

Session 26-05, a Regular Meeting of the City Council of Homer, Alaska was called to order on February 9, 2026 by Mayor Pro Tem Shelly Erickson 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, PARSONS, VENUTI

ABSENT: MAYOR LORD

STAFF: CITY MANAGER JACOBSEN
CITY CLERK WOODRUFF
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR KORT
FINANCE DIRECTOR FISCHER
CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER JIRSA

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

Mayor Pro Tem Erickson read the supplemental items into the agenda: Under the **Consent Agenda** item c, Ordinance 26-13 Authorizing the Purchase of a 2026 Dump Truck, we have a Financial Supplement Form. Under **Visitors/Presentations** we have a script and PowerPoint presentations for the 2025 Teshio Sister City Trip Report and thank you letter from Sarah Brewer.

DAVIS/VENUTI MOVED TO AMEND THE AGENDA TO ADD "MEGUMI BEAMS, 2025 TESHIO SISTER CITY TRIP REPORT" UNDER VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS.

There was no discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

DAVIS/VENUTI MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED.

MAYORAL PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA

RECONSIDERATION

- a. Resolution 26-011(a), a Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Supporting Full Funding in the Amount of \$18,186,535 for the State of Alaska Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program in the FY 2027 State Capital Budget. City Manager/Port Director.

ERICKSON/ADERHOLD MOVED TO RECONSIDER RESOLUTION 26-011(A)

Mayor Pro Tem Erickson explained that she brought this forward so that council can clean up the motion that was made at the last meeting, which had some confusing language in it.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

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 January 26, 2026. Recommend Approval.

- b. Ordinance 26-12, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the FY26 Capital Budget by Reappropriating the FY23 State of Alaska Community Assistance Program Payment in the Amount of \$44,946.55 for Information Technology Capital Projects. City Manager/Chief Technology Officer. Recommended Dates Introduction February 9, 2026, Public Hearing and Second Reading February 23, 2026.

Memorandum CC-26-040 from Chief Technology Officer as backup.

- c. Ordinance 26-13, an Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute a Equipment Purchase Agreement with Mack Services to Allow for the Purchase of a 2026 Dump Truck and Amending the FY26 Capital Budget for a Current Year Payment of \$75,085.84 from the General Fund Fleet Capital Asset Repair and Maintenance Allowance (CARMA) Fund and Related Matters. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommended Dates Introduction February 9, 2026, Public Hearing and Second Reading February 23, 2026.

Memorandum CC-26-041 from Public Works Director as backup.

- d. Resolution 26-013, a Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving a Contract with the Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, Alaska Center for Conservation Science, University of Alaska Anchorage, as a Subaward Recipient in the Amount Not to Exceed \$143,309 to Complete the Tasks Outlined in Relation to the Project Titled Acquiring Land to Foster Community Resilience in Homer, Alaska Bridge Creek Watershed As Outlined in Ordinance 25-62 and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/Community Development Director. Recommend Adoption

Memorandum CC-26-042 from Community Development Director as backup.

- e. Resolution 26-014, a Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Awarding a Contract for Construction of the Homer Public Library Security Grille to Steiner's North Star Construction of Homer, Alaska in the Amount of \$54,950 and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager. Recommend Adoption.

Memorandum CC-26-043 from the City Engineer as backup.

- f. Resolution 26-015, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Authorizing Single Source Procurement of The Homer Education and Recreation Complex (HERC) Gymnasium Floor Repair and Refinishing Project from Alaska Industries Inc of Wasilla, Alaska in the Amount of \$38,000 and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/Recreation Manager. Recommend Adoption.

Memorandum CC-26-044 from Recreation Manager as backup.

- g. Resolution 26-016, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska in Support of Raising the Maximum Grant Amount for the Alaska Department of Transportation Municipal Harbor Facility Grant from \$5,000,000 to \$7,500,000. City Manager/Port Director. Recommend Adoption.

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

VISITORS

Megumi Beams presented a summary of the 2025 Teshio Sister City trip to Council. She introduced 4 students who had participated in the trip and shared some of what they learned on their travels.

Elayna Wilson talked about Taiko drumming, attending the Asahiya Zoo, visiting schools, and exploring local museums.

Rei Beams talked about seeing the Homer-Teshio sister city exhibit in the local museum and visiting a bamboo forest and a temple in Kyoto.

Sei Beams shared what she learned at the Hiroshima peace memorial museum and that she learned more Japanese and more confidence and respect.

Finn Brewer shared memories of visiting the World Expo in Osaka City and viewing pavilions representing countries from all over the world.

Mayor Pro Tem Erickson thanked the students for sharing and said they had a really special learning experience.

