

I. CALL TO ORDER

The rescheduled Regular Meeting of the Dillingham City Council was held on Wednesday, April 13, 2011, at the Dillingham City Council Chambers, Dillingham, Alaska. Mayor Alice Ruby called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Mayor and Council Members present and establishing a quorum were:

Mayor Alice Ruby
Scott King, Seat B
Bob Himschoot, Seat C (*via teleconference*)
Keggie Tubbs, Seat D
Tim Sands, Seat F

Mayor Ruby noted that Council Member Elizabeth Pearch, Seat A, was absent and excused.

Staff in attendance were:

Steve Cropsey, Interim City Manager
Jayne Bennett, Administrative Asst./Acting City Clerk
Carol Shade, Finance Director
Doug Dombroski, Police Chief
Jody Seitz, Planning Director

Guests:

Bill McLeod, School Superintendent
Danny Frasier, Asst. School Supt./Special Ed Director
Donald Frasier, Middle/High School Principal
Marilyn Rosene, Elementary School Principal
Bill Rodawalt, Lead Teacher/MAP School
Diane Wetter, STEPP Committee Member (Steps Toward Educational Progress and Partnership)

MOTION: Tim Sands moved and Keggie Tubbs seconded the motion to suspend the rules and take up a special item.

GENERAL CONSENT: The motion to suspend the rules passed without objection.

Mayor Ruby asked the public to join in a moment of silence to recognize Sue Mulkeit who had passed away recently.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting, March 3, 2011

MOTION: Tim Sands moved and Scott King seconded the motion to approve the minutes of March 3, 2011.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

There was no consent agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Keggie Tubbs moved and Tim Sands seconded the motion to approve the agenda.

MOTION: Keggie Tubbs moved the previous question. (*Clerk Note: The effect of this motion is to immediately stop debate.*)

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

V. STAFF REPORTS

A. City Manager Report

City Manager Cropsey:

- reported that the Juneau trip to lobby for funds to relocate the main sewer line went very well, and legislators were very gracious;
- referred to the letter and the attached pro-forma spreadsheets to David Eberle of Boise State University, contracted by AKDEC to review the City's loan application for the construction of a new sewer line; \$3.45M loan at 1.5% interest, less a \$1M principle reduction from funds provided to the project if the State's budget will pass; sewer fees would be raised by 12.5% for each of the next 6 years, raising sewer rates from \$43.40 at year one to \$87.98 in year six;
- noted the City could still apply for a grant from USDA in which case the city would have to come up with 45% or \$1.8M, \$1M available from the State and \$800,000 from the City;
- reported the animal spay and neuter clinic scheduled for April 21-25 had 80 animals registered;
- noted without an approval on the loan or grant application both from the council and the potential funding source, the City can't put the project for the sewer main out to bid yet;
- noted Ida Noonkesser was promoted to Senior Center Director and was pleased to announce she was in that position;
- reported that he had asked for a RFP from three architectural firms to provide a design for the repairs on the building, only Burkhart Croft provided a proposal and that being time and materials not to exceed \$20,000, that they have three weeks to get the bid documents prepared and out on the street, all of which has been approved and will be paid by the insurance company; and
- reported substantial completion on the senior center repairs to be completed around August 31.

Discussion:

- thanked staff for getting the new website up and running, liked the layout, and congratulated Ida Noonkesser and Anita Fuller on their recent promotions.

Mayor Ruby, Chair for Public Outreach Committee:

- reported that preparations for additional neighborhood meetings were in order and they were going well.

Keggie Tubbs, Chair for Finance and Budget Committee:

- reported that the committee had adopted a FY 2012 budget development calendar, and had reviewed the preliminary revenues so far;
- reported that Supt. McLeod had done a very informative presentation on the FY 2012 school budget; and
- reported the committee had referred the results from the Staffing Study to management to acquire staff input.

