

Session 23-24 a Regular Meeting of the City Council of Homer, Alaska was called to order on November 27, 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
LIBRARY DIRECTOR BERRY
SPECIAL PROJECTS & COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR CARROLL
PORT DIRECTOR HAWKINS
CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER JIRSA
FINANCE DIRECTOR WALTON
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR KEISER
CITY ATTORNEY GATTI

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

Mayor Castner announced agenda corrections and supplemental items: **Consent Agenda** Correction to November 13th regular meeting minutes to reflect that Council Members Davis and Erickson were absent and excused; Change Ordinance number 23-61 to Ordinance 23-64 to correct duplicate ordinance number; Resolution 23-125, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving a Task Order with RESPEC Engineering in the Amount of \$61,990 for the Construction Documents and Engineering Support for the Fish Grinding Building Replacement Project and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager. Resolution 23-125(S), with the same title; **Resolutions** Resolution 23-130, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Expressing Support for Continuation of the Homer Harbor Expansion General Investigation by Authorizing the City Manager to Sign an Updated Project Management Plan with the US Army Corps of Engineers, and Stating Intent to Fund 25% of the Updated General Investigation Cost. Lord/Hansen. Written public comment. And the memo of non-objection from Chief Robl for the Marijuana License renewals as a laydown backup to Memorandum CC-23-272.

ADERHOLD/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

Mark Zeiset, city resident and member of the Port and Harbor Advisory Commission and the Homer Marine Trades Board, commented in support of Resolution 23-130 and continuation of the Homer Harbor Expansion General Investigation Study. The geophysical information that will come from the study will belong to the City and will be beneficial for future work in the harbor, it will help ensure work is done correctly, and backing out now would have negative impact on Homer.

Dave Mastolier, city resident, commented in support of Resolution 23-130 and continuation of the Homer Harbor Expansion General Investigation Study. He echoes Mr. Zeiset's comments, and added that we need to know the science and answers to move forward if it's feasible.

Bruce Friend, city resident and member of the Port and Harbor Advisory Commission and member of the Homer Marine Trades, commented in support of Resolution 23-130 and continuation of the Homer Harbor Expansion General Investigation Study. He shared his perspective that the money invested in the study has the potential to stay in Homer by using local contractors.

Jared Bradshaw, city resident, commented in support of Resolution 23-130 and continuation of the Homer Harbor Expansion General Investigation Study. The harbor is pivotal for the economic growth and development of Homer. He understands we've exceeded the capacity at the harbor and we need to continue to find solutions, and the information we receive from the study will benefit us for future projects.

Robert Archibald, city resident, commented in support of Resolution 23-130 and continuation of the Homer Harbor Expansion General Investigation Study. We won't know the cost of improvements until the geophysical study is completed, so it's a good step forward.

Lloyd Moore, city resident and contractor for the City, commented in opposition to the adoption of Resolution 23-127 and approving the solid waste contract to Alaska Waste. He's been providing this service for the City and shared how the rates he bid would be less costly to the city.

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 Special and Regular Meeting Minutes of November 13, 2023. City Clerk. Recommend adoption.
- b. Memorandum CC-23-271 from Mayor Castner re: Appointment of Jessica Williams to the Parks Art Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission. Recommend approval.

Moved to New Business. Venuti.

- c. Memorandum CC-23-272 from City Clerk re: Marijuana Retail and Product Manufacturing License Renewals for Cosmic Cannabis Company and Cosmic SeaWeed LLC. Recommend approval.
- d. Ordinance 23-~~61~~64, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY24 Capital Budget by Appropriating \$300,000 from the Water Capital Asset Repair and Maintenance Allowance (CARMA) Fund to Design and Rebuild the Ben Walters Pressure Reducing Station. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommended dates Introduction November 27, 2023 Public Hearing and Second Reading January 8, 2024.

Memorandum CC-23-261 from Public Works Director as backup.

