

City Council Minutes
Regular Meeting
October 2, 2018 ~ 5:00PM
City Hall, Delta Junction, Alaska



The regular meeting of the Delta Junction City Council was held on Tuesday, October 2, 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
Alan Levinson, Lou Heinbockel, Jennifer Brant, Audrey Brown, Pete Hallgren (telephonically)
City employees present: City Administrator Mary Leith, Library Director Joyce McCombs
City Clerk Pat White

Eight members from the community, including three soldiers were present during parts of the meeting. The meeting was broadcast over KDHS 95.5.

AMENDMENTS ~ APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Musgrove suggested moving two plat approvals (*New Business*) before *Unfinished Business* (page two).

Brown moved to accept changing the agenda; Brant seconded.

Motion passed by unanimous consent.

Heinbockel moved to approve the October 2, 2018 agenda as amended; Brant seconded.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

AMENDMENTS ~ APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Brown asked to revise her *Public Health* report (page 4 of the September 18 draft minutes) to reflect her comments about the health fair and the cost of blood tests.

Brown moved to change the September 18 minutes pertaining to health fair discussion; Brant seconded.

Motion passed by unanimous consent.

Brant moved to approve the September 18, 2018 minutes as amended; Brown seconded.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

REQUEST TO SPEAK

Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers (BOSS) – Milepost Marker (continued from September 18)

Craig Cugini, Deputy to the Fort Greely Garrison Commander, introduced Sgt. Fricke, President of BOSS.

Sgt. Fricke introduced Interim Vice President, Specialist Hadik, and Treasurer, Specialist Vasquez, and explained that the BOSS program exposes soldiers to 1) life skills that benefit them during and after their military service, 2) quality of life i.e. living in barracks, moving to Alaska, winterizing vehicles, etc., 3) recreation and leisure - opportunities to explore, and 4) networking and serving communities.

Discussion followed regarding BOSS programs establishing in 1989, not yet expanded to all military installations worldwide, Cugini serving as the first BOSS president in 1995 in Kaiserslautern, Germany, his involvement as an advisor to the local Chamber of Commerce, and the Chamber supporting the service project to restore the 1422 milepost marker at the Triangle.

Fricke referenced a handout and explained restoration/replacement of the milepost marker, which is a worthwhile service project that fits within their schedule. Soldiers will contribute labor toward the project and Chamber businesses will donate materials.

Cugini explained plans for better graphics, while staying consistent with the existing design (wheat, buffalo, mountains) and the current City logo, and using a vinyl wrap that may fade, but won't crack or peel. He questioned the finished height, a one-tier or two-tier base, and whether to illuminate the flags. He explained multiple scenarios and said conduit must be considered early in the plan if the project will require lighting. Discussion followed regarding comparison and similarities with Dawson Creek's milepost, obtaining public opinion and more businesses to bear expenses (City portion = \$8,075 of \$10,675 estimate), accomplishing the project and logo design in phases before April, and completing the project by May 15, 2019.

Hallgren said he felt it important to stay with the historic mileage distance from Dawson Creek (1422 miles) instead of present-day actual driving distance (1387) as listed in *The Milepost* travel guide.

Levinson moved to support Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers (BOSS) by permitting them to obtain public input to demolish and reconstruct the milepost marker, to accept donated materials from Chamber businesses, to set up a bank account to accept monetary donations from the community, to provide City personnel and equipment to dispose and rebuild the concrete foundation, and to update the City logo in accordance with Council approval; Degnan seconded.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Heinbockel recalled history when students contributed to the milepost monument in the early 1970s.

NEW BUSINESS

Plat Approval - Wingfield Subdivision Replat [Wingfield Subdivision Plat approved November 15, 2011]

Sebastian Saarloos reported the Wingfield Subdivision Replat was reviewed by City staff (Burcham, Leith, Cole) on September 21. He asked to expedite approval of the replat (eliminating preliminary approval) because of urgency to construct a new sewer. He explained vacating and replacing the lot line between Lots 2A and 4A and creating an extension of Wingfield Way (driveway to Lot 3) to allow legal access to Lot 4A. The replat changes Lot 2 (2.88 acres) to Lot 2A (3.38 acres) and Lot 4 (1.66 acres) to 4A (1.15).