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

a. Worksession Report

City Manager Jacobsen described the mid-biennium budget process discussions during the worksession. Discussion included supplemental funding related to Medicare, water/sewer rates, and asset maintenance for the water and sewer system.

b. Committee of the Whole Report

Councilmember Aderhold commented that the committee of the whole meeting was one of the shortest on record. Discussion included:

Resolution 26-012, which states City positions in advance of the 2026 Winter Legislative Conference in Juneau. Council discussed a possible amendment associated with trawling and the substitution presented in the packet.

Ordinance 26-06, staff recommended that this ordinance be postponed indefinitely.

There was also a comment that the zoning code timeline has been updated since the print report was submitted for the packet, so there will be a second Planning Commission worksession on February 8th.

c. Borough Report

Assemblymember Cooper reported the following:

- KPB Assembly is also going through their budget process.
- KPB received 248,831 from the Opioid Settlement Grant Program. The application process will start soon and offer up to 8 grants of 31,000 each for opioid remediation purposes. To date, have received over 562,000 from nationwide settlements.
- It's been a cold, icy winter and sanding costs more than snow removal, so KPB has already expended its budget for winter roads maintenance. KPB Assembly will appropriate an additional 342,000 from the School Maintenance fund which will hopefully fund sanding and plowing through the end of the winter.
- The KPBSD School Board has also started their budget process and will present a proposed budget to the borough. Homer is having a local budget meeting for the School District tomorrow at 6 p.m., and the School Board will hold a budget worksession locally next week. The school board is facing down an \$8 million deficit.
- KPB continues to work on telecommunications infrastructure. \$2,045,000 was included in the federal appropriations bill to improve emergency response times and public communications support. The 25% local match that's required will be funded from ARPA funds awarded to the borough in 2022.

d. Planning Commission

e. Title 21 Progress Report

i. Written Report

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

- a. Ordinance 25-70, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY26 Capital Budget by Appropriating \$7,000 from the Homer Education and Recreation Complex (HERC) Capital Asset Repair and Maintenance Allowance (CARMA) for the Replacement of the Floor of the Activity Room in the Herc 1 Building. City Manager/Public Works Director. Introduction November 24, 2025 Public Hearing and Second Reading February 9, 2026.

Memorandum CC-25-266 from Public Works Director as backup.

Mayor Pro Tem Erickson noted that this item was on the Council agenda at the January 12th meeting for a public hearing. Council lost their spot in the agenda and then came back to this ordinance and took a vote without holding the public hearing. We're remedying that now.

Mayor Pro Tem Erickson opened the Public Hearing. There were no comments and the hearing was closed.

DAVIS/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 25-70 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING.

There was no discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- b. Ordinance 26-08, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the FY26 Capital Budget by Accepting and Appropriating the FY26 State of Alaska Community Assistance Program Payment in the Amount of \$98,129.84 for the purchase of Network Storage at multiple City buildings. City Manager. Introduction January 24, 2026, Public Hearing and Second Reading February 9, 2026.

Memorandum CC-26-022 by the Chief Technology Officer as backup.

Mayor Pro Tem Erickson opened the Public Hearing. There were no comments and the hearing was closed.

DAVIS/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 26-08 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING.

Councilmember Venuti noted that this is a wise use of these funds, since there is always a need to support technology infrastructure. Our City recognizes the value of technology.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- c. Ordinance 26-09, an Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending Homer City Code 2.58.035 Commission and board member terms. City Clerk. Introduction January 24, 2026, Public Hearing and Second Reading February 9, 2026.

Memorandum CC-26-023 from City Clerk as backup.

Mayor Pro Tem Erickson opened the Public Hearing. There were no comments and the hearing was closed.

DAVIS/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 26-09 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING.

Councilmember Venuti said she was glad that this change is happening, as it avoids the busy summer season and also the month of December when Council doesn't meet.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- d. Ordinance 26-10: An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY26 Capital Budget and Appropriating \$29,000 from the Library Donation Account to Complete Construction and Installation of a Security Grille at the Homer Public Library. City Manager/ Library Director. Introduction January 24, 2026, Public Hearing and Second Reading February 9, 2026.

Memorandum CC-26-024 from Library Director as backup.

Mayor Pro Tem Erickson opened the Public Hearing. There were no comments and the hearing was closed.

DAVIS/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 26-10 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING.

Councilmember Aderhold said she's excited that this is finally happening, since the project has been under discussion for at least two years. It can be amazing how long it takes to get a relatively simple thing done.

