

City Council Minutes
Regular Meeting
February 20, 2018 ~ 5:00PM
City Hall, Delta Junction, Alaska



The regular meeting of the Delta Junction City Council was held on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at City Hall. Mayor Musgrove called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

City Council members present: Mayor JW Musgrove, Deputy Mayor Freda Degnan
Lou Heinbockel, Pete Hallgren, Alan Levinson (arrived at 5:06pm)

City Council members excused: Jennifer Brant, Audrey Brown

City employees present: City Administrator Mary Leith, Administrative Assistant Flower Cole
Library Director Joyce McCombs, Finance Officer Stephanie Prestwich, City Clerk Pat White

Three people from the community were present and the meeting was broadcast over KDHS 95.5 FM radio.

AMENDMENTS ~ APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Heinbockel moved to approve the February 20, 2018 agenda as presented; Brant seconded.

Musgrove reported CK# 219364 needs added to the agenda.

Hallgren moved to amend the agenda by adding CK# 219364 to *City Purchases over \$1,000*; Degnan seconded.
Motion passed on a roll call vote with four in attendance (Heinbockel, Degnan, Hallgren, Musgrove).

AMENDMENTS ~ APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Heinbockel moved to approve the February 6, 2018 minutes as presented; Hallgren seconded.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Recovery of Spare Zamboni

Hallgren reported he, Leith, and Craig Cugini, Fort Greely Deputy to the Garrison Commander, discussed getting back the old Zamboni or a replacement.

Levinson arrived at 5:06pm.

Requests for Information

Musgrove reported three requests were received for address information and one was received for “any and all material regarding or referencing the potential of a privately-operated prison within the jurisdiction of this agency.” He said addressing is done in-house, but shared with GVEA and ACS. Copying several years of Allvest prison documents may require a significant amount of research, possibly enough to contract the work. Discussion followed regarding a request asking to be informed of total charges before fulfilling the prison records request, past history complying with simple requests for public records, finalizing a fee schedule, determining a down payment to begin a lengthy search, and the City’s record retention policy.

NEW BUSINESS

City Purchases over \$1,000

CK# **219328** to Structured Communication Systems in the amount of \$1,770.00 for three-year contract for library’s new Internet equipment
CK# **219335** to Wells Fargo in the amount of \$7,095.20 for credit card purchases (postage – \$150.66, Skid Steer repair – \$1,540.27, plow truck upgrades – \$1,509.71, W2 software – \$89.99, sump pump repairs at Fire Hall – \$252.25, Leith registration for AMLJIA Public Risk Management seminar in March – \$111.00, new library equipment – \$937.72, new lock for landfill gate – \$105.00, December electricity at the Liewer-Olmstead Ice Arena – \$1,176.00, library materials – \$1,117.61, City Hall supplies – \$104.99)

CK# **219336** to Alaska Communications in the amount of \$1,711.10 for phone and Internet in January

CK# **219337** to GVEA in the amount of \$4,951.47 for January electricity

CK# **219338** to Buffalo Center Services in the amount of \$1,367.22 for fuel usage (\$1,018.18 for Public Works and \$349.04 for Fire Hall)

CK# **219339** to Air Liquide in the amount of \$3,957.67 for smoke eater at Public Works

CK# **219340** to Interior Hardware in the amount of \$1,100.63 for sump pump repairs at Fire Hall and toilet/sink repairs at the Community Center

CK# **219364** to Structured Communication Systems in the amount of \$3,159.28 for library new equipment and software for Internet (to accompany CK# 219328)

Musgrove referenced a handout explaining E-rate and OWL (Online With Libraries) grant funding. He said check 219328 pays for licensing fees and check 219364 pays for new Internet equipment and software.

McCombs said the equipment at the library could no longer be upgraded and had to be replaced in order to keep the Internet operational. Structured Communication Systems must bill the library for the portion that is not covered by E-rate, which is administered by the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) under the direction of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). McCombs said E-rate is based on a percentage of local students who are eligible for free and reduced prices on the school lunch program.

Degnan moved to approve checks 219328, 219335 through 219340, and 219364; Hallgren seconded.

Discussion followed regarding equipment for welding (#219339) and using allocated funds for new library equipment plus funds from Fort Greely to pay for Internet upgrades (219328 and 219364).

Motion passed on a roll call vote with five in attendance (Hallgren, Levinson, Heinbockel, Degnan, Musgrove).

REPORTS

Mayor – JW Musgrove reported Stevens Village raises bison on the Barley Project. A place in Russia is putting together something vaguely similar to Jurassic Park and wants to buy some of the Village bison. They opted to fly out of Fairbanks after inquiring about the size of airplanes and logistics of landing and taking off in Delta.

City Administrator – Mary Leith reported:

- The Missile Defense Agency (MDA) is requesting input regarding the Proposed Final Environmental Assessment (EA) and Proposed Final Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Ground-Based Midcourse Defense (GMD) Expanded Capability at Fort Greely. The public comment period ends March 20, 2018. Hardcopies are available at City Hall and the library. Documents can also be reviewed online (mda.mil/news/environmental_reports.html). Leith reported details of the assessment: up to 20 additional silos, one mechanical electrical building, utilities and infrastructure, landfill road reroute, expansion of site security and Missile Defense Complex boundary fence, contractor laydown areas, a temporary camp that would house up to 140 construction workers, and the three-year expansion expected to begin this summer.

