VALDEZ CITY COUNCIL Regular Meeting Minutes November 22, 2010 Page 1 of 15

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Moore called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the City Council chambers.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

Mayor Pro Tem Dorothy M. Moore

Council member Joe Prax Council member Mike Wells
Council member Karen Ables Council member Steve McCann

Absent and excused: Mayor Dave Cobb and Council member Alan Sorum.

Also Present:

John Hozey, City Manager Sheri Pierce, City Clerk Bill Walker, City Attorney

Members of staff and approximately 20 people were in the audience.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETINGS OF October 19 and November 1, 2010

Minutes were approved as presented with 3 minor corrections.

V. PUBLIC HEARING – 2011 Budget for the City of Valdez

Bob Zastrow addressed the Council about the status of the Homestead Road Improvement Project. Mr. Hozey stated that during previous budget work sessions it was determined that the Homestead Road Project could possibly be done in phases if the residents were interested in doing it in that manner. He stated that within the original proposed budget for 2011, the Homestead Road Project was listed as an active project but not classified on the primary work plan. Mr. Hozey explained that as a result of the previous budget hearings, this project has now been moved up into the primary work plan in the 2011 budget. He stated that there has not been additional general fund money added to the project, but the original money that was there is still there and is identified as a potential

project for 2011. Mr. Zastrow asked how much money is currently allocated for the project. Mr. Hozey stated that currently there is \$949,000 and that the city was also working to obtain a grant to help fund the project as well. Mr. Zastrow asked the estimated cost of the project. Mr. Hozey stated that they have engineer estimates on all phases of the project but that he did not have those numbers with him. He stated that the City did not have enough money to do the entire project. Therefore residents had been asked their opinion of breaking the improvements into phases. Mr. Hozey said that installing sewer lines was identified as the number one priority which would be considered phase 1, paving the street would be considered as phase 2. Mr. Hozey stated that the total project would be put out to bid to determine how much could be completed using the existing funds. Mr. Zastrow asked if the design and engineering plan had been completed, and if so did the City plan to put that job out to bid to contractors. Mr. Hozey replied in the affirmative.

Duane Edleman addressed the Council about the Homestead Road project stating that he is in full agreement with breaking out the project into phases. He stated that originality they had asked for a paving or chip sealing project but realized that should be done after installation of sewer lines. He stated that it makes sense to go ahead and do the sewer first since water wells will last much longer than a septic system will last. Mr. Edleman gave his support for the project and hoped the Council would continue to pursue the project as planned.

Mr. Edleman also addressed the Council regarding the school budget. He stated that he was disappointed to see that the recommendation was given to not fund the full request. He explained that this is a difference of \$418,830. Mr. Edleman stated that one of the benefits of living in this community is to have a good education system. He said that Valdez is one of the best in the state but is not the very best and that is where it should be. Mr. Edleman reported that they have done significant upgrades to our schools over the last few years with the help of the City Council which makes our community unique. He said that we have been paying over the cap on numerous items, one of which is sports and activities programs funded over the cap. Mr. Edleman stated his appreciation for that since it is usually one of the first things cut when budgets become tight. Mr. Edleman stated that there are two other projects which could be positively affected by funding over the cap which are the expansion of vocational education and the creation of an early education program. Expanding the vocational program would provide more opportunities for students that are not college bound. Creating an early education program would perhaps allow for a Head Start program and preschool which are both currently lacking in this community. He stated that our children are missing out on early education opportunities that could make a difference in their future. Mr. Edleman also stated that he felt that another area that could possibly be expanded would be technology. He explained that the

wave of the future is in electronic text books. Funding over the cap might allow a program such as this to be put into place. Mr. Edleman said that he would hate for Valdez students to be held back from becoming number one in the state because the Council decided to not fund the school board's full request. Mayor Pro Tem Moore thanked Mr. Edleman for his comments.

