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**City Council Minutes**  
**January 6, 2015 ~ 5:00PM**

**Regular Meeting**  
**City Hall, Delta Junction, Alaska**  
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The regular meeting of the Delta Junction City Council was held on Tuesday, January 6, 2015 at City Hall. Mayor Pete Hallgren called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

City Council members present: Mayor Pete Hallgren, Mayor Pro tem Mary Leith, JW Musgrove
Lonny Meeks, Sherman Stebbins, Corey Vanden Boom, Audrey Brown
City employees present: City Administrator Mike Tvenge, Finance Officer Stephanie Prestwich
Library Director Joyce McCombs, City Clerk Pat White

Five members from the community were present and the meeting was broadcast over the local High School radio, KDHS 95.5 FM.

AMENDMENTS ~ APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Meeks moved to approve the January 6, 2015 agenda as presented; Leith seconded. Motion carried.

AMENDMENTS ~ APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Leith moved to approve the December 16, 2014 minutes as presented; Meeks seconded.
Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

PUBLIC AND COUNCIL COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Musgrove said he wished to publicly apologize to a person for mentioning his name at a previous meeting while relaying his comment to the Council. His intent was to pass on an anonymous public opinion and he guaranteed it would never happen again. He apologized to the listening public if they were offended, intimidated, or harassed by comments made over the public address system, which broadcasts Council meetings over the local radio.

CORRESPONDENCE

Chamber of Commerce Request to Use Park for Fireworks

Tony Porreca, Delta Chamber of Commerce President, said the Chamber would like to use the park for the Festival of Lights fireworks display on Saturday, February 14, 2015 at 7:00pm.

Brown moved to grant the written request, dated December 18, 2014; Musgrove seconded.

Discussion followed regarding reviewing the event's Certificate of Liability Insurance, the lawn contractor having problems with debris that surfaces after the snow melts, Porreca committing to its cleanup, and a monetary donation.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote to permit fireworks in the park during the Festival of Lights.

Musgrove moved to approve a donation of \$1,000.00 for the fireworks display; Brown seconded.

Musgrove reported the Festival's fireworks were visible several years ago when he was 25 miles away and temperatures were minus 40.

Motion passed on a roll call vote with six voting in favor (Brown, Leith, Vanden Boom, Meeks, Musgrove, Hallgren) and one voting against (Stebbins).

REPORTS

Airport – JW Musgrove reported the wind took care of what little snow was on the runway and local pilots have started collecting voluntary contributions to cover airport expenses for the year.

Mayor – Mary Leith reported Revenue Sharing, Capital Projects, and the cost of fuel were discussed during a work session on December 22 with Representative Jim Colver.

City Administrator – Mike Tvenge reported:

- The City achieved Platinum status from Alaska Municipal League Joint Insurance Association Inc. (AML/JIA) for the third year in a row. It is the highest award given to communities for keeping losses to less than one percent of

contributions. City staff participates in telephonic risk management training and safety meetings that are hosted by AML/JIA each month. Tvenge commended staff for their concerns about safety for employees and the general public.

- The Eastern Tanana Area Plan (ETAP) encompasses Delta Junction. After negotiations ETAP recommended changing the Public and Charitable Sale of the Pioneer Park from state ownership to a settlement (conveyance to the City of Delta Junction). Decisions included transferring the Sullivan Roadhouse and the Visitor Center parcels to the City also.

- City staff gathered original environmental, cultural, and soil data to supplement the landfill expansion that was awarded to Bristol Engineering, which will save time with research toward the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) application process.

- Attempts are being taken to thaw the septic system at the Rescue Squad and new Public Works building. The problem with the sewer line, which ties into the Fire Hall, was thought to be resolved when the line was shortened during construction of the new facility.

Discussion followed regarding possibly replacing the entire sewer line next summer.

Finance – Stephanie Prestwich reported she is wrapping up year-end details and quarterly reporting. BDO Auditors are in their final stage of the annual audit report also.

School District – Corey Vanden Boom reported:

- Superintendent Laural Jackson said the school district has saved a lot of money on utility costs because of winterization upgrades and installation of the wood-burning boiler (2010/2011).
- The Dean Cummings Invitational Basketball Tournament will be held January 22/24 at the Delta High School.
- Junior High volleyball season has begun at Fort Greely.