- e. Ordinance 23-62, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY24 Capital Budget by Appropriating an Additional \$25,000 from the Homer Accelerated Roads and Trails (HART) Road Fund to Complete the Design of the Heath Street Pavement Restoration Project. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommended dates Introduction November 27, 2023 Public Hearing and Second Reading January 8, 2024.

Memorandum CC-23-262 from Public Works Director as backup.

- f. Ordinance 23-63, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY24 Capital Budget by Renewing the Appropriation of Funds in the Amount of \$100,000 from the Port & Harbor Reserves for the Purpose of Replacing the Fish Grinding Building and Completing Drainage Improvements. City Manager/Port Director. Recommended dates Introduction November 27, 2023 Public Hearing and Second Reading January 8, 2024.

Memorandum CC-23-263 from Port Director as backup.

- g. Resolution 23-123, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving a Sole Source Contract to Zenon Environmental Corporation to Purchase Five Membrane Filter Trains for the Water Treatment Plant with the First Payment due in 2024 in the Amount of \$92,774 and Payments in Subsequent Years Subject to Inflation and Future Council Appropriations, and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum CC-23-264 from Public Works Director as backup.

- h. Resolution 23-124, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving the 2024 Regular Meeting Schedule for the City Council, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Advisory Board, Economic Development Advisory Commission, Library Advisory Board, Parks Art Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission, Planning Commission, Port and Harbor Advisory Commission. City Clerk. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum CC-23-265 from City Clerk as backup.

- i. Resolution 23-125, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving a Task Order with RESPEC Engineering in the Amount of \$61,990 for the Construction Documents and Engineering Support for the Fish Grinding Building Replacement Project and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum CC-23-266 from Port Director as backup.

Moved to Resolutions. Aderhold.

- j. Resolution 23-126, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Agreeing to Participate in a Memorandum of Agreement for the Joint Exercise of a Tourism Promotion between the Kenai Peninsula Borough and the Cities of Kachemak, Kenai, Homer, Seldovia, Seward and Soldotna and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum CC-23-267 from City Manager as backup.

- k. Resolution 23-127, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Awarding the Contract for the Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Contract to Alaska Waste-Kenai Peninsula, LLC for a Three Year Term with Two One-Year Renewal Options in the amount of \$76,002 per year and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/ Port Director. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum CC-23-268 from Port Director as backup.

Moved to Resolutions. Aderhold.

- l. Resolution 23-128, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Supporting the Creation of a Sister City Donation Account to Support the 40th Anniversary of Homer's Relationship with Teshio, Hokkaido Japan. City Manager. Recommend adoption.

Item b. moved to New Business. Venuti.

Items i. and k. moved to Resolutions. Aderhold.

City Clerk Jacobsen read the consent agenda and recommendations.

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

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

VISITORS

- a. South Peninsula Hospital Annual Report - Ryan Smith, CEO (10 minutes)

Ryan Smith, South Peninsula Hospital CEO, presented on the hospitals financials from 2014 to date. He reviewed major projects in progress, legislative priority projects, and capital and program grant projects, and highlighted new providers coming onboard.

- b. Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council (CIRCAC) - Shaylon Cochran and Sue Saupe (10 Minutes)

Shaylon Cochran, Communications Director and Public Outreach Coordinator, provided an overview of the history and makeup of CIRCAC, and their areas of operation. He reviewed the roles of CIRCAC committees that ensure they're meeting the requirements of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA 90), including Environmental Monitoring Committee, Prevention Response Operations and Safety Committee, and Protocol Control Committee. He highlighted some of their key projects including geographic response strategies, ongoing risk assessments, environmental monitoring, ice camera network, and atmospheric and ocean observing and modeling, and oil discharge and contingency plans.

Sue Saupe, Director of Science and Research, commented briefly how CIRCAC has worked with closely with a lot of organizations in Homer and most of the work they've done has been successful the partnerships they've built.

