

MINUTES

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

TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 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, Killian, Nyquest

Those absent were: Anderson, Kaer

4) APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mayor Pro-Tem moved to approve the Agenda, Seconded, discussion:

MOTION: Move to approve Agenda.

F/S: Pesterfield/ Lovell

YEAS: Pesterfield, Lovell, Cunningham, Killian, Nyquest

NAYS:

ABSENT: Anderson, Kaer

STATUS: Motion Passed

- 5) MAYOR'S REPORT: Reported on office printer malfunction and planned maintenance, DOWL-STEPHL Engineering groups progress on lift station projects, update on Administrator applicants and hiring panel applicants. Community Center meetings are going great, gave update on harbor bathrooms and sewer issues due to pump failure. Lovell travelling to Coffman Cove for SEASWA meeting, invited any interested parties to join via zoom. Email fraud alert reported from a realistic city email address. Mayoral election is coming on May 12th and encouraged all eligible Councilmembers to apply.
- 6) ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:
- a) City Clerk:
 - i. June 14th is clerk training in Tacoma, expect to be out June 12-23. Second meeting for budget approval will be run by Erin as acting Clerk.
 - ii. Upcoming water expenses will report more when a quote is received.
 - iii. Application for Mayoral Candidacy due by April 10th – reported hours for DL in person absentee voting, absentee voting opens April 28th
 - iv. Received a mini-grant for EMS – spoke with Fire Chief about critical needs
 - v. Need volunteers for Thorne Bay Days
 - vi. Reported on Banking issues with switch over of 60% savings account
- 7) DEPARTMENT REPORTS:
- a) Amy Killian – IFA Board report
- 8) PUBLIC COMMENTS:
- i. Lucy Aragon gave an updated on the Community Center Committee – great response from surveys. Taking input to come up with alternatives to a full community center.
 - ii. Sean McRae commented on Resolution in support of Taquan Air, in support of continued service of Taquan – gave examples of 'unquantifiable events and services' that happen. Commented on Resolution for Equinox Air – lease is for community member with positive revenue with potential to create positive economic impact as

well as a job.

- iii. Brien Salazar President Taquan Air – thanks for welcoming back, appreciative of support for Taquan Air. Mail is integral part of support of network for all services. Offered sponsorship for Thorne Bay Days and support of community. Spoke on community work in Hydaburg recently. Reiterated change of USPS contract would cause more change of hands. Will put in place a plan B to keep mailing moving and being delivered timely. USPS biggest cost factor is Rural Mail Act – public interest and public comments are big with USPS, encouraged support of the Resolution. More flights, more support for the Taquan network.
- iv. Julie McDonald spoke on behalf of Whale Tale Pharmacy, provided a list of services for communities. Seeking letter of support for Thorne Bay.
- v. John Hamby commented on mailing back a package for UPS and how difficult it has become since Taquan lost that contract.
- vi. David Shilts commented he was not aware that the cemetery committee was open for applying, would like to see that put out publicly, interested in applying. Recommended support of Taquan and Whale Tale Pharmacy

9) COUNCIL COMMENTS:

- i. Cunningham commented in full support of Taquan as well as a letter of support for Whale Tale Pharmacy.
- ii. Killian commented in support of Whale Tale Pharmacy and thanked Brien for Taquan business and availability. In support of raising harbor rates.
- iii. Lovell commented that DMV scam texts are coming through island-wide.

10) CONSENT AGENDA:

- a) Minutes of the March 17, 2026, Regular City Council Meeting, action item:

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

MOTION: Move to approve Consent Agenda.

F/S: Pesterfield/ Killian

YEAS: Pesterfield, Lovell, Cunningham, Killian, Nyquest

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Anderson, Kaer

STATUS: Motion Passed

11) UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

12) NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Resolution 26-04-07-01: Approving a Resolution of Support for Taquan Air, discussion and action item;
Agenda Item requested by Brien Salazar, supported by Councilman Anthony Lovell,

Mayor Pro-Tempore moved to approve the Resolution 26-04-07-01, Seconded, no discussion:

MOTION: Move to approve Resolution 26-04-07-01.

