



FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL  
AGENDA NO. 2024-19  
**REGULAR MEETING – SEPTEMBER 9, 2024**  
MEETING WILL BE HELD VIA [ZOOM WEBINAR](#) AND AT  
FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
800 CUSHMAN STREET, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

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REGULAR MEETING  
6:30 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL
2. INVOCATION
3. FLAG SALUTATION
4. CEREMONIAL MATTERS (Proclamations, Introductions, Recognitions, Awards)
5. CITIZENS' COMMENTS, oral communications to the City Council on any item pertaining to City business that is not up for public hearing. The total comment period is 30 minutes, and testimony is limited to three minutes. Any person wishing to speak needs to sign up on the list located in the hallway. Respectful standards of decorum and courtesy should be observed by all speakers. Remarks should be directed to the City Council as a body rather than to any particular Council Member or member of the staff. In consideration of others, please silence all cell phones and electronic devices.
6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA  

Consent agenda items are indicated by asterisks (\*). Consent agenda items are considered together unless a council member requests that the item be returned to the general agenda. Ordinances on the approved consent agenda are automatically advanced to the next regular meeting for second reading and public hearing. All other items on the approved consent agenda are passed as final.
7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS
  - \*a) Regular Meeting Minutes of August 12, 2024
  - \*b) Regular Meeting Minutes of August 26, 2024

8. SPECIAL ORDERS

- a) The Fairbanks City Council will hear interested citizens concerned with the following alcohol license applications for renewal. Public testimony will be taken and limited to three minutes.

Lic. #	DBA	License Type	Licensee	Address
710	Mecca Bar	Beverage Dispensary	JRB, Inc.	549 2nd Avenue
4816	Mayan Palace	Beverage Dispensary	Taco Azteca, Inc.	3401 Airport Way
5266	Fushimi	Restaurant/Eating Place	Fushimi, LLC	607 Old Steese Highway

- b) The Fairbanks City Council will hear interested citizens concerned with the following marijuana license application for renewal. Public testimony will be taken and limited to three minutes.

Lic. #	DBA	License Type	Licensee	Address
10589	Nature's Releaf	Retail Marijuana Store	Nature's Releaf, LLC	503 7th Avenue

9. MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

- a) Special Reports

10. COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

12. NEW BUSINESS

- \*a) Ordinance No. 6290 – Amending the Collective Bargaining Agreement Between The City of Fairbanks and the Fairbanks Firefighters Union IAFF Local 1324 to Add Community Paramedic and Training Captain Positions. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs.

13. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE CITY COUNCIL

- \*a) Memorandum to Approve the Appointment of 2024 Election Officials

\*b) Fairbanks Diversity Council Meeting Minutes of June 11, 2024

14. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS

15. CITY CLERK'S REPORT

16. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION

a) PSEA Labor Negotiations – Guidance from Council

b) FFU Labor Negotiations – Guidance from Council

18. ADJOURNMENT



FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES, AUGUST 12, 2024  
FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
800 CUSHMAN STREET, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

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The City Council convened at 6:30 p.m. on the above date to conduct a Regular Meeting of the Fairbanks City Council via Zoom webinar and in the City Council Chambers located at 800 Cushman Street, Fairbanks, Alaska, with Mayor David Pruhs presiding and the following Councilmembers in attendance:

Councilmembers Present:      Jerry Cleworth, Seat A  
   June Rogers, Seat B  
   Sue Sprinkle, Seat C  
   Crystal Tidwell, Seat D  
   Lonny Marney, Seat E  
   John Ringstad, Seat F

Absent:                                None

Also Present:                        D. Danyielle Snider, City Clerk  
   Thomas Chard, City Attorney  
   Michael Sanders, Chief of Staff  
   Margarita Bell, Chief Financial Officer (remotely)  
   Andrew Coccaro, Fire Chief  
   Richard Sweet, Deputy Police Chief  
   Jake Merritt, Human Resources Director  
   Kristi Merideth, FECC Manager  
   Brynn Butler, Housing Coordinator (remotely)  
   Jeremiah Cotter, Public Works (PW) Director  
   Roy Bryant, PW Facilities Manager  
   Danny Lee, PW Laborer Foreman  
   Jeremiah Record, PW Mechanic Foreman  
   Myrlene Wheelock, PW Operator Lead  
   Alex Lexa, PW Facilities Laborer  
   Tracy Morphis, PW Dispatcher

### **INVOCATION**

The invocation was given by City Clerk Danyielle Snider.

### **FLAG SALUTATION**

At the request of Mayor Pruhs, **Mr. Ringstad** led the flag salutation.