Cindy Butherus addressed the Council asking if the water and wells portion of the Homestead Road improvement project were eliminated from the project plan. Mr. Hozey stated that there currently is not enough funding to do all of it but that if funding did become available then water needs could be addressed at that time. Ms. Butherus stated that another concern with the proposed project is the issue of street lighting. She stated that when the residents originally met most agreed that street lights were not desired for the neighborhood. Ms. Butherus asked that when the time comes that the residents be given notice to address this issue as it is very important to them.

Council member Prax asked if the residents know the hook up costs required with this project. Mr. Hozey replied in the affirmative stating that a meeting was held with the residents and those numbers were given to them at that time.

Jim Heston, Homestead Road resident, addressed the Council stating his support of the project in phases as proposed by Administration. He said that he hoped the momentum behind it would keep going. He stated that the residents are in agreement about the phased approach but he hoped that it would continue on and eventually be completed to the full extent of the needs. He stated that he hoped that the project would not stop with sewer alone. He said that he would appreciate the City keeping the project active while also keeping the residents properly informed of plans and progress. Mayor Pro Tem Moore asked if there was a contact the residents could call for current information. Mr. Hozey stated that they can call the Capital Facilities Department at the City for the latest information on the project.

Since there were no further comments from the public Mayor Pro Tem Moore closed the Public Hearing.

VI. PUBLIC APPEARANCES

Lieutenant Roberto Trevino from the Coast Guard introduced himself to the Council stating that he was newly assigned to the Marine Safety Unit in Valdez as the Response Department Head. He stated that one of his collateral duties is to be the Coast Guard liaison to the City Council which was formerly the job of Lieutenant Commander York. He gave the background behind the position stating that a few years ago the Coast Guard went through reorganization and at

> that time there was not one consolidated command here in Valdez. To better serve the community, Lt. Trevino's position was created. He explained that he serves as a conduit on behalf of the Coast Guard to serve Valdez providing any information related to Coast Guard activity for this community. Lt. Trevino also introduced Senior Chief Wagner who is the officer in charge of Station Valdez and Lt. Christensen who is the commanding officer of the Coast Guard Cutter Long Island. Senior Chief Wagner addressed the Council announcing that the Coast Guard recently found out that the Valdez station is slated to receive two new 45 foot response boat mediums. The first will arrive in September of 2011 and the 2nd should arrive in April of 2012. He also announced that they are pushing for a staff increase from 21 personnel to 36 personnel which would be accomplished in 2012. Council member Ables asked if the increase in personnel would be for staff to command the boats. Chief Wagner stated that the increase would be used to run the boats and maintain operations. Council member Ables asked if that number would include families. Chief Wagner replied in the negative stating that most likely the new staff would bring families with them. Council member Prax asked if the new boats would replace what they currently have. Chief Wagner stated that currently they have three 25 foot boats which will be a one for one swap. One 45 foot boat will replace one 25 foot boat. Council member Prax asked what the mission was. Chief Wagner stated that the mission remained the same which is to provide ports waterway coastal security. He said that they will still patrol the port for a main security mission as well as adding a new mission focused on living marine resource protection. He also reported that they will continue to do search and rescue operations.

> Lt. John Christensen, Commanding Officer of Coast Guard Cutter Long Island, addressed the Council stating that on November 19th the Command Number Five from MSU Valdez sent the City Council a letter regarding port fees for tying up to the Kelsey Dock. He asked Mr. Hozey if he had received the letter. Mr. Hozey replied in the negative but indicated that he was aware that it was coming. Lt. Christensen stated that since he has been aboard the Long Island this issue has come up a few times. He stated that the Kelsey Dock is their alternate place to fuel up as needed. He said that it was not their choice but is the only option provided by North Pacific Fuel. He reported that when they use that option they are usually tied up for one to three hours. He stated that they are requesting that the fees for Coast Guard access be waived at the Kelsey Dock whether they are going in for a guick one hour fueling or whether they have a vessel that would be there for an overnight stop in Valdez. He stated that it would be very beneficial for the Coast Guard and explained the difficulties with working with a very limited budget. He stated that the charges incurred for mooring up to a pier in their home town has impacted his ability to purchase critical items for the Coast Guard. The latest charge was for \$104 which could have been used to purchase life jackets, radios or other crucial equipment. Lt. Christensen stated that he is not expecting

