

Session 24-01 a Regular Meeting of the City Council of Homer, Alaska was called to order on January 8, 2024 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
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER ENGBRETSSEN
PORT DIRECTOR HAWKINS
RECREATION MANAGER ILLG
CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER JIRSA
FINANCE DIRECTOR FISCHER
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 the laydown items- Written Public Comments from Janie Leask regarding Ordinance 23-49 and 23-49(S), and KPB Resolution 2024-01 as back up to Ordinance 24-05.

LORD/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT 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

Penelope Haas, non-resident, commented on behalf of the Kachemak Bay Conservation Society in opposition to Ordinance 24-05 appropriating matching funds for the Homer Harbor General Investigation for three reasons- there isn't federal funding to move forward on the project, the City appears to be further along in the project than the general public, and there's serious question whether there's demand for the large vessel harbor.

RECONSIDERATION

CONSENT AGENDA (Items listed below will be enacted by one motion. If a separate discussion is desired on an item, that item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Meeting Agenda at the request of a Councilmember.)

- a. Homer City Council Unapproved Regular Meeting Minutes of November 27, 2023. City Clerk. Recommend adoption.
- b. Memorandum CC-24-001 from Mayor Castner re: Appointment of Caitlyn Rogers as Student Representative to the Port and Harbor Advisory Commission. Recommend approval.
- c. Memorandum CC-24-002 from Mayor Castner re: Appointment of Kathryn Carsow, Charles Barnwell, and Mel Kim to the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee. Recommend approval.
- d. Memorandum CC-24-003 from Deputy City Clerk re: Approval of Liquor License Transfer for Latitude 59. Recommend approval.
- e. Memorandum CC-24-004 from City Clerk re: Homer Harbor General Investigation Communications Plan. Recommend approval.
- f. Memorandum CC-24-005 from City Clerk re: Travel Authorization for Mayor Castner, and Council Members Hansen, Lord, and Erickson to attend the Alaska Municipal League Winter Conference in Juneau, Alaska February 20-22, 2024. Recommend adoption.

Moved to New Business. Aderhold.

- g. Memorandum CC-24-006 from City Manager Dumouchel re: Donation of Handheld Radio Units and a Fire Cart to the City of Whittier. Recommend approval.
- h. Ordinance 24-01, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the Official Road Maintenance Map of the City of Homer by adding 3,735 Lineal Feet (.71 miles) of Urban Road on Shelly Avenue, Robert Avenue, Lillian Drive, Tajen Drive, and Sanjay Court. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommended dates Introduction January 8, 2024 Public Hearing and Second Reading January 22, 2024.

Memorandum CC-24-007 from Public Works Inspector as backup.

- i. Ordinance 24-02, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending Homer City Code Title 3 Revenue and Finance Chapter 3.1 General to add Section 3.01.037 Donations to the City to Allow Acceptance of Money or Real Property Donated, Devised or Bequeathed for a Public Purpose. Lord/Venuti. Recommended dates Introduction January 8, 2024 Public Hearing and Second Reading January 22, 2024.

Memorandum CC-24-008 from Library Director as backup.

- j. Ordinance 24-03, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY24 Capital Budget by Re-Appropriating \$77,500 from the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance to Install a Mobile Restroom at Jack Gist Park. City Manager/Public Works Director. Introduction January 8, 2024 Public Hearing and Second Reading January 22, 2024.

Memorandum CC-24-009 from Public Works Director as backup.

- k. Ordinance 24-04, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY24 Capital Budget by Re-Appropriating \$150,000 from the Homer Accelerated Water and Sewer Program (HAWSP) Fund to Purchase Two Mobile Restrooms to be Placed at Karen Hornaday Park. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommended dates Introduction January 8, 2024 Public Hearing and Second Reading January 22, 2024.

Memorandum CC-24-010 from Public Works Director as backup.

