



CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS
1332 Seward Ave.
Room 229
Sitka, AK
(907)747-1811

Minutes - Final

City and Borough Assembly

*Mayor Mim McConnell
Deputy Mayor Matt Hunter
Vice-Deputy Mayor Benjamin Miyasato
Aaron Swanson, Steven Eisenbeisz
Tristan Guevin, and Bob Potrzuski*

*Municipal Administrator: Mark Gorman
Acting Municipal Attorney: Brian Hanson*

Tuesday, June 14, 2016

6:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

REGULAR MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. FLAG SALUTE

III. ROLL CALL

Present: 6 - McConnell, Hunter, Swanson, Eisenbeisz, Guevin, and Potrzuski

Absent: 1 - Miyasato

IV. CORRESPONDENCE/AGENDA CHANGES

No agenda changes.

[16-109](#)

Reminders, Calendars and General Correspondence

V. CEREMONIAL MATTERS

None.

VI. **SPECIAL REPORTS: Government to Government, Municipal Boards/Commissions/Committees, Sitka Community Hospital, Municipal Departments, School District, Students and Guests (time limits apply)**

[16-117](#)

Halibut Point Road/Peterson Street crosswalk improvement project - Police Chief, Sheldon Schmitt

Police Chief, Sheldon Schmitt, and Loyd Platson of the Police and Fire Commission announced an upcoming fundraiser for safety improvements at the intersection of Halibut Point Road and Peterson Street. Administrator Gorman applauded Schmitt for being proactive and addressing this critical safety need.

VII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD

None.

VIII. REPORTS**a. Mayor, b. Administrator, c. Attorney, d. Liaison Representatives, e. Clerk, f. Other**

Mayor - McConnell apprised the Assembly of recent meetings and community events she had attended.

Administrator - Gorman noted a reduction in library hours (closed Sundays) would begin in July. He stated the hazard risk assessment report for the Gary Paxton Industrial Park had been received. The only high risk area noted in the report was the Administration building. The final report was expected to outline mitigation points.

Liaisons - Eisenbeisz reported on Sitka Community Hospital (SCH) Board work and noted SCH had hired a new medical director.

Clerk - Peterson reviewed Board vacancies, alerted the public to upcoming vacancies on the Assembly and School Board, the filing period, and told of precinct locations for the State Primary, Municipal Election and General Election.

Other - Hunter shared in his recent travels he had seen numerous hands free device signs and emphasized the use of cell phones while driving was a national public health issue.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Hunter that the Consent Agenda consisting of items A, B, C & D be APPROVED. The motion PASSED by the following vote.

Yes: 6 - McConnell, Hunter, Swanson, Eisenbeisz, Guevin, and Potrzuski

Absent: 1 - Miyasato

A [16-107](#) Approve the minutes of the May 19, 24, and 31 Assembly meetings

This item was APPROVED ON THE CONSENT AGENDA.

B [16-106](#) Award a 3 year Library services contract to Malo's Janitorial for a total cost of \$22,680.00 per year with the option to be extended by mutual agreement between the City and Borough of Sitka and Contractor for 2 additional 3 year extensions

This item was APPROVED ON THE CONSENT AGENDA.

C [RES 16-09](#) Setting the millage rates for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017

This item was **APPROVED ON THE CONSENT AGENDA.**

- D [16-111](#) Grant preliminary approval authorizing the lease of approximately 7,082 square feet of sloping tidelands to Petro Marine Services in Alaska Tidelands Survey 15 adjacent to 1 Lincoln Street

This item was **APPROVED ON THE CONSENT AGENDA.**

X. **BOARD, COMMISSION, COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

- E [16-108](#) Reappoint: 1) Debra Pohlman to a term on the Planning Commission, 2) Brendan Jones to a term on the Port and Harbors Commission, 3) Morgan Doubleday to a term on the Animal Hearing Board, and, 4) Grant Miller to a term on the Gary Paxton Industrial Park Board

A motion was made by Guevin that this Item be APPROVED. The motion PASSED by the following vote.

Yes: 6 - McConnell, Hunter, Swanson, Eisenbeisz, Guevin, and Potrzuski

Absent: 1 - Miyasato

XI. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- F [ORD 16-17](#) Adjusting the FY16 Budget (*disaster declaration work/PERS funding*)

A motion was made by Swanson that this Ordinance be APPROVED on SECOND AND FINAL READING. The motion PASSED by the following vote.