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. ~~Ordinance No. 2011-02, An Ordinance of the Dillingham City Council Authorizing the Disposition and Sale of Unredeemed Foreclosed Property~~ (Clerk Note: this item has been moved to a public hearing set for April 21, 2011)

VII. CITIZEN'S DISCUSSION (Prior Notice or Agenda Items)

- A. Nasruk Nay, Designate City Park Behind Public Safety Building

Nasruk Nay was proposing a park in the wooded area behind the public safety, an area that was slated for a future cultural center. He felt it would involve just a little bit of landscaping, with signage provided by the City to advertise no inebriates in the area and to provide a safe area for children.

Discussion:

- encouraged applying for the City's Neighborhood Initiative grant and exploring the possibility for its use with the City Planner; and
- reminded that the property was for the proposed cultural center and that it be the main priority should it come to fruition.

- B. Patrick Solana Walkinshaw, Reinstate Parks and Recreation Commission

Patrick Solana Walkinshaw representing the Dillingham Health and Fitness Committee was proposing that the City implement the Parks and Recreation Commission outlined in the City Code. The committee felt it would need a fiscal agent or become a non-profit organization to raise money for the various activities they were looking to hold. He noted after talking with the Planning Commission and City staff and from the Comprehensive Plan there appeared to be a need for a Parks and Recreation Dept. The Commission could help organize the activities and brainstorm ways to raise funds to eventually hire a director or temporary summer help.

- C. Petla Noden

Petla Noden was asking if the City could plant alders on the right hand side of the highway leaving the City and pine trees on the left side to reduce pollution, hold the road up better so it would stop sinking, and reduce snow plowing costs.

Discussion:

- commented the easements belonged to the State, although the City did agree to maintain the pedestrian trail, but with the road upgrade proposed in 2012 it might be a good time to approach the State with his ideas; and
- reported a US Corp of Engineers study noted there was two feet of vegetative material and forty feet of water on the pedestrian trail side, and suggested contacting the City Planner for the study and the design time for the future highway paving project.

D. Crystal Noden

Crystal Noden reported that the City has some of the best water in the world and encouraged the Council to reduce, reuse, and recycle plastic water bottles and use their own personal water bottles at the meetings.

VIII. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

- A. ~~Ordinance No. 2011-02, An Ordinance of the Dillingham City Council Authorizing the Disposition and Sale of Unredeemed Foreclosed Property (Clerk Note: this item has been moved to a public hearing set for April 21, 2011)~~
- B. Introduce Ordinance No. 2011-03, An Ordinance of the Dillingham City Council Amending the Budget By Adopting Budget Amendment No. 2, and Appropriating Funds for the FY 2011 City of Dillingham Budget

MOTION: Keggie Tubbs moved and Tim Sands seconded the motion to introduce Ordinance No. 2011-03

Keggie Tubbs reported on the proposed amendments to FY2011 Budget to include: invested in a new finance software system to replace the existing outdated system, added the loan interest on the \$1M line of credit, increased the public works expenses affiliated with heavy equipment repairs, increase in insurance costs, added costs affiliated with the recent foreclosure process, increased expenses for landfill and water/sewer services, increased revenues from State revenue sharing.

VOTE: The motion to introduce Ordinance No. 2011-03 passed unanimously.

- C. Resolution No. 2011-29, A Resolution of the Dillingham City Council Supporting a Redistricting Plan That Will Keep House District 37 and Senate District S Intact

MOTION: Tim Sands moved and Keggie Tubbs seconded the motion to adopt Resolution No. 2011-29.

Mayor Ruby reported she had testified before the Redistricting Board based on the Council's action several months ago which supported an increase in the number of legislators so the district would be kept intact.

VOTE: The motion to adopt Resolution No. 2011-29 passed unanimously.

- D. Resolution No. 2011-30, A Resolution of the Dillingham City Council Authorizing the City Manager to Contract Services with the Auditing Firm of Mikunda, Cottrell, & Co., Inc. for FY 2012, FY 2013, and FY 2014

MOTION: Keggie Tubbs moved and Tim Sands seconded the motion to adopt Resolution No. 2011-30.

Keggie Tubbs reporting for the Finance Committee noted the City had received two bid proposals, Mikunda being the lesser of the two bids, and based on their past auditing experience with the City was recommending they receive the contract.

