



MINUTES

for The Regular Meeting
Of The City Council
for the City of Thorne Bay
Tuesday, May 17, 2022
Beginning at 6:30 p.m.

THERE WAS A SPECIAL WORKSHOP THAT BEGAN AT 5:30PM TO REVIEW AND DISCUSS THE BASE FIRE HALL DESIGN FOR DAVIDSON LANDING

LOCATION: TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO CONFERENCING LINE & IN PERSON @ CITY HALL

1) CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Burger called meeting to order at 6:30pm

2) PLEDGE TO FLAG:

Audience and council stood for the pledge to the flag.

3) ROLL CALL:

Those present were:

Burger, Oatman, Jennings, Kerkof, Stram & Hartwell. Nyquest was excused.

4) APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

MOTION: Move to approve agenda as written.

F/S: Burger/Hartwell

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

NAYS: None

STATUS: Motion Passed

5) MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Burger reported the following:

- Cleanup of City Property around town, including removal of derelict vessels from behind City Hall and at the harbor.

6) ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

a) City Administrator:

John Huestis provided the following Administrator Report.

- 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.
- Public Meeting was tonight to share with the public and Council the 50% design for the Davidson Landing Fire/EMS Hall Design.
- AP&T to complete relocation of major power pole on RAC project for the first 425 feet of the Kasaan Road project in conjunction with construction project staging.
- Alaska Community Foundation project for library deck going well, the deck will be completed this week with benches and concrete work remaining.
- Met with State Forestry, Greg Staunton and Survey/Land Development Managers John King and Tim Shilling about Bayview Timber Sale and future subdivision.
- Seanna and Silver Doll have been demolishing and are at the solid waste facility
- EMS boat still at Bay Company, then taking boat to Superior Marine
- Library Grand Opening scheduled for June 11th at 3:00
- Old library steps, deck, ramp, etc. should be moved within the next week and the library will follow once the wheels get installed
- Senator Murkowski's staff will be here on May 31st from 10:00 to 12:00 to respond to constituents' issues/comments/concerns, etc. Mobile Office will be on island
- Friends of the Library benches to be installed around the city - Karen Petersen
- E-mail from Amy McDonald - issues with Maple Trees that Mr. Wilson planted some years back. Likes the idea of the path but not over the trees. Keep the tree's
- Bay Chalet - Plan to prepare an RFP to have it torn down for highest and best bid
- Boat/trailer washdown area - Recommend use is open to general public for non-potable uses that require purchase of a \$25 permit for harbor/ramp customers or a \$50 permit for everyone else. Will bring with future rate recommendations.
- Met with Papac Logging and SE Roadbuilders to begin discussions on land lease agreement renewals. Retracing lot lines for Business Loop Subdivision lot 6 and 7.
- Completed surface water testing at the Solid Waste facility per our permit requirements. We also have a Solid Waste permit inspection in July.
- We will be organizing and cleaning up solid waste facility in the next couple months in preparation for the inspection and also to sort and ship metals for recycling - aluminum - Planning to hire a project employee to operate City equipment to reorganize solid waste site ahead of inspection
- Executed Contract with R&M Engineering for survey work on project as approved last meeting by City Council.
- Parking changes at the Harbor - discuss with Council - 24- & 72-hour parking at harbor, one vehicle per reserved stalls for live-a-boards, no long-term parking at ramp, 72-hour parking at old Pro Mech location across from Church
- Monday, June 13th is the first walking tour of the City from Alaska Dream Cruises

b) Clerk Report:

Clerk Feibel provided the following report.

➤ **Financial:**

We finally received the Sales Tax income for both local revenue and online sales tax, which helped us in our TFCU account. We had been very low in the account the past few months and have had to hold off paying some of our larger bills until the bill due date in hopes to have more money in our accounts.

