



THE CITY OF WHITTIER

Gateway to Western Prince William Sound

P.O. Box 608 • Whittier, Alaska 99693 • (907) 336-1490 • Fax (907) 472-2404

**WHITTIER CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY DECEMBER 18, 2018
7:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Daniel Blair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. OPENING CEREMONY

Mayor Daniel Blair led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

A. Council members present and establishing a quorum: Victor Shen, David Pinguoch (telephonic), Debra Hicks, Peter Denmark (telephonic), Dave Dickason, Monty Irvin, and Daniel Blair.

B. Administration Present:

Jim Hunt, City Manager

Scott Korbe, Director of Public Works

Naelene Matsumiya, City Clerk

Robert Baty, Director of Public Safety

Dyanna Pratt, Director of Administration

Others Present: Lindsey Erk, Greg Clifford, Joe Bergene, Cathy McCord, and Sarah Espelin

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

November 20, 2018, Regular Meeting and December 4, 2018, Special Meeting Minutes, and December 6, 2018 Special Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: Dave Dickason made a motion to approve the minutes as is.

SECOND: Victor Shen

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously

5. APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

MOTION: Dave Dickason made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Agenda with amendments.

SECOND: Peter Denmark

December 18, 2018

City Council, Regular Meeting

DISCUSSION: Remove “Interim” from Jim’s City Manager title and move presentation to 5a.
VOTE: Motion to adopt the agenda with amendments passed unanimously.

5A. PRESENTATION

Altman, Rogers & Co. Audit Presentation – Joe Bergene

Joe Bergene of Altman, Rogers & Co. reported on the findings of the City of Whittier’s 2017 financial audit. He addressed the concerns and answered all of Council’s questions.

6. MAYOR’S REPORT

A. Mayor Report

Dan Blair reported on the Feasibility Study report that was hosted in Whittier by The Girdwood Governance Association (GGA) and Information Insights Inc. He briefly described the topics that were discussed and gave a summary of the meeting. Dan suggested holding a special election for the issue. Council discussed. Jim stated that more information is needed before holding a special election.

B. Vice Mayor Report

Peter Denmark continued the conversation on the feasibility study report. Discussion ensued.

7. MANAGER’S REPORT

A. City Manager’s Report- Jim Hunt

Jim Hunt reported on:

The power outage

Consolidation of director reports excluding the financial report

B. Assistant City Manager’s Report

See written report in original packet

C. City Attorney’s Report

None

D. Director’s Reports

1. Financial report

See written report in original packet

Sarah Espelin, CPA of Espelin & Associates, LLC, introduced herself and explained all the work she has been doing with the City. She offered her thoughts on the audit report that was presented and reassured she is helping the City through it. She stated that she is looking forward to helping the City with its finances and will continue to submit reports so as to keep the Council updated. Jim reiterated by mentioning all the hard work Sarah has put in and is moving the City in the right direction.

2. Harbormaster Report – Kyle Sinclair

See written report in original packet

3. Public Safety Report – Robert Baty

Robert Baty passed along his written report to the Council and gave a verbal report on the department as well.

4. Public Works Report – Scott Korbe

Scott Korbe listed the things that he and his department were getting done during the power outage. He asked that when outside during heavy snow removal, that people make themselves visible by wearing bright colored clothing so the rig operators can see them. He also invited Council to an Open House that will be hosted by CRW regarding Shotgun Cove Road.

8. COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Planning Commission

Nothing new to report

B. Port & Harbor Commission

Greg Clifford stated that the Commission has not met yet, but he has spoken to a few of the members and they are in favor of the safe boat that will be appearing in front of Council later in the meeting.

C. Parks & Recreation Committee

Nothing new to report

D. Whittier Community School

Lindsey Erk invited everyone to the holiday program at the school tomorrow at 5:30 pm. She invited them to the upcoming School Board and EAC meeting as well. (16-17 January 2019)

Peter Denmark asked about the School's emergency rally point. Lindsey reported it was taken care of and the rally point is on the 2nd floor of the Public Safety Building.

E. Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corp.

Nothing new to report

F. Regional Citizen's Advisory Council

Nothing new to report

9. CITIZENS COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS NOT SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

None

10. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

None

11. PUBLIC HEARINGS (NON-ORDINANCE)

None

12. PRESENTATIONS

Item was moved to 5A

13. ORDINANCES

None

14. PUBLIC HEARING (2nd reading)

None

15. RESOLUTIONS

A. Res. #33-2018 – A Resolution of the City Council of Whittier Alaska, authorizing a payment of no more than \$36,000 from the Harbor-Reserve Commercial Vessel Passenger Excise Tax Fund to purchase a safe-boat for the Harbor.

MOTION: Dave Dickason made a motion to adopt Res. #33-2018

SECOND: Peter Denmark

DICUSSION: Kyle explained the use, where the boat is coming from, its condition and further plans for it. Robert Baty explained the utilization of this boat from the scope of Public Safety.

Council discussed at length about the money and agreed to approve the resolution if the title was amended so as to come out of CVP funds and not the Harbor Reserve.

VOTE: motion passed 6-1, Res. #33-2018 adopted

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

17. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Comprehensive Plan

An RFP for the Comprehensive Plan was posted.

B. PN&D

Item was briefly discussed

C. Harbor Phase 3 Construction

Item was not discussed

D. P-12 Marketing Disposal

Council agreed to an Executive Session (to be scheduled)

E. Cruise Ship Dock Request for Funds

A conference call to Gordon Linblad did not go through. Item to be kept under Unfinished Business.

18. NEW BUSINESS

A. Safety Operations Plan

Robert Baty reported on the plan. He explained how it came into effect during the earthquake. He said that though things are moving on, there is still much to do.

B. FY2019 Budget

A special meeting was planned to introduce the budget via ordinance.

19. COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Council discussed the GGA/Information Insights meeting. The topic of a special election came up.

December 18, 2018

City Council, Regular Meeting

Jim urged Council to hold off on a special election as he will try to get more information.

Dan Blair suggested updating the Chambers' audio and visual technologies.

Jim announced that he was nominated for the Prince William Sound Economic Development District.

20. CITIZEN'S DISCUSSION

Scott Korbe announced that the New Year's fireworks will be held in the back behind the school. He reminded everyone of the Holiday Program happening at the school at 5:30 pm tomorrow.

21. COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION'S RESPONSE TO CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

22. ADJOURNMENT

All were in favor of adjourning the meeting at 9:56 p.m.

ATTEST:



Naelene Matsumiya
City Clerk



Daniel Blair
Mayor