

MINUTES

FOR THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE
CITY OF THORNE BAY, ALASKA
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2026

TIME: 6:30 p.m.

THERE WAS A WORKSHOP BEGINNING AT 6:00PM

1) **CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor 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, Cunningham, Anderson, Kaer

Those absent were: Killian, Nyquest

4) **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Mayor Pro-Tem moved to approve the Agenda, Seconded, no discussion

MOTION: Move to approve Agenda.

F/S: Pesterfield/ Lovell

YEAS: Pesterfield, Lovell, Cunningham, Anderson, Kaer

NAYS:

ABSENT: Killian, Nyquest

STATUS: Motion Passed

5) **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- Restrooms at the Harbor are having flushing issues
- Hired a Solid Waste Operator, Josh Peavey, starts tomorrow.
- Boat in the Harbor sunk a week ago, contained with oil booms, owner is currently trying to float boat to remove.
- Special Meeting to address check fraud at the bank. Gave brief overview of check fraud. Credit Union has been monitoring account and recommended new accounts. Resolution was passed at that meeting. Also spoke on Administrator job posting.

6) **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

a) **City Clerk: Clerk's office Projects:**

- Creating templates for Budget
- FY25 Financial Report to be certified by Council in April
- Special Election preparations will be underway once authorized to do so
- Tongass Federal Credit Union has the approved Resolution and is working on creating the signer's card.
- June Clerk's training for CMC training June 14th
- Council POFD's are due March 16th
- Looking into renewing the agreement with USFS to use their radio frequencies for EMS radios

7) **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

a) None

8) **COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

a) Sean Kaer: congratulations to Josh on job.

9) **CONSENT AGENDA:**

- a) **Minutes** of the February 3, 2026, Regular City Council Meeting, action item:
- b) **Minutes** of the February 23, 2026, Special City Council Meeting, action item:

Mayor Pro-Tem moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Seconded,

MOTION: Move to approve Consent Agenda.

F/S: Pesterfield/ Anderson

YEAS: Pesterfield, Lovell, Cunningham, Anderson, Kaer

NAYS:

ABSENT: Killian, Nyquest

STATUS: Motion Passed

10) UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a) **Discussion item:** Flat rate for Seniors and previous Rates Resolution;

- **Cunningham:** cited local rates for city services \$45.10/mo, 3rd can is an additional \$20 charge. Commented 3rd can charge is excessive, suggested \$10. Proposal is all seniors 2-35gal cans flat rate of \$7. Seniors without tax card show proof of age, tax applied. Non-seniors shouldn't have to pay anymore per month that Northside rates. (2-35gal cans plus tax at \$45.10). Suggested town side pickup only be charged for cans picked up. Would like to hear Council and Public feedback.
- **Anderson** commented that the rate in town is \$5.00 so the difference is \$0.63.
- **Lovell** commented we need to consider all parties involved. Stated it is hard to talk one demographic without talking any other. Considered if Council should be considering opt-out options for services offered in town.
- **Kaer** commented would be nice to have a senior rate, would be a larger discussion. Clean community is important, suggested offset of community members rates by increasing out of town garbage rates.
- **David Shilts** cautioned rates discussions before looking at budget. Solid Waste is running at a deficit and should be considered during discussion of rates.
- **Tim Lindseth** commented that opt out is a bad idea because many will opt out and throw garbage wherever. Rates based on number of cans can be a nightmare for garbage men. Council should be considering family rates. If Solid waste isn't paying for itself, it will come from somewhere else.
- **Lisa Roseland** explained senior tax exemption cards. Used to have senior rates on utilities that was 50%, those who had it were grandfathered, but everyone else is paying full price. Utilities are paid on this side regardless of use, \$6.36 for 50lbs of garbage.
- **Cunningham** took 2 cans to the dump and didn't get weighed, paid \$5. clarified his intent of discussion. Would like to see equality between both sides of the bay.
- **Pesterfield** 2 cans are flat rate for utilities once a week, lives on Southside and goes to the dump once a month. Southside doesn't have to pay utility rates. Dump tickets make dumping cheap. If modifying rates tables, and qualifying seniors for discounts, then it needs to be across the board. Seniors have limited income, but so do families. Budget runs the narrative.

b) **Discussion and possible action item:** City Administrator Job Announcement.

Council discussed changes presented at last meeting for degree and experience requirements.

- Kaer suggested a paid Mayor in replacement of an Administrator.
- Pesterfield POI: City employees interviewed and consensus is that employees requested more of a supervisory role and willingness to step into employee jobs when necessary. City is operating with a shortfall of employees or skeleton crew. More supervision and direction with more goal-oriented supervision.