- l. Resolution 24-001, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Confirming the City Manager's Appointment of Melissa Jacobsen as Acting City Manager for 2024. City Manager. Recommend adoption.
- m. Resolution 24-002, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Confirming the Appointment of Elizabeth Fischer as Treasurer and Jenna deLumeau as Deputy Treasurer for Calendar Year 2024. Recommend adoption.
- n. Resolution 24-003, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Designating Signatories of City Accounts and Superseding any Previous Resolution so Designating. City Manager. Recommend adoption.
- o. Resolution 24-004, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Authorizing the City Manager to Apply for Clean Water State Revolving Loan Funds from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation in the Amount of \$2,937,353 for the Beluga Sewer Lift Station Improvements. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum CC-24-012 from Public Works Director as backup.

- p. Resolution 24-005, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Authorizing a Task Order to RESPEC Company, LLC, in the Amount not to Exceed \$45,000 to Design the Rebuild of the Ben Walters Pressure Reducing Station and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum CC-24-013 from Public Works Director as backup.

- q. Resolution 24-006, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving and Accepting the Donation of a Lighthouse Sculpture Created by Mooserun Metalsmiths of Homer, Alaska Commissioned by the Stuart Craig Family to be Located in the Gardens at the Baycrest Hill Overlook and Included in the City of Homer Municipal Art Collection. City Clerk/PARCAC. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum CC-24-014 from Deputy City Clerk as backup.

- r. Resolution 24-007, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Authorizing a Task Order to HDR Engineering in an Amount not to Exceed \$19,000 for Grant Writing Services for a FY2024 Federal RAISE Planning Grant to Support Homer's Non-Motorized Transportation Infrastructure and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum CC-24-015 from Special Projects & Communications Coordinator as backup.

- s. Resolution 24-008, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Authorizing a Change Order in the Amount of \$25,000 to Kinney Engineering, LLC's Task Order No. 22-04 for the Heath Street Pavement Restoration Project and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum CC-24-016 from Public Works Director as backup.

- t. Resolution 24-009, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Approving a Term Contract to Appaloosa Integrated Construction & Consulting Services, LLC (AICS) and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum CC-24-017 from Public Works Director as backup.

- u. Resolution 24-010, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Adopting an Alternative Allocation Method for the FY24 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/Port Director. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum CC-24-018 from Port Director as backup.

Item f. moved to New Business. Aderhold.

City Clerk Jacobsen read the consent agenda and its recommendations.

LORD/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS TO 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 received information as requested at a previous meeting in June, and had discussion about considering an exempt employee wage scale and adjusting wages based on information learned in the 2023 Salary and Benefits Survey.

b. Committee of the Whole Report

Council Member Lord reported Council discussed the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee appointments, Heath Street Engineering design work and ADA compliance, a request for an overall funding plan for the Beluga Sewer Lift Station project and more information regarding mobile restrooms related to Ordinances 24-03 and 04. They talked briefly about the light house sculpture donation and preparation of a memorial plaque policy, and had extensive discussion on Ordinance 24-06 allocating funding for the Diamond Creek Recreation Area trail connection engineering. They requested a copy of the Diamond Creek Recreational Area Management Plan for their next meeting.

c. Mayor's Report

Mayor Castner reported he attended several Commission meetings in December and attended the AML Annual Conference and Conference of Mayors in Anchorage. He thanked the public that spent a lot of time studying our planning process in town and lining things up with our existing Comprehensive Plan. He briefly reviewed the Planned Unit Development allowance in Homer City Code.

In response to a question about a South Central Coalition about natural gas, he responded that Anchorage Mayor Bronson invited him and other Mayors to be part of the discussion, but he was unable to connect to the meeting, and he encouraged Mayor Bronson that Mayor Micciche be involved in this. He met with Mayor Micciche later and said his interest is that there are questions about the uses of gas for electrification, and for domestic use. Channeling toward domestic use would be a proper use of municipal interest, but energy creation is outside our realm. He acknowledged his constraints to promote policy issues for the City.

d. Borough Report

Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly Member Kelly Cooper reported at their last meeting she brought forward a resolution in support of State of Alaska additional match funding for the Homer Harbor General Investigation, every member of the Assembly and the Mayor asked to be co-sponsors, and the resolution passed. They also passed a resolution about the base student allowance for education that include an inflation guard based on the CPI. They'll be working with the School Board on speaking to the Governor and Legislature. They received their audit presented and it was a very clean audit. They accepted the funds for the Opioid Settlement Fund Grant Program.