### **CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

*[Clerk Note: Names of citizens who provide comments may not be spelled correctly if their name was illegible on the physical sign-up sheet.]*



Debbie Rathbun – D. Rathbun shared that she and her husband own property at 737 7th Avenue which suffered fire damage in June 2022. She stated that she learned the day before through reading an article in the newspaper that the City had published an Invitation to Bid ad to demolish the structure on the property. She expressed frustration at the process of insurance adjusters being replaced, each with a different idea of what happened, as well as out-of-town engineers submitting inaccurate reports and analysis about their property. She discussed how this caused multiple delays in their efforts to rectify the situation. D. Rathbun indicated that they had to utilize the full two-year window available by their insurance to have their claim submitted to the company's satisfaction, which was completed less than two months ago. She stated that discovering the City had plans to demolish their building was disheartening after everything they have been through.

**Mayor Pruhs** asked if she could provide, within the next two months, a detailed plan for their intended schedule of steps towards resolving the situation. D. Rathbun replied that she could try but might have difficulties with her husband being out-of-state fighting forest fires. **Mayor Pruhs** explained that two months from now would be late enough in the year to result in no action taken until summer 2025. He explained that properties make their way onto the City's lists for abatement for a variety of reasons. He affirmed that active communication with owners and a focus on reasonable, timely solutions, will always be the preferred outcome. He acknowledged that D. Rathbun had visited him in 2023 to share her story of insurance challenges.

**Ms. Rogers** asked if she had other interactions with City staff other than her visit with Mayor Pruhs in the summer of 2023. D. Rathbun shared that they have had multiple visits with Building Department staff to inform them of the challenges with their insurance company. She indicated that she does not have any specific grievances with individual City staff members but rather with discovering through the newspaper that her property was going to be demolished. She outlined the challenges that would have come if they had driven by and found the property leveled.

**Mr. Marney** noted that he has interacted with her in the past and asked if they had been able to keep up with the yard at the property. D. Rathbun stated that they have done their best. **Mr. Marney** expressed sympathy and acknowledged the practice of insurance companies changing adjusters multiple times before finally writing a check.

Jomo Stewart, President of Fairbanks Economic Development Corporation (FEDC) – J. Stewart shared that FEDC completed a large analysis of the Fairbanks economy earlier in the spring, a copy of which had been recently provided to all Councilmembers. He stated that they intend to make this an annual project and invited them to reach out with any questions. He noted that the military presence accounts for about one third of the local economy and gave details about the upcoming Alaska Defense Forum. J. Stewart shared that he will be giving a presentation on the Fairbanks economy to a Rotary group in Anchorage soon and that he intends to discuss opportunities that exist for economic development between the communities. He extended an invitation for others to share their ideas of this nature with him so he can add to his presentation. He gave an example of improvements for cargo landings at the Fairbanks International Airport.

**Ms. Rogers** asked if he was aware of the many relationships that exist between Fairbanks and Anchorage in the arts and culture communities. J. Stewart stated that he is. **Ms. Rogers** suggested that they are not what they used to be and reigniting those would be an opportunity to explore.

**Mr. Marney** shared that the News-Miner recently published an article about the large variety of agricultural items grown in the early 1900's, which seemed to go away over the century. He asked if he had read the article. J. Stewart stated that he had not read the article but that this topic had been discussed many times in the past at FEDC. He gave details about their Chef at the Market program, where a local chef makes demonstration dishes with locally grown ingredients. He expressed hope that more exposure to these options will help regrow this industry.

**Ms. Rogers** asked if he has spoken with Joan Skilbred for additional historical perspective, cited how virtually everyone in Fairbanks used to grow their own food many years ago. She indicated that the Pioneers group has a wealth of information. J. Stewart thanked her for the suggestion.

*Savannah Fletcher, Presiding Officer of Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly* – S. Fletcher stated that she was here to provide an update after Borough Mayor Ward had a conflict. She shared that on August 22 she will be introducing an Ordinance that would remove the five-minute time limit for representatives of the City Councils of North Pole and Fairbanks, as well as the school board, to provide reports during Assembly meetings. She indicated that this was an effort to show support and remove an unnecessary limitation. She thanked Ms. Tidwell for bringing forward a request for reconsideration on Resolution 5116 regarding joint economic development powers. S. Fletcher noted that in the past, the Mayors of all three local municipalities sat on that Economic Development Commission and that Mayor Ward has expressed interest in a similar approach going forward. She clarified that these would be official seats, created in addition to the existing Commission membership, and that each Mayor could designate a representative to fill their seat. She reiterated their hope to move forward and resolve any remaining issues such as FEDC spending allocated funds and questions about the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) for their region.

**Ms. Sprinkle** acknowledged the interest of Mayor Ward revising the Commission seats but asked if the Assembly was in favor of such a change. S. Fletcher admitted that since nothing has been put before the body, she could not say officially but that she feels confident they will support it. She indicated that Mayor Ward intends to bring forth the effort as an Ordinance.

