

## MINUTES

FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
FOR THE CITY OF THORNE BAY, ALASKA  
TUESDAY, August 2, 2022

TIME: 6:30 p.m.

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THERE WAS A WORKSHOP BEGINNING AT 6:00PM

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LOCATION: IN PERSON AT CITY HALL or TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO CONFERENCING LINE

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**1) CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Burger called the meeting to order at 6:30pm

**2) PLEDGE TO FLAG:**

The council and audience stood for the pledge to the flag.

**3) ROLL CALL:**

Burger, Oatman, Jennings, Stram and Hartwell were present.  
Nyquist and Kerkof were excused.

**4) APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

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

MOTION: Move to approve the agenda  
F/S: Burger/Jennings  
YEAS: Burger, Hartwell, Oatman, Jennings & Stram  
NAYS: None  
STATUS: Motion Passed.

**5) MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- Still active COVID cases, so encourage the public to continue practicing proper hygiene.

**6) ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

**a) City Administrator:**

Working on typical summertime maintenance issues and special projects as required.

- Working on a recruitment for a new Library Director
- Our new mini excavator arrived last week and we had a brief training on its operation. We found a new trailer from DBARC in Oregon. Thank s Tony Lovell.
- I have been in contact with AP&T about the broadband grants that are bringing new high-speed Internet to communities on POW to discuss what can be done for the City of Thorne Bay
- OVK has had some resignations within their DOT and I have offered to help them in an interim capacity until they can recover, in order to maintain program continuity
- Tongard should be back Thursday or Friday to load up the recycled metals from the solid waste facility on their barge currently in Tolstoi
- I have been talking with Mike Williams about drilling and shooting the rock in cell no. 2 at the landfill. We can sell the rock and also level the site for future operations

### City Clerk Report:

- Newsletter is out, check that out on our website and I will post them around town as well.
- EMS Fundraiser Dinner – Friday 5:30pm
- Kids Fishing Day August 6<sup>th</sup> at 9am at Gravely Creek
- Annual Thorne Bay Days August 6<sup>th</sup> at 12pm at the Ball Field and Court. We will have vendors and many games and other fun activities for folks. We are hoping each year to grow the event more and more and eventually get it back to how the Logging Show used to be.
- Neighborhood Yard Sale on Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup>
- Marry Cook had submitted a written request for the council to allow for a nanobrewery in Thorne Bay, this was missed for the agenda, but I did follow up and request she set a meeting with the administrative staff

### 7) PUBLIC COMMENTS:

#### Harvey McDonald provided the following comments:

- Commented that the IFA continues to run at full capacity without any issues.
- Thanked the City Administrator for being so proactive in the City getting fiber optic internet in Thorne Bay.
  - Huestis commented that he had been reaching out to AP&T since he was hired trying to find out about the new submarine cable that was supposed to bring high-speed internet to the Island but had troubles getting anyone to return his calls. Since then, an article came out in the newspaper about how AP&T got a grant to provide this internet to Craig, Klawock & Hollis. Later that day Huestis received a call from a gentleman with the Governor's Office who was reaching out to local communities to see what issues they have going on, so he mentioned that he had been trying to get ahold of someone with AP&T regarding this internet. Later that day he finally received an email from someone with AP&T and we have set up a meeting to discuss this.

#### Juanita Stram provided the following comments:

- The church will be holding a desert contest across the street from the Restaurant just after Pig-Nic Dinner. Invited everyone to attend.

#### Glen Holt, UAF Cooperative Extension Forester, and Resident of Greentree Heights Subdivision provided the following written report to the City Council and the Clerk read it into the record:

“Dear Mr. Mayor and City Council Members:

I am working with the USFS Wildfire Supervisor in the Thorne Bay Ranger District to provide you a list of Fire Cache supplies and equipment to have on hand and operable in the event of a larger than normal, multi-day wildfire event.

This “Fire Cache” equipment list should give the City a good idea what we might want to have on hand and in operable possession separate from the USFS “Fire Cache” but in addition to it and available to the City to use if needed to suppress wildfires within Thorne Bay City Limits.

A discussion is also occurring with the Forest Service and the Type, Capacity and tooling of two 3/4-ton 4-wheel drive pickup trucks outfitted with slip on 100-gallon water holding and pumping capacity, and with tools for “rapid response initial attack” (IA) of wildland fires (only).

We are scoping (with the Forest Service Fire Supervisor) what the City might purchase within City budget and grants the purchase of those two IA trucks and/or whether those trucks be upgraded to one-ton pickups have four-door and 4-wheeled drive capacity. A difference in cost should be determined. Those two trucks for instance, could be pre-positioned in Thorne Bay and on the south side at Davidson’s Landing.

Tools and apparatus the USFS might suggest could include hand tools, shovels, Pulaski’s; water pumps, hose ~ size and lengths, gated Y valves, nozzles, clamps, fedco backpack hand water pumps, chainsaws, chainsaw kits, Personal Protective Gear (i.e. helmets, fire clothing, protected toed boots, leather gloves, eye protection, hearing protection, etc.)

