

**City Council Minutes**  
**Special Meeting**  
**May 13, 2025 ~ 5:00PM**  
**City Hall, Delta Junction, Alaska**



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

Mayor Igor Zarembo called the meeting to order at 5:02pm.

**Council members present:** Mayor Igor ZAREMBA, Deputy Mayor Mary LEITH,  
Travis RIESNER, Stormie MITCHELL

**Council attending via Zoom:** Pete HALLGREN, Lance STRICKLIN

**Council excused:** Michael PRESTEGARD

**Staff present:** City Administrator Lori Roberts, Finance Officer Kaylee Reiersen, City Clerk Pat White

**Public present:** Six people (two on zoom) were present, and the meeting was broadcast on KDHS 95.5 FM radio.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – none

**CERTIFY ELECTION RESULTS**

Zarembo recited AS 29.26.340(a), “If a majority vote favors recall, the office becomes vacant upon certification of the recall election.”

White reported:

- There were 141 poll votes, and five questioned ballots cast during the Recall Election on April 18. One ballot was spoiled. Twenty-eight (28) early ballots were added when the Canvass Board met on April 25. There were no absentee by-mail ballots.
- Eligibility of the questioned ballots was verified by Amanda McColley, State of Alaska Division of Region III Elections Supervisor, who attended the Canvass Board via zoom. Of the five questioned ballots, two were valid. The other three ballots were not opened and would remain sealed. One voter was registered in Deltana, one in Fairbanks, and one City voter did not register until March 25, which was past the 30-day deadline (March 19).
- The recall election had an 18% voter turnout; 171 out of 934 registered precinct voters. Of the 171 ballots cast, 105 voted to recall Stormie Mitchell and 66 voted for her to remain in office.

Motion: Riesner moved to certify the 2025 recall election as presented by the City Clerk; Stricklin seconded.

Mitchell said she objected to the motion because she felt the election was not done honestly. She accused City staff of sabotaging her ability to serve on the Council (elected October 2024), denying her opportunity for training, and deliberately withholding information, which was reason she would come to meetings unprepared. She accused Roberts of making inquiries about recalling her as early as last November.

Zarembo reported Mitchell was told repeatedly that she was welcome to talk to City staff about anything. Her recall was initiated by the public. Blaming the City Council or City staff is “senseless, pointless, and false.”

Discussion followed regarding no current Council or staff familiar with the recall process, City Code minimal and outdated, and several public inquiries about a recall, which was reason Roberts researched the topic.

Stricklin reported Mitchell’s agenda was to disrupt and derail, specifically efforts to resolve the future of EMS. We need Council members to make informed decisions for the betterment of our community.

Motion passed on a roll call with five in favor (Hallgren, Leith, Stricklin, Riesner, Zarembo) and one opposed (Mitchell).

Leith referenced Alaska Statutes AS 29.20.180(a) that requires filling a vacancy within 30 days, City Code 1.10.060 to solicit letters of interest and the newly appointed serving until the next regular election (October 7, 2025) and certification of election results (October 14, 2025), and City Code 1.10.020 that requires applicants to be registered City precinct (050) voters residing inside City limits for a minimum of one year prior to filing.

Motion: Leith moved to solicit letters of interest for appointment at the June 3 regular meeting; Hallgren seconded.

Motion passed on a roll call with five voting (Riesner, Hallgren, Leith, Stricklin, Zarembo).

**ADJOURNMENT** – 5:16pm

\_\_\_\_\_  
Igor Zarembo, Mayor

CITY  
SEAL

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pat White, City Clerk