Councilmember Venuti said that the library building is turning 20, and this has been an idea since maybe the second year of the building's use. The funding structure is also a great model of how we can get things done when we work together.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- e. Ordinance 26-11, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the Official Road Maintenance Map of the City of Homer by Adding 820 Lineal feet (.155 Miles) of Urban Road on Fairview Ave West. City Manager/Public Works Director. Introduction January 24, 2026, Public Hearing and Second Reading February 9, 2026.

Memorandum CC-26-025 from the Public Works Inspector as backup.

Mayor Pro Tem Erickson opened the Public Hearing. There were no comments and the hearing was closed.

DAVIS/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 26-11 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING.

Councilmember Davis noted that he lives on this section of road and he is glad that the City is adopting it.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

ORDINANCE(S)

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- a. City Manager's Report

City Manager Jacobsen noted that her written report is in the packet and highlighted an upcoming event with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation's Brownfields lead to talk about the HERC Cleanup Project.

Councilmember Aderhold asked about the next steps for the tax foreclosure property. City Manager Jacobsen deferred to Community Development Director Engebretsen, who explained that the City Manager will sign a

form and submit it to the Borough, then the Borough will calculate the back taxes owed on the land on the order of \$2,000. The City will appropriate funds to pay that amount and go through a closing process with the Borough, and then the parcel will be City land.

Councilmember Parsons asked what accommodations would be available to the public at City Hall while the elevator is out of order. City Manager Jacobsen explained that during the roughly three weeks that the elevator is out of service, City staff will travel between floors to provide services to the public if someone enters the building on the wrong floor for the business they want to conduct.

Councilmember Davis asked whether the meeting about the HERC would include information on the \$10M demolishing option laid out in the packet or whether new options would be presented. City Manager Jacobsen deferred to Community Development Director Engebretsen, who said that the presentation will talk about the results of the report, estimated demolition costs, and potential next steps for the community as well as other points to consider. The information will most likely be presented to Council at a later meeting.

PENDING BUSINESS

- a. Ordinance 26-06, an Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending Homer City Code 2.84 Release of Public Record Sections 2.84.010 Policy, 2.84.020 Definitions, 2.84.050 Regulations, and 2.84.070 Appeals. City Manager. Introduction January 12, 2026, Public Hearing January 26, 2026, Second Reading Postponed to February 9, 2026.

Memorandum CC-26-033 from the City Manager as backup.

Memorandum CC-26-008 from the City Manager as backup.

Public Comment Received.

Mayor Pro Tem Erickson noted that Ordinance 26-06 was postponed from the January 26th meeting after a public hearing without a motion to adopt.

DAVIS/VENUTI MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 26-06 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING.

DAVIS/VENUTI MOVED TO POSTPONE ORDINANCE 26-06 INDEFINITELY.

There was no discussion.

VOTE. YES: ADERHOLD, DAVIS, ERICKSON, HANSEN, PARSONS, VENUTI.

Motion carried.

- b. Resolution 26-011(A), a Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Supporting Full Funding in the Amount of \$18,186,535 for the State of Alaska Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program in the FY 2027 State Capital Budget. City Manager/Port Director.

Resolution 26-011(S), a Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Supporting Full Funding in the Amount of \$18,186,535 for the State of Alaska Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program in the FY 2027 State Capital Budget. City Manager/Port Director.

Mayor Pro Tem Erickson noted that resolution 26-011(A) was added to pending business under RECONSIDERATION above.

DAVIS/VENUTI MOVED to substitute Resolution 26-011(S).

There was no discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

DAVIS/VENUTI MOVED to adopt Resolution 26-011(S).

Councilmember Aderhold voiced concern that the number in the title is not included in the substitution. City Manager Jacobsen noted that it is included on line 38, and Councilmember Aderhold mentioned that she had been looking in the resolved clauses.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- c. Resolution 26-012, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Stating the City's 2026 Legislative Priorities and Positions. Aderhold

Resolution 26-012(S), A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Stating Our 2026 Legislative Priorities and Positions. Aderhold.

Memorandum CC-26-036 from the Special Projects Coordinator as backup.

Memorandum CC-26-038 from the Special Projects Coordinator as backup

Memorandum CC-26-045 from the Special Projects Coordinator as backup.

Mayor Pro Tem Erickson noted that there was a motion to adopt Resolution 26-012 on the floor that was postponed from January 26th.

DAVIS/VENUTI MOVED TO SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION 26-012(S)

There was no discussion.