Local Sales Tax Collection & Deposit: \$ 100,634.07 (quarterly tax deposit)

Remote Seller Sales Tax – ONLINE: \$ 7,637.92 (monthly deposit vs. quarterly)

The Local Sales Tax Totals for QTR. 1-2022 is broken between City Sales Tax and Bed Tax as follows:

Sales Tax \$ 96,575.06
 Bed Tax: \$ 4,059.01
TOTAL: \$ 100,634.07

QuickBooks Profit and Loss July 1, 2021 – May 17, 2022

Income: 1,371,260.89

Expense: 1,265,905.74

Net Income: \$ 105,355.15

Tongass Federal Credit Union Accounts:

Account	Balance	Totals by acct. type
COMMUNITYCENTER	\$7,504.57	\$7,504.57
CHECKING	\$131,743.49	\$131,743.49
HEALTH PREMIUM	\$0.19	\$0.19
OCCUPANCY GEN.	\$2,400.77	
OCC TAX EMS/FIR	\$9,503.05	
OCC TAX TOURISM	\$10,732.95	
OCC TAX PARKS	\$10,661.62	
OCC TAX HARBOR	\$23,496.22	\$56,794.61
WATER UTL R&R	\$32,283.84	
SEWER UTL R&R	\$30,582.87	
SOLIDWASTE R&R	\$27,266.76	
HARBOR R&R	\$99,951.20	\$190,084.67
40% SALES TAX	\$168,181.37	
60% SALES TAX	\$136,727.17	\$304,908.54
Account Totals:	\$691,036.07	

First Bank Checking Account:

Account	Balance	TOTALS
FIRST BANK CHECKING	4,860.58	\$4,860.58

Wells Fargo Investment Account Balances:

Money Market Account: \$ 251,039.00
Investment Bonds CD's: \$ 585,807.55
TOTAL INVESTMENT: \$ 836,846.55

➤ **PERS AUDIT:**

- PERS performed a Compliance Audit of the City for the Calendar Year of 2020. This is the first audit finding where there were no issues found.

➤ **UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS:**

- Still working on the Water Ordinance to provide better clarification on billing for both residential and commercial services.
- Reviewing the rates charged for all city services including water, sewer, garbage, harbor etc. We are also looking at how other communities are billing for their water & sewer services with regard to residential and commercial rates.

7) PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Harvey McDonald commented on the following:

- Kudos to residents who are cleaning up along the highway, there were quite a few out this past weekend.

Thom Cunningham commented on the following:

- Nice to see cleanup around the community in town, but not seeing anything done on Southside.
- Brother passed away on May 2nd, he has 10 acres of property, the proceeds from the sale of his property will be donated to the library.
- There is a loophole in the Mayor and Vice Mayor position. There was an amendment to the Election Ordinance requiring that a councilmember be on the council for one year before being eligible for office of Mayor. Cunningham commented that he felt, and was told by a councilmember, that the City Council rushed the ordinance to provide that a councilmember must have one-year experience on the City Council in order to qualify for the office of Mayor, as a measure to keep newly elected councilmembers from becoming Mayor.
 - Councilmember Jennings commented during those meetings that he was no qualified to be mayor, then put in for the office of vice-mayor.
- Requested the council consider having the mayor appoint someone from the council serve as the Mayor Pro-temp
- Suggested the council amend the ordinance that a vice mayor not be appointed until after the mayor has been elected.

8) COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Jennings commented on the following:

- Commented that he would resign as Vice Mayor and no longer wished to hear Thom continue to complain about it.
- Councilman Jennings then removed himself from the meeting.

Hartwell commented on the following:

- Regarding the walkway that is being proposed to the Claw be changed by moving the Claw to where the boat launch is and then use that gravel that was going to be put on the walkway be put on the southside roads.
- Would like to see the Newsletter getting out again. The Clerk was getting those out in the past but would like to see that again.

Oatman commented on the following:

- Have had a lot of people approach commenting that they do not want to see the maple trees that were planted by Mr. Jim Wilson be removed.
- Suggested the City remove the metal off the Bay Chalet and tear it down ourselves.
- Concurred with Hartwell's comment regarding the gravel need on the Southside roads.

Burger commented that the city didn't have the manpower to tear it down and did not have a use for the tin.

