

**City Council Minutes**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**April 3, 2018 ~ 5:00PM**  
**City Hall, Delta Junction, Alaska**



The regular meeting of the Delta Junction City Council was held on Tuesday, April 3, 2018 at City Hall. Mayor Musgrove called the meeting to order at 5:01pm.

City Council members present: Mayor JW Musgrove, Deputy Mayor Freda Degnan  
Lou Heinbockel, Alan Levinson, Audrey Brown, Pete Hallgren (telephonically)

City Council member excused: Jennifer Brant

City employees present: City Administrator Mary Leith, Library Director Joyce McCombs, City Clerk Pat White  
Ten people from the community were present at different times during the meeting. The meeting was broadcast over KDHS 95.5 FM radio.

**AMENDMENTS ~ APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Brown moved to approve the April 3, 2018 agenda as presented; Degnan seconded.  
Motion passed on a roll call vote with six in attendance.

**AMENDMENTS ~ APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

Degnan moved to approve the March 20, 2018 minutes as presented; Heinbockel seconded.  
Motion passed on a roll call vote with six in attendance.

**COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

John Lewis, Chamber of Commerce Vice President, reported Community Cleanup is May 5 and an alternate day, should snow still be covering the ground, is May 19.

Chris Maestas, Fort Greely Public Information Officer, invited the City Council and general public to the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting at City Hall at 6:00pm on April 25.

Discussion followed regarding main topics; review environmental restoration progress at Fort Greely and initiation to decommission the deactivated nuclear power plant.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**Cub Scouts, Pack 2076 – Request for \$1,500 Donation**

Musgrove recommended discussing the Cub Scouts' request during the budget cycle.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Airport Covenants**

Leith reported City Attorney Jim DeWitt hopes to issue an amended version of the draft covenants by April 17.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**City Purchases over \$1,000**

CK# 219415 to World Book Inc. in the amount of \$1,295.00 for library materials

CK# 219416 to Delta Imagination Library in the amount of \$1,000.00 for annual donation

CK# 219417 to Kel's Septic in the amount of \$1,362.50 to thaw septic system at Liewer-Olmstead Ice Arena

CK# 219418 to Med-Tech Resource Inc. in the amount of \$1,769.29 for firefighting gear (paid by Pogo support)

CK# 219419 to Morley Electric Inc. in the amount of \$12,055.00 to install lights and protective covers inside the rink and street lights on Nistler Rd

CK# 219420 to Joyce McCombs in the amount of \$1,333.02 for travel expenses to attend Alaska Library Association Conference (paid by Continuing Education grant funds)

Leith reported grant funds would cover \$9,130 of the \$12,055 lighting upgrades at the Liewer-Olmstead Ice Arena (CK# 219419). Lights were replaced above the goalie nets and covers were installed on all the new lights to protect them from condensation. The remaining \$2,925 charge was to repair and replace street lights, one near the elementary school and one closer to the Nistler/Richardson Highway intersection. Expenses included renting a bucket loader and ten hours of labor.

Hallgren expressed concern with LED lights that were to last forever after the initial expense and he asked about thawing the septic system at the Liewer-Olmstead Ice Arena (219417).

Discussion followed regarding cost of lighting, lifetime warranty of LED lights, getting more information to explain the \$12,055 charges, thawing the septic during a hockey tournament (March 10) and again thereafter (March 29), and people needing to demonstrate more caution while operating the Zamboni.

Heinbockel said the septic system needs to be dug up and redone. It has been problematic since it was built.

Brown moved to approve checks 219415 through 219420 as presented; Heinbockel seconded.

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

Discussion followed regarding alleviating the septic problem for many years by adding hot water and similar freezing problems experienced all over the State of Alaska.

### **Fuel Bid**

Leith reported Delta Transport Services bid on two types of fuel, Heating/Diesel #1 and equipment fuel/diesel, but not on fuel for buried tanks. Buffalo Fuel bid on all four, except they listed prices as 30¢ and 40¢ “over Andeavor Rack Price (ARP).” Because the information was not available on March 7 during the bid opening, their bid was rejected as non-responsive.

Heinbockel suggested rejecting the bids and switching between distributors every four months.

Musgrove said the bid specified cents per gallon for delivered fuel with provisions for price fluctuations.

Crowley no longer submits bids because taking responsibility for delivering the wrong fuel is part of the bid specs. Musgrove agreed with Heinbockel to switch between local distributors for the two products that were not bid, Heating/Diesel #2 and 87 Octane unleaded gasoline.

Hallgren questioned whether switching distributors would fit within the budgeted amount and continuing the “keep-full” policy, so that fuel tanks are maintained by the fuel companies.

Hallgren moved to reject the four Buffalo Fuel bids, finding them non-responsive, and to award the contract to Delta Transport Services in the amount of \$2.97/gallon for Heating/Diesel #1 and \$3.48/gallon for equipment Fuel/Diesel; Heinbockel seconded.

Discussion followed regarding the Council approving Degnan from abstaining because of her employment with the owners of Delta Transport Services.

Motion passed on a roll call vote with four voting in favor (Heinbockel, Hallgren, Levinson, Musgrove), one opposed (Brown), and one abstained (Degnan).

Discussion followed regarding receiving no valid bid proposals to deliver Heating/Diesel #2 to buried tanks and 87 Octane unleaded gasoline for the Zamboni, and researching use of gas cards at the pumps.

Heinbockel suggested dividing a three-year contract equally between the three local distributors.