Yes: 6 - McConnell, Hunter, Swanson, Eisenbeisz, Guevin, and Potrzuski

Absent: 1 - Miyasato

- G [ORD 16-20](#) Adopting budgets for Fiscal Year July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017

Guevin and McConnell spoke to the lack of funding for the RIDE in the FY2017 budget. Both hoped, in the future, that the Assembly would be supportive of funding public transportation. Hunter reminded public transportation funding was provided in the FY2017 budget and cited the example of funding provided for the Senior Center van maintenance.

A motion was made by Swanson that this Ordinance be APPROVED on SECOND AND FINAL READING. The motion PASSED by the following vote.

Yes: 6 - McConnell, Hunter, Swanson, Eisenbeisz, Guevin, and Potrzuski

Absent: 1 - Miyasato

XII. **NEW BUSINESS:**

New Business First Reading

- H [ORD 16-15A](#) Amending Title 15 of the Sitka General Code by adding a new Chapter 15.15 entitled "Community Assisted Utility Subsidization Effort" (first reading as amended)
- Potrzuski spoke to possible funding sources: the Southeast Economic Development Fund or utility rate increases. Potrzuski, not in favor of raising utility rates, stated the Southeast Economic Development Fund was more appealing, however, unsustainable. He also had reservations about how the program would be implemented. Eisenbeisz spoke in opposition to using the Southeast Economic Development Fund and wondered how the program would be funded in future years. In addition, he questioned whether there was ample staff time to run the program. McConnell suggested, as an alternative to the ordinance, that the Assembly wait to see what the voluntary assistance program, in the final stages of implementation, would yield. IT Director, Ron Duvall, explained that utility customers when paying their bill would be able to donate additional funds to help those in need. Guevin stated the City and Borough of Sitka (CBS) was already subsidizing rates giving an example of the FY2017 \$1.6 million subsidy to the Electric Fund. Guevin explained that while everyone was receiving a subsidy the household incomes were not equal. The proposed ordinance would provide relief to several hundred households in Sitka. Guevin added future funding could be incorporated into the annual budget planning process. Hunter recognized there was community need, however, did not support increasing CBS operational expenses. He commended Guevin and Potrzuski for sponsoring such an ordinance.

A motion was made by Guevin that this Ordinance be APPROVED on FIRST READING AS AMENDED. The motion FAILED by the following vote.

Yes: 2 - Guevin, and Potrzuski

No: 4 - McConnell, Hunter, Swanson, and Eisenbeisz

Absent: 1 - Miyasato

- I [ORD 16-21](#) Repealing Chapter 7.20 "Marijuana Advisory Committee", and creating Chapter 7.40 "Local Regulatory Authority", formally dissolving the existing local regulatory authority and its framework and designating the City Assembly as the permanent Local Regulatory Authority, and creating Chapter 7.50 "Licensing", detailing the procedure of the City Assembly in reviewing, approving and protesting marijuana licenses

Legal Assistant, Rebuen Yerkes, provided a summary of the Ordinance. Yerkes noted that other communities in Alaska were designating the Assembly as the Local Regulatory Authority.

A motion was made by Hunter that this Ordinance be APPROVED on FIRST READING. The motion PASSED by the following vote.

Yes: 6 - McConnell, Hunter, Swanson, Eisenbeisz, Guevin, and Potrzuski

Absent: 1 - Miyasato

Additional New Business Items

- J [16-110](#) Consideration and award of the request for proposals submitted for the available funds (\$37,989) in the Fisheries Enhancement Fund

Angie Bowers of Sitka Sound Science Center offered an overview of and spoke to the importance of the programs offered.

Linda Behnken of Alaska Longline Fisherman's Association (ALFA) spoke in support of the disbursement of funds and provided a summary of the four programs outlined in their proposal. Eric Jordan spoke in support of the ALFA proposal.

A motion was made by Guevin to make \$37,989 in the Fisheries Enhancement Fund available for disbursement. The motion PASSED by the following vote.

Yes: 6 - McConnell, Hunter, Swanson, Eisenbeisz, Guevin, and Potrzuski

Absent: 1 - Miyasato

A motion was made by Eisenbeisz to award \$10,000 to the Alaska Longline Fisherman's Association. The motion PASSED by the following vote.

