

MINUTES

FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL FOR
THE CITY OF THORNE BAY, ALASKA

TUESDAY, April 19, 2022

TIME: 6:30 p.m.

THE MEETING WAS PRECEDED BY A WORKSHOP BEGINNING AT 6:00 PM

LOCATION: TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO CONFERENCING LINE

1) CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Burger called meeting to order at 6:32pm

2) PLEDGE TO FLAG:

Audience and council stood for the pledge to the flag.

3) ROLL CALL:

Those present were:

Nyquest, Burger, Kerkof, Oatman, Jennings, Stram & Hartwell

4) APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Burger moved to approve the agenda. Hartwell seconded the motion. There was no further discussion.

MOTION: Move to approve agenda

F/S: Burger/Hartwell

YEAS: Nyquest, Burger, Kerkof, Oatman, Jennings, Stram, Hartwell

NAYS: None

STATUS: Motion Passed

5) MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Burger provided the following report:

- Glad to be back in town. Had been out of town visiting family.
- Thanked Vice Mayor Jennings for assisting with running the meeting on April 5th, he did an excellent job.
- While he was out of town, he participated in a Fish Derby and weighed in a fish of 36lbs. The final derby winner was 41 pounds.

6) ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

a) City Administrator:

Administrator Huestis reported the following:

- Administration is busy with the annual budget cycle, preparing draft budgets for review by the department directors and Administrator to fine tune before bringing to Council. This will be on-going for the next few weeks.

- EMS Coordinator Position Interviewed Victoria Anderson, negotiating with her.
- Fire Chief Position Matt McGinnis has agreed to keep the role, negotiating.
- Design contract with JYW for Fire/EMS Hall Design at Davidson Landing is well underway, I did get feedback from all Council members and passed along. Public Meeting scheduled for May 17 to share with the public and Council the 50% design.
- Working with USFS and OVK to complete the RAC project for the first 425 feet of the Kasaan Road project. AP&T power poles are in the way of the road work.
- Alaska Community Foundation project for library deck going well, roof will be on tomorrow and then the deck will be completed with the handicap ramp. We have been in discussions with the Friends about the second ramp in front, it is not really needed with the deck ramp being provided.
- Meeting with AKDOT&PF SE Region Director Lance Mearig, M&O Facilities and Construction Division Director, Pat Carroll, and Statewide Planning Director Marie Heidemann tomorrow to discuss Thorne Bay and Kasaan Transportation issues.
- Sara Yockey is planning to join us and we hope to tour the Kasaan Road and discuss the design and reconstruction of this road and the possibility of the state taking over M&O in the future once we rebuild it.
- We advertised vessels Seanna and Silver Doll for sale by sealed bids. Closes 4/22.
- We are working on cleaning up city hall area and then hope to paint later this summer
- EMS boat should be done with motor installation soon at Bay Company, then taking boat to Wrangell to Superior Marine for double epoxy and final painting on the hull
- City received the 2022 Volunteer Fire Department Grant of \$4,527.45McGinnis.
- Last Council meeting Requests from School for long jump pit / track improvements
- Charlie met with School and discussed partnership for City Rec property improvements
- Improvements to ball field some investigation was done working on improving drainage by clearing the ditch at the back of the field waiting on possible discussions with the school to see if there emerges a larger plan for the field City/School Plan
- Bay Chalet is too far gone to try to save it. We need to plan to tear it down and salvage what we can, although not much. Start planning for new Community Center
- Neighborhood Watch Program I have not looked into this yet. Would a Council member like to take the lead on developing this program? Do we need it?
- Boat/trailer wash down area possible location could be where the long-term parking area is nearest the port. The city could possibly put in a water valve and hydrant to connect hose for washing off saltwater looking for council feedback.

b) Department Reports:

No Department Reports given. Clerk stated that she had not submitted the request for the report to the departments in time but would be sure to get it next month.

c) City Clerk:

City Clerk Feibel reported the following:

City Bank Balances:

