



**City Council Minutes
August 16, 2016 ~ 5:00PM**

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

The regular meeting of the Delta Junction City Council was held on Tuesday, August 16, 2016 at City Hall. Mayor Pro tem JW Musgrove called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

City Council members present: Mayor Pro tem JW Musgrove, Lou Heinbockel
Audrey Brown, Sebastian Saarloos, Freda Degnan

City Council members excused: Mayor Pete Hallgren, William Brennan

City employee present: City Clerk Pat White

Four members from the community were present at different parts of the meeting. The meeting was broadcast over KDHS 95.5 FM radio.

AMENDMENTS ~ APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Saarloos moved to approve the August 16, 2016 agenda; Musgrove seconded. Motion passed by consent.

AMENDMENTS ~ APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Brown moved to approve minutes from the August 2, 2016 meeting; Degnan seconded.

Brown asked that prices of lab tests that would be available at the Delta Health Fair on September 24th not be omitted from public record as reported (*Public Health & Safety* report on page 3 of August 2 draft minutes).

Brown moved to amend the August 2, 2016 minutes to include costs of Alaska Health Fair blood tests; Degnan seconded. Motion passed to amend the minutes with four voting in favor (Brown, Degnan, Saarloos, Musgrove) and one opposed (Heinbockel).

Motion passed to approve the August 2, 2016 minutes by unanimous consent.

CORRESPONDENCE

Thank you from Imagination Library

Musgrove reported the City is a proud sponsor of the Imagination Library (\$1,000 donation) and he read a card from Julia Phelan expressing appreciation “for supporting literacy in our community.” She noted that 240 local children, ages birth to 5, receive one free book via mail each month and 180 children have graduated from the program.

Saarloos acknowledged several books from his family’s Imagination Library collection that he had on display and he explained support for the program.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Land Clearing RFP at Delta Airport Subdivision Phase II

Heinbockel moved to advertise a Request for Proposals (RFP) using Proposal #3 specs; Saarloos seconded.

Musgrove said he agreed with Proposal #3 as it is written except for hydro-axing the timber. He said “by mechanical methods” could include pushing the trees over with a D9 Cat before hauling them away.

Discussion followed regarding discussion at the August 2 meeting favoring Proposal #3 with the contractor taking responsibility to log the area and written specs (remaining stumps no taller than four inches and remaining slash/logging debris no greater than 12 inches in length).

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote with five in attendance (Heinbockel, Degnan, Brown, Saarloos, Musgrove).

Musgrove asked White to make inquiries to update the list of people who are interested in purchasing airport lots.

Heinbockel questioned how much the lots would cost because developing the airport subdivision cannot be subsidized.

Discussion followed regarding not recovering improvement costs until the lots are sold, only three lots sold in the 2002 outcry auction, the other six taking almost two years to sell, all over-the-counter for the minimum appraised value (\$7,000 to \$9,000), 2002 lot sizes between .918 acres and 1.326 acres and the 21 lots in the new subdivision between 1.271 and 1.776 acres, and attaching a required annual \$500 boundary crossing permit to the new airport lots.

NEW BUSINESS

City Park Fences – Herbicide Application

Musgrove referenced a letter issued by Pete Hallgren on August 21, 2006 authorizing the lawn contractor to spread herbicide to kill weeds at the park. At the time the University of Alaska Cooperative Extension in Delta recommended Milestone herbicide. Referencing a letter, dated August 15, 2016 from Phil Kaspari, Agricultural Extension Agent with the University of Alaska, Musgrove said the Salcha-Delta Soil and Water Conservation District (SDSWCD) offered to manage the current project using two herbicide products, Milestone and Arsenal. Musgrove asked to accept Kaspari's recommendations and to task the City Administrator to research requirements.

Brown said she wanted more information about toxicity and that public notices should be posted more than 24 hours. Heinbockel agreed with accepting SWCD's offer, closing the park, and leaving signs up for one week after application. Saarloos read information that he found online about potential health effects from prolonged exposure to Milestone. Brown moved to table action until there is more detailed information about the herbicide products, if city park fence lines are typically treated, and all concerns presented; Degnan seconded. Motion failed on a roll call vote with two opposed (Saarloos, Heinbockel) and three voting in favor (Brown, Degnan, Musgrove).

Heinbockel moved to accept the Salcha-Delta Soil and Water Conservation District's offer to 1) apply herbicides by and on park fences and inside ball field fences, and 2) to keep signs posted for seven days after the chemical is applied; Saarloos seconded.

Discussion followed regarding regulations becoming stricter in the past ten years, inability to hire a certified applicator locally, posting notices at every entrance, whether it is necessary to identify where chemical is located, and giving advance notice to the public before the park is treated.

Motion passed on a roll call vote with four in favor (Heinbockel, Saarloos, Degnan, Musgrove) and one opposed (Brown). Musgrove asked that information still be researched so that all concerns expressed in tonight's discussion are alleviated.

Introduction and First Reading Ordinance 2017-01, an Ordinance for the City of Delta Junction, Alaska Providing for Amendment of the FY16 Budget

Musgrove said Ordinance 2017-01 provides authorization to move funds to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2016, directly addressing reconciliation of areas where more money was spent than what was budgeted. It does not address areas that received more revenue than what was budgeted. He asked that a "note page" be created to show more details.

Saarloos moved to introduce Ordinance 2017-01, hold the first reading, and set the second reading, public hearing, and possible adoption date for September 6, 2016; Heinbockel seconded.

