

Session 26-014, a regular meeting of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem Erickson 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
LIBRARY DIRECTOR BERRY
SPECIAL PROJECTS AND COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR CARROLL
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR ENGBRETSSEN
FINANCE DIRECTOR FISCHER
FIRE CHIEF JAGER
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR KORT
POLICE CHIEF SCANLON

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: Under Consent Agenda she added Item L, Remove Resolution 26-043 From Agenda Due to Grant Requirements. Under Public Hearings item A, Ordinance 26-30, there is public comment received. Under the City Manager's Report Item A, there is the City Manager's report. Finally, under Comments of the Audience there is public comment received related to items not on the agenda.

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

Giulia Tortora, City Resident, commented on the value of walking for health in the community. She noted that we need to do everything we can in this community to support walking and hiking and expressed support for Resolution 26-041.

Tom Kizzia, City Resident, commented on the value of access to trails in the community and expressed support of Resolution 26-041. He encouraged the City to focus on the extension of the existing trail and not get lost in the engineering challenges of the existing trail.

Pamela Brodie, City Resident, commented that she walks the Woodard Canyon trail almost every day and she would love to have a loop trail to come back down. Opportunities to secure public access to lands are limited and expressed support of Resolution 26-041.

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 May 26, 2026 and June 8, 2026. Recommend Approval.

- b. Memorandum CC-26-124 Authorizing Councilmembers Aderhold and Hansen to travel to Fairbanks for the Alaska Municipal League Summer Conference. Recommend Approval.
- c. Memorandum CC-26-125 Authorizing the Issuance of a Letter of Non-Objection for the renewal of Liquor Licenses for BPO Elks Lodge #2127, Harbor Grill, the Twisted Goat, Vida's Thai Food, and Sweetgale Meadworks. Recommend Approval.
- d. Memorandum CC-26-129 from Public Works Inspector regarding City Water and Wastewater Service Abandonment Exceptions. Recommend Approval.
- e. ~~Ordinance 26-31, an Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending Homer City Code Sections 2.08.040 Bylaws for Council procedure, 2.08.100 Teleconference participation in meetings and 2.08.120 Teleconference Limitations. City Manager/ City Clerk. Recommended Dates introduction June 22, 2026, Public Hearing and Second Reading July 27, 2026. Removed from consent agenda – Aderhold~~
- f. Ordinance 26-32, an Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending Homer City Code Sections 3.16.040 Advertising for Bids and 3.16.110 Competitive Sealed Proposals – Negotiated Procurement. City Manager/City Clerk. Recommended Dates introduction June 22, 2026, Public Hearing and Second Reading July 27, 2026.

Memorandum CC-26-126 from City Clerk as backup.

- g. Ordinance 26-33, an Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the FY27 Capital Budget to Fund Anticipated Repairs or Maintenance to the United States Coast Guard (USCG) Buoy Tender Berth Space by Establishing Authority in the FY27 Budget for Routine Maintenance to the USCG Buoy Tender Berth Space. City Manager/Port Director. Recommended Dates introduction June 22, 2026, Public Hearing and Second Reading July 27, 2026.

Memorandum CC-26-127 from Port Director as backup.

- h. Ordinance 26-34, an Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the FY27 Capital Budget to Fund Anticipated Maintenance to the Seawall by Establishing Authority in the FY27 Budget for Routine Maintenance to the Seawall. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommended Dates introduction June 22, 2026, Public Hearing and Second Reading July 27, 2026.

Memorandum CC-26-128 from Public Works Director as backup.

- i. ~~Resolution 26-043 A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Authorizing the Staff of Homer Volunteer Fire Department to Apply for the 2026 FEMA Assistance to Firefighters grant. City Manager/Fire Chief. Recommend Adoption.~~

~~Memorandum CC-26-130 from Fire Chief as backup. Removed from Consent Agenda - Aderhold~~

- j. Resolution 26-044, a Resolution 26-044, Providing Comment on Proposed Revisions to the Office of Management And Budget's Uniform Guidance for Federal Grants (2 CFR Part 200) And Directing Transmittal of Comments. Mayor/Aderhold. Recommend Adoption.

Memorandum CC-26-131 from Special Projects and Communications Coordinator as backup.

- k. Resolution 26-045, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving a Memorandum of Understanding Between the State of Alaska Department of Transportation/Homer Airport and Public Facilities and Homer Volunteer Fire Department for Automatic Assistance and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/Fire Chief. Recommend Adoption.
- l. Remove Resolution 26-043 From Agenda Due to Grant Requirements.