➤ **First Bank: \$18,345.79**

➤ **Tongass Federal Credit Union Share Accounts**

Account	Available Balance
HEALTH PREMIUM	\$5,071.93
OCCUPANCY GEN.	\$2,400.67
40% SALES TAX	\$150,412.65
OCC TAX EMS/FIR	\$9,502.66
OCC TAX TOURISM	\$10,732.51
OCC TAX PARKS	\$10,661.18
OCC TAX HARBOR	\$23,495.26
WATER UTL R&R	\$32,282.51
SEWER UTL R&R	\$30,581.61
SOLID WASTE R&R	\$27,265.64
COMMUNITY CENTER	\$7,504.26
CHECKING	\$16,246.97
60% SALES TAX	\$110,078.61
HARBOR R&R	\$99,947.10
Account Totals:	\$536,183.56

Wells Fargo Investments:

Money Market	\$296,006
Mutual Funds	\$632,446.85

Wells Fargo Investment TOTAL \$ 928,452.85

SUBTOTAL BANK BALANCES: \$1,482,982.20

The City is tighter in the checking account than we typically are, but we do have additional sales tax funds coming in from the AK Remote Seller Sales Tax and Municipal Tax collections.

7) PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Thom Cunningham provided the following comments:

- Was out of town during the last meeting were the council spoke about the change in the low-cost dump day, inquired about the details of the program this year
 - Administrator Huestis explained

Brandy Prefontaine commented on the following:

- Can you donate your coupons to another household?

8) COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Nyquest commented on the following:

- Regarding the Bay Chalet, it does have a fair number of good materials, but the City already has materials that are not used and suggested that we have someone tear down for free and they keep the materials for doing it.

Huestis commented that a possible option could be having the Fire Department do a training with the building and burn it down.

Jennings commented on the following:

- The only valuable belongings in the building now was a toyo stove, radiators, weed eaters and some filing cabinets.

Nyquest commented that the value of tin and building materials right now are extremely high, so there may be more value than considering.

9) CONSENT AGENDA:

a) MINUTES

i. Minutes of the April 5, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting, discussion and action item:

Burger moved to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting. Hartwell seconded the motion. There was no further discussion.

MOTION: Move to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2022 Regular Council Meeting

F/S: Burger/Hartwell

YEAS: Nyquest, Burger, Kerkof, Oatman, Jennings, Stram, Hartwell

NAYS: None

STATUS: Motion Passed

10) NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Resolution 22-04-19-01, authorizing the purchase of 2014 Dodge Journey SXT for administrative, discussion and action item:

Burger moved to approve Resolution 22-04-19-01. Nyquest seconded the motion. Administrator Huestis explained the need for the purchase of a vehicle for the admin department.

Thorne Bay has the largest city limits in Alaska. We have a lot of miles of road to maintain and we are responsible for. We are constantly needing to travel the roads for meetings, investigating complaints, etc. It is unreasonable for me to use my own vehicle to conduct city business.

Hartwell commented that he was acting Mayor for 3 months in 2009 and ended up going to Whale Pass, Kasaan, Craig & Klawock multiple times. After the Mayor returned I suggested that they get a stipend for the added mileage.

Nyquest inquired if the Councilmembers would be able to use also? Huestis, yes, just as long as it is city travel.

MOTION: Move to approve Resolution 22-04-19-01
F/S: Burger/Nyquest
YEAS: Nyquest, Burger, Kerkof, Oatman, Jennings, Stram, Hartwell
NAYS: None
STATUS: Motion Passed

- b) **Resolution 22-04-19-02**, establishing policy for determining eligibility for VPSO Housing Stipend, discussion and action item:

Burger moved to approve Resolution 22-04-19-02. Jennings seconded the motion. Huestis explained the need for the resolution was to address discrepancies in not having an official policy that we have to follow in regard to how to establish housing stipends. It is unclear as to how much the stipend should be, what the requirements were for a VPSO to receive the stipend etc. This resolution would provide that the VPSO's Housing Stipend would be determined each year during the budgeting process. The Council would determine at that time the amount the City has to contribute for the housing stipend. With our MOA, Tlingit and Haida Central Council pays the wages for the VPSO's and the City pays for the office space, utilities, vehicle maintenance, fuel, materials and supplies.

MOTION: Move to approve Resolution 22-04-19-02
F/S: Burger/Jennings
YEAS: Nyquest, Burger, Oatman, Jennings, Stram, Hartwell
NAYS: Kerkof
STATUS: Motion Passed

11) ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION:

- a) **Ordinance 22-05-03-01**, Amending the Budget for Fiscal Year 2022 beginning July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, discussion and action item:

Burger moved to approve Ordinance 22-05-03-01. Jennings seconded the motion. Clerk explained the edits to the budget for FY22.

