I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Cobb called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council chambers.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The City Council led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

III. ROLL CALL

Mayor Dave Cobb

Council member Joe Prax

Council member Karen Ables

Council member Alan Sorum

Council member Dorothy Moore

Absent and excused: Council member McCann. Council member Sorum arrived at approximately 7:20 pm.

Also Present:

John Hozey, City Manager Sheri Pierce, City Clerk Joe Levesque, Acting City Attorney

Members of staff and approximately 25 people in the audience.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the Regular Meeting of September 19, 2011 and Special Meeting of September 21, 2011

The minutes from the meeting of September 19 and 21, 2011 were approved with one minor correction to Council member Wells comments.

V. PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Pam Shirrell – Public Health Nurse

Ms. Shirrell announced that Wednesday, October 12th, the flu mass dispensing clinic will be held at Providence Valdez Medical Center.

Alan Crume – Alpine Woods Resident

Mr. Crume expressed concern that it appeared the city was moving ahead with the design of the dike at 10 mile without full concurrence from the residents who took part in a walk-thru of the area with Capital Facilities representatives and the engineer. Mr. Crume stated that the residents were expecting a reference line be placed along the new proposed alignment so that they could determine an off-set distance for the dike placement before the design is completed. He asked if the city was moving ahead before this coordination was completed. Mr. Hozey responded that to date, all that has been completed on this part of the project was

the survey work. Capital Facilities is currently working with the engineer to develop a preliminary drawing that would then be taken back to the residents to confirm the exact alignment of the dike. Mr. Hozey stated that Mr. O Brien, Capital Facilities Project Manager, was to confirm this prior to the final design process moving forward. Jack McCay, Capital Facilities Director, stated that based on the recent survey data a preliminary drawing needed to be generated by the engineer, so that further discussions with the resident committee can take place. Mr. McCay said he had spoken to Mr. Rick Wade about this last week. Mr. Hozey reiterated that the residents involved in the initial walk-thru would have an opportunity to review the engineer's drawings prior to moving forward with the final design. Mr. Hozey stated that the whole point of this exercise was to address and evaluate what the residents wanted and to develop a cost estimate for that option. This plan will then be compared against the original plan so that the council can determine in what direction they want to go.

VI. CITY MANAGER/CITY CLERK/CITY ATTORNEY/MAYOR REPORTS

CITY MANAGER

Mr. Hozey stated that he is conducting budget meetings with his staff in preparation for completing the draft 2012 budget document. A copy of the budget work session schedule was distributed to the council.

Homestead Road

Mr. Hozey said that an issue has risen with the contractor regarding the slope of the road on Egan Street. After paving it was discovered that the work had not been completed to the required design specifications. This is currently causing a drainage problem. The city will be working with the contractor to address this issue in the spring.

Strategic Planning

Mr. Hozey distributed a revised strategic planning meeting schedule. The meetings will begin October 15th. Mr. Hozey said he had received a draft of the existing city plans summary for review.

Assisted Care Living Task Force

The sub-committee is continuing to meet to review the financial information. The next meeting of the sub-committee will occur on October 14th. Mr. Mike Bell will be reviewing the financials and options for the proposed facility.

Salmonberry Ski Hill

The site work is almost completed. The warming huts are under construction. The facility is scheduled for State inspection on November 15th. The opening of the facility is currently planned for the weekend following Thanksgiving.

High School Roof Replacement

Site field visits have been conducted by the architect who will be working with the city to prepare the bid specifications for advertisement in January of 2012.

VCT Landing Ramp

The city has engaged an engineer to refine options and develop preliminary cost estimates for this project.

CDQ Report

The CDQ report will be distributed to the city council prior to the next regular council meeting.

CITY CLERK

The City Clerk announced that the regular municipal election will be held on Tuesday, October 4th. Ms. Pierce announced the location of the three polling precincts in town and encouraged the public to contact her office with any questions or concerns. Ms. Pierce stated that a summary of Proposition 1 will be available to voters, along with the sample ballot.

CITY ATTORNEY

Mr. Levesque stated that he was sitting in for Mr. Walker who is currently attending the North American Gas Summit in Washington D.C.

