

City Council Minutes
Regular Meeting
August 3, 2021 ~ 5:00PM
City Hall, Delta Junction, Alaska



CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / PRAYER

Mayor Freda Degnan called the meeting to order at 5:02pm.

Council members physically present: Mayor Freda DEGNAN, Deputy Mayor Lou HEINBOCKEL, Michael PRESTEGARD, Alan LEVINSON, Pete HALLGREN

Council excused: Charles LESTER, Erin CATTERSON

Staff physically present: Administrative Assistant Flower Cole, Library Director Tiki Levinson, City Clerk Pat White

Staff present via phone: Finance Officer Stephanie Erickson

Two local residents were present via phone and the meeting was broadcast over KDHS 95.5 FM radio.

AMENDMENTS ~ APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Degnan reported her resignation letter would be added to *Correspondence*. The municipal election advertisement would change to add her seat to the October 5 ballot.

Motion: Heinbockel moved to amend the August 3, 2021 agenda as presented; Levinson seconded.

Motion passed on a roll call with five in attendance.

AMENDMENTS ~ APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

White reported one line was edited under the *At Large* report to refer people to the Alaska Flour Company's website. "Tours that include a new dairy" was incorrect.

Motion: Hallgren moved to approve the July 20, 2021 draft minutes as amended; Levinson seconded.

Motion passed on a roll call with five in attendance.

COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS - none

REQUEST TO SPEAK – none

CORRESPONDENCE

Resignation Letter from Mayor Freda Degnan

Degnan read her August 3, 2021 resignation letter aloud.

Motion: Hallgren moved to regretfully accept Mayor Degnan's resignation, effective September 5, 2021; Heinbockel seconded.

Motion passed on a roll call with four in favor (Heinbockel, Hallgren, Prestegard, Degnan) and one opposed (Levinson).

October 5, 2021 Municipal Election

White reported four seats will be on the October 5 ballot. The candidate filing period is August 27 through September 10. The School Board also has four seats on their October 5 ballot. Their filing period ends August 6. Discussion followed regarding spending more than usual to advertise the four vacancies on the City Council. [Deputy Mayor Lou Heinbockel automatically steps into the mayor role and a new deputy mayor will be appointed on September 7, 2021. See City Code §1.25.040.]

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – none

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2022-02, A Resolution of the City of Delta Junction to Increase the Amount Contributed to the City Administrator's Retirement Account to Match What the City Would Contribute to a Public Employees' Defined Contribution Retirement Plan and to Establish an Effective Date

Motion: Hallgren moved to adopt Resolution 2022-02 as presented; Levinson seconded.

Hallgren reported the increase to the City Administrator's position would cost \$6,128 per year and, due to unusual circumstances of having to fill four seats in October, it is good to address it at this time.

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

Heinbockel recalled when the City could not afford additional spending.

Hallgren said it has been several years since he mentioned the fiscal cliff.

City Purchases over \$1,000

CK# 221400 to Bill's Small Tractor Service - \$5,775.00 for lawn maintenance contract, FY22 payment 2 of 3

CK# 221401 to Alliance CPAs LLC - \$3,865.00 for FY21 audit, first payment

CK# 221402 to H&H Service Center - \$25,881.05 to repair 2009 ambulance (front end damaged October 19, 2020)

CK# 221403 to Construction Machinery Industrial LLC - \$19,224.71 for L150 loader and L220 loader repairs

Motion: Prestegard moved to approve check #221400 through 221403 as presented; Heinbockel seconded.

Discussion followed regarding revenue raised at the landfill offsetting the cost of operating the landfill, ambulance repairs paid with insurance coverage, and another week or two before the 2009 ambulance is back in service.

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

REPORTS

Mayor – no report

Airport – Alan Levinson reported:

- The helicopter that resided on the south end of the ski strip for six weeks left as of July 31.
- There may be two more airplanes based at the D66 Airport.
- Subdivision roads still need brought up to spec.
- Trees on North Taxiway have been marked to cut.
- One new airport lot owner appears to be developing.

Schools – no report

Emergency Services – no report

Emergency Preparedness / Health & Safety – no reports

Library – Freda Degnan reported:

- The library provides a variety of services aside from helping locate books and DVDs; finding tax forms and online appointments at DMV, drawing a map to the Clearwater Campground, creating garage sale signs, and printing homeschool curriculums.
- Thirty-five kids have completed the Summer Olympics Reading Challenge for the gold medal prize: pizza, drink, and dessert from Big Delta Brewing. The challenge ends Saturday, the same as the Tokyo Olympics.
- Library Clerk Julie Taylor won the top prize in last month's public health drawing for those who have completed the COVID vaccine series. Youth Library Services Clerk Shona Hilton successfully completed the 100-mile bicycle ride on the Denali Highway last week.

Public Works – Lou Heinbockel reported brush was cut along streets in Brewis Subdivision within the street rights-of-way. It appears excessive because brushing is not done more often. The debris still needs to be removed.

Landfill – Lou Heinbockel reported:

- The annual landfill inspection will be held on August 5.
- Funding for road repairs should be budgeted every year. He asked to find out if the Department of Transportation can crack seal Nistler Road between the Richardson Highway and the rink.

Park & Recreation – Lou Heinbockel reported the one-pitch tournament on July 31 was well attended, even though only three out of six teams participated.

Cemetery – no report

At Large – no report

City Administrator – no report

City Clerk – no report

Finance – no report

Additional Reports – no report

<hr/> Freda Degnan, Mayor	CITY SEAL	<hr/> Pat White, City Clerk
Approved: August 17, 2021		

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Hadara Ben Israel, known as Kristi Fett throughout her childhood, asked the Council to consider designating a small part of the Community Park for dogs.

Discussion followed regarding City Code (§6.30.050) specifying no pets in the park and other possibilities for a doggy park.

ADJOURNMENT – 5:41pm