an exception because they are the Coast Guard but more of a good faith agreement between the Coast Guard and the City. Council member Ables asked what the average docking time was. Lt. Christensen stated that if they are tying up for fuel it is usually an hour to three hours. He continued stating that in all other places they tie up they only charged for dockage fees because they are a Coast Guard vessel. Mayor Pro Tem Moore asked that since the letter had not been received yet could they refer this request to Administration and allow Administration to work with the Coast Guard to see what they could come up with. Lt. Christensen agreed to that suggestion.

- VII. PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR
- VIII. CITY MANAGER/CITY CLERK/CITY ATTORNEY/MAYOR REPORTS

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Hozey reported that the Harbor Grid Steps Project is now complete. Mr. Hozey then reported on active projects stating that the Forest Service Cabin is going well and that they are on target for the December 10th completion date. Mr. Hozey stated that the Senior Center Roofing/Siding project is now complete and that the Senior Center Sprinkler project is about 80% complete. He explained that work is on going on the piping and that the soffit drawings are currently under review. Mr. Hozey stated that the Teen Center Renovations are complete with an exception of the front door that had to be reordered and will be arriving soon. Mr. Hozey said that the Small Boat Harbor High Mast Lighting project is going well. The foundations for that project have been poured and are curing and the lights should be put up around December 7th.

Mr. Hozey mentioned the Assisted Care Living Task Force who met on the 8th and 9th of November. A lot of work was done and feedback was given to the architect who will be refining those options and will bring them back to the Task Force at their next meeting on December 7th.

Mr. Hozey reported on the School Facilities Master Plan stating that he wanted to clarify some of the confusion surrounding the process. He stated that there has been some concern about the Joint Steering Committee's role. Mr. Hozey explained that this committee was put together to oversee school master planning of all school facilities, not just the junior high. Through this process of master planning the junior high was identified by the council and the school board as a top priority. Mr. Hozey explained that the committee then started piecing together the procedure for taking that part of the master plan forward. Mr. Hozey emphasized that the committee itself is not building a new junior high school. If the council and school board decide to continue moving toward the development of a new junior high, then an entirely separate process will be established that

would certainly involve principals, teachers, students, parents, and the general public. Mr. Hozey stated that he wished to alleviate the concern that decisions about the junior high were being made behind closed doors with only a few people's input. The steering committee is not a decision making body, only the facilitator of the process.

With that said, Mr. Hozey reported that the joint steering committee held a meeting to discuss the outcome of the public meeting in October. Mr. Hozey said that the current contract with the architect included taking the study through this first public meeting. As a result of that meeting, the public expressed a desire to do more of a pro and con analysis before we can talk in an educated way about site selection and whether the new school should be a middle school or a junior high school. Mr. Hozey said that the committee asked for a proposal from the architect that would take this process to this next step and help to get the project ready for a formal Request for Proposals for the design and education specification. Unfortunately, the proposal came back higher than what money is available in the account for this project. Mr. Hozey reported that there is only about fifteen thousand dollars left and the proposal came in at approximately thirty thousand dollars. Mr. Hozey asked the Superintendent of Schools if the school district could help with these costs by providing half of the money. Mr. Hozey explained that the school board was meeting that evening and that the Superintendent would be asking them if they would agree to cover that cost. Mr. Hozey stated that he would find out the result of that request. If they are not willing to cover half of the cost then he would bring a request back to Council for additional funding.

Council member Ables asked Mr. Hozey for clarification on the Permanent Fund Real Estate fund manager search listed under the completed projects portion of the written Manager's Report. Mr. Hozey stated that there are different fund managers that manage different parts of the city's Permanent Fund and they had selected a fund manager for the real estate portion of the fund a few years back. At that time they were advised to not move into that investment because the real estate market was performing poorly. Mr. Hozey explained that by the time the market started showing some signs of turning around they were advised that the original fund manager was probably not the best choice anymore. So, they went through a different selection process to hire a different fund manager for the real estate portion and that was recommended by the Investment Committee and approved by the Council. Mr. Hozey stated that there is a queue for getting into the investment and we have not gotten into it. When that happens we will be able to go into the amount approved in our asset allocation. He said that the selection process took some time and it is now complete and therefore is on the completed projects list. Council member Ables asked who was selected. Mr. Hozey replied that UBS was selected by the Committee and approved by the Council.