**Mr. Cleworth** stated that he sat on the Commission many years ago and that at the time they were told that its existence was required in order for the Borough to receive certain grants. He asked if that was still the case. S. Fletcher responded that she is not aware of which, if any, current grants have that as a requirement and that the primary focus of the Commission in recent years was parameters for tax exemptions for larger, multi-family units. **Mr. Cleworth** expressed a desire to learn more about this topic. He recounted that another major issue that has yet to be resolved is the topic of taxation. He noted that a separate mill rate designated for economic development was correctly listed this year which, according to his records, had not happened for some time. He asked how that particular tax began, as he does not recall it going before the voters. He added that this appears to exist outside the established tax cap and that they have yet to receive an answer to this question. S. Fletcher acknowledged that Mr. Cleworth has more historical knowledge of this topic than she does and admitted that she too has yet to receive answers to these questions. She stated that they hope to move forward and empower the Commission to take up these kinds of questions going forward, especially before the next year's budget cycle begins. **Mr. Cleworth** asked to confirm that the Borough Mayor wants to pursue the changes to Commission seats, which the Council has encouraged. S. Fletcher confirmed that he does and will do so via Ordinance which the Assembly will be asked to approve.

*David van den Berg, Executive Director of the Downtown Association of Fairbanks* – D. van den Berg expressed appreciation in the example of fair and firm processes that are in place when he heard the exchange between D. Rathbun and Mayor Pruhs. He encouraged the City to continue to make it a priority to address dangerous and blighted properties, especially in the downtown area. He discussed the Downtown Fairbanks 2040 Plan and how his organization will be diligent in taking it at face value regardless of whether it is officially endorsed by the City Council. D. van den Berg addressed the absence of contractor for the Emergency Services Patrol (ESP) and that they have encouraged those with pending invoices for ESP services to hold off until they have a firm plan in place. He stated that payments received thus far have been remitted to the City to cover any additional costs that may have been incurred this year for downtown security. He shared that the Association supports Resolution No. 6285, that they believe it will be a positive action, and that they are willing to help think it through.

**Mayor Pruhs**, hearing no requests for additional comments, declared Citizens' Comments closed.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA**

**Ms. Sprinkle**, seconded by **Mr. Marney**, moved to APPROVE the agenda and consent agenda.

**Mr. Cleworth** pulled item 7(b), Special Meeting Minutes of July 30, 2024, from the consent agenda.

**Mayor Pruhs** called for objection to the APPROVAL of the agenda, as amended and, hearing none, so ORDERED.

Clerk Snider read the consent agenda, as amended, into the record.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

a) Regular Meeting Minutes of July 22, 2024

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA

b) Special Meeting Minutes of July 30, 2024

**Mr. Cleworth**, seconded by **Ms. Sprinkle**, moved to APPROVE the Special Meeting Minutes of July 30, 2024.

**Mr. Cleworth** suggested a correction on page 2 of the Minutes, where an ambulance was incorrectly referenced as "geriatric" rather than "bariatric".

**Mayor Pruhs** called for objection to the APPROVAL of the Special Meeting Minutes of July 30, 2024 with the suggested change and, hearing none, so ORDERED.

### **SPECIAL ORDERS**

- a) The Fairbanks City Council held a public hearing and considered the following alcohol license application for renewal:

Lic. #	DBA	License Type	Licensee	Address
435	Garden Island Party Store	Package Store	Market Basket, Inc.	246 Illinois Street

**Mr. Ringstad**, seconded by **Mr. Marney**, moved to WAIVE PROTEST on the alcohol license application for renewal.

**Mayor Pruhs** called for testimony and hearing none, declared Public Testimony closed.

**Mr. Cleworth** asked if this was the same license they had considered at last month's meeting. **Mayor Pruhs** clarified that the same licensee had a recent application for transfer of location but that this was actually for the renewal of their license and a separate step from the transfer.

**Ms. Sprinkle** asked if there was still going to be alcohol sold at this address. **Mayor Pruhs** explained that they will continue to sell alcohol here until their transfer is complete.

**Mr. Marney** stated that given its location, only eight calls on the Dispatch report was incredible.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO WAIVE PROTEST ON THE ALCOHOL LICENSE APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Cleworth, Marney, Tidwell, Ringstad, Sprinkle, Rogers

NAYS: None

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT**

**Mayor Pruhs** asked FECC Manager Kristi Meredith to give an update on Dispatch Center staffing.

K. Meredith reported that FECC:

- Currently has ten full time dispatchers.
- They are in the process of changes in supervisory positions, which they will recruit for externally if they are unable to fill internally.
- One trainee began August 1.
- There are five part-time call takers/dispatchers with another starting September 1.
- Two candidates are in the background check phase.
- Two candidates have applied and passed the testing phase.
- Five staff went through the Comm Center Manager class.
- They hope to bring in some trainers to allow more staff to participate in additional classes.