Much of this gear appears to be on back order at this time but when the City determines what is needed based on their priority and budget and grant cycles, orders can be placed that within grant spending parameters. I look forward to hearing from the USFS Fire Supervisor as soon as their time allows, But I also need to know when the CITY this needs the list to fit current grant cycles. The idea of having Initial Attack Wildland Fire protection equipment could be crucial to rapidly responding to wildfires during hot, dry, windy periods when wildfires are most likely to be a serious risk to people and property. Wildfires nationwide are becoming larger quicker. Prince of Wales Island too might in the near future become more prone to hotter, drier and windier weather conditions as the climate seems to be slowly changing with time. Remembering that warm, dry, windy conditions can occur on Prince of Wales Island, it is in my opinion and experience (29-years in wildfire suppression) to be operably prepared. When wildfire danger is high or worse, wildfire equipment and personnel may be tapped and otherwise assigned to other fires and even unavailable. Rapid response and Initial Attack wildfire resources, training and personnel are essential to keeping wildfires small and manageable in order to protect our lives and property. I will keep you posted. Please give me timelines.

Respectfully,  
Glen Holt  
UAF Extension Forester”

#### 8) COUNCIL COMMENTS:

##### **Jon Stram commented on the following:**

- Inquired if the list of fire equipment needed would also augment what they would use on a regular fire too?

##### **Jennings commented on the following:**

- Inquired what would be happening with the OVK road project we had planned now that the Kasaan Transportation Director resigned.
  - Huestis responded he was still working towards getting that completed this year. Currently needed to find another equipment operator after the loss of Bill Yockey.

9) **CONSENT AGENDA:**

a) **MINUTES**

i. **Minutes of the July 19, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting, discussion and action item:**

Burger moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes for the July 19, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting. Hartwell seconded the motion. There was no further discussion.

MOTION: Move to approve the consent agenda adopting the July 19, 2022, City Council Minutes  
F/S: Burger/Hartwell  
YEAS: Burger, Hartwell, Oatman, Jennings & Stram  
NAYS: None  
STATUS: Motion Passed

10) **NEW BUSINESS:**

a) **Resolution 22-08-02-01**, supporting the amendment of Industrial Zone to allow Residential Uses as a Conditionally Permitted use within the zone, discussion and action item:

Burger moved to approve Resolution 22-08-02-01. Stram seconded the motion. City Clerk explained that the intent for this resolution was to address the non-compliance of residential use that is going on within the Goose Creek Subdivision which was zoned industrial. The intent is to provide an avenue for people to live in the Industrial Zone only upon approval of a Conditional Use Permit. By requiring them to get the permit, it allows the City to provide them with the Industrial Zone regulations and explain that the uses within the zone are likely to be noisy, dusty, and increased traffic, and explain that they are knowingly choosing to live within the area and there could be no complaints. Concerns that have been brought up about this is that the residents would grow and eventually not allow for any industrial uses. The City Clerk stated that if the Council approved the resolution, she would then draft an ordinance that would include Residential living in the Industrial Zone upon approval of a Conditional Use Permit. The Clerk would also send notice to all property owners within the Industrial Zone of the proposed amendment to allow them the opportunity to comment. There was further discussion.

MOTION: Move to approve Resolution 22-08-02-01  
F/S: Burger/Stram  
YEAS: Oatman, Jennings, Burger, Hartwell & Stram  
NAYS: None  
STATUS: Motion Passed.

b) **Authorizing a donation of \$500.00, to the Annual Thorne Bay Days Celebration, to be used for awarding Cash Prizes, discussion and action item:**

Burger moved to approve the donation of \$500.00, to Annual Thorne Bay Day's. Oatman seconded the motion. Oatman inquired if the funds were to be used for prizes? The City Clerk explained this money was intended for the cash prize awards. There was no further discussion.

MOTION: Move to approve the donation of \$500.00 to the Annual Thorne Bay's Celebration  
F/S: Burger/Oatman  
YEAS: Jennings, Burger, Oatman, Stram & Hartwell  
NAYS: None  
STATUS: Motion Passed.

c) Authorizing a donation of \$500.00, to the Thorne Bay Fishing Derby, discussion and action item:

Burger moved to approve the donation of \$500.00 to the Thorne Bay Fishing Derby. Oatman seconded the motion. Hartwell commented that the City Council has done this in the past and supports it this year. There were no further comments.

MOTION: Move to approve the donation of \$500.00 to the Thorne Bay Fishing  
F/S: Burger/Oatman  
YEAS: Jennings, Burger, Oatman, Stram & Hartwell  
NAYS: None  
STATUS: Motion Passed.

11) CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC COMMENT:

Harvey McDonald commented on the following:

- Inquired if the city was going to be purchasing the fire suppression equipment from the Forest Service or was it going to be donated?
  - City Clerk responded the City would purchase the equipment using ARPA Grant Funding that was allotted to the Fire Department of approximately \$130,000.00.
  - Administrator Huestis commented that Glenn Holt was providing the City with bids and list to give us an idea about the availability of equipment that we might consider, which I believe is good.
- McDonald commented that he did not want to see the City get a pump truck that only holds 100 gallons of water. The USFS has gone to a 300 gallon which requires a bigger tank.

Glen Holt commented on the following:

- The 100-gallon slip tank works well with a 3/4 pickup truck or a One-ton pickup truck with 4 doors.
- A 350-gallon slip tank works with a 550 Ford and is much more of an expensive piece of equipment.
- The smaller tanks would be for initial rapid response and not intended for larger fires.

12) CONTINUATION OF COUNCIL COMMENT:

Mayor Burger thanked Glen Holt and Harvey McDonald for their input on the City's fire suppression equipment needs.

13) ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Burger adjourned the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
Teri Feibel, CMC

  
Lee Burger, Mayor