- c. Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District (KPEDD) - Tim Dillon, Executive Director and Cassidi Cameron, Special Projects Manager (10 minutes)

Tim Dillon, KPEDD Executive Director, and Cassidi Cameron, Special Projects Manager presented. Mr. Dillon shared that he's retiring at the end of the year and thanked the City administration for their support. He reminded listeners that KPEDD is a private non-government resource focused on sustainable economic development for the Kenai Peninsula Borough. He reviewed KPEDD's efforts toward quality of life five core areas related to technology and communication, workforce and human capital, infrastructure and land use, business climate and entrepreneurship, and regional partnerships. He touched on their work with mariculture locally, and also on efforts Borough and State wide related to housing, transportation, and child care and workforce development.

Cassidi Cameron, Special Projects Manager, is the incoming Executive Director, recognized Mr. Dillon for his leadership and vision. She commented regarding the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and how it is a federally recognized document that aids in receiving federal funding for projects. Ms. Cameron announced the upcoming Industry Overview Form scheduled April 25, 2024 in Soldotna.

Upon conclusion of their presentation, Mayor Castner presented Mr. Dillon with a recognition from the City and thanked him for his efforts in taking KPEDD from zero to 120 mph. He leaves a tremendous legacy behind him. Mayor Castner said there are very few people he holds in esteem that he wished he could attain, and Tim is one of them.

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

a. Worksession Report

City Manager Dumouchel reported the work session was a follow up to Resolution 23-047(S) regarding strategic financial plans and services vision for Parks and Recreation facilities and services within the City. Economic Development Manager Engebretsen, Recreation Manager Illg, and Parks Maintenance Coordinator Felice reviewed their presentation included in the packet and held discussion with Council.

b. Committee of the Whole Report

Council Member Aderhold reported Council discussed Memorandum CC-23-271 and appointments to the Parks Art Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission, Resolution 23-127 awarding the solid waste contract, and Ordinance 23-60 regarding reducing the speed limit in cul-de-sacs.

c. Mayor's Report

Mayor Castner reported his focus for the past few weeks has been on The Nutcracker that begins showing this weekend.

d. Borough Report

e. Economic Development Advisory Commission

Economic Development Advisory Commission Chair Karin Marks reported at their November meeting the Commission agreed to finish their 2024 strategic plan in January to include their work on Ordinance 23-64 regarding short term rentals. This type of ordinance review is new to the Commission so they spent time discussing process. Commissioner Kim brought forward an idea for a winter business survey to assess the impacts of the winter season and encourage ideas. She also gave a 2023 year in review of their accomplishments of adopting their vision and mission statement, participated in public events, involved in the Homer housing conversation, transportation plan, and the guiding growth community conversation. They work with the Chamber of Commerce to broaden economic development in Homer, and supporting funding for the Homer Small Business Advisory position. Upcoming goals include remaining active in the housing conversation, promoting implementation of the Wayfinding and Streetscape plan, participating in the upcoming Comprehensive Plan, and pursue business community engagement in that area.

f. Parks Art Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission

Parks Art Recreation and Culture Advisory Commissioner Leon Galbraith reported at their last meeting they discussed the South Slope Drive Easement connection as a trail connection, recreation department software update, interest in adding Boys and Girls Club as a recreational services, limited recreation department facilities and the possibility of partnering with SPARK, ongoing sidewalk projects, and a portable restrooms plan for next summer, and Ordinance 23-49 reorganization proposal regarding parks and community recreation.

g. Library Advisory Board

Library Advisory Board Member Doug Baily reported at their last meeting they were advised that new fish recognizing donors have been installed on the Library Fish Wall. The sidewalk by the book return was vandalized with spray paint and two juveniles were apprehended and one was brought in by their father and caused to apologize. He reported on the upcoming Big Read program, a project of the National Endowment for the Arts, the title to be studied is *The Cold Millions* by Jess Walter. The Board discussed a letter from the Alaska's Attorney General seeming to be warning libraries around the state about state laws relating to distribution of indecent materials to minors, and Library Director Berry's responding to that. They welcomed their new Student Representative Beatrix McDounough and discussed the Sister City Celebration.