e. Port and Harbor Advisory Commission

Port and Harbor Advisory Commissioner Lacy Velsko reported the Commission reviewed the Harbor Tariff at their last meeting and gave an overview of the changes that will be coming to Council for adoption. They also discussed a memorandum that would start a project at the large vessel haul out

facility to provide basic necessities including connecting to the electrical grid, installing security cameras, and lighting for the area.

f. Planning Commission (added with consensus of the Council)

Planning Commissioner Mike Stark reported at their last meeting they had 3 CUP's for multiple structures on a property that were voted down primarily due to density, and the applicant implied they'd come back with another application. They also had a public hearing on the CUP for the Lighthouse project that was continued to their meeting last week. The Commission will schedule a time for deliberations.

f. Library Advisory Board

Library Advisory Board Member Kathy Carssow reported at their recent meetings the Board discussed a letter from the State Attorney General to all school and public libraries regarding minor's use of materials and recommending review of policies and employee conduct with regard to state laws. The LAB recently updated the library policies and they do address the AG's questions thoroughly and directly. They began discussion on their 2024 goals that will continue in January. Staff has started work on the 2025-2030 strategic plan with focused attention on improving the library's sustainability, key needs are addressed in the CIP and the LAB will assist with developing and conducting a needs survey. She noted the memorandum in the packet regarding the LAB's support of Ordinance 23-49 making the library a standalone department. She shared about the upcoming Big Read event.

g. Conversations with a Council Member - Council Member Lord

Council Member Lord reported the group had good conversations around the upcoming Comprehensive Plan work.

h. Champion Reports -

- i. Update on the Harbor Expansion Project - Lord/Hansen
- ii. Update on Sister City Celebration Funding - Lord/Venuti

Council Member Lord reviewed the written reports included in the packet. Library Director Berry briefly participated in the discussion regarding the Sister City Celebration.

i. AML Travel Reports

- i. AML Travel Reports

PUBLIC HEARING(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 October 9, 2023, postponed to January 8, 2024.

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

Memorandum CC-23-226 from Library Advisory Board.

Ordinance 23-49(S), 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. Erickson/Davis.

Memorandum CC-24-019 from Councilmembers as backup.

Memorandum CC-24-020 from Parks, Art, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission as backup.

Mayor Castner opened the public hearing. There were no comments and the hearing was closed. He announced there is a motion on the floor from October 9, 2023 for to adopt Ordinance 23-49 by reading of title only for second and final reading, then opened the floor for discussion.

ERICKSON/DAVIS MOVED TO SUBSTITUTE ORDINANCE 23-49(S) FOR 23-49.

Council Members Erickson and Davis commented in support of approving the substitution. They noted community concern and lack of support from the Parks, Art, Recreation, and Culture Advisory Commission for the inclusion of the parks and recreation division under Community Development and because of that opposition Council should take some time to give this more consideration. They support the other departmental changes.

Mayor Castner noted a newspaper article from 25 years ago regarding creation of a Parks and Recreation Department and noted another 10 year plan is kicking the can down the road. There's a lot of demand for this.

Council Member Venuti commented in support for the substitution and working toward a recreation department.

Council Member Lord also supports it. It meets the tenor of the community and council regarding a recreation department. It's good to take a pause on the recreation piece and figure out a way forward that's more responsive to the community and fully acknowledging fiscal resources needed for that.

Council Member Aderhold commented with a reminder to the community that the Council working on recreation at many levels in ways like working on a plan to create a future recreation department, and working on a community recreation center that's moving forward with the support of the recreation leader and Economic Development Director. She also recognizes having recreation under Community Development gives a lot of opportunity for growth, mentoring, and collaboration. It would likely still

be there, however not as easy, with recreation outside of it. She'll support the substitution, but there are different ways to look at it and she supports the original proposal.

Council Member Hansen also supports the substitution, she thinks they can make it work for a recreation department.

VOTE (substitution): NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

There was no further discussion on the substituted ordinance.

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

Motion carried.

- b. Ordinance 23-60(A), 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 **or Streets Having One Outlet** to 15 MPH. Lord. Introduction November 13, 2023, Public Hearing and Second Reading November 27, 2023. Postponed to January 8, 2024.