Library – Mary Leith reported:

- January is a busy anniversary month for the library. It is the tenth anniversary of the new library, the eighth anniversary of the Knitting Circle, and the ninth anniversary of the Book Club.

- The Community Center was packed for two and a half hours on December 27 for one of the library's best events. Ben Grossmann shared video clips, explained his work with special effects in the film industry, reconnected with friends, and posed for pictures with area residents holding his Academy Award.

Discussion followed regarding Internet problems resolved from last summer, the Library Association receiving 501(c)3 status, considering establishing an endowment fund for the library, and researching the Pick.Click.Give program.

Public Works – Sherman Stebbins reported because there is so little snow, Aurora Avenue has not blown shut.

Community Outreach – Lonny Meeks reported he hoped to get the new Web site launched by the end of the month.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS

Delta Sanitation Billing Changes

Tvenge referenced a billing statement from local garbage haulers, Delta Sanitation, Inc., dated January 1, 2015, and asked for Council direction in how to address it. Delta Sanitation changed their billing from monthly to quarterly. He expressed concern about forward billing because the City has always paid on a monthly basis, as services are rendered, and he said Delta Sanitation also raised their rates 21% for the first quarter of 2015 even though the City's increase in tipping fees will not go into effect until March 16, 2015.

Prestwich said weekly service for a four-yard dumpster increased to \$426/month.

Brown suggested continuing to pay monthly because of problems in getting garbage picked up on a regular basis. Discussion followed regarding increasing landfill tipping fees by 28% (Ordinance 2015-02 adopted December 16, 2014), Delta Sanitation's rate increase, whether to pay in advance as requested, and comparing rates and dumpster sizes to the new business, Delta Environmental Services.

Stebbins said Delta Sanitation's change in their billing is bizarre and a great injustice to the community.

Leith said she would not object to paying Delta Sanitation three months in advance if they were more reliable.

Musgrove moved to continue doing business with the current pay schedule (pay at the end of the month for services rendered); Vanden Boom seconded.

Meeks said it would be ludicrous to pay more than one month in advance based on Delta Sanitation's past performance.

Hallgren said the City will look into other options if Delta Sanitation does not accept the Council's decision to pay on a monthly basis.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Covenants and Land Clearing at Airport Subdivision II

Tvenge reported decisions need to be made about covenants and clearing of roads / taxiways in the undeveloped airport subdivision. Surveyor Ralph Mathews has not marked lot lines, but he has flagged 80-foot clearing limits (taxiways).

Musgrove said he hoped to provide options to vote on, but explained the need for a work session and, at some point, involvement from an attorney. He touched on aviation easements, characteristics of an airport (noise, vibrations, exhaust fumes), whether to restrict building heights, whether to extend the airport runway, capabilities and use, sale restrictions (whether a buyer will be given preference to purchase an adjacent lot, whether prospective buyers can communicate amongst themselves in the bidding process to avoid bidding each other up, payment details, whether Airport Subdivision II lot sales will mirror Airport Subdivision I sales, establishing minimum bids, whether remaining lots will be sold over-the-counter), deed restrictions (aviation related? dairy farm and grain elevator permitted? cell towers? for how many years? what happens should the airport cease to exist? establishing a mechanism to ensure lot owners support the airport to help pay for expenses, establishing tie-down policies, whether power will be available at the tie-down area, if fees will include the cost of electricity, and whether private rates will differ from commercial rates), and cost recovery. Musgrove said the Delta Pilots Advisory Committee has always collected airport fees, but now the group consists of himself and Jack Morris and he would prefer the City take over the responsibility. He questioned installation of electricity, whether the City or lot owners should be responsible for it, or if it should be part of the land clearing project. He discussed current tie-down charges (\$30/month, \$33/month with power, no charge for using the tie-down area for ten days or less), issues with monitoring the airport, posting signs for the combined taxiway / streets, lighting, and proposed fencing in the Airport Development Plan, dated August 1988, which would clear about 90% of all trespassing issues.

Hallgren asked whether some or all of the (21) lots are to be restricted to aviation use.

Musgrove said more interest in the airport subdivision has grown since Robin Wood's article was published in the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner on December 11, 2014 and most of the pilots that he has talked to prefer at least some minimum aviation-related restrictions.

