adoption.

Memorandum CC-23-181 from Public Works Director as backup.

- i. Resolution 23-078, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Approving a Contract to MacSwain Appraisals LLC in the Amount of \$55,200 to Provide Appraisal Services to Support

the Kachemak Sponge Project and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommend Adoption.

Memorandum CC-23-182 from Public Works Director as backup.

- j. Resolution 23-079, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the City Fee Schedule by Adding Community Recreation Participation Fees to the City Fee Schedule. City Manager. Recommend Adoption.

Memorandum CC-23-183 from Recreation Manager as backup.

City Clerk Jacobsen read the consent agenda and recommendations.

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

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

## **VISITORS**

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

- a. Worksession Report

City Manager Dumouchel reported Council heard a presentation on the HERC campus and hazardous materials testing reports on the building and discussed next steps.

- b. Committee of the Whole Report

Council Member Lord reported Council discussed Ordinance 23-48 amending Title 20, Animals, Ordinance 23-46 accepting a grant for the Kachemak Sponge project, and Ordinance 23-49 amending Title 2 by creating departments for Information Technology, Community Development, and the Library.

- c. Mayor's Report

- d. Borough Report

Assembly Member Lane Chesley reported the Assembly will be meeting in the Homer City Council Chambers on September 19<sup>th</sup> and there will be a public hearing on the material site ordinance at that meeting. He thanked Council for their feedback on the Borough resolution regarding changing the election day, that resolution failed, but another resolution to create the Voter Turnout Working Group was adopted.

- e. Planning Commission
- f. Economic Development Advisory Commission

Economic Development Advisory Commission Chair Karin Marks shared the Commission's recently developed vision statement and reported on the joint work session with the Planning Commission regarding Ordinance 23-40 amending CUP requirements in zoning districts. At their last meeting the commission worked on their mission statement, discussed Ordinance 23-40 regarding conditional use permits, developed their Capital Improvement recommendations, and passed a recommendation that Council support a Sterling Highway underpass walkway at Diamond Creek.

- g. ADA Advisory Board

ADA Advisory Board Member Jim Lepley reported at their last meeting the Board was advised the new accessible bathroom at the airport will begin construction in the fall. They discussed upcoming Trail compliance audits, stickers for businesses to display if they are ADA accessible and included on their advertisements. They also made their recommendations for the Capital Improvement Plan, approved the updated Facilities Transition Plan, and will be holding a special meeting on September 7<sup>th</sup> to consider the Transition Plan for Parks, Play Areas, and Campgrounds.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

- a. Ordinance 23-43, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the FY23 Capital Budget by Accepting and Appropriating the FY23 State of Alaska Community Assistance Program Payment in the Amount of \$204,991.19 for Various Capital Projects. City Manager. Introduction June 26, 2023, Public Hearing and July 24, 2023 Second Reading postponed to August 14, 2023.

Ordinance 23-43(S), An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the FY23 Capital Budget by Accepting and Appropriating the FY23 State of Alaska Community Assistance Program Payment in the Amount of \$204,991.19 for Various Capital Projects. City Manager.

Memorandum CC-23-172 from City Manager as backup.

Mayor Pro Tem Aderhold opened the public hearing. There were no comments and the hearing was closed.

Mayor Pro Tem Aderhold announced the motion on the floor to adopt Ordinance 23-43 by reading of title only and opened the floor for discussion.

LORD/VENUTI MOVED TO SUBSTITUTE ORDINANCE 23-43(S) FOR 23-43.

There was no discussion.

VOTE (substitution): NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT



Motion carried.

There were comments expressing appreciation for the updated language in the substitute.

VOTE (main motion): NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

Council Member Lord noted discussion at the recent AML conference regarding Community Assistance Payment Program and how other communities rely on those funds to keep their doors open.

- b. Ordinance 23-46, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY24 Capital Budget by Accepting and Appropriating a Sub-Recipient Grant from the University of Alaska Anchorage in the Amount of \$1,171,410 for the Kachemak Sponge Green Infrastructure Storm Water Treatment System. City Manager/Public Works Director. Introduction June 26, 2023, Public Hearing July 24, 2023 Second Reading Postponed to August 14, 2023.

Mayor Pro Tem Aderhold opened the public hearing.

Jan Keiser, Public Works Director, provided an overview of how this came to be. She explained that this is only the beginning of the project and future funding will be necessary to complete it.



Coowe Walker, former KBNERR Manager, shared regarding other partners in the grant process and how this is a unique opportunity to access these funds. This is an important first step because without the land, the project can't get started.

Robert Archibald, city resident, commented in support of Ordinance 23-46 and addressed the importance of the peatlands in handling storm water.

Rika Mouw, city resident, commented in support of Ordinance 23-46 and thanked everyone for the diligence and cooperation in this effort. It's a valuable way to handle stormwater.

Lynn Whitmore, President of Kachemak Moose Habitat, Inc., commented in support of Ordinance 23-46. It's the first time he's seen all these groups coordinating and supporting a single project and his organization will continue to support it in the future.