h. Conversations with a Council Member

Council Member Venuti reported five citizens participated and discussed the Doyon development project, and gave kudos to outgoing Public Works Director Jan Keiser. She shared her appreciation to the Library for holding this event.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

- a. Ordinance 23-55, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Accepting and Appropriating an FY 2023 State Homeland Security Program Grant in the Amount of \$88,196.56 from the Alaska Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management (DHS&EM) to Upgrade Homer Volunteer Fire Department Portable Radios and Provide a Backup Repeater for the City's Public Safety Communications System, Authorizing a Sole Source Request to Contract with PROCOMM Alaska and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager. Introduction November 13, 2023 Public Hearing and Second Reading November 27, 2023.

Memorandum CC-23-255 from Police Chief as backup.

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

ADERHOLD/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 23-55 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- b. Ordinance 23-56, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Extending the Allocation for the Upgrade of the City's Microwave Wide Area Network through June 30, 2024. City

Manager/Chief Technology Officer. Introduction November 13, 2023, Public Hearing and Second Reading November 27, 2023.

Memorandum CC-23-256 from Chief Technology Officer as backup.

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

ADERHOLD/ERICKSON MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 23-56 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- c. Ordinance 23-57, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY23 Capital Budget by Appropriating an Additional \$35,000 from the Water Capital Asset Repair and Maintenance Allowance Fund to Purchase One Membrane Filter Module for the Water Treatment Plant. City Manager/Public Works Director. Introduction November 13, 2023, Public Hearing and Second Reading November 27, 2023.

Memorandum CC-23-257 from Public Works Director as backup.

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

ADERHOLD/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 23-57 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- d. Ordinance 23-58, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY24 Capital Budget by Accepting and Appropriating a Hazard Mitigation Grant Programming Award in the Amount of \$2,109,033 from the Alaska Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management (DHS&EM) to Replace the City's Raw Water Transmission Mains and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager. Introduction November 13, 2023 Public Hearing and Second Reading November 27, 2023.

Memo CC-23-258 from Special Projects & Comm. Coordinator as backup.

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

ADERHOLD/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 23-58 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING.

There were comments acknowledging this was a long process and expressing appreciation that grant award happened.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- e. Ordinance 23-59, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY24 Capital Budget by Accepting and Appropriating a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Award in the Amount of \$105,452 from the Alaska Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management (DHS&EM) to Reimburse City of Homer Costs Associated with Managing and Administering the DHS&EM Hazard Mitigation Grant 4413.001 1R and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager. Introduction November 13, 2023 Public Hearing and Second Reading November 27, 2023.

Memorandum CC-23-258 from Special Projects Coordinator & Communications Coordinator as backup.

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

ADERHOLD/ERICKSON MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 23-59 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- f. Ordinance 23-60, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending Homer City Code Chapter 7.04 to add new Section 7.04.015 Local Traffic Provisions and Amend Section 7.04.030 Traffic Fine Schedules to Reduce Speed Limits on Cul-De-Sacs to 15 MPH. Lord. Introduction Nov. 13, 2023, Public Hearing and Second Reading Nov. 27, 2023.

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

LORD/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 23-60 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING.

Council Member Lord explained this was a request that came to her from a member of the public. In discussion with Police Chief Robl she learned that Council can change speed limits on city owned roads by passing an ordinance to make that change.

ERICKSON/ADERHOLD MOVED TO AMEND LINE 10, 16, 20, 26, 36, 39 AND 40 TO ADD AFTER CUL-DE-SACS “OR STREETS HAVING ONE OUTLET”

Council Member Erickson noted there are streets that don’t have an outlet, but may also have the same problem with traffic.

