

MINUTES
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL FOR
THE CITY OF THORNE BAY, ALASKA
TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2021
TIME: 6:30 p.m.

LOCATION: TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO CONFERENCING LINE

1) **CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Edenfield called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2) **PLEDGE TO FLAG:**

The council and audience pledged to the flag.

3) **ROLL CALL:**

Those in attendance were: Edenfield, Burger, Kerkof, Cunningham & Craske
Stram joined after approval of the agenda 6:32 p.m.
Rhodes was excused.

4) **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Edenfield moved to approve the agenda removing item 14 (a) Executive Session. Burger seconded the motion. There was no further discussion.

MOTION: Move to approve the agenda removing item 14 (a) Executive Session
F/S: Edenfield / Burger
YEAS: Edenfield, Craske, Cunningham, Kerkof & Burger
NAYS: None
STATUS: Motion Passed.

NOT PRESENT FOR THE VOTE: Rhodes & Stram

5) **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor Edenfield reported on the following:

- Highway cleanup – Would like to have the council get together to clean-up their mile. Preferably while the weather is still nice, but whatever works for the council. Council agreed for Saturday May 1st at noon. Meet at City Hall.

6) **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

a) City Administrator:

- Meetings Attended and Updates:

A. The Bay View timber sale is moving forward and on schedule. The Viking representative, Steve, has kept the city informed of all potential blasting events and

that information has been disseminated to city staff and the VPSO office. Viking has been very open with communications with the city since the work began.

- B. The Kasaan road should now be receiving additional attention from Alcan, the company that is logging in the area. I have made 6 phone calls to Alcan and PAPAC regarding the traffic and damage done to the Kasaan road. They have not returned any calls, however, there have been reports of road maintenance being done by outside agencies (not Thorne Bay or Kasaan).

➤ Tasks and Projects:

- A. Village Safe Water (VSW) and the City are working on an update to our Intrusion and Infiltration (I&I) grant seeking additional funds to address our excessive outflow to the Wastewater Treatment Facility. The VSW I&I team are arriving on site today, 4/20/21, to begin the testing and develop a path forward for the city's wastewater infiltration.
- B. The FEMA / CARES funding realignment grant has been submitted. The City submitted the grant on 4/8/21 and the grant is currently being reviewed by FEMA.
- C. The Seaplane Base Transfer is in progress. The process to officially transfer the Seaplane Base at the harbor to City management is underway with Alaska Department of Transportation (AKDOT) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). We are currently working with the AKDOT and FAA team members to facilitate the transfer. The State is currently reviewing our submissions of their requested forms.

➤ Expenditures over \$2000 .

A. \$ 2,504.00

Expenditure exceeding \$2,504.00 is expenditure is for required maintenance items for the wire tier track. The current parts in use are worn and have been causing jams in the tier. Per the manufacturer, these parts are considered "routine maintenance" and are considered a "wear" item. The currently installed parts are original parts from installation.

➤ Departmental Reports:

○ Harbors and Parks:

Waiting on 1 final bid for screws to replace nails on dock.
Fish cleaning station and grid pressure washed by Ty and James.
Nasturtiums are being planted around the main harbor.
Fixed/salvaged two more pedestals in main harbor.
Will move fish cleaning station by Wednesday of next week.
Putting together pricing to replace waterline on north finger of main harbor.
(Currently water is only available at the entrance.)
Other than that, both Harbors are running smoothly.

○ Streets and Roads:

The city made a job offer to an individual and is already planning on evaluating the condition of all roads and making an action plan for cost effective repairs and a maintenance schedule.