Ben Greenleaf, representing Heritage Contracting, reported part of the sales agreement was to construct a new sewer on Lot 3 (Wingfield's private property) and to facilitate a sewer and well on Lot 2A (Motel 7 property). Discussion followed regarding ample wooded area between Wingfield's residential home and the Richardson Highway, Heinbockel, referring to Airport Subdivision Phase II, protesting prompt action from the Council when other projects are not finished in a timely fashion, and Musgrove disagreeing with Heinbockel.

Levinson moved to approve the replat of Wingfield Subdivision as presented; Degnan seconded.

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

Preliminary Plat Approval – Sipes Subdivision

Sebastian Saarloos reported City staff reviewed the Sipes Subdivision plat, a subdivision of Government Lot 4 and part of Sipes' original homestead that reached a quarter mile on the other side of the Richardson Highway. The parcel will be subdivided into three lots:

- Lot 1 is .213 acres west of the Larry Spengler Road, a sliver of land that is 12 feet wide at the bottom and 30 feet at the top. It is basically unusable because it is the slope between the road and the high-water line of the Delta River. It exists because the road right-of-way is 50 feet on either side of the centerline. It could grow if diking or river remediation were done sometime in the future.

Discussion followed regarding adding a plat note about the status of Lot 1, i.e. not suitable for septic and not mountain high river frontage, and quarter-acre lots considered decent sized parcels in other places.

- Lot 2 is 29.276 acres of raw land with an old one-lane road and a power line.
- Lot 3 is 50 feet by 90 feet and the main reason for Sipes to subdivide. A structure on Lot 1, Block 2 of the adjoining Riverview Subdivision encroaches onto Lot 3 of Sipes' property. That portion of the Riverview Subdivision will be replatted once the final plat of Sipes Subdivision is approved.

Discussion followed regarding Saarloos requesting a variance to the Residential Subdivision Policy, adopted April 17, 2007, in which individual lots were "preferred" to be no less than one acre in size, and discussing it when the final plat is presented on October 16.

Heinbockel moved to approve the preliminary plat for Sipes Subdivision with consideration of a variance to the Residential Subdivision Policy; Brant seconded.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Lease Policies for Liewer-Olmstead Ice Arena and Outdoor Rink/Basketball Court

White recapped points from previous discussions to establish a lease policy for the ice arena: not charging to use the outdoor rink/basketball court, coordinating with Delta Skating Association who book the indoor rink every night and weekend during the skating season, whether to charge to haul the stage, chairs, and tables from the Community Center, a cleaning deposit, and DSA overseeing use of the Zamboni.

Heinbockel suggested leaving the City administration to negotiate lease of the Liewer-Olmstead Ice Arena during the summer months and to leave scheduling during the winter months to DSA. He agreed to leave the outdoor rink/basketball free of charge to the public.

Visitor Center Septic System

Leith reported the septic system at the Visitor Center has functioned fine since August, probably because of less traffic. The problem appears to be a bent pipe between the Visitor Center and the leach field. Repairs cannot be done until asphalt is removed.

Heinbockel suggested footing the bill, so the project could be finished before winter. The Chamber generated money in the past, paid an executive director's salary for six months each year, and leased office space for \$700/month. He suggested the Chamber contribute 50% to repair the septic system and that the Council consider increasing the rental fee of the Visitor Center, similar to leasing ambulances to Delta Medical Transport for \$500/month, so there is revenue for future maintenance repairs.

Levinson suggested Leith advise the Chamber of Council concerns.

Cyber Liability Insurance

Leith referenced a six-page handout, 2018-2019 Alliant Property Insurance Program (APIP), through Alaska Municipal League / Joint Insurance Association (AMLJIA) and recommended purchasing security protection for City computers.

Discussion followed regarding \$5,000 deductible, anti-virus protection, after-the-fact coverage versus installing more robust protection (software and/or hardware), getting more clarity about APIP's insurance policy, getting advice from computer technicians, and Hallgren interested in a higher deductible with a lower premium.