Mr. Hozey reported on the energy assistance program stating that when he signed up that afternoon he was the 777th household to sign up. Mr. Hozey acknowledged a mistake that was made on the city's part with the scheduling of the front desk. Because not everyone can get to City Hall during business hours during the week, the city scheduled two Saturdays when City Hall would be opened to accept applications. He said that there was some confusion as to what Saturday was advertized to the public. Consequently, staff was at City Hall ready to accept applications on the wrong Saturday. Therefore, Mr. Hozey announced that they will open up another Saturday in December for the public to come in and submit applications for the program. The two Saturdays City Hall will be open are December 11th and December 18th.

Mr Hozey stated that the City Hall (Police Wing) Improvements Project has been awarded. Administration has been working with the contractors to develop a schedule and secure bonding and a notice to proceed will be issued very soon. Mr. Hozey said that the Library/Museum Boiler Replacement Project was broken into two pieces to ensure a more affordable price. The first phase of that project has been completed. Mr. Hozey stated that what is left is the mechanical phase that will be put out to bid in February.

Mr. Hozey stated that the Kelsey Dock - Dock Phase II project is now complete. However, they are expecting a final change order as there was a discrepancy on the design drawings that was not the mistake of the contractor. Mr. Hozey reported that they based their bid on one quantity and the job required another, so the change order for that is substantial and should be coming soon.

Mr. Hozey addressed Council about the New Year's Eve fireworks display that is coming up. He explained that we do not budget for this activity but towards the end of the year Administration looks at the Council's general fund contingency account and if there is enough money, Administration asks Council to approve the fireworks show to be paid for from that account. Mr. Hozey explained that it is estimated that the show would cost \$15,000. The Council currently has \$32,000 in their general fund contingency account. Mr. Hozey asked Council for consensus to approve this expenditure. Council member Ables asked if it is \$15,000 every year. Mr. Hozey stated that it actually has gone up every year. Council member Ables asked if we could increase the amount of money and have a bigger and better show. Mr. Hozey stated that \$15,000 is more than previous years and that the cost of doing a show keeps going up. Consensus from Council was given to authorize up to \$15,000 for this purpose.

Mr. Hozey closed with statements about the Alaska Municipal League conference that was held the previous week. He reported a successful conference. He

attended the Manager's section of the conference and reported that it was very well done. He also reported that he was advanced to President of the Alaska Municipal Manager's Association. Mr. Hozey will hold this position for the next two years. He stated that there will be 2 board meetings he will attend in January and August. Also, as the president of an affiliate, he is also an ex officio board member of AML. Mayor Cottle represented the city well in AML over the last year and Mr. Hozey will be able to continue speaking for Valdez in that regard. Mayor Pro Tem Moore asked if there were any big issues that came up at AML. Council member McCann stated that they went through the standard resolutions of what is supported. Mr. Hozey stated that before he left he did review the policy statement and all resolutions and did not see anything that was overly concerning.