Hallgren said roads can be built before subdivision lots are sold.

Leith said access will help buyers decide what lots they want to purchase.

Tvenge said road clearing funds were appropriated in the FY2014 budget.

Discussion followed regarding scheduling a work session (5:00pm, Tuesday, January 27) to discuss covenants and clearing the ten acres (total land area of the subdivision taxiways), obtaining pricing to install electricity, clearing while the ground is frozen even if the preliminary plat is not yet approved, recouping subdivision development costs when the lots are sold, and acknowledging covenants on the final plat.

Stebbins suggested cutting down only what needs to be cleared and to donate it to the school for their wood boiler.

Leith agreed that there may be value in the trees that are cleared.

Award Plow Truck / Sander

Tvenge reported seven bids for the mid-sized end dump with plow and sander were received for the bid opening on December 23. He referenced the bid sheet and said all bidders were Alaskan companies, qualified bids were to include all specifications or equivalent, the plow truck was to be ready for service upon final delivery, and the City would provide payment 30 days after satisfactory delivery, acceptance, and receipt of invoice. The bid documents were to include a complete truck specification checklist. The total purchase price and date vehicle would be delivered to the Public Works building was to be on the bidder's business letterhead and the proposed bid was to be signed and dated by an authorized representative. Tvenge explained that two bids were deemed non-responsive and he and Corey Groppe recommended awarding the bid to the lowest responsive bidder, RWC Group, for a new 2016 International WorkStar 7500 SFA 4x2 with a Henderson Mark E Dump Body, Henderson FSH II Spreader, and Henderson SNOWFOE Series Expressway Plow delivered to Delta Junction in 170 days after receipt of the order. The dump body, plow, and spreader have a 12-month warranty, the engine's main components have a five-year warranty, the remaining engine components have two, and the Allison transmission has a three-year warranty. Tvenge said City Attorney Jim DeWitt agreed with his recommendation; that RWC was responsive.

Leith moved to issue the Intent to Award to RWC International, Ltd., doing business as RWC Group, in the amount of \$147,878.00; Musgrove seconded.

Tvenge reported letters would be issued to all bidders explaining the Intent to Award process and the actual bid would be awarded after a seven-day protest period.

Hallgren added that the 170-day delivery does not start until RWC Group is awarded the bid.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Purchase Orders

PO#017759 to Aetna, Inc. in the amount of \$16, 994.47 for January group health insurance

PO#017760 to ATT & Alascom in the amount of \$665.99 for E911 power service

PO#017761 to State of Alaska, DEC Solid Waste Program in the amount of \$2,983.00 for annual Class II Landfill license

PO#017762 to Buffalo Fuel, Inc. in the amount of \$8,464.00 for December heating fuel and gas

PO#017763 to ESRI, Inc. in the amount of \$1,500.00 for annual mapping software renewal

PO#017764 to Guess & Rudd in the amount of \$2,646.00 for Allied Steel stairs research

PO#017765 to Heritage General Contracting in the amount of \$866.90 for Public Works Building final invoice less retainage

PO#017766 to Interior Diesel Service & Repair, LLC in the amount of \$1,517.00 for Zamboni repairs

PO#017767 to M2C1 Construction & Engineering in the amount of \$7,141.10 for Public Works Building project construction management and owners representative services

PO#017768 to Delta Medical Transport, LLC in the amount of \$13,000.00 for January-March quarterly payment

Musgrove moved to approve purchase orders 017759 through 017768 as presented; Leith seconded.

Discussion followed regarding repair parts for the Zamboni and recent fuel related issues (PO#017766).

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Flower Cole thanked the Council for continued support of the Chamber's Festival of Lights fireworks. She also expressed appreciation for Aurora Avenue remaining open.

Leith invited Council members to the Industry Round Table luncheon on January 14, 11:30 to 1:30, at the Delta Career Advancement Center. Discussion will be how Partners for Progress can meet needs within the community. An Open House will follow, 3:00 to 7:00, to tour the building and register for upcoming college-credited classes.

ADJOURNMENT

Musgrove moved to adjourn at 7:09pm; Hallgren seconded. Motion carried.

Pat White, City Clerk

Approved: January 20, 2015