There were no further comments and the hearing was closed.

Mayor Pro Tem Aderhold announced the motion on the floor to adopt Ordinance 23-46 by reading of title only and opened the floor for discussion.



There were comments in support of the project and commending City staff and project partners for working together to get this before Council.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE(S)**

- a. Ordinance 23-49, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending Homer City Code Title 2, Chapters 2.32 Departments and Boards, 2.44 Department of Administration, 2.48 Public Library, and Enacting Chapters 2.46 Department of Information Technology and 2.57 Department of Community Development. City Manager. Introduction August 14, 2023 Public Hearing and Second Reading August 28, 2023.

Memorandum CC-23-177 from City Manager as backup.

LORD/ADERHOLD MOVED TO INTRODUCE ORDINANCE 23-49 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY.

Council Member Lord noted Council discussed this at Committee of the Whole. Their intent is to hold a work session and provided direction to the City Manager on points they'd like to have addressed.

ERICKSON/LORD MOVED TO POSTPONE ORDINANCE 23-49 TO OCTOBER 9<sup>TH</sup> FOLLOWING A WORK SESSION ON SEPTEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup>.

It was suggested to invite Commission chairs to the work session.

VOTE (motion to postpone): NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

- a. City Manager's Report

City Manager Dumouchel reviewed his report, highlighting an upcoming airport lease assignment for Aleutian Airlines, work being done on comprehensive financial policies, closure of the spit trail for work on tsunami sirens, and scheduling work sessions with Commissions. He also shared regarding the Alaska Municipal League Summer Conference in Homer, it was a success.

Following discussion of joint work sessions with the Boards and Commissions, there was consensus to hold a monthly off cycle work session starting in September, if possible, with the Planning Commission.

**PENDING BUSINESS**

- a. Resolution 23-051, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the Regular Meeting Schedule for the Planning Commission. City Clerk.

Memorandum CC-23-184 from City Planner as backup.

Mayor Pro Tem Aderhold announced the motion on the floor to adopt Resolution 23-051 by reading of title only and opened the floor for discussion.

There were comments in opposition of this change and it was noted that the memo from the City Planner recommends voting this down.

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

Motion failed.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **RESOLUTIONS**

### **COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**

Assembly Member Chesley invited the City to give an update on the passage of Ordinance 23-46 to the Assembly at an upcoming meeting.

Wayne Aderhold, city resident, commented regarding a recent Homer Police Department post about motor vehicles and biking on the shoulders of the road. He shared about the inconsistency of the shoulders, many that are less than four feet and that shoulders are nonexistent on most roads.

Jamie Sutton said he was listening on the radio and felt compelled to stop in and congratulate Council on how well their meeting was run and he congratulated them on the Kachemak Sponge Grant. He comes from San Francisco where after the earthquake and fire, the city that called itself “The City that Knows How”. He thinks Homer is a city that knows how.

Robert Archibald, city resident, commented regarding the upcoming Prince William Sound Regional Citizens Advisory Council Board meeting being held in Homer next month.

Karin Marks, city resident, commented the peony celebration is finished and thanked everyone who’s planting peonies around town.

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

City Attorney Gatti had no comments.

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

City Clerk Jacobsen announced candidacy filing is open for one more day and absentee voting information for the October 3<sup>rd</sup> municipal election.

**COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER**

City Manager Dumouchel had no comments.

**COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR**

**COMMENTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

Council Member Hansen thanked everyone for a great meeting.

Council Member Erickson shared her appreciation for staff and what they do for Homer. She shared an update on the Snomads Trail Rehabilitation Project and encouraged hunters to be aware of work being done this fall. She thanked Public Works Director Keiser for what she's done.

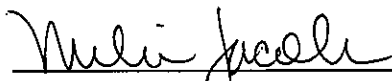
Council Member Venuti noted that school starts tomorrow and encouraged people to get out and check their headlights to make sure they're working properly. She's looking forward to Pat Case's final report on ADA matters in the city. She's thinking about Maui.

Council Member Lord said her heart goes out to Maui and addressed the importance of preparedness of local government regarding disasters and know what resources are available. She congratulated the actors and youth for their hard work in the Pier 1 youth theater presentation, shared her appreciation for the ADA celebration and walk with Pat Case, recognized former City Manager Katie Koester for being appointed Manager of the City and Borough of Juneau, and reminded listeners that school starts tomorrow and wished everyone an abundance of patience.

Mayor Pro Tem Aderhold shared her appreciation for being able to host the AML Conference and thanked Bella Vaz for her work. She reminded that Homer shares the road and noted biking etiquette along Pioneer Avenue. She recognized Council Candidate Joni Wise for attending the meeting tonight.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Council Mayor Pro Tem Aderhold adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m. The next Regular Meeting is Monday, August 28, 2023 at 6:00 p.m., Work Session at 4:00 p.m. and 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.

  
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Melissa Jacobsen, MMC, City Clerk

Approved: 8.28.23