➤ **Water**

- During the month of March 2021, the water/sewer department spent significant time working with RMC, the computer programming company based out of Juneau, who programmed our main computer running the water treatment facility.
- I received a notice from the Department of Environmental Conservation informing us that there was a mistake in how the new water treatment facility was operating.
We worked with them to make the necessary changes to be considered compliant.
However, doing so caused major problems with how the new water treatment plant was programmed so we worked closely with RMC and got it fixed and running smoothly again.
- 460,000 gallons of water was sent to customers and we treated 703,683 gallons of water. The rest of the water was used to clean our filters twice a day/reject water coming from the nanofiltration skid.
- We received our latest TTHM/HAAS testing results which were very good, which I have attached.
 - Historically we failed these tests with levels of 199 or higher (the limit is 80)
 - The last two test showed our levels were
 - **SEPTEMBER 2020**
 - TTHM: 21.700
 - Haloacetic Acids: 27.600
 - **DECEMBER 2020**
 - TTHM: 11.200
 - **MARCH 2021**
 - TTHM: 4.84
 - Haloacetic Acids: 5.50
- With winter now over, we started our routine hydrant flushing schedule which will conclude when we get below freezing temperatures this Fall. We do not flush hydrants during the winter because it makes too much of a mess with snow on the ground and makes roadways slick and unsafe.
- During the first week of May, Willy Jennings will be taking his Water Treatment Level I Exam and I will be taking my Level 1 Sewer Treatment Exam.
- This week, we have visitors from the Village Safe water coming to inspect our sewer manholes/lift stations and to try out a new product that can help fix our rainwater infiltration issues we have. This is the first step of the process

o Solid Waste:

No significant updates

➤ Library:

We are open for limited services and have changed our hours. We are now open:

Weds 4-6

Thur 2-5

Fri 10-2

Sat 10-2

Sun 12-4

Closed on Monday and Tuesday.

The Public Library Assistance Grant (PLAG) is complete and submitted for FY2022.

Our Children's Garden is preparing for use. If you are interested in a free garden box, you can find an application near the front door of the Library.

We are open for computer time, come down, call or email to set up computer time.

Books and Videos are still available. We are practicing Covid safety and following mandates, but checkouts are possible.

Exciting news with Thorne Bay being steps closer to a brand new Library! Friends of the Thorne Bay Library has worked tirelessly to make this happen. There is a new Friends of the Thorne Bay Library Facebook page with tons of info, a bake sale upcoming, ways to help...

We are looking for volunteers as always. Come support your local Library!

b) City Clerk:

Clerk Feibel provided the following report:

➤ Finance Report:

- ❖ First Bank: \$ 28,843.42
- ❖ TFCU: \$ 522,994.78
- ❖ Wells Fargo: \$ 1,137,650.00 (as of March 31st)
- ❖ Operating Income: \$ **-153,142.07**
 - Income: \$ 1,681,113.48
 - Expense: \$ 1,834,255.55

7) PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Sean Kaer commented on the following:

- Not in favor of consent agenda. People need to know what is being passed and have opportunity to discuss.
- Agreed with Councilmembers prior comments regarding one individual. Stated that he too has had issues in the past and he felt that the council voted against doing the right thing and protected the law breakers.

City Clerk Feibel explained that the Consent Agenda included items such as the Minutes & Resolutions, which were considered routine and not contentious items of discussion. However, if the council wanted to discuss one of the items from the Consent Agenda, they could pull it from the Consent Agenda and have it placed under New Business. A motion to do this would be made like this:

“I move to approve the Consent Agenda, pulling Resolution xxx and placing it under New Business”

8) COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Kerkof commented on the following:

- Encouraged Councilmember Craske to resign his position as councilmember due to a conflict of interest, as stated in a text message to Councilmember Kerkof on April 3rd, on his intent to take legal action against the City.
- Requested that, should Councilman Craske not resign, the City Council take immediate action to Censure Councilman Craske from any further Council activities pending a resolution to his intent to file a lawsuit against the City.

Craske commented on the following:

- In response to Councilman Kerkof's comments...
As a councilmember it is my duty to protect the City. I had asked the City attorney to provide opinion on a matter and I never received it. So, I hired my own attorney. My attorney and the City's are now in contact with each other.

