

CALL TO ORDER

The September 20, 2022, regular meeting of the Whittier City Council was called to order at 7:12 p.m. by Mayor Dickason.

OPENING CEREMONY

Mayor Dickason led the pledge of allegiance to the flag

ROLL CALL

There were present:

Dave Dickason presiding, and
Victor Shen, Peter Denmark, Dan Blair,
Tom Wagner, and David Pinqouch (Via phone)

Excused: Cathy McCord

Absent: None

Comprising a quorum of the Board; and

Also Present

Jackie C. Wilde, Assistant City Manager/Acting City Clerk
Kris Erchinger, Finance Director
Scott Korbe, Public Works Director
Dave Borg, Harbormaster
Andree Achee Police Chief

CITIZENS' COMMENTS ON ANY SUBJECT EXCEPT THOSE ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR MEETING AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Motion (Shen/Wagner)

Approval of Agenda and Consent Agenda

Items approved on Consent Agenda

- * Resolution 2022-027 Authorizing the City Manager to Continue Professional Services with Appraisal Company of Alaska, LLC To Provide Financial Personal and Real Property Appraisal Services for The FY2023 Tax Year
- * Resolution 2022-028 Appointing the City Election Officials and Canvass Board for The October 4, 2022 Regular City Election
- * Discussion of current and future dispatch needs of the City (*requested by Council member Blair*)
- * Appoint Brian Fleenor to Planning and Zoning Commission Seat D expiring 2025
- * Appoint Anna Dickason to Planning and Zoning Commission Seat F expiring 2025

Motion Passed

AYES: Shen, Wagner, Blair, Pinqouch and

Dickason
NAYS: NONE

PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS

Mayor Report — None

Vice Mayor Report — Thanked all the citizens and volunteers for their work and their time over the last couple months.

City Manager Report — Assistant City Manager **Wilde** thanked the Girdwood clinic for attending the work session and for the services that they provided to the citizens. Thanked Public works on the beginning process of clearing property by Whittier Falls. **Wilde** introduced the new branding logo for the city that was created by very talented city staff. Wilde reminded customers that there is NO burning allowed on city property unless it is in a designated fire ring and that no circumstances are pallets allowed to be burned. Finance director **Erchinger** answered citizen comments regarding fuel tax/sales tax question. Brief update given and overview of the CMR report included in packet. (**CMR Includes Public Works report and financials**)

School report- Stephanie Burgoon gave quick update and introduced herself as the new principal. Burgoon reported that there are 50 students and encouraged everyone to visit the school.

Commission/Committee Reports

Parks & Recreation Committee – **Shen** attributed 750 hours of labor working on trails and other projects. There will be a trail contractor on Horsetail Falls Trail doing repairs.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1st reading and Public Hearing ORDINANCE 2022-005 Amending WMC Chapter 2.27 Fire Department To A Fire/EMS Department With A Fire/EMS Chief As Department Head And Amending WMC Chapter 2.30 Department Of Public Safety To Remove Responsibility For Fire And EMS From The Director Of Public Safety In Order To Expand Fire And EMS Services For The Benefit Of The Community

Public Hearing opened

Brian Fleenor- wanted the council to know that adding these positions to the community is a must. That his family has already dealt with the need for all citizens.

Public Hearing closed

Council Comment opened

Denmark wanted to know what happens to the Public Safety Department. **Erchinger** stated that the Police Chief would stay the director of Public Safety Department. **Erchinger** stated that if the council wants the title to be split into Police and Fire administration would do what the council wishes.

Pinquoch requested that under section **2.27.010 Established;** adding an additional sentence at the end that would read “Additional paid Fire/EMS department employees will require Council approval.” **Wilde** stated that this request should be done at the October 18, 2022 Meeting as an amendment. **Dickason** stated that he also agreed that this would be a good amendment to the ordinance.

Blair asked for an organizational chart to show these positions with the organization chart.

Council Comment Closed

1st reading and Public Hearing ORDINANCE 2022-006 Amending WMC Chapter 3.12 To Adopt WMC 3.12.05 Provide A Property Tax Exemption for Property Developed in Furtherance Of Economic Development Within The City

Public Hearing- opened

No Public Comment

Public Hearing Closed

Council Comment Opened

Denmark asked about defining a developmental property as being exemption worthy requiring council approval. **Erchinger** gave a general discussion regarding state law and noted the areas within the code that it would be noted.

Council Comment Closed

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Motion (Denmark/Wagner)

RESOLUTION 2022-026 - A Resolution of The City Council of the City of Whittier, Alaska, Appropriating Funds for Two Paid Fire & EMS Positions as Authorized by WMC 2.27.010 (*Postponed from 8/16/2022 Regular Meeting*)

Motion Passed

AYES: Demark, Blair, Shen Wagner, and Dickason
NAYS: Pinqouch

NEW BUSINESS

Other New Business Items

1. Discussion of current and future dispatch needs of the City (*requested by Council member Blair*)

General Discussion Given

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS AND REPORTS

1. July 2022 Financial Reports for the City of Whittier *Please see City Council packet which contains monthly Financial Statements*
2. 2023 Budget Calendar
3. Federal Lobbyist report
4. State Lobbyist Report
5. Copy Alaska Railroad Corporation Head of the Bay Lease
6. Copy of Glacier Creek Development Head of the Bay Lease
7. Whittier School Calendar and QR code for CSD's 2-2-2 Survey

8. Notice of Election

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Pinquoch – Asked Council to have administration look in to exempt tags for Whittier resident vehicles. Erchinger stated that she would investigate and get back to council

Blair- asked about federal lobbyist report

CITIZENS COMMENTS - None

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION RESPONSE TO CITIZEN COMMENTS - None

Motion (Denmark/Wagner)

Go Into executive session Per WCC 2.08.040 (b) (1) Matters that, if immediately disclosed, would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the of the city relating to leases and city land.

The assistant city manager & finance director were asked to stay

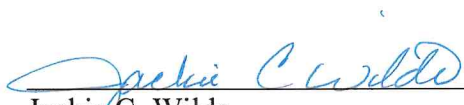
Motion Passed

Unanimous

Council went into executive session at 8:56 p.m.
Council came out of executive session at 9:35 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:36 p.m.



Jackie C. Wilde
Assistant City Manager/Acting City Clerk



Dave Dickason
Mayor

