



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, January 09, 2025 at 7:00 PM

MINUTES

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations / during this meeting should notify the City of Dillingham at 907-842-5212 at least three working days before the meeting.

MEETING INFORMATION

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS / 7:00 p.m.
141 Main Street, Dillingham, AK 99576 (907) 842-5212

Council Workshop at 6:30 pm at which, Wanda Wahl, a representative of the University, spoke on opportunities

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Dillingham City Council was held on Thursday, January 9th, 2025, at the Dillingham City Council Chambers and via video conferencing, in Dillingham, Alaska. Mayor Ruby called the meeting to order at 7:10 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Council members present: Kaleb Westfall, Michael Bennett, Curt Armstrong, Steven Carriere, Bert Luckhurst. Council members absent initially: Kevin McCambly (arrived later at 7:59 during the meeting). The Chair of this meeting was Mayor Ruby.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Three sets of minutes were considered:

1. November 7th, 2024: - Motion made by: Michael Bennett - Seconded by: Kaleb Westfall - Discussion: No discussion occurred - Vote: Voice vote, all in favor - Outcome: Motion carried
2. December 7th: - Motion made by: Steve Carriere, 2nd by Curt Armstrong

Discussion: Councilman Westfall raised concerns about specific language in codes 2.09.020 and 2.09.030 regarding meeting location.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYE: Bert Luckhurst, Steve Carriere, Curt Armstrong

NAY: Michael Bennett, Kaleb Westfall

Motion failed due to insufficient votes

3. December 18th: - Motion made by: Steve Carriere - Initial discussion revealed multiple errors in the minutes: * Incorrect recording of executive session motion and voting * Inaccurate documentation of resolutions adoption order * Misrepresentation of statements made by council members - Motion to table made by: Steve Carriere - Seconded by: Michael Bennett - Vote: Voice vote, all in favor - Outcome: Motion to table carried - Minutes were tabled for corrections to be brought back at the next possible meeting in February

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA – None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Initial motion by Steven Carriere to move executive session up, but motion failed. Subsequently, Bert Luckhurst moved to approve the agenda as is, seconded by Michael Bennett. Discussion was minimal. Voice vote resulted in four yes votes (Bert, Curt, Michael, Kaleb) and one no vote (Steve). Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS

Key questions included:

1. Michael Bennett asked about PFAS testing results – staff will provide results when made available.
2. Dan clarified that landfill billing was for businesses only.
3. Kaleb Westfall asked about EPA appropriations for landfill improvements – Chris Maines explained the funding request modification process.
4. Kaleb Westfall inquired about dock lighting systems – Phil Baumgartner provided details on repair options.

For the February 6th meeting, staff requested to:

1. Create a clearer list of codes needing review.
2. Provide written report on PFAS testing results when they become available.

Committee Reports and Appointments

Appoint Jennifer De Winne to the Planning Commission. Motion made by Kaleb Westfall, 2nd by Steven Carriere. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Citizen's Discussion

Paul Liedberg, Chair of Friends of the Landfill, gave a presentation about their activities including:

- 1) Shipping out 37,500 pounds of electronic waste in 2023
- 2) Shipping 29,000 pounds of electronic waste in 2024
- 3) Shipping 10,500 pounds of crushed aluminum
- 4) Shipping 14,000 pounds fishing web waste
- 5) Shipped 800 pounds of fluorescent tubes and oil-based paints.

He emphasized their partnerships with various organizations and requested continued budget support.

Ordinances and Resolutions

No ordinances or resolutions were explicitly discussed during this meeting.

Unfinished business

The main unfinished business discussed was the manager recruitment process. No formal motions were made, but the council reviewed the proposed timeline including:

- 1) January 9 executive session for initial candidate screening
- 2) February 6 council meeting for interview decisions
- 3) Target completion by March 15.

Staff to coordinate with consultants for video and in-person interviews.

New Business

New business included subdivision update discussion. No formal motions were made.

Staff directed to:

- 1) Reach out to potential development partners including Bristol Bay Housing Authority, Choggiung, Kakanak Hospital, Curyung Tribe, BBNA, and village of New Stuyahok .
- 2) Arrange small group meetings with partners.
- 3) Provide update at February 6th council meeting on contacts made and meeting schedules.

Citizen's Discussion or comments

Paul Liedberg spoke about Friends of the Landfill activities and accomplishments in recycling and waste management. No other public comments were recorded in the transcript.

Council Comments or Discussion

Steve Carriere discussed infrastructure capacity concerns for new development.

Michael Bennett suggested public outreach for development input.

Kaleb Westfall raised questions about code compliance and utility considerations.

Kevin McCambly expressed interest in participating in tribal discussions regarding development.

Mayor's Comments

Final Comments: - Expressed gratitude to Nushwac and volunteers for organizing bazaars and fireworks events - Acknowledged the importance of these events for citizens earning money during high bill season - Called for a moment of silence to acknowledge community members lost since the last meeting

Motion to enter Executive Session

Steve Carriere moved to enter executive session, 2nd by Bert Luckhurst. Motion carried by voice vote (all voted aye, no nays recorded). Time 8:30 pm.


Exit Executive Session

Steve Carriere moved, Bert Luckhurst seconded, unanimous voice vote in favor. Time 10:36 pm.

Adjournment

10:36 pm

[SEAL]

ATTEST:

Abigail Flynn, Acting City Clerk

Approval Date: 03/06/2025