Mr. Levesque informed the council that the Seahawk litigation appeal has been scheduled for oral argument in December. Mr. Levesque said he would notify the City Clerk and the City Manager of the exact date, should any member of the council want to attend the oral argument. At the request of Council member Moore, Mr. Levesque gave a brief description of the litigation and the appeal process.

MAYOR

Mayor Cobb stated that the Marine Fire Symposium will be held at the Civic Center this week. The symposium will provide valuable training for local firemen and out of town guests. Approximately 70 people are expected to attend the training.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Proclamation: Domestic Violence Awareness Month
- 2. Approval to go into Executive Session Regarding City Manager Evaluation

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

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 5 yeas, 2 absent (McCann/Sorum). Motion carried.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval of the 2012 Energy Assistance Program

MOTION: Council member Moore moved, seconded by Council member Wells, to approve the 2012 Energy Assistance Program.

Council member Ables stated she wished there were a way to provide assistance to people in the community who do not currently qualify because their electricity or fuel costs are included in their rent, or for some other reason they do not have an established account with the electric company or fuel companies in town. She suggested that the city look into issuing a gift card. Mr. Hozey replied that it was likely too late to consider a different way to implement the program for the 2012 program; however administration could look into this and bring back a report for such an option as part of a potential 2013 program. Mayor Cobb asked for, but did not receive, support from four council members to bring back such a report.

Council member Moore stated that the council had spent a considerable amount of time in developing the eligibility requirements for this program. She pointed out that the energy assistance program was developed as a way for the city to share an unexpected windfall for energy with residents who receive an energy bill from their fuel provider or Copper Valley Electric Association.

Council member Ables stated that there are many residents who are not eligible to receive this benefit. Mayor Cobb suggested this could be a future work session topic.

Council member Wells stated that further discussion would also occur during the upcoming budget work sessions, since additional funds would need to be appropriated to fully fund the program in 2012.

Council member Prax asked for information on the number of people who have participated in the program. Mr. Walter Sapp, Finance Director, replied that the city had approximately 1,340 applicants who qualified for the program in 2011. Mr. Hozey stated that he would provide the council with a report which included the number of participants since the inception of the program.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 6 yeas, 1 absent (McCann). Motion carried.

2. Approve Contract with NVision Architecture for Design of the City Hall and Library Weatherization Projects in the Amount of \$64,200.00

MOTION: Council member Moore moved, seconded by Council member Ables, to approve a contract with NVision Architecture for design of the city hall and library weatherization projects in the amount of \$64,200.00.

Council member Wells asked Mr. McCay, Capital Facilities Director, how he had selected NVision Architecture as the design firm for this project. Mr. McCay replied that in the past this firm had worked on smaller projects for the city and had done a good job. He stated that he

had invited this firm to submit a proposal for this project. Council member Wells asked if the city had issued a request for proposals for this work. Mr. Hozey said no, and explained that the city has an open recruitment process for professional service firms, such as architectural firms, that solicits qualifications on a routine basis. These firms are maintained on an updated list. The city can then choose from this list of firms whose qualifications best meet the needs for various projects that do not require a request for proposals by code.

Council member Prax asked if there was any projection of savings should the city move forward with the weatherization project. Mr. Hozey replied that at this time only a preliminary investigation has been done by this firm. The city may request a calculation of the savings from the architect. Council member Prax said the cost of the weatherization project should be weighed against the cost of purchasing fuel and electricity in determining any savings to the city.

Council member Ables asked if the architect would consider a "green" design. Mr. McCay replied that the concept of a green design would be applied as much as was possible, but was somewhat restricted by the existing building structure.

Council member Moore pointed out the significant savings the city realized by replacing the street lights and suggested lights in the city hall buildings be considered for replacement with energy efficient fixtures.

Council member Ables suggested that administration look at other cities which have gone "green" and use their ideas as a model for our facilities. Mr. Hozey said that when designing new structures this is always something that is considered, however when renovating existing structures it can be difficult to implement. Council member Ables asked if the architect which was selected for this project was energy conscious. Mr. McCay replied in the affirmative.