MOTION: Keggie Tubbs moved the previous question. (*Clerk Note: The effect of this motion is to immediately stop debate.*)

VOTE: The motion to adopt Resolution No. 2011-30 passed unanimously.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Annexation

Mayor Ruby reminded the Council that the Local Boundary Commission would be in Dillingham on April 25, some council members would be testifying, and encouraged participation. She also noted that she would prepare some highlights and comments from the Neighborhood Meetings that had been held.

B. City Manager Hire

Mayor Ruby reported that the City would continue with the manager search that had so far not resulted in a hire.

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. Guest, School Supt. Bill McLeod

Supt. Bill McLeod introduced his staff and guests. He thanked the City and community for the school renovations, complimented the design work, noted visitors and guests have been very complimentary with the results and have commented there was a pleasant tone and feel in the schools, and amongst the teachers and students.

Recently in Juneau he heard conversations why should they fund schools that are not doing well and failing? Someone mentioned Dillingham was a drop-out factory. This was based on past history of 50-53% graduation rates. This has turned around; last year's graduation rate was 71%, and the State's average is about 62%.

He reported that since the beginning of the year staff has been implementing a lot of changes in the school system on how they are approaching learning. They are not just striving to be satisfactory, but working toward excellence, starting with building on the foundation, the early years grades 1-3. The school has fully implemented what was started the previous year, testing students (a Universal Screening tool to measure academic progress) at the beginning of the year in reading, writing, and arithmetic instead of waiting until spring, and a second testing in January, and a third time in May. The data will determine where there are gaps, who may be at-risk for academic difficulties, and what can be done to help each student progress further and faster, using small group work, content specialists, and aides, and basically addressing instruction ongoing throughout the year.

The school is getting its curriculum more aligned with the Alaska standards, so the district is more of a standard-based district. Research has shown focusing on the standards and holding the teachers to teaching on those standards will result in higher achievement rates, because that's what the students are tested on. The students exhibiting respect, responsibility and safety are all outgrowths from a positive behavior intervention support program implemented several years ago in the elementary school, and has been moved up to the middle/high school.

The school will be looking at secondary restructuring probably next year, looking at the design of the secondary school, taking a look at more career pathways linked to the economics of the community, such as a natural resources carrier in the fisheries industry.

Teacher and administration retention has been an issue. Currently, there is one vacancy for next year, which is not as it has been in the past. Hopefully this can be attributed to the positive changes that are being made and credits the teachers, administration and community for their support, noting this was Year 2 since things started before him that were very good and he's been able to pick up and implement them further.

On the school budget, there are some needs to get to that excellence they are striving for, such as a reading interventionist specialist, instructional aide in K-1-2, but don't have the resources in the budget. With or without the funding, they will strive to get the job done.

Overall, he felt the state of the school district was very positive, good team effort from staff and administration, and just sees things getting better with the three-five year plan in place that is being successful implemented.

B. Committee Appointments

1. Library Board

Mayor Ruby recommended appointing Heidi LaDue to the Library Board.

MOTION: Keggie Tubbs moved and Tim Sands seconded the motion to concur with the Mayor's recommendation.

GENERAL CONSENT: The motion was approved without objection.

2. Planning Commission, Seat C

Mayor Ruby recommended reappointing Bill Rodawalt to Seat C.

MOTION: Keggie Tubbs moved and Tim Sands seconded the motion to concur with the Mayor's recommendation.

GENERAL CONSENT: The motion was approved without objection.

C. Action Memorandum No. 2011-10, Renew Lease Agreement with Alaska Army National Guard

City Manager Cropsey reported this action would extend the current agreement an additional two years, April 30, 2011 through April 30, 2013, for an annual fee of \$6,371.15. He noted it was basically a hold harmless lease, and lessee would be responsible for maintenance of the building.

MOTION: Keggie Tubbs moved and seconded the motion to adopt AM No. 2011-10.

VOTE: The motion to adopt AM No. 2011-10 passed unanimously.

D. Action Memorandum No. 2011-11, Extend Contract with Tim Pearson

MOTION: Keggie Tubbs moved and Tim Sands seconded the motion to adopt AM No. 2011-11.