- Delta Survey estimated \$4,000 to survey Pioneer Park, which could be done as early as April. Thereafter it would be appraised and the City would be expected to pay 50 percent of the appraised value. Dawn Frazier, Pioneers of Alaska, Women's Igloo #19 President, said they are willing to contribute toward purchasing the Pioneer Park from the State of Alaska.

Finance – Stephanie Prestwich reported:

- Airport billing is progressing pretty smoothly.
- She has not received anything from the auditors, but is not concerned because penalties are not applied unless the audit is not turned in by March 31, 2018. (BDO submits audit to the State of Alaska.)

Library – Freda Degnan reported:

- Over 60 people attended a presentation from two archeologists from the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) on February 16. They presented information about local digs, artifacts, and history of early Alaskans who lived in the Tanana Valley. Artifacts and information will be on display at the Delta library for two months.

- SHAGG performed at the Fort Greely Community Activity Center on February 17. It replaced the concert that was cancelled due to bad roads two months ago. The crowd was small, but enthusiastic, and the music and dancing were described as "epic." The event was sponsored by the Delta Library Association, Fairbanks Concert Association, Fort Greely MWR, Pogo, Boeing, and Alaska Tour Company.

- Linda Nebeker, Summer Reading Program Coordinator, will return in March to help at the library due to one staff member's six-week recovery from a broken arm and another's longstanding scheduled trip.

- The Internet changeover is almost complete, but will require one more visit from technicians. As a result of the recent upgrades, public and staff/OWL Internet speed will increase.

- Raven Homeschool will celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday at the library on March 2. Joyce McCombs will read *Green Eggs and Ham*. Students will play word games, do art projects, and enjoy snacks with their families.

- The Library Board and Fairbanks Concert Association will sponsor Dervish, an Irish band, who will perform at the Community Center on March 22 at 7:30pm. Admission is by donation.

- Joyce McCombs will attend the Alaska State Library Conference in Anchorage March 7/11.

McCombs reported staff are directing people to IRS (irs.gov) for updated tax forms.

Airport – Alan Levinson reported volunteers have packed quite a bit of snow and removed wind drifts.

Musgrove said he is working on covenants for Airport Subdivision Phase 2, which will require legal input and the ordinance process. He referenced a draft and said he is receptive to any feedback. Musgrove explained tasks yet to be accomplished before lots are ready to auction (Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan, recording of plat, covenants), selling leftover lots over-the-counter at the minimal appraised price, and new lot owners to expect exposure to noise, low-flying aircraft, smoke, or dust while living near an airport.

Heinbockel said he will not vote for restricted covenants that do not apply to everyone inside the City limits.

Discussion followed regarding covenants that apply to a residential zone within the City limits, no rule against discharging firearms within the City limits except for hunting big game (City Code 3.07), and a 25-year clause in the Airport Subdivision I covenants.

Musgrove reported target practice is currently a common occurrence near the airport. He said he knows of no subdivision that would encourage shooting activity in one or 1 1/2-acre lots. His research includes excerpts from other subdivisions, including Airport Subdivision I, comments from Council members during earlier airport development discussions, and presenting the final covenants to the Council for approval.

Park / Recreation – Lou Heinbockel reported Jennifer Brant is in Nome, awaiting arrival of her husband, Jon, and Arron Adams. The team is averaging 33 miles/hour in Iron Dog, a very expensive and dangerous snowmobile race (over 2,000 miles between Big Lake, Nome, and Fairbanks).

Public Works – Lou Heinbockel reported:

- The plow truck is still being repaired.

Prestwich said the fan was fixed, parts were ordered for the window switch and the cruise control. A rental truck from Airport Rental in Fairbanks is currently in use.

- Corey Groppe is reluctant to use the Skid Steer on the outdoor hockey rink because it leaves stones buried in the ice.

Discussion followed regarding access to snow blowers last year, the City and the school district sharing responsibility of removing snow from the outdoor rink, whether to hire someone to do the City's part, and hazardous road conditions on the Richardson Highway.

Additional Reports – Lou Heinbockel referred to discussion about firearms within the City limits (*Airport Report* – top of page) and reported the City Council may wish to revisit it at some point in the future.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Musgrove called for additional public comments with none being offered. He asked for Council comments.

Heinbockel said, "Our senate district is currently not represented in the State of Alaska because of the politics being played by the current governor." He suggested the City issue a letter to Governor Bill Walker, objecting to depriving the local area for his political purposes. (Senator Dunleavy stepped down to run for governor and Gov. Walker appointed someone other than the three chosen Republicans. The newly-appointed senator withdrew his name because of abortion-related controversy.) Heinbockel added that he felt Valdez, Glennallen, and Delta should break away from Mat-Su.

ADJOURNMENT

Heinbockel moved to adjourn at 6:16pm; Degnan seconded.