Yes: 6 - McConnell, Hunter, Swanson, Eisenbeisz, Guevin, and Potrzuski

Absent: 1 - Miyasato

A motion was made by Hunter to award \$27,900 to the Sitka Sound Science Center. The motion PASSED by the following vote.

Yes: 6 - McConnell, Hunter, Swanson, Eisenbeisz, Guevin, and Potrzuski

Absent: 1 - Miyasato

K [16-112](#)

Discussion of the Memorandum of Understanding between the State of Alaska and the Southeast Conference for the Alaska Marine Highway System strategic plan and approval of a \$10,000 grant from the Southeast Economic Development Fund to Southeast Conference to assist with funding of the plan

McConnell summarized the memorandum of understanding and noted the benefits of joining in this effort. Garry White, President of the Southeast Conference Board of Directors, stated this was a project the group had been working on for a while and stressed the negative impacts of reduced ferry service on communities. White noted the \$350,000 project consisted of two phases with \$250,000 to be contributed by the State of Alaska. White reported an assessment of the current governance model (State) was being conducted and suggested a new governance model, an outside independent board, be explored. He urged Sitka and other communities throughout Alaska to support this project.

Administrator Gorman stated use of the Southeast Economic Development Fund was appropriate. Gorman expressed Sitka was key to the Alaska Marine Highway System and that it was important to voice interest in the success of the project. Hunter was encouraged to hear the State was funding a majority of the project and offered there was a better way to operate the ferry system. Potrzuski spoke in support and stated the importance for Sitka to be seen as a leader in this endeavor.

A motion was made by Hunter to APPROVE a \$5,000 grant from the Southeast Economic Development Fund to Southeast Conference to assist with funding of the Alaska Marine Highway strategic plan. The motion PASSED by the following vote.

Yes: 6 - McConnell, Hunter, Swanson, Eisenbeisz, Guevin, and Potrzuski

Absent: 1 - Miyasato

- L** [16-113](#) Approve the 2016-2019 Alaska State Employees Association (ASEA) Collective Bargaining Agreement
- Assembly members praised staff for their work and a successful negotiation process. Hunter thanked municipal employees for their work.
- A motion was made by Hunter that this Item be APPROVED. The motion PASSED by the following vote.**
- Yes:** 6 - McConnell, Hunter, Swanson, Eisenbeisz, Guevin, and Potrzuski
- Absent:** 1 - Miyasato
- M** [16-114](#) Approve the 2016-2019 Public Safety Employees Association (PSEA) Collective Bargaining Agreement
- Gorman clarified that the document would be executed upon ratification by the PSEA membership.
- A motion was made by Swanson that this Item be APPROVED. The motion PASSED by the following vote.**
- Yes:** 6 - McConnell, Hunter, Swanson, Eisenbeisz, Guevin, and Potrzuski
- Absent:** 1 - Miyasato
- N** [16-115](#) Approve a 10-year purchase agreement and a 20-year purchase agreement for raw water in bulk for export with Alaska Bulk Water Inc.
- Hunter and Potrzuski spoke in support of the purchase agreements and recognized Alaska Bulk Water for their persistent efforts.
- A motion was made by Hunter that this Item be APPROVED. The motion PASSED by the following vote.**
- Yes:** 6 - McConnell, Hunter, Swanson, Eisenbeisz, Guevin, and Potrzuski
- Absent:** 1 - Miyasato
- O** [16-116](#) Approve a 20-year purchase agreement for raw water in bulk for export with Arctic Blue Waters (Canada) Inc.
- Garry White, Director of Gary Paxton Industrial Park, confirmed the City and Borough of Sitka had received approximately \$2.4 million in water deposits from Alaska Bulk Water Inc. (formerly True Alaska Bottling Company) and Arctic Blue Waters (Canada) Inc. White added there was 726 million gallons remaining to support three to four bottling plants if the need arose.
- A motion was made by Swanson that this Item be APPROVED. The motion PASSED by the following vote.**
- Yes:** 6 - McConnell, Hunter, Swanson, Eisenbeisz, Guevin, and Potrzuski
- Absent:** 1 - Miyasato

XIII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD:

None.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Swanson to ADJOURN. Hearing no objections, the meeting ADJOURNED at 7:54pm.

ATTEST: _____
Sara Peterson, CMC
Municipal Clerk