VOTE(substitution). NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

ADERHOLD/VENUTI MOVED TO AMEND RESOLUTION 26-012(S) ON LINE 126 TO ADD A BULLET POINT STATING "WE RECOGNIZE THE COMPLEXITIES OF THE ISSUES SURROUNDING FACTORY TRAWLING IN WATERS OFF THE COAST OF ALASKA, YET WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE POTENTIAL NEGATIVE IMPACTS TO MULTIPLE FISHERIES, LOCAL FISHERMEN, AND HOMER'S ECONOMY FROM THE BYCATCH AND HABITAT DEGRADATION ASSOCIATED WITH FACTORY TRAWLING. WE ASK THAT THE LEGISLATURE RESEARCH AND UNDERSTAND THE FULL CULTURAL, SOCIAL, AND ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF THE TRAWL FISHERY AND HOW IT AFFECTS COASTAL AND INTERIOR COMMUNITIES IN ALASKA, AND TAKE ACTION TO ADDRESS NEEDED CHANGES TO STATE STATUTES."

Councilmember Venuti noted that the motion is timely and well-written, and she appreciated councilmember Aderhold working on this effort while she was ill.

Councilmember Parsons recognized Councilmember Aderhold for her diligence putting this resolution together and thanked Mayor Pro Tem Erickson for putting time in with Councilmember Aderhold to develop this amendment.

Mayor Pro Tem Erickson noted that it's a complicated situation, and we all recognize that, and sometimes we have to take a deep dive to understand the ramifications of our decisions.

VOTE (amendment). NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

There was no discussion.

VOTE (substitution as amended). NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

Kevin Lahaie, non-resident, provided an update on behalf of the Homer Skate Park Project, noting that the group is very close to their design goal for money, and invited the Council to start thinking about where they would want the skate park to go, since engineers will come out to look at the site and help with the design.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

The City Attorney left the meeting.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY CLERK

City Clerk Woodruff congratulated Deputy City Clerk I Scott Lynn who was just named Mr. Homer and will be representing Homer in the Winter Carnival Parade.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Jacobsen named open positions with the City, and thanked Council and Mayor Pro Tem Erickson for a good meeting.

COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Pro Tem Erickson thanked everyone for a fun evening, and noted that it's been a few years since she chaired a meeting but it's actually been fun. This weekend is the Winter Carnival, last weekend there was a basketball tournament—go out and enjoy the sun whenever it peeks out!

COMMENTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Councilmember Venuti reminded everyone that the Winter Carnival parade is this weekend on Saturday the 14th, and may just be led by Scott as Mr. Homer. She noted that she'll be hosting Conversations with a Councilmember at the Library tomorrow, from noon to 1. She thanked the Police Department and noted that she had met incoming chief Michael Scanlon, and he's a good hire. She lives near the police station and always feels good when she hears the sirens go off because she knows they do a great job of protecting people. The Japanese Club presentation was wonderful, and showed how much they have learned and grown as a result of their travels. Glacier Quartet and Dave Webster have shows coming up at The Porcupine. She thanked staff for providing food for Council, and for feeding the Planning Commission at their recent meeting. A little food really recognizes how hard people work and can go a long way. Enjoy Valentine's day and tell everyone how much you love them. It's heart month, so take care of your heart and get checked out if you need to. South Peninsula Hospital has new technology thanks to a Rasmuson Foundation grant, so take care of yourself.

City Attorney Gatti, who had reconnected to the meeting while Councilmember Venuti commented, asked to speak, apologizing for disconnecting earlier when he meant to speak. He thanked Mayor Pro Tem Erickson for keeping things moving along and noted that many interesting issues were debated.

Councilmember Parsons said that this was by far the shortest meeting he had ever been a part of at the Council table, and thanked Mayor Pro Tem Erickson for guiding the Council through the agenda. He noted that it reflects well on the effort of staff and the support of the City Manager and City Clerk.

Councilmember Aderhold thanked Mayor Pro Tem Erickson for taking the helm for an evening. She said that she's looking forward to the Winter Carnival parade and going down to Juneau next week to attend the Alaska Municipal League and meet with legislators about Homer's Priorities.

Councilmember Davis joked that Mayor Pro Tem Erickson is hired! As far as he is concerned, this was a great meeting. Thank you.

Councilmember Hansen agreed that this was a great meeting. She congratulated her niece back home who is celebrating her 17th birthday, and thanked all the community members who have celebrated her 25 years of service at Homer Medical Clinic. She also looks forward to traveling to Juneau.

Mayor Pro Tem Erickson wished her daughter Alivia a happy birthday on Valentine's Day and thanked everyone for making it an enjoyable meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the council, Mayor Pro Tem Erickson adjourned the meeting at 7:03 p.m. Next Regular Meeting is Monday, February 23, at 6 p.m., Worksession at 4:00 pm., 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.