Council Member Aderhold commented regarding situations where a road ends, but there is a platted right-of-way beyond the end of the road. She’s unsure whether this ordinance and amendment would apply to those types of streets.

There was brief discussion that it would likely apply in a circumstance like that, where the speed limit would be 15 mph, until the road is extended.

Council Member Lord was participating by Zoom and lost her connection.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

DAVIS/ADERHOLD MOVED TO AMEND LINE 36 TO DROP REFERENCES TO THE PROVISION FOR A TURN AROUND AT THE TERMINATION AND WHICH ARE NOT INTENDED TO BE EXTENDED OR CONTINUED TO FUTURE SUBDIVISIONS.

City Attorney Gatti noted the definition for cul-de-sacs in 11.04.030 that reads cul-de-sac means a street that’s closed at one end and required to provide a circular turnaround.

Council Member Lord regained connection to the meeting.

Council Member Lord suggested postponing this to ensure language is correct and accurate.

Council Member Aderhold suggested voting down the amendment with the intent this will be postponed and the sponsor can work on the language. Regarding the amendment, if cul-de-sacs define in another part of code, if this could reference back to where it’s defined, then it could read cul-de-sacs and dead end streets.

Council Member Lord supports this amendment and would like time to work on the language to be as cleans as possible. She supports voting down the motion and postponing to word smith a substitution.

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

Motion failed.

ADERHOLD/VENUTI MOVED TO POSTPONE TO THE FIRST MEETING IN JANUARY.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

ORDINANCE(S)

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

a. City Manager's Report

City Manager Dumouchel noted his report in the packet and highlighted information related to the quarterly sales tax report and that we're a little behind last year, the Lighthouse Village development project that will be before the Planning Commission on December 6th, finance reports, and Harbor Expansion update.

There was brief conversation clarifying information in the financial reports.

PENDING BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Memorandum CC-23-271 from Mayor Castner re: Appointment of Jessica Williams to the Parks Art Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission.

ADERHOLD/VENUTI MOVED TO APPROVE MEMORANDUM CC-23-271.

Council Members Venuti, Aderhold and Lord commented regarding the lack of information in the application of Ms. Williams compared to the other applicant, and that doesn't provide enough for her to be supportive of the appointment. They supported not approving the appointment to allow for more information to be provided.

Council Member Erickson commented in support of the appointment.

Mayor Castner explained that Ms. Williams is very involved with the performing arts community, is an extremely talented singer, and he feels this area is not represented well on the Commission at this time.

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

Mayor Castner did not vote to break the tie.

Motion failed.

RESOLUTIONS

- a. Resolution 23-129, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Creating a Steering Committee to Aid in the Development of a New Comprehensive Plan and Title 21 Zoning Code. City Manager/City Planner.

Memorandum CC-23-269 from City Planner as backup.

VENUTI/ADERHOLD MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 23-129 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY.

Council Member Erickson commented regarding the importance of having diversity on the steering committee to make sure we're getting different sectors are involved and perspectives are heard.

Council Member Lord noted the proposed make up of two commissioners and one city resident isn't consistent with goal 2. It seems it would be more reasonable to have a larger group and she thinks having council connection on the steering committee would be valuable. She requested input from the City Manager.

City Manager Dumouchel explained the thinking in reducing it to a smaller group was that Council and all the Boards and Commissions will have a part in the process so creating a large committee could end up in a situation where there's a lot of work done but don't finish anything so we don't want to end up too top heavy.

Council Member Davis was under the impression it would be a couple of council members, commissioners, and community members. It seemed important to him that this group would initially steer the consultants on what they're going to put before the public, prior to public outreach meetings being scheduled. Three individuals with none of them elected seems a little thin.

Mayor Castner noted they've hired a professional group who knows what they need to do. He worries that a steering committee turns into a policy committee and starts trying to dictate policy on the overall tenor of the Comprehensive Plan. He wants a steering committee to make sure there are places along the way where things can be dealt with and not put off. He thinks there are places along the way where Council can make policy decisions that help. He just wants a group to help keep the consultants on track.