Cunningham commented on the following:

- Could the City Council do something like the adopt a highway on the South Thorne Bay Road also?

Mayor Edenfield commented:

- She was not sure who one would go through to adopt certain portions of the highway, but it is the adopt a highway program, which is something done through the State. The City could introduce something for the community on Southside/Kasaan Road cleanup at the next meeting.

9) CONSENT AGENDA

a) MINUTES:

1. Approving the Minutes from the Regular City Council Meeting of April 6th, discussion and action item:
2. Approving the Minutes of the Special City Council Meeting April 13th, 2021

Edenfield moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of the Minutes for the Regular April 6th and Special April 13th City Council Meetings. Cunningham seconded the motion.

MOTION: Move to approve the consent agenda consisting of the Minutes for the Regular April 6th and Special April 13th City Council Meetings
F/S: Edenfield/Cunningham
YEAS: Craske, Stram, Cunningham, Kerkof, Burger & Edenfield,
NAYS: None
STATUS: Motion Passed.

10) **NEW BUSINESS:**

a) **Discussion of allowing free dumping of vehicles at the City Landfill for one week, discussion and action item:**

Burger moved to allow one week of free dumping of vehicles. Cunningham seconded the motion. Cunningham commented that it could coincide with dump day week. If some employees were busy with garbage, I would volunteer to help. Burger withdrew his motion. Cunningham withdrew his second.

11) **CONTINUING BUSINESS:**

a) **Resolution 21-04-20-01:** authorizing the renewal of the lease agreement between the City of Thorne Bay and Tongass Federal Credit Union, discussion and action item:

Edenfield moved to approve Resolution 21-04-20-01 authorizing the renewal of the lease agreement between the City of Thorne Bay and Tongass Federal Credit Union. Burger seconded the motion.

City Clerk Feibel provided the following comments:

Lease of space in the City Office Building: Resolutions 21-04-20-01 & 02

- We are receiving 469% more money than what we received prior to TFCU leasing the facility.
- **Tongass Federal Credit Union Lease.**
 - Use the facility 12 hours per week
 - Provide a valued service to the residents
 - Thorne Bay is the only micro site that charges rent for space
 - Pay \$100 rent and 179.46 per month Utility for total monthly revenue of \$279.46

Discussion included Cunningham objections to the lease renewal, stating that the rate was too low and would like to see the rental rate be \$300.00 plus utilities. Kerkof, Edenfield & Burger commented in favor of renewing the lease at \$279.46, as they provide a service to the community. There was further discussion.

MOTION: Move to approve Resolution 21-04-20-01
F/S: Edenfield/Burger
YEAS: Edenfield, Craske, Stram, Kerkof & Burger
NAYS: Cunningham
STATUS: Motion Passed.

- b) **Resolution 21-04-20-02**, authorizing the renewal of the lease agreement between the City of Thorne Bay and SEARHC Clinic, discussion and action item:

Edenfield moved to approve Resolution 21-04-20-02, authorizing the renewal of the lease agreement between the City and SEARHC. Cunningham seconded the motion.

City Clerk Feibel provided the following comments:

- Previously the City received \$1.00 per year from SEARHC to have the clinic in Thorne Bay. After the clinic sat empty for almost 5 years, the city reached out to both Peace Health and SEARHC asking if they had plans to continue providing services in Thorne Bay.
 - Peace Health declined
 - SEARHC said they did want to provide services but were not sure in what capacity they would be able to. After discussions an agreement was made to provide the smaller space but would charge more than the \$1 as done in the past.
 - SEARHC agreed and started having a provider on Fridays for a while (maybe for 6-months), but then stopped all together.
- **SEARHC pays \$10.00 per month rent and \$179.46 utilities -TOTAL \$189.46**

Kerkof inquired if SEARHC used the clinic now and suggested that the City take SEARHC to task and require that they come at least once a month in order to renew the lease.