MOTION: Move to approve Ordinance 22-05-03-01
F/S: Burger/Jennings
YEAS: Nyquest, Burger, Kerkof, Oatman, Jennings, Stram, Hartwell
NAYS: None
STATUS: Motion Passed

<u>FY22 Proposed Budget</u>	<u>FY22 -Actual July 1, 21April 17, 22</u>	<u>FY22 Amended Budget</u>
\$ 1,599,260.43	\$ 1,154,979.02	\$ 1,578,652.38
\$ 1,647,042.48	\$ 1,195,751.24	\$ 1,612,205.16
\$ (47,782.05)	\$ (40,772.22)	\$ (33,552.78)

12) CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC COMMENT:

Thom Cunningham commented on the following:

- Regarding the Bay Chalet. Thom had crawled underneath the Bay Chalet about a year and a half ago. I was able to look at the wall studs and see if anything was salvageable. As far as finding someone to pay to tear that down, you will have a hard time. Suggest take tin off and keep and then let the fire department use as training.
- Until tonight had not realized that our VPSO had moved to Craig. As a resident feel that the VPSO should live in Thorne Bay and if they live out of town then their stipends need to be lower.

No further public comments.

13) CONTINUATION OF COUNCIL COMMENT:

Nyquest provided the following comments:

- Spoke with Casey Lavoie regarding trails and he had mentioned that there was a lot of money available for trails right now. There is currently a trail being built in Sitka. There is a lot of money available now for this. Love to see more walking trails that would benefit locals and visitors.
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14) ADJOURNMENT:

Burger adjourned the meeting at 8:04

Lee Burger, Mayor

ATTEST:

Teri Feibel, CMC



Sponsor:	<u>Lee Burger</u>
Introduction:	<u>May 3, 2022</u>
Vote:	<u> </u> Yeas, <u> </u> Nays, <u> </u> Absent

**CITY OF THORNE BAY
RESOLUTION 22-05-03-02**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF THORNE BAY, ALASKA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO NEGOTIATE LEASE TERMS AND CONDITIONS WITH ALL LEASES SET TO EXPIRE WITHIN THE NEXT NINETY DAYS AND APPROVING LEASE EXTENSIONS ON A MONTH-TO-MONTH BASIS FOR SUCH LEASES UNTIL SUCH TIME THAT NEW AGREEMENTS ARE EXECUTED

WHEREAS, the City Council is the governing body of the City of Thorne Bay; and

WHEREAS, the city currently leases municipal owned lands located within the Downtown Business District, Sortyard, and Tidelands located along Shoreline Drive; and

WHEREAS, the Thorne Bay Municipal Code 2.56.220-Term of Leases, Subsection (b) provides that the City may at its own discretion authorize lease renewals for a term not to exceed 5-years and with such revisions and amendments as deemed by the City in the best interests of the City; and

WHEREAS, three of the City's lease agreements will be expiring within the next 90 days and the City has received notice from at least two of the lease holders of their intent to renew their lease terms; and

WHEREAS, the lease rate for municipal owned lands has not been adjusted for over 8 years and the City Council deems it to be in the best interest of the City to review all aspects of the Lease terms and rental rates as provided in the Thorne Bay Municipal Code Chapter 2.56-City Property, Article III Long-Term and Short-Term Leases; and

WHEREAS, the timing needed to negotiate new lease terms will exceed the expiration of the current lease term and requires approval of the City Council to continue renting under the expiring lease terms and conditions on a monthly basis until negotiations have completed.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council for the City of Thorne Bay hereby authorizes the City Administrator to negotiate new lease terms with Lessee's and authorizes these leases to continue on a month-to-month basis until such time new agreements are executed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, if negotiations fail to reach an Agreement satisfactory to the

City Council for any lease so extended on a month to month basis, that lease shall expire 30 days from the Council's acknowledgment of a failed lease negotiation and all other terms and conditions shall remain in effect that would have otherwise governed the original lease expiration.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 3rd day of May 2022, by a duly constituted quorum of the City Council with a vote of 10 yeah and 0 nay.

ATTEST



Lee Burger, Mayor



Teri Feibel, CMC