Oatman commented that his comment was intended that the city employees do on their down time and then advertise the tin for sale.

Comments continued regarding CLAW Trail grant project and public comments regarding preserving the maple trees that are along the highway and planted by Jim Wilson.

9) CONSENT AGENDA:

a) MINUTES

- i. Minutes of the May 3, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting, discussion and action item:

b) RESOLUTIONS

- i. Resolution 22-05-17-01, authorizing a 6-month rental extension on the RV Park agreement for Lognroad; discussion and action item:
- ii. Resolution 22-05-17-02, authorizing a 6-month rental extension on the RV Park agreement for Faith Huestis, discussion and action item:
- iii. Resolution 22-05-17-03, authorizing a 6-month rental extension on the RV Park agreement for Kim Straight, discussion and action item:

Burger moved to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the Minutes from the May 3, 2022, City Council Meeting and Resolutions 22-05-17-01, 02 & 03, authorizing 6-month rental extensions for RV Park rentals. Oatman seconded the motion. Hartwell commented that at the last city council

meeting he commented there were no trash cans around town and the minutes reflected the Administrator making a statement that there was a trashcan at the bottom of the stairs by the store. Hartwell stated that he checked and there was not a can located there. The City Administrator stated he did not recall making that statement. The City Clerk referred back to the recording and clarified that the Administrator said he understood there was a can located at the bottom of the stairs, but he did not claim that in fact there was. City Clerk stated she would correct the minutes of the May 3rd meeting to remove that statement. There was no further discussion.

MOTION: Move to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the Minutes from the May 3, 2022, City Council Meeting and Resolutions 22-05-17-01, 02 & 03, authorizing 6-month rental extensions for RV Park rentals

F/S: Burger/Oatman

YEAS: Burger, Kerkof, Oatman, Stram & Hartwell

NAYS: None

STATUS: Motion Passed

10) NEW BUSINESS:

- a) **Resolution 22-05-17-04**, amending the City Administrator Salary base to be consistent with the GS Wage Scale adopted by the City Council in 2017, discussion and action item:

Burger moved to approve Resolution 22-05-17-04. Oatman seconded the motion. City Clerk explained that the amendment moved the salary to be on the GS Wage Scale used by the city to determine wage and salary of Municipal Employees. The overall change in a three-year period will reduce the administrator's pay by \$33.34.

MOTION: Move to approve Resolution 22-05-17-04, amending the City Administrator salary consistent with the GS Wage Scale adopted by the City Council in 2017.

F/S: Burger/Oatman

YEAS: Burger, Kerkof, Oatman, Stram & Hartwell

NAYS: None

STATUS: Motion Passed

- b) **Resolution 22-05-17-05**, authorizing the payment of a five thousand (\$5,000) dollar deductible for repairs to the city's 2008 Volvo Excavator Cab

Burger moved to approve Resolution 22-05-17-05. Oatman seconded the motion. Administrator Huestis explained that when the city was removing a boat trailer at the Sortyard one of the trailer beams slipped through the thumb and bucket of the excavator, falling onto the cab and breaking the window. The damages to the excavator well exceed the City's five-thousand-dollar deductible. There was further discussion.

MOTION: Move to approve Resolution 22-05-17-05 authorizing the payment of a five thousand (\$5,000) dollar deductible for repairs to the city's 2008 Volvo Excavator Cab
F/S: Burger/Oatman
YEAS: Burger, Kerkof, Oatman, Stram, Hartwell
NAYS: None
STATUS: Motion Passed

11) CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC COMMENT:

Thom Cunningham commented on the following:

- People have been getting D-1 at Davidson to fill in the potholes, however that itself will not fix the road issues.
- How councilmembers feel about the public should have no bearing on the way the city does business.

12) CONTINUATION OF COUNCIL COMMENT:

Stram commented on the following:

- Commented he was sad to see Jennings stepping down. Jennings has a lot of knowledge and provided good suggestions during his tenor on the council.

13) ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Burger adjourned the meeting 7:47pm

ATTEST:



Lee Burger, Mayor



Teri Feibel, CMC