Stram agreed with Kerkof that we needed to do whatever we could to encourage SEARHC to provide services here. If we are providing space for minimal costs, then we should be getting service. Suggested a committee be formed to determine the needs of the community.

Edenfield moved to approve Resolution 21-04-20-02, amending the lease term to a month-to-month lease until the City can get ahold of SEARHC and set a schedule for services in Thorne Bay. Cunningham seconded the motion.

MOTION: Move to approve Resolution 21-04-20-02, amending the lease term to a month-to-month lease
F/S: Edenfield/Cunningham
YEAS: Craske, Stram, Cunningham, Edenfield, Burger & Kerkof
NAYS: None
STATUS: Motion Passed.

12) **ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION:**

- a) **Ordinance 21-05-04-01**, amending Title 2-Administration and Personnel, Chapter 2.24-Officers and Employees, Section 2.24.030 EMPLOYMENT, Subsection (a)(2) Part-Time, discussion and action item:

Edenfield moved to approve Ordinance 21-05-04-01. Cunningham second the motion.

Clerk Feibel provided the following comments:

- **Ordinance 21-05-04-01** on the agenda is just clearing up the definition of Part-time hours.

This was brought to my attention by Felisha Williams, the Kasaan City Administrator & Treasurer last month.

Currently the Code addresses working hours as:

- Full-time: 40 hours per week on regular basis
- Part-time: At least 20 hours but less than 40
- Short-hour: 14 hours or less per week

So, the city code is not providing a determination for those who work at least 15 hours but less than 20 hours per week. This simply clears that up and designates part-time employment as working at least 15 but less than 40 hours.

There was no further discussion.

MOTION: Move to approve Ordinance 21-05-04-01, amending Title 2.24.030, Employment
F/S: Edenfield/Cunningham
YEAS: Stram, Edenfield, Craske, Cunningham, Kerkof & Burger
NAYS: None
STATUS: Motion Passed.

13) EXPENDITURES EXCEEDING \$2,000.00:

- a) Authorizing the expenditure of \$2,504.00, plus shipping, to Pioneer Supply for repairs to the Wire Tie machine at the Solid Waste Facility, discussion and action item:

Edenfield moved to approve the expenditure of \$ 2,504.00, plus shipping to Pioneer Supply for repairs to the Wire Tie Machine at Solid Waste. Burger seconded the motion. Burger stated he personally witnessed the employees fighting with the machine for two hours trying to get the bales tied, wasting materials and employee time.

Stram inquired if the machine had been repaired before? Carter stated that the City has replaced mechanical parts, but not this part of the machine.

MOTION: Move to approve the expenditure of \$ 2,504.00, plus shipping to Pioneer Supply for repairs to the Wire Tie Machine at Solid Waste
F/S: Edenfield/
YEAS: Edenfield, Craske, Stram, Cunningham, Kerkof & Burger
NAYS: None
STATUS: Motion Passed.

14) EXECUTIVE SESSION:

This was removed from the agenda.

15) **CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Sean Kaer commented on the following:

- Apologize for prior comments
- Agreed with Cunningham on not wanting to compete with local business
- Those on Southside do not get subsidies like main town side
- Request the council put on the next agenda to have the harbor ramp surveyed

Sam Sawyer commented on the following:

- Happy to hear that the City is applying for grant for harbor the harbor, would like to have security camera set up at Davidson Landing that would focus on boats. Currently the system does not see the faces of the thieves who are taking items from the boats on the harbor.

16) **CONTINUATION OF COUNCIL COMMENT:**

Cunningham commented on the following:

- Regarding the dock at Davidson Landing, would like to have brighter lights on the harbor. That may deter people from going to steel.
- Apologize for not removing my hat during the pledge

Kerkof commented on the following:

- At the last meeting had asked that the City open meetings update to the public, did not personally care if people come.

17) **ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Edenfield adjourned the meeting at 8:04 pm


Cindy Edenfield, Mayor

ATTEST:

Teri Feibel, CMC