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

There was no discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

VISITORS (10 Minute limit per report)

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

a. Worksession Report

City Manager Jacobsen reported on the joint worksession with the Planning Commission and consultants from Agnew::Beck and Stantec. The team reviewed a presentation that summarized key points in the more than 900 public comments that were received and requested guidance from Council as to how to proceed on specific questions for the Public Hearing draft of Title 21.

b. Committee of the Whole Report

Councilmember Aderhold reported that the Council discussed items on the Consent Agenda, including Memorandum CC-26-129 on Water and Wastewater lines and Resolution 26-044 addressing comments that will be submitted to the federal register related to proposed changes to the Office of Management of Budget. The Ferguson Group, federal lobbyists for the City of Homer, presented an overview of the recent Washington, DC fly-in with Port Director Hawkins and Councilmember Erickson. Council had a brief conversation about the City Council Operating Manual, the ordinance to change code related to that has been pulled from the consent agenda for discussion prior to introduction. Public Comment related to Kachemak Swim Club.

c. Borough Report

Assemblymember Cooper reported that the borough is wrapping up the fiscal year and preparing for the annual audit. She noted that Councilmember Aderhold did reach out to her related to the proposed changes to OMB guidance. The Borough has a strong mayor form of government, as a result Assemblymember Cooper contacted the Borough Mayor who will be preparing comments. The Borough Conveyed the Nikolaevsk school to the Nikolaevsk Charter School contingent on its use for public education. Assemblymember Dunne asked for reconsideration and it will be on the July agenda for reconsideration.

d. Planning Commission Report

Planning Commission Chair S. Smith reported on the Planning Commission meeting, including his re-election as Chair and commissioner Harness's election as vice chair. The commission processed two plats for plot line removals that passed unanimously. He noted that one consideration for the forthcoming public hearing draft of Title 21 is just how to create meeting time for all of the public hearing that will be needed for the draft. Every item that is going to be changed will need a separate motion and separate public hearing.

Councilmember Venuti recognized the Planning Commission for the time and energy they give to their roles on the commission, noting that they meet twice a month just like Council does. Mayor Pro Tem Erickson commented that the joint worksession today went well and she appreciates the commission taking on Title 21.

e. Parks, Art, Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission Report

Commissioner Harrauld reported on the PARCAC meeting. Summer is busy in the parks but quiet in the commission. The Safe & Healthy Kids Fair had over 500 participants despite the gloomy June weather. Kids

programming is in full swing this summer. She noted that a majority of the father's day pictures posted yesterday were of people together in parks—hiking, playing sports, and more.

f. Economic Development Advisory Commission Report

Commissioner Noomah reported that Commissioner Arevalo stepped up and ran the June meeting due to absences, she did a great job. The EDC is gathering research and community perspectives related to short term rentals. Dorothy Duncan, local landlord, shared her personal perspective as a small business owner and urged the EDC to consider other approaches to meet housing needs as well. The three EDC members who rent shared their experiences with Homer's rental market. Commissioner Noomah acknowledged that the people who are most challenged by the housing market aren't represented among the commission membership because they may not have stability in their lives and may not be able to live in City limits.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

- a. Ordinance 26-30, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY27 Capital Budget by Appropriating \$50,000 from the Homer Accelerated Roads and Trails (HART) Trails Fund for the Purpose of Funding Conceptual Planning for a Looped Trail above Karen Hornaday Park.

Davis/Erickson. Introduction June 8, 2026 Public Hearing and Second Reading June 22, 2026

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

DAVIS/ADERHOLD MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 26-30 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING.

Discussion included the following points:

- Councilmembers Davis and Erickson met with Public Works, Community Development, and the City Manager. They discussed the possibility of adding engineering cost for the City roadbed. It was agreed that City staff will move ahead with a separate ordinance for that engineering. Discussion included lower trails for all ages and abilities that would connect up into those upper trails.
- Gratitude to Councilmembers Davis and Erickson for their work as well as City staff.
- The full support of from the Parks, Art, Recreation and Culture Commission is a strong point.
- An expressed preference for varying levels of difficulty, such as a bench that allows for people to challenge themselves on the lower part of the trail and then rest and enjoy the view.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

ORDINANCE(S)

- e. Ordinance 26-31, an Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending Homer City Code Sections 2.08.040 Bylaws for Council procedure, 2.08.100 Teleconference participation in meetings and 2.08.120 Teleconference - Limitations. City Manager/ City Clerk. Recommended Dates introduction June 22, 2026, Public Hearing and Second Reading July 27, 2026.

ADERHOLD/VENUTI MOVED TO INTRODUCE ORDINANCE 26-31 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY

Discussion included the following points:

- This ordinance is paired with edits to the operating manual which will be on the next agenda.
- There are potentially additional edits to this section of code, which could be presented in a substitution at the next meeting, including language about the board of appeals, privacy during executive session and the procedure for handling a poor connection.