Council discussion continues.

Pesterfield directed City Clerk to post City Administrator job posting.

11) NEW BUSINESS:

a) Resolution 26-03-03-01: Approving the MOA with OVK, discussion and action item;

Mayor Pro-Tem motioned to approve Resolution 26-03-03-01, Seconded, discussion:

- Lovell opened discussion on Resolution 26-03-03-01.
- Kaer questioned if we came to an agreement with OCK for road maintenance?
- POI Pesterfield read the changes made to the Resolution and clarified the amendment with intent to add Council's review for subsequent documents and agreements.
- Continued discussion on Resolution with public participation.
- POI Pesterfield this is not a modification of the MOA, just an amendment to the previous resolution.

MOTION: Move to approve Resolution 26-03-03-01.

F/S: Pesterfield/ Lovell

YEAS: Pesterfield, Lovell, Cunningham, Anderson, Kaer

NAYS:

ABSENT: Killian, Nyquest

STATUS: Motion Passed

b) Resolution 26-03-03-02: Authorizing a Special Election for the purpose of filling the vacancy of the mayor seat, discussion and action item;

Mayor Pro-Tem motioned to approve Resolution 26-03-03-02, Seconded, discussion:

- Pesterfield read Resolution into record.

MOTION: Move to approve Resolution 26-03-03-02.

F/S: Pesterfield/ Lovell

YEAS: Pesterfield, Lovell, Cunningham, Anderson, Kaer

NAYS:

ABSENT: Killian, Nyquest

STATUS: Motion Passed

12) ORDINANCE FOR PUBLIC HEARING:

a) Ordinance 26-03-03-01: Ordinance to change TBMC 2.04.180 (L) Meetings – Order of Business, Public Hearing and Public Participation on agenda items, Discussion and action item,

Mayor Pro-tem opened Ordinance 26-03-03-01 for public hearing;

Pesterfield read the Ordinance 26-03-03-01 into the record;

Discussion:

- **Linda Shilts** in support of change and appreciates opportunity to weigh in on discussions.

Anderson moved to approve Ordinance 26-03-03-01, Seconded, discussion:

- **Cunningham** in agreement with changes.
- **Kaer** commented in agreement with Ordinance

MOTION: Move to approve Ordinance 26-03-03-01.

F/S: Anderson/ Lovell

YEAS: Pesterfield, Lovell, Cunningham, Anderson, Kaer

NAYS:

ABSENT: Killian, Nyquest

STATUS: Motion Passed

- b) **Ordinance 26-03-03-02:** Ordinance to amend TBMC 3.12.040-3.12.170, Purchasing Sections, discussion and action item;

Mayor Pro-tem opened Ordinance 26-03-03-02, Anderson read Ordinance into record, rolling back all non-discretionary spending to amounts from 2022 levels.

- **Linda Shilts** in support of changes

Lovell moved to approve Ordinance 26-03-03-02, Seconded, discussion:

- **Cunningham** questioned bid timeline in 03.12.100(b)
- **Lovell** appreciated Council direction

MOTION: Move to approve Ordinance 26-03-03-02.

F/S: Lovell/Kaer

YEAS: Pesterfield, Lovell, Cunningham, Anderson, Kaer

NAYS:

ABSENT: Killian, Nyquest

STATUS: Motion Passed

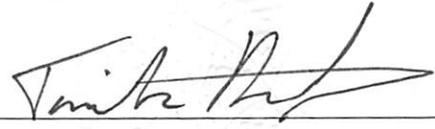
13) CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC COMMENT:

- a) **Lisa Roseland** thanked Council for time put into changes.

14) CONTINUATION OF COUNCIL COMMENT:

- Kaer** proud of Council direction
- Lovell** commented that we will need to form a committee for Southside Firehall
- Anderson** commented that cemetery is still in minds and will sort that out.
- Cunningham** read an anonymous letter.
- Pesterfield** commented all concerns in the anonymous letter were already being addressed or have been addressed.
- Lovell** agreed that items of concern that are being worked on and Council is learning and progressing in an attempt to be process minded.
- Pesterfield** commented that Council now wishes to bring as much out to the public as possible for the sake of transparency. He encouraged the public to come forward with questions as the sitting Council is here for the citizens of Thorne Bay.

15) ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Pro-tempore adjourned meeting at 8:13 pm.



Timber Pesterfield, Mayor Pro-Tempore

ATTEST:



Caitlyn Sawyer, City Clerk/Treasurer