Council member Prax asked about the work session that is planned with the Senior Center and if it is known what we hope to accomplish from this meeting. Mr. Hozey stated that it was his understanding that Council requested this Mr. Hozey assumed that a discussion of their autonomy versus the possibility of the City getting more involved with their business would be the topic. Mr. Hozey explained that there have been issues in the past with finance and maintenance and there has been talk of the City coming in and taking over the operation all together. Mr. Hozey stated that there are pros and cons to that. So, he scheduled a meeting to discuss that because he thought it was what Council wanted. He stated he could cancel it if it was not of interest to them. Council member Prax stated that the Council was presented with a letter raising questions from the Senior Center and that is what prompted a request for a meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Moore stated that some of those questions may have already been resolved. Mr. Hozey stated that the board answered that letter with their own letter which will be included in the packet for the next meeting. Council member Prax stated that he did not have an interest in taking over the Senior Center at all but that when things happen the City tends to pay the bill. He's just looking for confidence that things are being managed as they should. Mr. Hozey stated that he has been attending the board meetings on a regular basis. He does not take responsibility for their financial statements, but he does review them. He stated that he sits on the board and assists with their processes and in the time he has been doing that he has been satisfied with the way things have been going. Council member Prax stated that he trusts Mr. Hozey looking at things managerially but it seems the question was the form of the financial statements and if they are being handled properly. Council member Prax stated that he is not going to be able to answer that guestion at the meeting that is planned. He stated that he felt like it would be beneficial for someone from the Finance department to look at the system they are using. Council member Prax stated that he is not qualified to do that. Mr. Hozey stated that he got the impression that the original letter was symptomatic of a larger concern. He stated

that if he read that incorrectly then the meeting can be canceled if that is what the Council wishes to do. Council member Ables stated that she felt they should just go forward with the meeting and see what comes out of it. Mayor Pro Tem Moore stated that with her dealings with several of the people at the Senior Center that there are misunderstandings at several levels concerning what you can and cannot do with money. She said that the rules change with money and that they are not as simple as they used to be. Council member Ables stated that the concerns brought to her were that they did not have a CFO and a CEO. They are one in the same. Mr. Hozey stated that he agreed that perhaps they need both positions but they would have to have the money to pay for both of them. Council member Wells stated that he is in favor of going ahead with the meeting to get an idea of some of the concerns and then go from there. Mayor Pro Tem Moore stated that she was in favor of going ahead with the meeting as well.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT

Ms. Pierce announced that during the Alaska Municipal League Conference Mayor Cobb was elected to serve as our region representative on the AML board. So, he will be a full member of the board.

Also, Mayor Cobb has expressed the desire to reactivate the City Beautification Committee. He has given a list of members to the City Clerk to send a letter to for reinstating the committee. Ms. Pierce stated that a list would be given to Council of those willing to participate in the committee. She stated that the first meeting would probably not be until after the first of the year.

Ms. Pierce also announced that the Clerk's office would be sending out letters and advertising in the newspaper and radio about the Senior Citizen Property Tax Exemption. It is an exemption for residents who are 65 years of age or older or are a disabled veteran or is a person who is at least 60 years old who is the widow of a person who qualified for the exemption. They will be exempt from paying the first \$150,000 of the assessed value of their property. Ms. Pierce stated that residents must apply for this each year. Letters of reminder and the forms will be sent out this week. Ms. Pierce said that the public may call the City Clerk's office at 834-3408 for more information.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

- Proclamation for the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony in Honor of Patricia Haltness
- Appointments to the Providence Valdez Health Advisory Council
- 3. Approval to go into Executive Session
 - a. TAPS Litigation

b. Seahawk Litigation

MOTION: Council member Wells moved, seconded by Council member McCann, to approve all items on the Consent agenda.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 5 yeas, two absent (Mayor Cobb and Council member Sorum). Motion carried.

X. NEW BUSINESS

1. Appointment to the Planning & Zoning Commission

Mayor Pro Tem Moore stated that ballots have been distributed to the council. Based on the ballot results, one applicant will be appointed to serve a 1 year term on the Planning and Zoning Commission.

MOTION: Council member Wells moved, seconded by Council member McCann, to appoint Mark De Lozier to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 5 yeas, 2 absent (Mayor Cobb and Council member Sorum). Motion carried.

Mayor Pro Tem Moore thanked Brett Stewart and Alberto Benvenuto for submitting their applications for the position.

2. Approval of Settlement Agreement with Crowley Marine Services, Inc. Regarding SERVS Vessel Tax Refunds

MOTION: Council member Ables moved, seconded by Council member McCann, to approve the settlement agreement with Crowley Marine Services, Inc. in the amount of \$150,000.