City Manager Cropsey reported this action would extend Tim Pearson's contract for an additional six months to continue with the manager search, with the additional cost only being associated expense reimbursement.

MOTION: Keggie Tubbs moved the previous question. (*Clerk Note: The effect of this motion is to immediately stop debate.*)

VOTE: The motion to adopt AM No. 2011-11 passed unanimously.

XI. CITIZEN'S DISCUSSION (Open to the Public)

There was no citizen's discussion.

XII. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Bob Himschoot:

- voiced his sorrow over Sue Mulkeit passing away;
- congratulated Ida Noonkesser for her promotion to Senior Center Director;
- asked if staff could look into a bill supposedly passed last year allowing the use of electric vehicles on roads with speeds of 45 miles or less, with a special acceptance by ordinance of the city involved, Manager answered staff would research and bring back results to Council;
- thanked Bill McLeod and the other speakers for their presentations; and
- thanked the Council members who've participated in the annexation meetings.

Scott King:

- no comment.

Tim Sands:

- thanked Supt. McLeod for presenting a report to the Council;
- congratulated Ida Noonkesser for her promotion to Senior Center Director;
- praised the staff for the new website;
- thanked Heidi LaDue and Bill Rodawalt for their board/commission appointments and for volunteering; and
- asked if it costs anything to solicit members to be on the Parks and Recreation Commission, and would volunteer to be the Council member if it required it, answered that management would look into what it would require to create a commission and report back to the Council.

Keggie Tubbs:

- commented that he appreciated that the Manager had updated the AT&T/ Alascom lease before presenting it for approval;

- noted he was surprised that the Curyung Tribe was asked by the Dept. of Public Safety to support a Department of Justice grant to replace the E-911 system, because he thought there were sufficient funds to pay for a replacement system with the reserves that had been set aside and the increased E-911 charge that was implemented, asked staff to come back with a report;
- voiced he was heart-broken over Sue Mulkeit's passing away;
- shared that the Finance and Budget Committee meetings would have to review its schedule to make up for the several meetings that had been canceled;
- commented that if a city park is implemented behind the Public Safety building, and the designated purpose for the property which is the cultural center comes to fruition, it might make for a conflict for ownership; and
- commented that he appreciated the enthusiasm to make Dillingham a better place, but was opposed to reinstating Parks and Recreation Commission unless it doesn't cost the City anything.

XIII. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Alice Ruby:

- recommended appointing Tim Sands to replace Sue Mulkeit on the Finance and Budget Committee for the duration of this term (October 2011).

MOTION: Keggie Tubbs moved and Tim Sands seconded the motion to concur with the Mayor's recommendation.

GENERAL CONSENT: The motion passed without objection.

- congratulated Ida Noonkesser for being appointed as the Senior Center Director;
- recognized Sue Mulkeit for all the things she had done for the community, noting flags would be flown at half staff on Friday on all City buildings, and staff would be given administrative leave to attend the funeral; and
- recognized a moment of silence for those that had been lost since the last meeting.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Legal Matter

MOTION: Tim Sands moved and Keggie Tubbs seconded the motion to go into executive session under DMC 2.09.050, Legal Matters [8:46 p.m.].

GENERAL CONSENT: The motion passed without objection.

(The meeting recessed at 8:46 p.m.)

MOTION: Tim Sands moved and Keggie Tubbs seconded the motion to come out of executive session [9:14].

GENERAL CONSENT: The motion passed without objection.

MOTION: Keggie Tubbs moved and Tim Sands seconded the motion to approve Amendment No. 3 to the contract with Aurora SMC, Inc.

VOTE: The motion to approve Amendment No. 3 to the contract with Aurora SMC, Inc. passed unanimously.

MOTION: Tim Sands moved and Keggie Tubbs seconded the motion to direct the manager to finalize the Employment Agreement with Don Moore.

VOTE: The motion to direct the manager to finalize the Employment Agreement with Don Moore passed unanimously.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Alice Ruby adjourned the meeting at 9:16 p.m.


Alice Ruby, Mayor

ATTEST:


Janice Williams, City Clerk