F/S: Pesterfield/ Nyquest

YEAS: Pesterfield, Lovell, Cunningham, Killian, Nyquest

NAYS:

ABSENT: Anderson, Kaer

STATUS: Motion Passed

- b) Discussion and possible action item: Approving a Letter of Support by the City Council for Whale Tale Pharmacy, Discussion and possible action item, *Agenda Item requested by Julie McDonald*

- i. Council agreed with letter of support. Nyquest requested some highlights or additional information just to have the information. Lovell recognized the need for more than one pharmacy.
- ii. Julie McDonald commented on the various services provided by Whale Tale, here to advocate for collaboration and accountability. Offered Council proposal ideas for services in the future.
- iii. Council continued to discuss merit of letter of support, unanimous agreement for support.

Mayor Pro-Tempore directed clerk to draft a letter of support for Whale Tale Pharmacy.

- c) Resolution 26-04-07-02: Approving the short-term lease with SEARHC, Unit B Clinic, discussion and action item; *Agenda Item requested by City Clerk*

Mayor Pro-Tempore moved to approve the Resolution 26-04-07-02, Seconded, discussion:

- i. Council discussed raising rent amount and administrative fees. Nyquest suggested other businesses would love to rent that space as well and in fairness to Community Council should increase the rental rates. Lovell commented that Council should be considering the potential for difference in rates based off of tax revenue supports. Agreed with Councilmember for increase. Cunningham POI: are utilities covered monthly? In agreement for rent increase.

Nyquest moved to amend lease terms to change monthly rent to \$100/month, Seconded, no discussion,

MOTION: Move to amend lease terms to change monthly rent to \$100/month
F/S: Nyquest/Lovell
YEAS: Pesterfield, Lovell, Cunningham, Killian, Nyquest
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Anderson, Kaer
STATUS: Motion Passed

MOTION: Move to approve Resolution 26-04-07-02.
F/S: Pesterfield/Nyquest
YEAS: Pesterfield, Lovell, Cunningham, Killian, Nyquest
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Anderson, Kaer
STATUS: Motion Passed

- d) Resolution 26-04-07-03: Amending resolution 25-08-05-01 to adjust seat term timeline, discussion and action item; *Agenda Item requested by City Clerk*

Mayor Pro-Tempore moved to approve the Resolution 26-04-07-03, Seconded, discussion:

- i. Clerk clarified need for amendment, no further discussion

MOTION: Move to approve Resolution 26-04-07-03.
F/S: Pesterfield/ Nyquest
YEAS: Pesterfield, Lovell, Cunningham, Killian, Nyquest
NAYS:
ABSENT: Anderson, Kaer
STATUS: Motion Passed

- e) Resolution 26-04-07-04 : Approving the short-term lease with REEL BITES, discussion and action item; *Agenda Item requested by City Clerk*

Mayor Pro-Tempore moved to approve the Resolution 26-04-07-04, Seconded, discussion:

- i. Council discussed lease, Cunningham suggested altering dates for change in rental amounts, Nyquest suggested letting them get started and see how it goes. Pesterfield commented that it would be the same if we averaged it out with a \$250 rate. Cunningham suggested amending the timeline from 2 years to one year. Pesterfield commented that he agreed he would like to see them open. Lovell POI: line item 6

Lovell motioned to adjust line item 6 "rental price to be adjusted" instead of decreased, Seconded,

Nyquest commented that the interpretation is meant only that the amount cannot be decreased.

MOTION: Move to adjust line item 6 "rental price to be adjusted" instead of decreased.
F/S: Lovell/ Pesterfield

YEAS: None
NAYS: Pesterfield, Lovell, Cunningham, Killian, Nyquest
ABSENT: Anderson, Kaer
STATUS: Motion Failed

- i. Sean McRae strongly urged Council to allow the businesses to open and consider the positive economic impact. Council should only consider what the city will gain from the business opening, not what they can gain from the lease.
- ii. David Shilts recommended Council pass the resolution as is so that the city can gain money in sales tax from food sales and suggested giving them the opportunity to get their feet on the ground and business up and going.

