

City Council Minutes
Regular Meeting
June 4, 2019 ~ 5:00PM
City Hall, Delta Junction, Alaska



The regular meeting of the Delta Junction City Council was held on Tuesday, June 4, 2019 at City Hall. Mayor Musgrove called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

City Council members present: Mayor JW Musgrove, Alan Levinson
Audrey Brown, Charles Lester, Pete Hallgren

City Council members excused: Lou Heinbockel, Deputy Mayor Freda Degnan

City staff present: City Administrator Mary Leith, Finance Officer Stephanie Erickson
Administrative Assistant Flower Cole, City Clerk Pat White

Three members from the community were present at the beginning of the meeting and Michael Prestegard monitored radio equipment while the meeting was broadcast over KDHS 95.5 radio.

AMENDMENTS ~ APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Musgrove reported amendments:

- ✓ Check #220105 would be voided (*City Purchases over \$1,000*)
- ✓ *Second Reading, Public Hearing, and Adoption of Ordinance 2019-04* would be postponed to June 18

Hallgren moved to approve the June 4, 2019 agenda as amended; Brown seconded.

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

AMENDMENTS ~ APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Hallgren moved to approve the minutes from the May 21, 2019 meeting; Brown seconded.

Brown amended the motion to clarify that the local newspaper was posting ads each week about building survival kits from pamphlets she handed out several weeks earlier (*Emergency Preparedness Report – page 3*).

Hallgren said he did not object to the amendment. Motion passed on a roll call vote with five in attendance.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Musgrove called for comments on non-agenda items with none being offered.

REQUEST TO SPEAK

Jeff Krigbaum, Partnership Specialist, U.S. Census Bureau – 2020 Census – postponed to July 2

CORRESPONDENCE

Delta/Greely Youth Baseball League – Request for \$1,000

Musgrove read DGYBL Treasurer Clara Zachgo's May 22 email, requesting support of the Little League program, youth ages 4-12.

Discussion followed regarding whether funding was available in the FY19 budget, player participation fees, and the City Council donating \$1,500 toward field upgrades as requested by the Girls Softball Association (April 2).

Levinson moved to grant \$1,000.00 to the Delta/Greely Youth Baseball League; Lester seconded

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS

City Purchases over \$1,000

CK# **220104** to Amazon Credit in the amount of \$1,372.59 for library materials

CK# **220105** to James Simpson in the amount of \$3,610.00 for reimbursement for Firefighter I and II training in Texas

CK# **220106** to Anthony White in the amount of \$1,732.00 for reimbursement of Fire Hall washer and dryer purchases

CK# **220107** to Airport Equipment Rentals in the amount of \$5,554.75 to rent equipment used at airport subdivision development and Rest Haven Cemetery

CK# **220108** to Paul Myers in the amount of \$1,400.00 to rent dump truck to use at airport subdivision for two days

CK# **220109** to Delta Surveys in the amount of \$2,500.00 for services related to Hayes Circle replat

Brown moved to approve checks #220104 through 220109, excluding CK# 220105; Hallgren seconded.

Discussion followed regarding voiding CK# 220105, replacing the household washer and dryer at the fire station (220106), and using both the City and Paul Myers' dump trucks on airport roads (220108).

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

Final Plat – Alaska State Land Survey No. 2018-17 (preliminary plat approved April 2, 2019)

Musgrove reported the ASLS No. 2018-17 parcel would be sold by sealed bid. A gravel pit adjacent to it precipitated the City Code of Ordinances (§4.45 adopted August 25, 1980) that banned gravel pits inside the City limits. The gravel pit was on private land, but extended to state land by people taking advantage of free gravel. The owner of the adjacent property petitioned the State to sell the property a couple years ago.

Leith reported the (6.89-acre) parcel could not be conveyed to the City of Delta Junction as municipal entitlement land. The plat consolidates U.S. Survey No. 2777 with a portion of Government Lot 17 and dedicates 150 feet (2.16 acres) of the Alaska Highway right-of-way within the remaining portion of Government Lot 17.

Hallgren moved to approve the final plat of ASLS No. 2018-17; Brown seconded.

Musgrove said the edge of the highway right-of-way changes, 150 to 300 foot widths, depending on federal regulations that were in effect at the time. It is wider where there are steep embankments.

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

Second Reading, Public Hearing, and Adoption of Ordinance 2019-04, An Ordinance for the City of Delta Junction, Alaska Amending Chapter 1.37, Permanent Fund – postponed to June 18

REPORTS

Mayor – JW Musgrove reported:

- A budget work session is scheduled for June 10 and the public is encouraged to attend.
- Golden Eagle Outfitters is moving their office off the City airstrip and GVEA will retire the power.
- The old landfill on Tanana Loop Extension has been reclaimed, but the facility is in a sad state because of vandalism. The building has been primarily occupied by Rural Deltana Volunteer Fire Department (RDVFD) to house equipment (since 2007). It also houses multiple drums of road patch tar. Musgrove said he wants to clean up the facility and repair it, so it can be used. He asked Council for objections to him contacting RDVFD about the use agreement and removing their belongings. None were offered.

