



# THE CITY OF WHITTIER

*Gateway to Western Prince William Sound*

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**WHITTIER CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY JANUARY 15, 2019  
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  
Naelene Matsumiya, City Clerk  
Scott Korbe, Director of Public Works  
Katie Velasco, Office Assistant

**Others Present:** Lindsey Erk, Greg Clifford, June Miller, Cathy McCord, Mike Walker, Barb Ensminger, Karen Dempster, Charlene Arneson, and Don Stevens

### 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 18 2018, Regular Meeting and December 28, 2018, Special Meeting Minutes

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

**SECOND:** Debra Hicks

**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 as is.

**SECOND:** Monty Irvin

**DISCUSSION:** None

**VOTE:** Motion to adopt the agenda as is passed unanimously.

## **6. MAYOR'S REPORT**

### **A. Mayor Report**

Dan Blair reported on the ETT training classes that he has been attending at the Public Safety Building and extended his appreciation towards the volunteers and all their hard work in contributing to the community.

### **B. Vice Mayor Report**

No report

## **7. MANAGER'S REPORT**

### **A. City Manager's Report- Jim Hunt**

Jim Hunt reported on:

Financial Assistance to the Governor

The City's financial situation and its collaboration with Espelin & Associates, LLC.

Audit Preparation

Police Department is fully staffed

Whittier/Girdwood Police Contract

Computer Systems update

State of Alaska Budget Cuts

RFP for the Comprehensive Plan

Support for Secure Rural Schools Program and Funding

Water and Wastewater Rates

Jim asked for Council consensus in choosing the *Low Road* option for CRW. Council unanimously consented.

Council asked various questions to which Jim Hunt responded.

## **8. COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A. Planning Commission**

Nothing new to report

### **B. Port & Harbor Commission**

Nothing new to report

### **C. Parks & Recreation Committee**

Nothing new to report

### **D. Whittier Community School**

Lindsey Erk reported that the school's enrollment is up 54 children. She reminded everyone of the School Board meeting and the EAC meeting. She reported that the children will be released from school early for the next 4 Tuesdays and that the School's second quarter had ended.

Peter Denmark asked for an update on the rally point for the school. Lindsey responded that she would be happy to talk to Peter outside the public forum about the topic.

**E. Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corp.**

Don Stevens spoke about the association and the positive changes they are going through.

**F. Regional Citizen's Advisory Council**

Nothing new to report

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

Charlene Arneson read a letter addressed to the Girdwood Governance Association.

**10. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR**

A. Liquor License – Sportsman's Inn 1074

B. Liquor License – Wildcatch Café 5176

Victor Shen asked to recuse himself from voting on the consent agenda due to a conflict of interest. Council consented to excuse Victor Shen from voting on the Consent Agenda.

**MOTION:** Peter Denmark made a motion to approve the consent agenda.

**SECOND:** Dave Dickason

**DISCUSSION:** None

**VOTE:** Motion passed

**11. PUBLIC HEARINGS (NON-ORDINANCE)**

None

**12. PRESENTATIONS**

Item was moved to 5A

**13. ORDINANCES (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)**

None

**14. PUBLIC HEARING (2<sup>nd</sup> reading)**

A. Ord. #06-2018 – An Ordinance of the City Council of the city of Whittier, Alaska, Approving the FY 2019 Budget of Revenue and Appropriations as Necessary for the Budget.

**MOTION:** Dave Dickason made a motion to open the Public Hearing for the above mentioned Ordinance.

**SECOND:** Victor Shen

**DISCUSSION:** None

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously

Karen Dempster spoke highly about Sarah Espelin and her company. She stated her approval of the Ordinance.

Hearing no further statements.

**MOTION:** Dave Dickason made a motion to move public hearing to Council Discussion.  
**SECOND:** Monty Irvin  
**DISCUSSION:** None  
**VOTE:** Motion passed

Council asked Jim Hunt if the Budget would still be trued up. Jim responded positively.

Hearing no further statements, Council moved to adopt.