Mr. Hozey stated that because he was away the previous week at AML he did not get an opportunity to explain this in detail. He asked Mr. Walker to explain the motion. Mr. Walker stated that this was the last piece of the refund of process that Crowley Maritime paid on the property tax on their vessels and under the settlement agreement this would refund them for that over payment. He explained that the two parties that were not a part of the settlement prior to this are BP and Exxon. There is no refund due to them as a result of previous settlement agreements. Mr. Walker also said that one note in the agreement stated that funds should be repaid by November 19th but that was inserted prior to the current meeting being shifted to November 22nd. Mr. Walker spoke with Crowley Marine Services and they do not have a problem with the delay.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 5 yeas, 2 absent (Mayor Cobb and Council member Sorum). Motion carried.

3. Approval of Supplement No. 4 to Airport Land Lease ADA-70131

MOTION: Council member Wells moved, seconded by Council member McCann, to approve Supplement No. 4 to Airport Land Lease ADA-70131.

Council member Wells if there were any changes to the existing agreement. Mr. Hozey replied in the negative. Council member Wells asked about the assessment of the concession fees. Mr. Hozey stated that this is why we are getting an extension to allow more time to work through that. Council member McCann asked when the new cost to vendors would go into effect. Mr. Hozey stated that that was the piece they were still trying to work out. Mayor Pro Tem Moore asked if Mr. Hozey if this had to do with them reaching an agreement with all small airports. Mr. Hozey stated that yes, it was for all airports.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 5 yeas, 2 absent (Mayor Cobb and Council member Sorum). Motion carried.

4. Approval of Professional Services Agreement with Moffatt & Nichol for Small Boat Harbor East Launch Ramp Dock & Improvements Project Design Services in the Amount of \$99,989

MOTION: Council member Wells moved, seconded by Council member Ables, to approve a professional services agreement with Moffatt & Nichol for Small Boat Harbor east launch ramp dock and improvements design services in the amount of \$99,989.

Council member Wells asked if this was a design service contract that was not put out to bid. Mr. Hozey stated that we never put design service contracts out to bid and that anything up to \$100,000 we can solicit directly or pull off a list. He explained that only larger contracts where the design fee will likely total more than \$100,000 do we request formal RFPs. Council member Wells asked why the design firms we used in the past were not selected for this project. Mr. Hozey directed the question to Jack McCay, Capital Facilities Director. Mr. McCay stated that we have had issues with the designers we have used in the past, designer A and designer B. The last project designer A did for us charged their costs of 30% of the constructed costs where it should have been 10% – 15% maximum. Designer B had a contract that ended up costing the City over \$100,000 in change orders for things that were just missed on the drawings. Council member Prax pointed out that the cost of this contract came in only \$11

short of requiring the city to do a full RFP process. Council member Prax stated that he appreciated wanting to get someone else but coming that close was a little concerning. Mr. Hozey stated that there are not a lot of firms to solicit from and that this was the number that came back. Council member Prax stated that it was a little strange that the contractors estimate was so close to the \$100,000 mark. Mr. Hozey stated that he was pretty certain the contractor had reviewed the city procurement code. Council member Prax stated that being a public business we have to watch out for things like this. Council member Prax asked what would happen if we put this out to bid. Mr. Hozey stated that it would be an RFP process with no numbers attached and that we would select the company based on quality not price.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 4 yeas 1 nay (Council member Prax) 2 absent (Mayor Cobb and Council member Sorum). Motion carried.

5. Approval of Property Tax Write Offs Over \$500

MOTION: Council member Ables moved, seconded by Council member Wells, to approve a property tax write off for Sea Otter RV Park in the amount of \$1,058.10.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 5 yeas, 2 absent (Mayor Cobb and Council member Sorum). Motion carried.

XI. RESOLUTIONS

1. #10-60 - Naming Sublease Rates at the Valdez Pioneer Field Airport Terminal Building and Repealing Resolutions No. 97-33 and 98-10 Formerly Naming Sublease Rates

MOTION: Council member Wells moved, seconded by Council member McCann, to approve Resolution No. 10-60.

