

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

***Eisenbeisz gave notice of reconsideration for the May 14 meeting.**

Yes: 7 - Eisenbeisz, Knox, Bean, Wein, Paxton, Mosher, and Nelson

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

N [19-086](#) Update from legal counsel regarding the status of the litigation arising out of the August 18, 2015 landslide events

A motion was made by Mosher to go into Executive Session to receive and discuss an update from legal counsel, David Bruce, regarding the status of the litigation arising out of the August 18, 2015 landslide events and invite in Public Works Director, Michael Harmon. The motion PASSED by the following vote.

Yes: 7 - Bean, Wein, Eisenbeisz, Nelson, Knox, Mosher, and Paxton

The Assembly was in executive session from 6:35pm to 7:15pm.

A motion was made by Bean to reconvene as the Assembly in regular session. The motion PASSED by a unanimous voice vote.

C [19-084](#) Discussion / Direction / Decision on the approval of additional FY2020 funding (\$200,200) for marketing regarding the Convention and Visitors Bureau contract (postponed at the March 19 meeting)

Municipal Administrator Keith Brady reviewed memo details and Rachel Roy, Executive Director of Greater Sitka Chamber of Commerce and Visit Sitka, told of contract details. Roy stated the annual contract amount was to be a minimum of \$300,000 with first payment in the next fiscal year. If the contribution was increased by Assembly action for specific projects above those included in the contract, the annual contract would be adjusted accordingly. Roy reminded as part of the new contract the visitor information provided at Harrigan Centennial Hall (HCH) would be managed by HCH staff. Brady noted a portion of the funding would come from the Visitor Enhancement Fund. Nelson believed it appropriate to wait on the approval of additional monies until further progress was made on the overall FY2020 budget. Mosher felt the additional money was warranted in an effort to promote Sitka. Wein agreed and voiced support.

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

Yes: 4 - Knox, Wein, Paxton, and Mosher

No: 3 - Eisenbeisz, Bean, and Nelson

D [19-066](#) Report from interim Police Chief Baty and Discussion / Direction / Decision on the selection of a Police Department third party investigator (executive session anticipated)

A motion was made by Knox to go into executive session to receive a verbal report from interim Police Chief Robert Baty concerning legal matters

involving operations of the Sitka Police Department affecting the municipality. The motion PASSED by the following vote.

Yes: 6 - Mosher, Nelson, Knox, Bean, Eisenbeisz, Paxton

No: 1- Wein

The Assembly was in executive session from 7:36pm to 8:25pm.

A motion was made by Bean to reconvene as the Assembly in regular session. The motion PASSED by a unanimous voice vote.

Assembly members wished to allow Chief Baty time to get settled and implement a plan before bringing in an investigator.

Speaking from the public, Noah Shepard urged the Assembly to fix this problem administratively and his lawsuit would go away. Mary Ferguson stated the City wouldn't be in this situation had an investigation been conducted.

A motion was made by Wein to POSTPONE this item to the August 13 Assembly meeting. The motion PASSED by the following vote.

Yes: 6 - Eisenbeisz, Knox, Bean, Wein, Paxton, and Mosher

No: 1 - Nelson

E [19-082](#)

Approve renegotiated hire offer for Planning Director Bruce Wall

Municipal Administrator Keith Brady explained there had been several rounds of advertisements and interviews searching for a Planning Director. Brady noted Mr. Wall was from Alaska, was certified, and had experience.

Scott Brylinsky, interim Planning Director, urged the Assembly to approve the hire of Mr. Wall. He reminded this had not been an easy position to fill, Sitka was in need of economic development, and in comparison to other communities was not overpaid.

Knox concurred, stated the role of Planning Director was important and he supported hiring an experienced individual. Bean reminded the starting salary had not changed from what was previously presented by the Administrator. While he believed having a Planning Director was important, he stated there were resources at the City that could satisfy the position. Eisenbeisz stated if this were approved he would be surprised if Mr. Wall would accept as the Assembly hadn't been welcoming. While rising costs were a concern, having a Planning Director was also a concern and stated the economic opportunities that had been lost far outweighed any increase in salary. Nelson believed she had made it clear at the previous meeting that the salary was too high. Mosher reminded this had been voted down previously and wondered why the Administrator had not contacted members to understand their reasoning. Wein also believed there were other alternatives within the City to fulfill the need. Brady stated he understood the message regarding salary, however, believed the candidate was worthy of the offer. He noted he had reduced the moving allowance and leave bank.

A motion was made by Bean to move for the previous question. The motion PASSED by the following vote.

Yes: 5 - Bean, Wein, Eisenbeisz, Nelson, and Mosher