Heinbockel said he would like to consider cuts wherever they are applicable and possibly raise revenue should expenses continue to increase to maintain the park.

Brown said she would like more explanation on line items that went over budget, i.e. 533% for cemetery supplies, and she complimented retired Finance Officer Dave Zimmerman for continuing to offer assistance on City matters.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote with five in attendance (Degnan, Brown, Saarloos, Heinbockel, Musgrove).

City Purchases over \$1,000

CK# 218515 to Aetna in the amount of \$21,859.80 for group health insurance

CK# 218516 to ACS in the amount of \$1,485.73 for phone service

CK# 218517 to GVEA in the amount of \$2,877.93 for electricity

CK# 218518 to Hale & Associates in the amount of \$5,724.00 for airport insurance

CK# 218519 to Morley Electric in the amount of \$10,800.00 to install lighting on North Clearwater

CK# 218520 to Cal Worthington Ford in the amount of \$37,091.75 for new truck

CK# 218521 to Buffalo Fuel in the amount of \$1,244.60 for fuel used at the landfill

CK# 218522 to Airport Equipment Rental in the amount of \$2,095.00 to rent work truck and use equipment at cemetery

CK# 218523 to Wells Fargo Credit in the amount of \$3,759.31 for credit card charges (S. Prestwich travel to Alabama - \$1,326.80, LED lighting at City Hall - \$1,976.85, postage for passport applications - \$30.70, Council meeting snacks - \$88.96, and annual contract fee for City Web site - \$336.00)

Saarloos moved to approve check numbers 218515 through 218523 as presented; Heinbockel seconded.

Discussion followed regarding providing a better breakdown of charges (costs added to CK# 218523) and expenditures already approved during a normal budget cycle.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote with five in attendance (Heinbockel, Brown, Degnan, Saarloos, Musgrove).

REPORTS

Airport – JW Musgrove reported increased activity is expected at the airport due to the upcoming hunting season.

City Clerk – Pat White reported:

- September 4 is the last day to register to vote or make changes to voter information to be eligible to vote in the October 4, 2016 Municipal Election.
- City Hall was asked to oversee absentee voting for upcoming State of Alaska elections, the School Board Election (REAA) in October and the General Election in November. Busy Bee started offering the service locally when the State of Alaska Court System stopped after the Presidential election in 2008. City staff took over absentee voting for the August 16 Primary Election yesterday.

Discussion followed regarding Hallgren's August 15 memo authorizing City staff to provide absentee voting for the next two elections and encouraging the Fairbanks elections' office to find another private business to contract with.

Heinbockel said elections are the responsibility of the State of Alaska. If the Courthouse cannot provide the service, the State Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) should.

Library – Sebastian Saarloos reported Library Director Joyce McCombs was interviewed by the Council of Alaska Producers regarding Pogo Mine and how they support the local community. It was posted on Facebook on August 10.

Brown reported *The Age of Innocence* by Edith Wharton was discussed at last night's Book Club.

Emergency Preparedness / LEPC – Audrey Brown reminded Council about the training on September 24 that will be presented by Homeland Security.

Public Health & Safety - Audrey Brown reported:

- Alaska Health Fair, Inc., a non-profit organization that started in 1980 as part of the National Health Screening Council to increase health awareness and provide screenings, education, and high-quality, low-cost blood tests for early detection of disease and other health issues. Health fairs started with federal grant funding, but now rely on donations, sponsors, and partners plus volunteers, medical personnel to draw blood and non-medical volunteers to carry out other tasks. AHF is also part of the Pick, Click, Give program. Brown reported Providence Associates Medical Laboratories (PAML) offer lab tests at reduced costs, which are approximately 20% of what medical facilities charge. Brochures are available that explain the tests and their importance (Chemistry/Hematology Profile – 27 test panel = \$45, Thyroid = \$30, Prostate = \$25, Vitamin D = \$50, A1C = \$25). Test results are mailed directly to participants approximately two weeks after the fair and AHF nurses personally follow up with participants if a blood test is critically abnormal. Brown reminded people to drink plenty of water and to fast, depending upon what lab tests are done. More information about the health fair is available online at www.alaskahealthfair.org.

- The National Safety Council put out information about controlling indoor mold, which was distributed by the GVEA advisory board. More information is available online (nsc.org/members) along with other for safety tips.

Personnel – JW Musgrove asked to discuss the City per diem rate at the September 6 Council meeting, in particular if the mileage rate is consistent with the IRS and whether it should be paid in advance.

Public Works – Lou Heinbockel reported:

- The new pickup arrived on August 12. The backup camera is in the rearview mirror, not on the dashboard.
- The accumulation of refrigerators at the landfill still needs to be processed and removed.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

White reported receiving a compliment about the outhouse on Kimball being the cleanest in the State of Alaska.

Discussion followed regarding exceptional maintenance of the long-awaited new outhouses (installed in 2015) from City janitor, Heidi Bialik, heavy use of the park, and continued popularity of Frisbee golf, aka Frolf (established in 2011).

Brown reported GVEA is conducting a comprehensive rate study to submit to the Regulatory Commission of Alaska in October. She invited the public to the local meeting at the Community Center on August 23 to review cost of service and proposed rate changes as recommended by the GVEA Board of Directors.

ADJOURNMENT

Saarloos moved to adjourn at 6:28pm; Degnan seconded.

Pat White, City Clerk

Approved: September 6, 2016