**MOTION:** Victor Shen made a motion to adopt Ord. #06-2018  
**SECOND:** Dave Dickason  
**DISCUSSION:** None  
**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously

## **15. RESOLUTIONS**

**A. Res. #34-2018 (A) – A Resolution of the City Council of Whittier Alaska, authorizing The City Manager to Enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Espelin & Associates, LLC, For Accounting and Financial Services for the 2019 Fiscal and Calendar Year, and for Related Purposes.**

**MOTION:** Dave Dickason made a motion to adopt Res. #34-2018 (A)  
**SECOND:** Victor Shen  
**DISCUSSION:** David Pinquoch asked about the 6 month limit. Jim responded that Sarah agreed to a 6 month contract ending July 1 or July 15 of 2019.  
**VOTE:** motion to adopt Res. #34-2018 passed unanimously.

**B. Res. #01-2019 – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Whittier Alaska, A Municipal Cooperation, Authorizing Administrative and City Council Check Signers.**

**MOTION:** Dave Dickason made a motion to adopt Res. #01-2019  
**SECOND:** Monty Irvin  
**DISCUSSION:** None  
**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously

**C. Res. #02-2019 – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Whittier, Alaska, Providing for a Referendum to take place on the creation of a Prince William Sound Borough That Would Have Included the City of Whittier.**

**MOTION:** Dave Dickason made a motion to adopt Res. #02-2019.  
**SECOND:** Victor Shen  
**DISCUSSION:** City Clerk, Naelene Matsumiya, spoke about the outcome of her research when trying to get more information on the topic. She stated that everyone she reached out to stated that a special election was unnecessary. Council asked questions on the matter concerning price and the effect the special election may have.  
**VOTE:** Motion to adopt Res. #03-2019 failed, 4-3

**D. Res. #03-2019 – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Whittier Alaska, Authorizing the City Manager to Cease Further Participation of the Creation of the Prince William Sound (PWS) Borough that would have included the City of Whittier.**

**MOTION:** Dave Dickason

**SECOND:** Monty Irvin

**DISCUSSION:** Council encouraged language to state the City's opposition.

**VOTE:** Motion to adopt Res. #03-2019 passed unanimously

**16. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A. P-12 Marketing/Disposal – Matter, the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the public entity; AS 44.62310 (1)

**MOTION:** Dave Dickason made a motion to enter into executive session.

**SECOND:** Monty Irvin

**DISCUSSION:** None

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

Council entered into Executive Session at 8:25

**MOTION:** Dave Dickason made a motion to exit out of executive session.

**SECOND:** Debra Hicks

**DISCUSSION:** None

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

Council exited Executive Session at 9:07 and resumed the Regular Meeting.

**17. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Comprehensive Plan**

Dave Dickason asked on an update on the RFP that was posted. Jim Hunt responded.

**B. PN&D**

Item was not discussed

**C. Harbor Phase 3 Construction**

Item was not discussed

**D. P-12 Marketing Disposal**

Discussed during Executive Session

**E. Cruise Ship Dock Request for Funds**

Gordon Lindblad joined the meeting via teleconference and he explained the various updates that are anticipated for the site to accommodate the bigger cruise ships that are to come in. The amount and how the City is to contribute was discussed at length. Council asked that the item come before Council in a resolution.

**18. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Music Festival Celebrating Whittier's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Dan Blair briefly spoke about the history of the City and stated that its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary was coming up soon. He mentioned that the idea for a music festival was introduced last year and was hoping it would have come into fruition sooner, but because of Police staffing, it did not. He stated that he is still interested in the idea of a music festival, but is open to celebrate the event in other ways.

**19. COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

Peter Denmark thank the Administration for the Policy and Procedures draft. He asked Council to review and Directors to gather input. He hopes to schedule a worksession on the topic soon.

Dave Dickason mentioned the updates on the City Park and how he would like for it to regain momentum.

**20. CITIZEN'S DISCUSSION**

Mike Walker described an event that happened to him on Christmas Eve and the unfortunate timing of the 911 number not working.

Greg Clifford reminded everyone of the boat show and invited them as well.

Don Stevens asked about the DeLong Dock and the Cruise Ship dock. Council answered his questions.

Charlene Arneson thanked the Council for their efforts in opposing the borough Formation. She mentioned the updating of the City's map and the zoning areas that have since changed.

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

**22. ADJOURNMENT**

All were in favor of adjourning the meeting at 10:13 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

  
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Naelene Matsumiya  
City Clerk

  
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Daniel Blair  
Mayor