Ordinance 23-60(A)(S), 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 **and Streets Having One Outlet** to 15 MPH. Lord.

Mayor Castner opened the public hearing. There were no comments and the hearing was closed. He announced there is a motion on the floor from November 27, 2023 for to adopt Ordinance 23-60(A) by reading of title only for second and final reading, then opened the floor for discussion.

LORD/VENUTI MOVED TO SUBSTITUTE 23-60(A)(S) FOR 23-60(A)

Council Member Lord thanked the City Manager for pulling together comments from the last meeting regarding cul-de-sacs, dead end streets, and dead end streets that may be extended in the future. She appreciates the pause to be able to have time to draft appropriate language to address those matters.

VOTE (substitution): NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

There was no further discussion on the substituted ordinance.

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

Motion carried.

- c. 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. Introduction November 27, 2023 Public Hearing and Second Reading January 8, 2024.

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

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

LORD/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 23-62 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING.

Council Members commented to the benefit of having a process when designing new public services that the ADA Board has the opportunity to look at it to ensure accessibility is in a comprehensive way.

Council Member Aderhold reminded Council that no one on the ADA Board is an engineer or trained to review plans. She shared as a member of the Board that they would appreciate the opportunity to see things as part of the early planning for projects and what needs to be included. She'd be happy to work with others to come up with policies for that.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- d. 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. Introduction November 27, 2023 Public Hearing and Second Reading January 8, 2024.

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

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

LORD/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 23-63 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- e. Ordinance 23-64, 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. Introduction November 27, 2023 Public Hearing and Second Reading January 8, 2024.

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

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

LORD/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 23-64 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

ORDINANCE(S)

- a. Ordinance 24-05, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY24 and 25 Capital Budget by Appropriating Funds in the Amount of \$288,524 from the Port and Harbor Match Reserves to Meet the City's Increased Local Match Requirement for the Homer Harbor Expansion General Investigation Being Conducted in Partnership with the Army Corps of Engineers and the State of Alaska. Lord/Hansen. Recommended dates Introduction January 8, 2024 Public Hearing and Second Reading January 22, 2024.

Memorandum CC-24-011 from Council Members as backup.

HANSEN/LORD MOVED TO INTRODUCE ORDINANCE 24-05 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY.

Council Member Lord reminded that the Homer Harbor Expansion General Investigation is an opportunity to figure out what a project would look like. At their last meeting they heard support of the resolution to continuing to move forward with the general investigation with our federal and state partners. She reviewed the visual information included in the packet regarding the finances around the general investigation.

Mayor Castner commented one of our selling points on building a new harbor parallel to the spit is there's a bench that extends eastward that's very shallow and scour point where there's a deep water intersection. What the shallow bench can support is of critical importance to this project and that's what this study is doing.

Council Member Erickson shared her appreciation for the visuals and the support from the Kenai Peninsula Borough. She supports this ordinance and continuing with the general investigation that will tell us if the expansion is feasible.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

- b. Ordinance 24-06, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the FY24 Capital Budget by Appropriating \$25,000 from the Homer Accelerated Roads and Trails (HART) Trails Fund to Contract Engineering Services for Preliminary Design of Non-motorized Trails and Trailhead Connecting City of Homer Diamond Creek Property to the Proposed Highway Underpass. Davis. Recommended dates Introduction January 8, 2024 Public Hearing and Second Reading January 22, 2024.

Memorandum CC-24-021 from Councilmember Davis as backup.

DAVIS/ERICKSON MOVED TO INTRODUCE ORDINANCE 24-06 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY.

Council Member Davis provided some background on the project to replace and enlarge the culvert as part of the Sterling Highway rehabilitation project. The goal of enlarging the culvert is to create a safe crossing in connecting the Diamond Creek Recreation area to other trails. There are several groups in the City who have been spearheading this effort with the Department of Transportation (DOT). In the past the City has supported the idea of connectivity in the area and DOT would like something more tangible. This ordinance appropriates money for an engineering study that would address issues involved with connecting the City's trail system to the underpass. The advocates of the project believe that appropriating these funds it will be a signal to DOT that we are committed to this.