- The Clerk will have to be attentive to the status of remote attendees when their presence is required to have a quorum.
- There are no formal restrictions on how many people may attend remotely or how to prioritize multiple requests to attend remotely; to-date that has not caused issues but could be addressed in the future by policy.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

a. City Manager's Report

City Manager Jacobsen noted that her report is in the supplemental packet. She provided verbal updates on a developer who is interested in using the Developer Reimbursement Program in Title 17 Special Assessment Districts to develop property on Mallard Way, and noted that staff will be proposing code changes to clarify the process.

Chief Scanlon is gathering information related to E-Bikes. A past House Bill to set regulations was vetoed by the governor. Councilmembers Aderhold and Parsons have expressed interest in assisting with Ordinances. Municipality of Anchorage has adopted good language, maybe we can put that together.

Councilmember Venuti requested public education to parents before the rules are set.

E-bikes are one small segment of what we're talking about now. Micro-mobility is the term for these items. Mini-bikes are bikes without pedals, not permitted on the streets or the sidewalk.

With respect to staffing in the Clerk's Office, the City Manager noted that former deputy clerk Scott Lynn left at the end of May. We've received only two applications for the open position. It's summer time, commissions are on their summer break but come August everyone will start meeting again. Unless something amazing happens and we get our favorite candidate soon we will need to talk about standing down meetings until the Clerk's office is staffed up.

b. Monthly FY26 YTD Report

PENDING BUSINESS

- #### **a. Resolution 26-041, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Directing the City Manager to Issue a Request for Proposals for Route Identification and Conceptual Planning for a Low-Impact Looped Hiking Trail above Karen Hornaday Park. Davis/Erickson.**

Memorandum CC-26-120 from Councilmembers Davis and Erickson as backup.

DAVIS/ADERHOLD MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 26-041 BY READING OF TITLE ONLY.

Discussion noted that this resolution corresponds with Ordinance 26-30. Instead of focusing on engineering, the goal is to focus on the most feasible route that focuses on the least amount of impact. Staff were encouraged to focus on getting easements in place for the trail to make the project move ahead so nothing gets stuck in some of those different issues.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

Ella Davis, Homer Resident, said that she learned recently that the taxes paid to the City go into the permanent investment fund, which go into the Alaska Municipal League Investment Pool (AMLIP). AMLIP's investments go into many corporations that are engaged in contracts with the State of Israel. Caterpillar builds armored bulldozers in an exclusive contract with the Israeli army. These are essentially used as tanks and as weapons. Other companies do not go that far but have otherwise supported the state of Israel. The City's financial policy says that the mission of the Finance department is to respond in the most appropriate, open and fiscally responsible manner possible to Citizen's concerns. The City must do everything it can to ensure that the City's permanent investment fund is responsibly invested.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

COMMENTS OF THE CITY CLERK

Responding to discussion during the City Managers Report, City Clerk Woodruff commented that she has had positive experiences sharing the road with vehicles while using her e-bike on West Hill road.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Jacobsen read a list of open jobs with the City.

COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR

COMMENTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Councilmember Venuti thanked the young people for coming out to the meeting and speaking on an important issue. We will be celebrating the birthday of our country on July 4th, and she hopes that everyone will attend the parade. Happy 4th, and have a safe summer. Thanks to Councilmembers Parsons and Aderhold who are putting together an ordinance to address the e-bike issues.

Councilmember Parsons thanked the young folks who came to the end of the meeting and made public comment. It's a reminder that small actions by a small body could have major repercussions and reverberations, for good and maybe for not good. He thanked Agnew::Beck for collecting 140 pages of public comment. Once you account for the petitions and additional comments, it was over 200 pages of public comment. Thank you to City Manager Jacobsen for all the meetings held recently on particular topics that are of interest. He was excited to see the newly painted crosswalk coming down Heath Street.

Councilmember Aderhold said that she was also very excited to see the crosswalk on Heath Street. It meant a lot to have the Planning Commission join council for the worksession and to be seated with them at the dais.

Councilmember Davis thanked all of the young people in attendance including his daughter Ella. He looks forward to working on the ordinance to address issues with the existing roadbed.

Councilmember Hansen said it was great to see Dr. Tortora.

Mayor Pro Tem Erickson said this next Saturday is the last day of Little League. That park has been full all month long. It's so nice to see so many volunteers that are doing so much for our kids. Soccer is going on,

football is going on, Pier One plays, and more. When she drove across the crosswalk on Heath Street, she wanted to call Pat Race to congratulate him! This has been an interesting few weeks because there has been a lot of loss. The month of July is such an important time to be thinking about safety on our roads and trails, no matter what vehicle you're driving. Our hearts go out to those that have had a lot of pain and sorrow in these last couple weeks. Happy fourth of July, it's going to be a big fun party.

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Pro Tem Erickson adjourned the meeting at 7:22 p.m. Next Regular Meeting is Monday, July 27, 2026 at 6:00 p.m., Worksession at 4:00 p.m., 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.