



**City Council Minutes
June 7, 2016 ~ 5:00PM**

**Regular Meeting
City Hall, Delta Junction, Alaska**

The regular meeting of the Delta Junction City Council was held on Tuesday, June 7, 2016 at City Hall. Mayor Pete Hallgren called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

City Council members present: Mayor Pete Hallgren, Mayor Pro tem JW Musgrove
Sebastian Saarloos, Lou Heinbockel, William Brennan (until 5:41pm)

City Council members excused: Audrey Brown, Freda Degnan

City employees present: City Administrator Mary Leith, Library Director Joyce McCombs, City Clerk Pat White

Two members from the community were present and the meeting was broadcast over KDHS 95.5 FM radio.

AMENDMENTS ~ APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Musgrove moved to adopt the June 7 agenda; Brennan seconded.

Hallgren reported *Purchase Orders* would be moved to follow *Correspondence*.

Motion passed by unanimous consent to adopt the agenda as amended.

AMENDMENTS ~ APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Musgrove moved to approve the minutes from the May 17 regular meeting and the May 26 special meeting; Brennan seconded.

Motion passed on a roll call vote with five in attendance.

CORRESPONDENCE

Public Notice – State Land Sale of 22.09 Acres to Career Advancement Center

[Written comments regarding the *Preliminary Decision for Public and Charitable Land Sale* must be received by the Division of Mining, Land & Water (DMLW), Lands Section by 5:00pm, June 23, 2016]

Saarloos referred to a May 25, 2016 letter to City Administrator Mary Leith from Dianna Leinberger, Natural Resource Manager, which read, “Partners for Progress in Delta, Inc. (PPD) has applied to the Division of Natural Resources (DNR), DMLW to purchase 22.09 acres of state land for the construction and operation of the Delta Career Advancement Center Expansion facility ...” Saarloos said he would support the land sale as long as the avigation easement is honored (“... the City is also the holder of an Avigation and Hazard Easement located partially on this site, ADL 414068”).

Leith said the City’s comment is already on record as well as the City’s support of Partners and the Career Center.

Heinbockel said he would have gone after the property had he known it was available. He moved to issue a letter opposing the sale of State land to Partners for less than fair market value. The motion died for lack of a second.

Discussion followed regarding Leith volunteering as President of Partners for Progress, the Career Advancement Center facility located on property that is owned by the Delta-Greely School District, and intended use of the 22.09 acres.

NEW BUSINESS - City Purchases over \$1,000

CK# 218389 to Med-Tech Resource in the amount of \$9,366.47 for ambulance supplies (postponed from May 17 mtg)

CK# 218404 to Delta/Greely Youth Baseball League in the amount of \$1,000.00 as a donation toward the 2016 season

CK# 218405 to Delta Imagination Library in the amount of \$1,000.00 as a donation toward the 2016 book program

CK# 218407 to Buffalo Fuel in the amount of \$8,230.35 for heating fuel

CK# 218408 to Airport Equipment Rental in the amount of \$61,508.31 for rental of equipment used on excavation project (\$57,718.31), work truck (\$3,390.00) and cemetery (\$400.00)

CK# 218409 to Guess & Rudd in the amount of \$1,193.81 for legal services (Andreassen-tree theft at airport subdivision, record retention, and license for DPW to cross Jarvis Avenue)

CK# 218410 to Inland PetroService Inc. in the amount of \$1,746.00 for fuel pump repair on landfill fuel tank (replaced turbine, capacitor, and wiring harness)

CK# 218411 to EdgeWave in the amount of \$3,000.00 for 20H iPrism for library

Brennan moved to approve check numbers 218389, 218404, 218405, and 218407 through 218411; Saarloos seconded.

Discussion followed regarding ambulance supplies purchased with remaining State grant funds (218389) and Heinbockel's opposition to Delta Medical Transport, as a private enterprise, directly benefiting from State funds. **Motion passed** on a roll call vote with four in favor (Brennan, Saarloos, Musgrove, Hallgren) and one opposed (Heinbockel).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Road Maintenance Contract

Heinbockel moved to approve the road maintenance contract as presented; Musgrove seconded.

Motion passed by unanimous consent with five in attendance (Brennan, Saarloos, Musgrove, Heinbockel, Hallgren).

Heinbockel reported Morley Electric's crack sealing on the outdoor hockey rink was very satisfactory work and he asked to consider repairs to City streets this summer if possible and to widen pavement on Mil-Tan Road in the near future.

Discussion followed regarding crack sealing done last by Alaska Department of Transportation road crews (\$23,284.98 paid in July 2014), gravel on Mil-Tan four feet wider than the pavement, four-wheelers tearing down road edges, and the need to allocate funds for road repairs in 2017.

NEW BUSINESS continued

Introduction and First Reading of Ordinance 2016-04, An Ordinance for the City of Delta Junction, Alaska Providing for a Budget for the Fiscal Year 2017

Saarloos moved to introduce Ordinance 2016-04, hold the first reading, and set the public hearing, second reading, and adoption date for June 21, 2016; Brennan seconded.