Hallgren moved to rebid Heating/Diesel #2 and 87 Octane Unleaded Gasoline and to authorize City Administrator Mary Leith to purchase fuel at the lowest daily price in the interim; Heinbockel seconded.

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

### **Delta Medical Transport – Request for Ambulance Assistance**

Musgrove reported Medic 1, the 2009 Delta Rescue Squad ambulance, has been in Fairbanks since October. Significant charges are maintenance on the City-owned vehicle. Delta Medical Transport (DMT) added a new light bar to the front for spotting moose. Musgrove suggested paying the balance with funds collected from renting the ambulance to DMT. The City already paid \$3,000. The ambulance needs to be back in service, serving the public.

Lauren Morton reported repairs were primarily electrical, requiring a specialist to be called in.

Heinbockel said he agreed with paying the bill because fees will be recovered when the ambulance is rented.

Heinbockel moved to pay the total balance of \$6,088.41 for repairs to Medic 1; Brown seconded.

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

**REPORTS**

**Mayor** – JW Musgrove reported:

- He and Pat White are still working on the Employee Policy Handbook, which will be reviewed by City Attorney Jim DeWitt. The existing policy was edited and incorporated with an unapproved draft that was created by Guess & Rudd in 2008.
- The Public Works crew put the plow on the International dump truck. Matt Walker will test it and give a recommendation to make it useable or find something to take its place.

**City Administrator** – Mary Leith reported:

- She attended AMLJIA training March 7-9, in which OSHA regulations and first aid kits were discussed.
- She, Degnan, and Musgrove attended National Service Recognition today at the Senior Lounge to honor people who make a difference in resident seniors' lives. The Senior Companion Program has operated from an office at the Community Center for the past year and has proven to be an asset to the local area.
- She is working on the last details on Hayes Circle.
- M2C1 offered to prepare a bid packet for roads in Airport Subdivision Phase 2. Either the project is put out for bid or the Public Works crew can do the work in-house.

Musgrove asked to meet with Leith and the Public Works crew to discuss options.

**Finance** – Mary Leith reported FY19 budget work sessions will be scheduled at the April 17 Council meeting.

**Emergency Services / Public Safety** – Freda Degnan reported:

- Rural Deltana Volunteer Fire Department (RDVFD) intends to pursue funding from either the state agency responsible for the upcoming radio system changeover, the radio vendor, or another state or federal entity. New radios are expected to cost about \$500,000.
- Steven Baugh, RDVFD Board President, issued a letter, dated April 2, requesting a \$12,000 contribution to enable them to purchase 20 pairs of firefighter structure boots.

Leith said the \$12,000 request would be considered during budget discussions.

Musgrove asked that Rural Deltana provide a rudimentary budget as requested each year.

- Michael Zastavskiy finished his academy, earning certification as Firefighter I and Firefighter II.
- Community leaders on Cummings Road are interested in firefighting gear and the old fire truck (Engine 502, 1980 Seagrave that Juneau donated to Delta Junction in 2001 after the Betty Crocker was totaled).

Leith said local firefighters are training residents on Cummings Road to respond to fires in their area.

**Library** – Freda Degnan reported:

- The Dervish concert on March 22 was a huge success. The Library Board hosted a supper for the musicians, who said they felt as if they were performing back home in Ireland.
- Free paperbacks and duplicate DVDs will be picked up by Pogo's mail courier every Thursday, starting April 12. The service, which stopped a couple years ago, has been missed by Pogo employees.
- The Library Board will host the Open House and Basket of Books auction on April 21, 10:00-4:00.

**Airport** – Alan Levinson reported volunteers have done a lot of work to pack snow and keep the runway open.

**Park / Recreation** – Mary Leith reported the school district and volunteers have both attempted to clear snow from the High School ballfields at the park before more snow was dumped on them over the weekend.

Heinbockel expressed concern with volunteers moving snow because of the potential to damage fences.

**LEPC / Emergency Preparedness** – Audrey Brown reported five LEPC members will travel to Anchorage April 10/12 for training. Courses are mostly FEMA and emergency preparedness, but sometimes include topics like dealing with an active shooter.

**Public Works** – Lou Heinbockel reported:

- Parts are ordered to repair the loader at the landfill, which is reason why customers are unloading their garbage in the back, instead of in the bins.
- He is concerned with overflow off Jarvis Creek should there be a rapid breakup. In the past, the Soil & Water Conservation District worked with the U.S. Army Alaska (USARAK) to channel the ice, but it does not appear to be done this year.
- Road intersections are treacherous and desperately need sanded.

Discussion followed regarding Leith contacting Delta Concrete for help and whether the pitch could be changed where Sandra and Rebecca streets connect to the Richardson Highway.

**Additional Reports** – Lou Heinbockel referenced Pogo Mine’s recent annual report that was presented at the March Chamber luncheon. He complimented Pogo for being a good partner to the local community. He was impressed that they invested \$81,500 to the Delta-Greely School District in 2017.

Brown said KUAC FM radio reported Pogo contributes \$150,000 to various needs in the community.

#### **ADDITIONAL PUBLIC AND COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Degnan reported Sherry Decker talked to her about the End-of-the-Alaska-Highway arch.

Heinbockel said he loves the idea of an arch over the Alaska Highway.

Discussion followed regarding plans drafted 30+ years ago, who would pay the electricity, and whether it was ever approved by the State of Alaska.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Brown moved to adjourn at 7:00pm; Degnan seconded.

Pat White, City Clerk

Approved: April 17, 2018