Mayor Cobb asked if there would be an energy audit conducted. Mr. Hozey said no, he did not want to mislead council. This was strictly a design to construct the weatherization remedies. Mayor Cobb asked if the city was trying to reduce the cost of energy and save money with this project. He stated that if this was the case, then typically an energy audit is conducted. Council member Wells said the primary focus of this project was weatherization, not energy. Mr. Hozey said the city would see energy savings based on improved weatherization of the building.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 5 yeas, 1 nay (Prax), 1 absent (McCann). Motion carried.

IX. RESOLUTIONS

 #11-64 Amending User Fees for Parks and Recreation Programs and Facilities to Establish a Registration Fee for the Salmonberry Ski Hill and Repealing Resolution No. 09-03 Formerly Setting Rates and Fees

MOTION: Council member Sorum moved, seconded by Council member Moore, to approve Resolution No. 11-63.

Council member Moore asked if the only change to fees recommended by this resolution was the establishment of a ten dollar fee for the ski hill. Mr. Hozey replied in the affirmative.

Council member Ables asked if there would be a different rate for non-resident users. Mr. Hozey said no, the rate of ten dollars for an annual pass was for all users.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 5 yeas, 1 nay (Prax), 1 absent (McCann). Motion carried.

2. #11-65 Recommending that the Construction of Turn and Acceleration Lanes on the Richardson Highway (Mileposts 2-3) at the Intersections of Mineral Creek Loop Road and the Airport Road be Added to the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

MOTION: Council member Moore moved, seconded by Council member Wells, to approve Resolution No. 11-64.

Council member Moore stated that this was a safety issue and an improvement for our transportation system at the Valdez Container Terminal. Mr. Hozey stated that because this project was removed from the original STIP, ADOT is working to place this project back on the list outside of the normal STIP process.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 6 yeas, 1 absent (McCann). Motion carried.

X. REPORTS

- 1. Health Fund Report
- 2. Permanent Fund Report
- 3. Police Report

Council member Moore had several questions regarding the statistics included in the police report and requested a summary explaining the definitions of A, B and C classifications for felony and misdemeanor charges. Mr. Hozey stated he would ask Chief Comer to provide this information.

XI. COUNCIL BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Council member Moore

Council member Moore encouraged everyone to vote in tomorrow's municipal election.

Council member Prax

Council member Prax asked if the junk car removal program was still in place. Mr. Weaver said the program was still in effect and funding was available. Mr. Weaver said his department will advertise the availability of this service.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

XIII. RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

XIV. COUNCIL TRAVEL

XV. RECESS

Mayor Cobb recessed the meeting at 7:50 pm. He announced that the council will reconvene on October 5, 2011 for the purpose of certifying the regular municipal election.

XVI. RECONVENE

Mayor Cobb reconvened the meeting on October 5, 2011, at 12:00 pm in the City Council Chambers for the purpose of certifying the October 4th Regular Municipal election.

Sheri Pierce, City Clerk, read into the record the following results:

CITY COUNCIL MEMBER

CANDIDATE	PREC.#1	PREC.#2	PREC.#3	ABSENTEE/ QUES.	TOTAL
Mike Wells	161	127	119	57	464
Karen Ables	138	99	99	51	387
Dorothy M. Moore	127	98	101	49	375
Rich Long	111	75	73	41	300
Write In	0	9	12	3	24

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER

CANDIDATE	PREC.#1	PREC.#2	PREC#3	ABSENTEE/QUES.	TOTAL
Dan Walker	157	129	114	55	455
Anita Fannin	140	103	105	46	394
Dawn Farmer	113	74	90	43	320
Dolores Gard	94	72	74	42	282
Write In	02	05	06	01	14
PROPOSITION 1	PREC.#1	PREC.#2	PREC.#3	ABSENTEE/QUES.	TOTAL
YES	75	62	65	36	238
NO	101	81	79	46	307

I, Sheri L. Pierce, City Clerk of the City of Valdez, Alaska, do hereby certify this to be the true results of ballots cast at the Municipal Election of October 4, 2011 following the count of regular ballots on October 4, 2011 and the count of absentee and questioned ballots on October 5, 2011.

Dated:	
	Shari I Pierce MMC City Clark

MOTION: Council member Moore moved, seconded by Council member Wells, to certify the results of the October 4, 2011, City of Valdez regular municipal election.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 6 yeas, 1 absent (McCann). Motion carried.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Cobb adjourned the meeting at 12:10 pm.