

MINUTES

FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE
CITY OF THORNE BAY, ALASKA
MONDAY, October 13, 2025

TIME: 6:30 p.m.

THERE WAS A WORKSHOP BEGINNING AT 6:00PM

1) CALL TO ORDER:

- a) Pesterfield moved to nominated Max Blair to chair the meeting, Seconded Kaer

MOTION: Move to approve the agenda.

F/S: Pesterfield/Kaer

YEAS: Pesterfield, Lovell, Blair, Kaer, Cunningham, Killian, Nyquest

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

STATUS: Motion Passed

Blair called the meeting to order at 6:30pm

2) PLEDGE TO FLAG:

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

3) ROLL CALL:

Those present were:

Pesterfield, Lovell, Nyquest, Kaer, Blair, Killian, Cunningham

Those absent were: None

4) APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Bair moved to approve the Agenda, seconded, No discussion,

MOTION: Move to approve the agenda.

F/S: Blair/ Pesterfield

YEAS: Pesterfield, Lovell, Nyquest, Blair, Kaer, Cunningham, Killian

NAYS: None

STATUS: Motion Passed

5) MAYOR'S REPORT: None given

6) ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

- a) City Administrator: Attached

- b) City Clerk: Attached

7) DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- a) Water Report: NOT GIVEN

- b) Harbor Report: Attached

- c) VPSO Report: NOT GIVEN

- d) EMS Report: NOT GIVEN

8) PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- a) None

9) COUNCIL COMMENTS:

- a) Pesterfield:

- i. Clearance light at the harbor is down.

- ii. Clarified why the Resolution for the Variance is back on the Agenda.

10) **CONSENT AGENDA:**

a) **Minutes** of the September 2, 2025, Regular City Council Meeting, action item:

Blair moved to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the Minutes from the September 2, 2025 regular meeting, Seconded, No Discussion.

MOTION: Move to approve the consent agenda.

F/S: Blair/ Killian

YEAS: Pesterfield, Lovell, Nyquest, Blair, Kaer, Cunningham, Killian

NAYS:

STATUS: Motion Passed

11) **OLD BUSINESS:**

a) **Resolution 25-08-05-01 PZ:** Approving the Variance Application submitted by the Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Tribes of Alaska for a Height Requirement Variance, discussion and action item;

Blair moved to approve Resolution 25-08-05-01PZ Approving the Variance Application from CCTH, Seconded, discussion as follows:

Pesterfield: commented that we discussed it already and it didn't get the amount of votes needed. Number 7 on the application is that it is not for monetary gain, but the height would give them access to more tenants which would give them more income which gives them monetary gain. Community members and pilots expressed disinterest in having the tower built.

Nyquest: We asked if EMS could put something up on the tower and thought that they would allow us to do that, unsure if it was contingent or not, couldn't recall.

Lovell clarified that they needed to speak with their attorney about adding

Kear commented that he does not think that it would sway his opinion and people that he talked to did not like the idea.

Cunningham commented that they are asking for 175ft and suggested that regardless of FAA requirements, it should have a light installed. Said that people would like to have it but people don't want it in their backyards.

Nyquest suggested Cunningham make a motion to amend the Resolution to include a Whereas clause to require a light.

Cunningham questioned if the users would be required to pay a fee to the owners

- Huestis clarified.

Cunningham made a motion to amend the resolution to include a whereas clause to include a light on tower, and a spot on the tower for our EMS/Fire, upon approval of Variance Request, seconded Nyquest.

Newton commented they would be happy to install a light and would be happy to work with the City to add EMS/Fire equipment to the tower. Feels it would be a disservice to not build a tower that would service multiple people rather than just one.

Lovell questioned if the applicant needs to retract the statement or revise the Resolution?

Kaer commented his opinion on the Variance and suggested he was ready to vote.

Huestis responded to Councilman Lovell's question on the number 7

Nyquest commented that there have been many discussions about wanting more services and more possibilities and this is something that could potentially provide Thorne Bay with that in the future.

Kaer commented his opinion on the speeds and services provided in comparison to what is already available.

Luke Johnson, Tidal Network, commented on the type of services offered and speed compatibility provided by Tidal Network.

Cunningham commented that the tower isn't useful to those who do not have internet access.

Nyquest questioned if this tower competes with Atlas tower?

Huestis responded.

Jerry Cochran, Tidal Network Construction Manager, commented that the Variance allows for multiple services.

Lovell questioned if there is a disadvantage of there being a tower up already?

Luke Johnson responded it will serve a different location and a different set of people so it doesn't not seem to be disadvantageous.

Jerry Cochran responded with information on analysis done based on height and area coverages.

MOTION: Move to approve amended Resolution 25-08-05-01PZ, to include a red light and a spot for Emergency EMS/Fire repeater equipment,

F/S: Blair/ Nyquest

YEAS: Lovell, Nyquest, Blair

NAYS: Pesterfield, Killian, Kaer, Cunningham

STATUS: Motion Failed

12) NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Resolution 25-10-13-01, Certifying October 7, 2025 Election Results, discussion and action item;

Blair moved to approve Resolution 25-10-13-01 Certifying Oct 7th Election Results

MOTION: Move to approve Resolution 25-10-13-01 Certifying the Election Results.

F/S: Blair/ Cunningham

YEAS: Pesterfield, Lovell, Nyquest, Blair, Kaer, Cunningham, Killian

NAYS:

STATUS: Motion Passed

13) CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC COMMENT:

- a) None

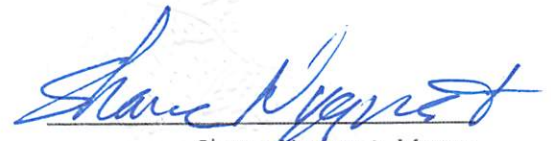
14) CONTINUATION OF COUNCIL COMMENT:

- a) **Kaer** commented that he will be gone until December 20th for medical and fishing.
- b) **Cunningham** apologized for missing last month's meeting. Commented on his cell phone service improvement since the tower was installed. Thanked the city for working on getting the Atlas Tower installed here. Commented that the tower variance was fine, but not in his backyard.
- c) **Pesterfield** commented that he heard about Sam Sawyer's resignation and commented

that he always did a great job. Is sad to hear that he is gone. Heard from other City employees that there may have been a hostile environment that was unacceptable and may need to be addressed. Thank you to Sam Sawyer for his years of hard work.

- d) **Kaer** agreed with previous comment, appreciates Sams work and wish we could keep him.
- e) **Cunningham** agreed Sam did a fine job and was a worthy City employee and agreed Council should investigate the situation that caused his resignation.
- f) **Kear** commented if there is any chance to get him back, he gave a lot of care for the Community.

15) ADJOURNMENT: Blair adjourned the meeting at 7:17pm


Shane Nyquest, Mayor

ATTEST:


Caitlyn Sawyer, City Clerk/Treasurer