Council Member Lord pointed out that what the Mayor's suggested isn't included in the resolution and she doesn't see it as being a role of the steering committee. She concurs with Council Member Davis' comments, and agrees with the Mayor that we're working with a very professional consultant. Communication has been a challenge and she thinks having Council Members included is beneficial for that reason.

DAVIS/ADERHOLD MOVED TO AMEND THE RESOLUTION TO INCLUDE TWO COUNCIL MEMBERS, TWO COMMISSION MEMBERS, AND A MEMBER FROM THE PUBLIC.

Concern was expressed that two council members could sort of drive the way things go and that the commissions aren't identified to be represented, and she wouldn't want the committee to be without someone from the Planning Commission.

There was brief discussion regarding goals in the resolution and the appointment process.

Council Member Lord commented regarding goal 3 and if that's the direction to go in, it seems they should scrap the steering committee, have council champions, and develop a robust communications plan that involves the Council and Commissions to meet these goals through the public meetings.

Mayor Castner reiterated he wants a group of eyes to make sure as opportunities come by that they get to the Commissions, that's something that was absent in the port planning process.

There was continued discussion of the goals, scope of work, and makeup of the steering committee.

ERICKSON/VENUTI MOVED TO AMEND THE AMENDMENT THAT IT BE ONE COUNCIL MEMBER, ONE PLANNING COMMISSIONER, AND ONE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMISSIONER.

There were comments that it should still include a city resident.

VOTE (secondary amendment): YES: HANSEN, ERICKSON
NO: DAVIS, LORD, VENUTI, ADERHOLD

Motion failed.

There was no further discussion on the amendment.

VOTE (amendment): YES: HANSEN, VENUTI, LORD, DAVIS, ADERHOLD
NO: ERICKSON

Motion carried.

LORD/ADERHOLD MOVED TO STRIKE LINES 43 THROUGH 50 WHICH IS GOAL 3.

There were comments that goal 3 is redundant with jobs of the Council and Commissions. It was also pointed out that the scope of work is to participate in the public outreach events and that's valid, and that this group might look at the Comprehensive Plan differently than the way a Commission or members of the public might look at it.

VOTE (amendment): NO: ERICKSON, DAVIS, VENUTI, HANSEN, ADERHOLD, LORD
Motion failed.

There was no further discussion on the main motion as amended.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- b. Resolution 23-130, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Expressing Support for Continuation of the Homer Harbor Expansion General Investigation by Authorizing the City Manager to Sign an Updated Project Management Plan with the US Army Corps of Engineers, and Stating Intent to Fund 25% of the Updated General Investigation Cost. Lord/Hansen.

Memorandum CC-23-270 from Council Members as backup.

LORD/ERICKSON MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 23-130 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY.

Council Members Lord and Hansen commented regarding their work meeting with staff, reviewing Port and Harbor Advisory Commission minutes and discussing the minutes with the Commission Chair, in developing the resolution.

There were comments in support of the resolution and expressing appreciation for the work done on it.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

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- c. Resolution 23-125, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving a Task Order with RESPEC Engineering in the Amount of \$61,990 for the Construction Documents and Engineering Support for the Fish Grinding Building Replacement Project and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager.

Memorandum CC-23-266 from Port Director as backup.

Resolution 23-125(S), A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving a Task Order with RESPEC Engineering in the Amount of \$61,990 for the Construction Documents and Engineering Support for the Fish Grinding Building Replacement Project and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager.

ADERHOLD/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 23-125 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY.

ADERHOLD/VENUTI MOVED TO SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION 23-125(S) FOR 23-125.

Council Member Aderhold explained that there was some enacting language missing from the original resolution and the substitute makes those corrections.

VOTE (substitution): NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

There was no further discussion on the main motion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- k. Resolution 23-127, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Awarding the Contract for the Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Contract to Alaska Waste-Kenai Peninsula, LLC for a Three Year Term with Two One-Year Renewal Options in the amount of \$76,002 per year and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/ Port Director.