Council member Ables sustained from the vote do to her business being located at the airport.

Council member Wells asked Diane Kinney, Ports and Harbor Director, if she was aware of any comments from vendors at the airport. Ms. Kinney stated that she has not received any phone calls from the tenants. She did talk to one of the tenants who asked questions about the increase but did not seem to have a problem with it. Council member Wells stated that he understood our desire to close the gap between our rent revenues and general fund contributions but it is

easy to bring those rates up to a level that runs businesses off which would not benefit the City.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 4 yeas, 1 abstained (Council member Ables) 2 absent (Mayor Cobb and Council member Sorum). Motion carried.

2. #10-61 – Amending the 2010 Budget in the Capital Projects and Reserve Funds by Transferring \$6,000 from the Miscellaneous Lands Reserve Account to the Municipal Entitlement Land Survey CIP Account and Authorizing its Expenditure

MOTION: Council member Ables moved, seconded by Council member Wells, to approve Resolution No. 10-61.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 5 yeas, 2 absent (Mayor Cobb and Council member Sorum). Motion carried.

XII. REPORTS

1. Junk Car Report

Council member Wells expressed his appreciation for Larry Weaver and thanked his department for a job well done in removing the junk cars out of the community.

2. ADOT Non-Metropolitan Local Official Consultation Process

Mayor Pro Tem Moore stated that they want to take input on the notification process. She asked if we were watching this at City Hall. Mr. Hozey replied in the affirmative stating that it was provided to the Council to see if they have any input they would like to provide prior to the deadline. Council member Wells asked Mr. Hozey if there is currently any transportation projects which should be considered. Mr. Hozey stated that at one point we were looking at turn lanes on the Richardson Highway. He also said that we have requests in for bridge upgrades but there are no specific projects listed. Council member Wells asked if there was a way to include the Dayville Road traffic issues in this for next summer. Mr. Hozey stated that we could possibly do this if the details of what is wanted were clear. Council member Wells stated that he was referring to the issues with bear viewing in the area and the traffic concerns associated with that. Mr. Hozey stated that he would get with Lisa Von Bargen, Community Development Director, and discuss the possibilities there.

XIII. COUNCIL BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Council member Prax

Council member Prax stated that though he does like fireworks that he does not agree with spending that kind of money on such an event. He questioned why we are not consistent and suspend the fireworks law so people can shoot off their own fireworks. He stated that the current fireworks ordinance is blatantly unenforced and questioned why it was in existence. He suggested eliminating the ordinance language.

Council member Prax also extended holiday greetings for Thanksgiving to everyone.

Council member Ables

Council member Ables asked what the next step would be to get rid of the fireworks law. Ms. Pierce stated that an ordinance would need to be written to repeal that law. She stated that she has looked into this in the past for Council member Prax and she still has all of that information. Council member Wells stated he would like information from the Police Department on their position on the issue. Mr. Hozey suggested that we bring it back as a report. Council member McCann asked that EMS calls concerning fireworks be included in the report so that we can make an educated decision on this. He stated that there is a reason that the law was created in the first place. Mayor Pro Tem Moore stated that she would like to see all of the information on the subject before voting on repeal. Mr. Hozey stated that a report would be brought back for their review.

Council member Ables stated that she would be fixing Christmas dinner at the Civic Center. She encouraged the public to keep that day open if they do not want to cook.

Council member McCann

Council member McCann stated his appreciation for the opportunity to go to AML conference. He learned a lot and was amazed by the entire process of how everything works. Council member McCann also wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Council member Wells

Council member Wells wished everyone a happy holiday as well.

Mayor Pro Tem Moore

Mayor Pro Tem Moore wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and also asked that everyone be careful out there as the freezing rain is creating hazardous driving conditions.

XIV. COUNCIL TRAVEL

Council member Ables stated that she would be gone for Thanksgiving but would be returning to Valdez the Sunday after.

Mayor Pro Tem Moore stated that she will be in Anchorage for RCAC during December 1-4th.

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

XVI. RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Pro Tem Moore adjourned the meeting at 9:30 pm.