MOTION: Move to approve Resolution 26-04-07-04.
F/S: Pesterfield/ Killian
YEAS: Pesterfield, Lovell, Cunningham, Killian, Nyquest
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Anderson, Kaer
STATUS: Motion Passed

- ❖ *Pesterfield requested to be recused due to conflict of interest in the next two agenda items.*
- ❖ *Vice Mayor Lovell sat as Chair of the meeting;*

- f) Discussion and possible action item: Discussion on application received by Equinox Air for lease of municipal property; discussion and possible action item, *Agenda Item requested by City Clerk*
- i. Timber Pesterfield, Equinox Air, LLC. Owner, Requested Council approval for the application of lease of land across from the Thorne Bay Community Church. Previously occupied by ProMech Air for office space. Would like to place small D-Log cabin, drawing of plans included in application. Will leave the parking lot open by putting building in the back corner.
- ii. Cunningham POI – log cabin from by restaurant? Nyquest questioned the foundation, permanent? Timber Pesterfield commented no, non-permanent. No current water/sewer facilities inside the building but hopes to add in the future. Killian in support.
- iii. David Shilts recommended Council approve the lease and application to support local businesses
- iv. Sam Sawyer suggested supporting any businesses wanting to start up in town, which would help to generate revenue.

Nyquest moved to approve the lease application with Equinox Air, Seconded, discussion:

MOTION: Move to approve lease application with Equinox Air
F/S: Nyquest/Killian
YEAS: Lovell, Cunningham, Killian, Nyquest
NAYS:
RECUSED: Pesterfield
ABSENT: Anderson, Kaer
STATUS: Motion Passed

- g) Resolution 26-04-07-05: Approving the short-term lease of municipal lands to Equinox Air, discussion and action item; *Agenda Item requested by Timber Pesterfield, Equinox Air.*

Vice Mayor moved to approve the Resolution 26-04-07-05, Seconded, discussion:

- i. Timber Pesterfield, Equinox Air, commented that the CPI used in other leases would come out to \$17, suggested looking at ProMech Lease to see terms. Used that previous lease to draft new lease. Plan to sell some sweatshirts, hats, etc. to generate sales tax revenue in the future.
- ii. Nyquest commented in support of business, not keen on the 5-year term. Suggested a 2-year lease and review.

Pesterfield commented lease application requested was 1-5 years. Council continued discussion on lease length and location

- iii. Sean McRae recommended Council support resolution to support economic development and positive impact on the community.
- iv. Brad Clark commented in support of lease and gave suggestions for lease amendments.
- v. Nyquest suggested a two-year term instead of 5-year term, 3-year max.

Nyquest motioned to amend lease terms and Resolution from a 5-year term to a 3-year term, Cunningham Seconded,

MOTION: Move to amend Lease and Resolution to change lease term from 5 to 3-year term,
F/S: Lovell/ Nyquest
YEAS: Lovell, Cunningham, Killian, Nyquest
NAYS: None
RECUSED: Pesterfield
ABSENT: Anderson, Kaer
STATUS: Motion Passed

MOTION: Move to approve amended Resolution 26-04-07-05.
F/S: Lovell/ Nyquest
YEAS: Lovell, Cunningham, Killian, Nyquest
NAYS: None
RECUSED: Pesterfield
ABSENT: Anderson, Kaer
STATUS: Motion Passed

- ❖ *Vice Mayor conceded the Chair back to the Mayor Pro-Tempore.*
- ❖ *Mayor Pro-Tempore Pesterfield resumed Council and Mayoral seat at 8:07 pm*

13) CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC COMMENT:

- i. Trina Pesterfield thanked Council for approval of lease for Equinox Air.

14) CONTINUATION OF COUNCIL COMMENT:

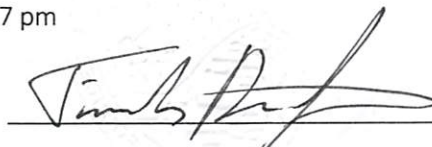
- a) Lovell thanked the community for increased participation in meetings.
- b) Cunningham suggested Council start thinking of ways to improve the RV park to increase revenue.
- c) Nyquest commented on the importance of having a priority list for next leadership so that things are continuously moving forward.
- d) Pesterfield commented that there are plans for the RV Park, removal of old trailer and clean up of lot. Commented that previous administrator completed two major items of importance, 5000 yards of sand/gravel permit, and runoff waters at SW report completed. Important for Council to keep up on list. Suggested situational exercises for administrator candidates. Will post for committee volunteer request for EMS-Firehall at DL and Cemetery committee. Expressed support of covering the basketball court. Thanked Brien for coming to meeting and support of our community. Requested Council members review budget numbers and review current rates. Thanked Julie for showing up and commitment to our communities. Thanked all public for involvement.

15) ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Pro-Tempore adjourned the meeting at 8:17 pm

ATTEST:



Caitlyn Sawyer, City Clerk / Treasurer



Timber Pesterfield, Mayor Pro-Tem