Discussion followed regarding the Betty Crocker fire truck sitting outside, in serious disrepair, and whether it could be repaired, so it could be displayed or in the fair parade.

City Administrator – Mary Leith reported Wendie MacNaughton, North Star Resources, Ltd., delivered a \$100,000 check today. Another \$50,000 will arrive once the new fiscal year begins.

Musgrove expressed appreciation for the loader NSR (Pogo) donated to the City landfill (in January). He requested a sticker to place on the side of the loader.

Leith reported Delta Environmental was awarded the NSR contract and, because their trash is no longer hauled to Fairbanks, the landfill volume increased 100,000 pounds in the last month.

City Clerk – Pat White reported Hayes Circle Replat (approved on May 7) was returned with the ninth and final property owner's signature today and will be sent onto the recorder's office.

Finance – Stephanie Erickson reported Kara Moore from Cook & Haugeberg will attend the June 18 Council meeting to present the FY18 audit.

LEPC – Audrey Brown – no report

Emergency Preparedness – Audrey Brown reported a 17-page document was distributed at the last GVEA Board of Director's meeting about whether to keep the Delta office open. It costs \$400,000 to maintain annually, but it does not include revenue in and out of Delta that is collected by the Delta staff. Options were to 1) do nothing, 2) do something about staff, or 3) close it and replace the staff with a kiosk. She received a text from Allison Carter, President of GVEA Member Advisory Committee, about "organizing a committee in Delta to brainstorm ideas to reduce the cost of having someone in Delta collect payments because apparently a lot of Delta members pay cash."

Public Health – Audrey Brown reported disposal bags are available at City Hall to safely get rid of outdated medications.

Library – Mary Leith reported:

- The Summer Reading program, "A Universe of Stories," begins June 11 with two sessions for elementary readers. Two sessions of Preschool Story Hour (3-5 year olds) resumes June 12 and teens resume on June 13. Baby Lap Time (ages 0-3) resumes in September. They are still hopeful for a visiting astronaut.

Musgrove said Alan Shepard, first American to travel into space, visited the Fort Greely School when he was a boy.

- The public is reminded to use extra caution in and around the library parking lot on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays for the next six weeks while the five summer reading programs are in session.

- The library staff is busy finalizing lesson plans and organizing prizes and craft materials with the help of Trinity Brant, who was hired last week to fill the part-time Summer Reading Library Aide position.

- The librarian at Fort Wainwright recently sent three boxes of brand new books, the result of a mix-up from replacing a lost book order. The Delta Library will share duplicates with the school library.

Brown reported the book club for adults, Junction Readers, meets at the library on the third Monday of each month year-round, except in July and in the winter when temperatures are minus 30 or colder.

Schools – Freda Degnan – no report

Airport – Alan Levinson reported rain has stopped road construction progress at the airport subdivision. Otherwise there is a fair amount of activity at the airport, including a visiting helicopter.

Leith reported she submitted paperwork to GVEA to initiate installation of the first five electric poles. She also reported that a SWPPP (Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan) inspection was required after the last rain. No work for two weeks or more requires planting grass seed or vegetation to prevent soil erosion.

Discussion followed regarding tasking summer hire employees with seeding and status of airport development funds (\$100,000 allocated and enough left to pay \$25,000 for electrical poles).

Public Works – Charles Lester reported:

- Summer hire employees have been cleaning up around town.
- He is working on a plan to seal city street cracks and to do it in-house, instead of putting it out for bid.

Park / Recreation – Pete Hallgren reported six to eight inches of dirt was removed from one ballfield and it is obvious that more dirt will be hauled in to replace it.

Cemetery – Mary Leith reported two more burials were scheduled last week and there were no problems digging the graves.

At Large – Pete Hallgren reported the North Star Resources, Ltd. (Pogo) Advisory Committee met earlier today to review applications from the community and make recommendations to NSR. Because NSR moved from a calendar year to a fiscal year, they are now accepting applications for FY20.

[Pogo contributed \$300,000 annually to the City of Delta Junction during FY13, FY14, and FY15. They split their contribution, \$150,000 to the City and \$150,000 to the community, since July 2015.]

Hallgren reported the loader that was donated to the City in January was in addition to NSR's \$150,000 contribution (see *City Administrator Report* – page 2).

Musgrove said the Volvo loader was well maintained, even though it had approximately 36,000 hours.

Additional Reports - none

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mike Prestegard questioned the ground around the newly-construction roads in the airport subdivision.

Musgrove said a compactor will be used to smooth it out, but the silt may take more time to settle.

ADJOURNMENT

Brown moved to adjourn at 6:09pm; Hallgren seconded.