Brennan was excused at 5:41pm.

Musgrove expressed concern about State of Alaska deficit spending and using its savings in the next fiscal year. He questioned any possible reduction in spending so that City savings can fund the landfill closure and other necessities. Discussion followed regarding unallocated City savings, two years projected before the "fiscal cliff," constructing West Second Street (see *Mayor Report* also), and scheduling a work session (5:00pm, June 15).

Heinbockel said an overall 5-percent reduction to the FY16 budget through June 3 would save \$84,945. He would even support a 10-percent reduction if necessary to balance the budget, but he did not want to review the budget line by line.

Musgrove referenced the City-adopted step increase and said the State of Alaska has a similar built-in schedule, but will be unable to honor it because of its unstable budget. There will not be a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) this year also.

Hallgren said the City provides services as a service organization. Total employee costs for FY17 will be roughly two-thirds of the City's revenue. Should the City continue to lose income, employees will need to be cut.

Motion passed on a roll call vote with four in attendance (Heinbockel, Saarloos, Musgrove, Hallgren).

REPORTS

Airport – JW Musgrove reported:

- The John Deere tractor will be serviced this week for the summer mowing season.
- The City appreciates what volunteer pilots do and he recommended the City continue giving Si Hill a discount because of all the work he does.

Mayor – Pete Hallgren reported City Administrator Mary Leith is investigating starting and/or constructing West Second Street before the end of the 2016 fiscal year. A motion was made to construct West Second by July 15, 2016 (November 3, 2015 meeting) and Leith is researching standards of how to build it.

Leith said it is up to the Council to determine the width and depth of the construction and that the Municipal Code of Ordinances §4.55, Street Construction, states streets 100 feet or more in length must be cleared 20 feet on each side of the center line, streets that are 60 feet or more must be cleared 15 feet each side of the center line, and four inches of gravel is required to cover a minimum 20-foot width.

Saarloos recommended cutting the road 40 feet wide, building in the middle of West Second's 20-foot right of way with ten feet on each side of the center line, and narrowing it to 15 feet upon approaching Granite Avenue to maneuver the turn past Stanford Apartments' septic system (built in Granite Avenue's ROW in 2009), so the southern end of Granite (platted and undeveloped) can be developed anytime in the future.

Discussion followed regarding accessing West Second from Jarvis Avenue, installing one or two no-outlet signs, and drafting a year-end reconciliation to reflect using FY16 surplus funds to build West Second.

Heinbockel moved to allocate up to \$20,000 from the FY16 budget to construct West Second Street; Musgrove seconded.

Motion passed on a roll call vote with four in attendance (Musgrove, Heinbockel, Saarloos, Hallgren).

City Administrator – Mary Leith reported:

- The 1982 Caterpillar (140G) motor grader sold for \$27,000 during the May 27 Silent Auction Surplus Sale and the money was deposited in the general fund.

- Sirsha McPeck was hired for the part-time Summer Maintenance Assistant position.
- The annual landfill inspection was held on June 2. Leith reported Neil Lehner was impressed with progress on the new pit, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) might create harsher standards to address windblown litter statewide, and the septic pit was thawed and is draining properly. She reported samples from the southern septic pit will be sent to the Lower 48 for testing.
 - The excavator is still in use for a few more days on the landfill project. Landfill Operator Richard Mitchell is using the City's D6 on the project.
 - Rob Bevard is in Anchorage June 7/10 training to be a Backflow Prevention Assembly Tester, so he can inspect water lines in City facilities, particularly the rink. The certificate is good for three years, through June 10, 2019. Discussion followed regarding paying ADEC for landfill permit renewals, the latest permit expiring December 31, 2018, and the status of the septic pit containment area.

City Clerk – Pat White shared a letter from Lyn Plomaritis thanking the Council for reducing landfill tipping fees (May 3 meeting), so she could dispose of what was left of her home that burned in the 2014 arson.

Library – Sebastian Saarloos reported:

- Ninety-nine children signed up for the six-week Summer Readers Program, which started today.
- Valerie Krepel was hired as the part-time Summer Library Aide.
- Joyce McCombs and Pete Hallgren participated in giving input to find ways to increase visibility of the Public Health Nurse in the local community.
- More than 4,000 Legos and figurines from all seven Star Wars movies are on display at the library, on loan by Sebastian Saarloos.

ADDITIONAL COUNCIL COMMENTS

Saarloos reported the State issued a contract to replace existing transmitters with 100-watt digital transmitters for multiple communities. He volunteered to help install Channel 17's in the next four to six weeks.

Discussion followed regarding federal mandate to switch from analog to digital by September 15, 2015, some history of Alaska Rural Communication System (ARCS) in Delta, and whether Channel 17 could be broadcast from Donnelly Dome.

ADJOURNMENT

Musgrove moved to adjourn at 6:57pm; Hallgren seconded. Motion carried.

Pat White, City Clerk

Approved: June 21, 2016