Council Member Lord commented she'd like to have further discussion regarding wording such that it's not just an engineering study for the connectivity, private property, and potential right-of-way access needed to connect City trails to the proposed underpass, but that the engineering would be robust enough in terms of trail development and siting within the City owned properties from our existing and proposed trails.

DAVIS/ERICKSON MOVED TO LINE 54 AT THE END TO ADD "INCLUDING THE NEED FOR MOU'S BETWEEN THE CITY OF HOMER AND OTHER ENTITIES INVOLVED WITH THE PROJECT.

Council Member Davis explained the idea here is that the study itself will be largely focused on City owned property that's outside city limits, and aspects of the study will involve properties the city does not own.

VOTE (amendment): NON OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

There was no further discussion.

VOTE (introduction): NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

a. City Manager's Report

City Manager Dumouchel highlighted items in his written report including attendance at the AML Annual Conference and Alaska Municipal Management Association meeting in December, an update on the pending audit, kickoff work being done with Agnew Beck for the Comprehensive Plan process, upcoming meetings regarding short term rentals, and the arrival of the ladder truck at the Fire Department.

In response to questions regarding the solid waste contract status City Manager Dumouchel explained administration has been working on a new iteration of the documents.

PENDING BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Memorandum CC-24-005 from City Clerk re: Travel Authorization for Mayor Castner, and Council Members Hansen, Lord, and Erickson to attend the Alaska Municipal League Winter Conference in Juneau, Alaska February 20-22, 2024.

LORD/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF MEMORANDUM CC-24-005.

LORD/ADERHOLD MOVED TO AMEND THE RECOMMENDATION TO INCLUDE COUNCIL MEMBER ADERHOLD TO THE LIST.

There was no discussion.

VOTE (amendment) NON OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Council Member Lord noted that because of other travel to Juneau she will only require registration and a return flight for this conference.

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

Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

Mike Stark, city resident and Planning Commissioner, commented that many municipalities have paid tons of money to community development and have adopted a Department of Community Development. Large companies have added divisions as well. In addition to his Planning Commission report, he said the Commission agreed it would be beneficial for them to have some planning resource support for data.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

City Attorney Gatti had no comments.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY CLERK

City Clerk Jacobsen announced openings on the Parks, Art, Recreation, and Culture Advisory Commission, and the ADA Advisory Board.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Dumouchel had no comments.

COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Castner expressed his intention to help champion the large vessel haul out area that was addressed in the Port and Harbor Advisory Commission report. He also made a suggestion of considering using the Hornaday Park camping area for special events such as the Highland Games. In response to earlier question about the mobile units proposed in ordinances tonight he explained they are flush units that take city water and put waste into the city sewer.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Council Member Lord commented regarding attending a recent Jr. Nordic Skiing coaching clinic and the anticipation of 170 kids participating in the program. The School Board met tonight, there's a \$13 million deficit looking ahead with no federal money left from COVID, and it's significantly impactful to our community. She and Council Member Davis met as finance champions and will have a report back to Council soon.

Council Member Venuti thanked everyone who attended the AML Annual Conference in Anchorage, their travel reports were informative. She appreciates the City employees who are out taking care of the roads in the mornings, and she shared she'll be at the library tomorrow for Conversations with a Council Member.

Council Member Aderhold commented she's visiting family in Texas and is appreciating recreational opportunities in the woodlands. She'll be remote for next week's joint work session.


Council Member Davis commented regarding the upcoming short term rental panel that will be presenting next door at the college.

Council Member Erickson shared about seeing the ladder truck when it got here and she hopes to see it in the winter carnival parade. She commented about the number of vehicles she sees on the roads in the dark with a headlight out and encouraged people to check and make sure their lights are working on low beam. It's exciting to see the community coming together again and it's important because it's easy to get isolated in life, noting recent events like the Nutcracker and New Year's Eve fireworks. We've lost a lot of people over the holidays and her heart goes out to those families.

Council Member Hansen expressed her appreciation for being able to attend the AML Annual Conference, it was great networking with other communities. She and Council Member Lord worked hard as champions on the Harbor legislation and she learned a lot from it.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council Mayor Castner adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m. The next Regular Meeting is Monday, January 22, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. Work Session at 4:00 p.m. and Committee of the Whole at 5:00 p.m. and a Work Session January 15, 2024 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: 