McCombs reported the library has virus protection plus three levels of security.

NEW BUSINESS (continued from page 2)

City Purchases over \$1,000

CK# 219709 to Delta Transport Services in the amount of \$2,795.46 for heating and equipment fuel

CK# 219710 to Med-Tech Resource Inc. in the amount of \$3,063.63 for firefighter helmets and shields at Fire Department

CK# 219711 to Buffalo Fuel in the amount of \$1,204.00 for heating fuel at City Hall

CK# 219712 to NC Machinery in the amount of \$8,549.82 for Skid Steer repair

CK# 219713 to Airport Equipment Rentals in the amount of \$2,613.75 to rent excavator for cemetery work and roller for street work

Heinbockel moved to approve checks #219709 and 219713; Brown seconded.

Discussion followed regarding repair of the Skid Steer (CK# 219712).

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

REPORTS

City Administrator – Mary Leith reported:

- Delta Surveys is scheduled to conduct the annual survey of the south pit at the landfill.
- \$700,000 of general funds were moved into the AMLIP savings account and are currently making 1.8% interest. There are no penalties to withdraw funds.

City Clerk – Pat White reported Terri Crowson was approved to serve on the Canvass Board on August 21. She was replaced by Mary Saarloos per City Code (§2.15.010(b)).

Emergency Services / Public Safety – Freda Degnan reported Forestry's burn piles (yard debris from local residents) were deliberately set on fire on September 22. Forestry was waiting for good conditions to burn.

Library – Freda Degnan reported:

- Wi-Fi parking lot patrons have expressed appreciation for the new outdoor lighting.
- The library statistics for 2018 was completed.

McCombs said she reports stats from the past fiscal year to the State Library Board. Federal funding is based on the data: 69,107 items checked out from the library between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018, including 4,553 more digital downloads than the previous year. Some data was inaccurate because the door counter was broken

for three weeks. Wi-Fi users usually do not enter the building and the counter only clicks once “when a herd of first graders comes through.”

Musgrove said the statistics show why the Delta Community Library is a five-star library.

- Cry Havoc, a war-related theatrical performance will be held at the Fort Greely Community Activity Center (CAC), October 17 at 5:30pm.
- A de-cruit workshop about treating trauma through Shakespeare and science will be held at the CAC, October 17, 12:00-3:00pm. The workshop is open to all, regardless of military status.

Airport – Alan Levinson reported the airport is still fairly busy.

Park / Recreation – Jennifer Brant reported activity at the ice rink will increase once ice is done. The High School hockey team is currently involved in dry land training.

LEPC / Emergency Preparedness – Audrey Brown reported:

- Elena Powers facilitates LEPC subcommittee meetings to prepare for a tabletop exercise.
- Three members plus the LEPC chair will attend the conference in Anchorage in October.

Public Health – Audrey Brown reported the Delta Community Health Fair was well organized. Approximately 100 people attended.

Public Works – Lou Heinbockel reported on the landfill:

- New loader tires were received and mounted shortly after they were purchased.
- All the leaves are gone, so windblown trash is more visible.

Discussion followed regarding more garbage expected due to the increased troops in the area.

Brown reported IGA and E+G Cellars are considering going to non-plastic grocery bags.

Additional Reports – Lou Heinbockel reported:

- He cannot hear any discussions during Council meetings while listening to the KDHS radio.
- A 240-foot tower is being built behind Delta Industrial Services. Concrete will be poured next week.
- He would speak at the October 16 Council meeting as a landowner, not as a Council member, for the purpose of resolving issues on Hayes Circle.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Heinbockel said he was disappointed in local press coverage of the October 2, 2018 elections (REAA School Board, Deltana Community Corporation, Delta Junction Municipality). The Delta Wind and Delta News Web have at least made an effort to cover them in the past.

Brown said she was grateful for Delta Wind’s coverage about the health fair on September 29.

Hallgren expressed appreciation to Jennifer Brant for serving on the Council for the past two years and he hoped she’d return when she’s able.

ADJOURNMENT

Brown moved to adjourn at 7:59pm; Brant seconded.

Pat White, City Clerk

Approved: October 16, 2018