

**City Council Minutes**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**March 3, 2020 ~ 5:00PM**  
**City Hall, Delta Junction, Alaska**



**CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / PRAYER**

Mayor Musgrove called the meeting to order at 5:02pm in the large conference room.

**Council members present:** Mayor JW MUSGROVE, Deputy Mayor Freda DEGNAN, Lou HEINBOCKEL  
Alan LEVINSON, Charles LESTER, Pete HALLGEN (telephonically), Audrey BROWN (telephonically)

**Staff present:** Finance Officer Stephanie ERICKSON, City Clerk Pat WHITE

**Public present:** Two community members were present and the meeting was broadcast over KDHS 95.5 radio.

**AMENDMENTS ~ APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Musgrove reported CK# 220548 would replace 220547 (*City Purchases over \$1,000*), which removed electricity at the Visitor Center because it is auto-paid.

Brown moved to approve the March 3, 2020 agenda as amended; Heinbockel seconded.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

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

Heinbockel moved to approve the February 18, 2020 minutes as presented; Lester seconded.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

**COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE - none**

**REQUEST TO SPEAK – none**

**CORRESPONDENCE – none**

**Liquor License Renewal – Alaskan Steakhouse & Motel (License #3999)**

Motion: Heinbockel moved to show no opposition to Alaskan Steakhouse & Motel's liquor license renewal; Degnan seconded.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS - none**

**NEW BUSINESS**

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

Motion: Brown moved to approve checks #220544, 220545, 220546, and 220548 as presented; Degnan seconded.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

**Attu Research**

Musgrove reported Attu Avenue's legal status is in question, even though it's been used to access Snowed Inn (RV & Trailer Court), previously known as Bergstad's Trailer Court, since the 1960's.

Discussion followed regarding researching street ownership, accepting Municipal Services Entitlement monies from the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development (part of State Revenue Sharing) for to maintain roads, and City street prioritization.

**Ambulance Money**

Musgrove reported the ambulance settlement (Medic II totaled on November 9, 2019) must be used for ambulance-related purchases. Tony White, Fire Chief and owner of Delta Medical Transport, will submit a proposal to replace radio equipment, including some handheld radios.

Discussion followed regarding status of existing radios and spending \$30,000+ on new ones and a new gurney.

**REPORTS**

**Mayor – JW Musgrove reported:**

- Library Director Tiki Levinson assumed additional supervisory responsibilities while City Administrator Mary Leith was on vacation. Levinson will be added as an additional check signer on the City's bank account.
- The Public Outcry Auction to sell ten lots in Airport Subdivision II was advertised.

Discussion followed regarding extent of advertising the April 3 auction, the City's standard policy of not maintaining subdivision roads, the annual Airport Service Fee guaranteeing maintenance (Article 3 of Airport II Covenants – Recording District 401 Fairbanks #2018-010920-0), putting the topic on the March 17 agenda, and clearing roads for potential buyers to view lots.

**City Clerk** – Pat White encouraged people to obtain a federally-approved ID before October 1, 2020. Standard driver's licenses will no longer be accepted to access federal buildings, military installations, or TSA checkpoints (for domestic travel). A recent news article stated “the DMV estimates nearly 7,000 rural Alaskans will not make it to a DMV hub location before the October 1 deadline.”

**Finance** – Stephanie Erickson reported:

- 621,000 pounds of trash (310 tons) were delivered to the landfill last month, equaling \$45,000 in revenue.
- The FY19 audit is in review. Erickson asked to contact her about suggestions for the FY21 budget.

**LEPC** – Audrey Brown reported the next scheduled LEPC meeting is March 9.

**Emergency Preparedness / Public Health** – Audrey Brown shared information about the coronavirus and other helpful links available on the State Department of Health and Social Services website (dhss.alaska.gov). The Department of Homeland Security has a plan in place should cases of the virus be identified in Alaska. Employees at the Seattle airport sanitize surfaces that people touch every hour or so. The general public is encouraged to protect themselves by washing hands frequently or using hand sanitizers.

**Library** – Freda Degnan reported:

- The library recently hosted Whit and Cindy Aillaud's final segment of hiking the Pacific Crest Trail and the Wrigley family shared their Alaska Flour Company barley products.
- Nearly 40 children signed up for the *1000 Books before Kindergarten* program and 45 students and parents attended *Read Across America* and Dr. Seuss's birthday today.
- Library Director Tiki Levinson will travel to Fairbanks on March 4 to learn about the future of libraries.

**Airport** – Alan Levinson reported runway surfaces, including the north ski strip, are compacted.

Musgrove reported the existing windsock/frame will be modified because the frame is too expensive to mail.

**Public Works** – Charles Lester talked about extending dump hours on Saturdays (9:00 to 3:00) for the summer season and inspecting the locks at the Public Works building to repair or replace them.

Heinbockel asked Lester to inspect the landfill septic pit to determine if/when brush can be removed this winter. He referred to the local grocery store banning plastic bags and said lack of the windblown debris is very evident. He complimented Landfill Operator Dennis Burke for his efforts in maintaining the landfill.

**Park / Recreation** – Lou Heinbockel reported a couple of moose are hanging out inside the park fence.

**Cemetery** – JW Musgrove asked whether rewriting or modifying City Code (§1.70.110) pertaining to winter burials was necessary.

Discussion followed regarding providing pre-dug winter graves, standard grave digging between May 15 and October 15, complications during a (January 3, 2020) burial when it was -30°, and letting the City administration make the judgement call whether to conduct burials during extreme cold temperatures.

## **ADDITIONAL PUBLIC AND COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Brown reported local artists were showcased during an event at Delta Accommodations, previously known as Kelly's Alaska Country Inn. It also showcased the remodeling of Kelly's and newly built, long term cabins.

Heinbockel, continuing conversation from *Attu Research* (page one) and *Mayor Report* (top of page two), asked City administration to research history of receiving State Revenue Sharing money for road maintenance. The amount of funding depended on the number of miles identified. Heinbockel said roads in the Miller Subdivision, now called Granite View, were included in the count. He assumed if the City collected revenue to maintain roads, they must be considered City roads. He would appreciate clarification.

**ADJOURNMENT** – 6:22pm

CITY  
SEAL

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Mayor JW Musgrove

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Pat White, City Clerk

Approved: March 17, 2020