Memorandum CC-23-268 from Port Director as backup.

ADERHOLD/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 23-127 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY.

Council Member Aderhold recommended voting this resolution down and asked that it be put back out after removing ambiguities that were in the RFP that lead to Resolution 23-127.

Council Member Venuti requested the attorney review the next draft.

Council Member Erickson shared her experience where something similar happened in the past with her business. It's important if we're going to re-do it that it's fair and we're not doing it exactly the same, otherwise it can be unfair.

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

Motion failed.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

Lloyd Moore, city resident, thanked Council for their work tonight. Sitting through the meetings tonight he realizes how intertwined his life in Homer is with what's happening in the community and shared examples.

Jan Keiser, city resident Public Works Director, commented regarding the upcoming Homer Drawdown event at Islands and Ocean about peatlands and wetlands and their importance to storm water treatment. There will also be an opportunity to go visit the Kachemak Sponge areas. It's her last Council meeting and she shared three missions to charge them with, support improvements to basic infrastructure, protect the funding sources that have been set up, and continue to support the green infrastructure projects. She thanked her staff and recognized their hard work and dedication to the City.

Jason Rettinger, Site Manager for Alaska Waste, commented regarding Alaska Waste and their support for the communities on the peninsula. He doesn't feel there was ambiguity in the RFP process, they bid it as specified. As Mr. Moore noted earlier Alaska Waste is a nationwide company, but all the sites are locally run.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

City Attorney Gatti wished everyone safe and happy holidays.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY CLERK

City Clerk Jacobsen announced openings on Boards and Commissions.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Dumouchel recognized Public Works Director for her work in advancing roads, water, sewer, storm water, sidewalks, trails, parks projects, and all the things that make a city work. He's learned a lot working with her, he appreciates efforts she's made to make this a better place, and when she's out doing advocacy she'll see her work everywhere. He thanked her for her work

COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Castner acknowledged that Public Works Director Keiser has gotten a lot done. He highlighted that the Public Works Department is more reactive to the needs of the community since she's been here. He added that the Nutcracker Ballet opens this weekend and runs for two weekends and everyone should see the amazing work that 85 kids who grow up in the Homer area can do.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Council Member Lord Rachel commented it's been a delight to work with Public Works Director Keiser, and also with Tim Dillon. She's in Nome attending the annual Reindeer Herder's Association meeting and will spending time with the Harbormaster to learn about what's happening in the Arctic. She noted at their last meeting the adopted a resolution supporting full funding of the Municipal Harbor Matching Grant Program and explained two communities have submitted for those monies. The City has always supported full funding of this matching grant program regardless of whether we have an application in for consideration. This is not for funding the General Investigation Study, as had been reported in the news.

Council Member Hansen thanked everyone who spoke tonight, we have a great community and she's learned a lot. She wished happy birthday to her youngest and oldest tonight.

Council Member Erickson thanked Public Works Director Keiser it's been a pleasure working with her. She wished everyone happy holidays, and to stay safe. She's looking forward to 2024.

Council Member Davis thanked Public Works Director Keiser. He commented about the successful bingo game for Black Friday and Small Business Saturday, a lot of the people who visited his business said they'd been to business they'd never been to because of the game. He thanked Community Recreation and the Running Club for the Thanksgiving Day Turkey Trot.

Council Member Aderhold recognized there were a lot of good comments at their various meetings. She thanked Public Works Director Keiser for all she's done, and said she'll be out of town for the next meeting and will participate remotely. She's had a great year on Council, they've accomplished a lot, and she looks forward to their work in 2024. She wished everyone happy holidays.

ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further business to come before the Council Mayor Castner adjourned the meeting at 9:40 p.m. The next Regular Meeting is Monday, January 8, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. and Committee of the Whole at 5:00 p.m. All meetings are 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: 
