



THE CITY OF WHITTIER

Gateway to Western Prince William Sound

P.O. Box 608 • Whittier, Alaska 99693 • (907) 472-2327 • Fax (907) 472-2404

**PLANNING COMMISSION
Special Meeting
Thursday, February 12, 2015
Homeowner's Lounge, BTI Bldg.**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Charlene Arneson called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Commission members present and establishing a quorum:

Charlene Arneson	Seat A	Present
Terry Bender	Seat B	Absent
Ed Hedges	Seat C	Absent
Jean Swingle	Seat D	Present
Dyanna Pratt	Seat E	Present

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

City Manager, Mark Lynch
Scott Korbe, Public Works Director
Jennifer Rogers, Deputy City Clerk

EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS

MOTION: Dyanna Pratt made a motion to excuse Ed Hedges and Terry Bender from tonight's meeting.

SECOND: Jean Swingle seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously

PUBLIC PRESENT

Tom Wagner

3. APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

MOTION: Dyanna Pratt made a motion to approve the January 12, 2015 Special Meeting Agenda as is.

SECOND: Jean Swingle seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously

DISCUSSION: None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Jean Swingle made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 13, 2015 as is.

SECOND: Dyanna Pratt seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously

DISCUSSION: None

6. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

City Manager, Mark Lynch, reported that he and Mayor Dan Blair traveled to Anchorage the day before and met with railroad representatives regarding land swaps.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Conditional Use for Recreational in Industrial Zone

Mark Lynch stated that the head of the bay is used for recreational use such as camping and other public use. However, according to the Table of Allowed Uses in the WMC, this is not allowed. He suggested that we change the table to reflect a Conditional Use.

Mark pointed a couple of errors in the Table of Allowed Uses that need to be corrected.

MOTION: Dyanna Pratt made a motion to table the conditional use permit until the next meeting.

SECOND: Jean Swingle seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously

DISCUSSION: None

B. Rezoning Permit

There was much discussion regarding the rezoning permit application and language in the WMC. Research needs to be done before a decision can be made.

MOTION: Dyanna Pratt made a motion to table the rezoning application until the next meeting.

SECOND: Jean Swingle seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously

DISCUSSION: None

C. Change Commission Meeting Day

MOTION: Dyanna Pratt made a motion to recommend to the Council Resolution 01-2015 of the Planning Commission.

SECOND: Jean Swingle seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously

DISCUSSION: None

8. NON-ACTION BUSINESS

A. Tank Farm

Mark Lynch reported that it will be approximately two years before the City takes possession of the tank farm.

B. Land Trades with Alaska Railroad

The railroad contacted Mark about the land trades. They would like him to submit a letter of intent by May 6th on what the City wants to do.

C. Hazard Mitigation Plan

Nothing to report.

D. Smitty's Cove Park

Charlene Arneson gave a brief history on the Marine Park at Smitty's Cove.

E. Whittier Historic Railroad Plaza

The City received a one year extension on completing this project so we now have until the end of June 2016. There aren't enough funds in the grant to complete this project with the original plans. The RFP will have to be rewritten and re-advertised. It might be that the transfer of the monument is all that will be accomplished.

F. Tideland Zoning

Mark Lynch suggested that we create a zone called Tidelands and designate all uses in tidelands as conditional. Anyone who wishes to do anything in the tidelands would need to apply for a conditional permit. A fee chart for various activities can be created.

G. CVP Fund Projects

The only project budgeted for CVP this year is the harbor rebuilds. Mark requested another 3.5 million from the state to complete the second phase of the harbor project. If by chance the 3.5 million is granted, the City will need to have the matching funds.

Scott Korbe reported that Whittier was awarded the 3rd Best Tasting Water in the nation and 1st in Alaska.

H. Shotgun Cove Land

Nothing to report

I. Street Addresses

Jean Swingle reported that Karleen Wilson is the contact person in Anchorage she has been corresponding with about the street addresses. Scott Korbe also made contact with Karleen Wilson. Scott Korbe instructed Jean on how to assign addresses with Google Earth and she has started that process. Her main task at hand is having those physical addresses recognized outside of Whittier. Jean is waiting to hear back from Karleen for assistance with this project.

Scott Korbe stated that he was informed by Karleen Wilson that 80% of the addresses are picked up by the 911 GIS System, but we're an unincorporated borough and we don't operate on the 911 national database. Mark Lynch stated that Cordova had a lot of problems when they tried to issue addresses. He suggested that Jean contact the planner in Cordova named Sam Greenwood.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

None

10. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Tom Wagner asked the Commission for an update on what the plans are for the Whittier Historic Railroad Monument. Charlene gave an update on the project.

11. COMMISSION COMMENTS:

None

12. NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS:

13. NEXT MEETING ATTENDANCE PLANS: March 10, 2015

MOTION: Dyanna Pratt made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

SECOND: Jean Swingle seconded the motion.

VOTE: Unanimous

14. ADJOURNMENT: Charlene Arneson adjourned the meeting at 8:21 pm.

ATTEST:

Jennifer Rogers
Deputy City Clerk

Charlene Arneson
Commission Chairperson