K. Meredith discussed more of the department's training processes and various procedures. She noted that many policies are being updated to be more relevant and user-friendly, while remaining consistent with the other information provided from partner agencies.

**Mr. Ringstad** asked for additional information about the supervisor positions. K. Meredith indicated that they have four supervisors and one operations manager within their budget. She

explained that all four supervisor positions are vacant but have staff rotating through in “acting supervisor” capacities as they go through the hiring process.

**Ms. Tidwell** referenced a past action that provided funds for more individuals to fill a training pool prior to positions becoming available. She asked if that was proving successful. K. Meredith stated that they have not yet reached a place where that program had been utilized, as new hires are able to be placed into vacancies. She affirmed that this program will still be useful in the future.

**Ms. Sprinkle** asked if the new hires were local. K. Meredith affirmed that they take applications from anyone but the current batch of new hires includes someone moving up from Anchorage and several others from out of state who are looking to relocate to Fairbanks.

**Mr. Marney** asked for more details on the process of becoming a full-fledged supervisor versus an acting supervisor. K. Meredith explained that it is simply part of the hiring process and that those who are acting in the roles are submitting resumes in order to be interviewed. **Mr. Marney** asked if they are creating new policies that did not exist previously. K. Meredith clarified that the policies are not new but are just being renewed and updated for better understanding by everyone, whether they have worked at the department for ten days or ten years. She shared that all employees are taking an active part in contributing to the policy updates. **Mr. Marney** asked how the renovation for the backup dispatch center is going. Chief of Staff Mike Sanders gave an update on the contract that has been awarded and options for the servers needed for the facility. He indicated that this will be a multi-year project.

**Mayor Pruhs** thanked K. Meredith for her report. He gave an update on current abatements:

- Old Coin King building – The owner has the resources and intent to upgrade the building but is waiting for clarity on a planned State DOT project which would impact the property.
- 113 2nd Avenue – The owners have made progress with cleaning the property and intend to continue doing such through Summer 2025.
- 124 2nd Avenue – This property had a lien which has been paid in full.
- 2319 Rickert Street – This has been completed.
- 737 7th Avenue – This was discussed earlier under Citizen’s Comments. The Mayor has asked for a plan for resolving the identified issues.
- 305 Kellum Street – Owner Pete Kelly is in the process of demolishing the structure here.
- 311 Bonnifield Street– City Attorney Tom Chard reported:
  - The owner of this property died in the fire that damaged the structure.
  - There is no next of kin available.
  - The Borough has indicated that property taxes are up to date.
  - The existing senior tax exemption will expire now that the owner is deceased.
  - The property will likely enter the foreclosure process.
  - If there is a health or safety concern, the City can pursue abatement.
- 1516 Eielson Street – This building caught fire, damaging the neighboring structure. It is in the communication and notification stages of the abatement process.
- 2116 Rickert Street – The owner has indicated he will remodel the damaged fourplex. The Mayor will check back on this next summer.
- 419 4th Avenue – This is the Alaskan Motor Inn which has weekly status changes. The Mayor indicated he will meet with all involved parties soon. The buyer is considering private demolition options.

- 307 12th Avenue – Fire destroyed most of the structure and there is not much left to abate.
- 129 3rd Avenue – A new owner is on record for this property. The Building Official will send out a letter to abate.

**Mr. Ringstad** noted that the fire on Eielson Street resulted in the neighboring residents being put out of their home. He recalled that a fire also occurred at the same location a year prior.

### **COUNCILMEMBERS' COMMENTS**

**Mr. Ringstad** indicated that he had no comments at this time.

**Mr. Marney** thanked Victoria Dowling for accepting the open position on the Discretionary Fund Committee, as noted in the memo later in their agenda packet.

**Ms. Tidwell** shared that the Alaska Defense Forum will take place August 26 to 28 at the Westmark Hotel and encouraged everyone to take time to attend. She reported that there will be a meeting for the Economic Development Commission on September 3 where they will look at a Borough Ordinance regarding tax incentives for homeowners.

**Mr. Cleworth** stated that many of the individuals who spoke against the alcohol license transfer application at the last Council meeting had indicated plans to contact the Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board. He asked if any of them had also contacted the City Clerk's office after the meeting. Clerk Snider stated that several people had contacted her office on the matter. She shared that the ABC Board had already considered that license at its quarterly meeting which occurred prior to the Council's meeting and that they had approved it with delegation, which authorized renewal pending any protest from local governments. She noted that the ABC Board's website did not publish any notice of action to verify the outcome but that she had shared methods of contact with any concerned residents who reached out. **Mr. Cleworth** stated that it seemed strange to him that the ABC Board would make a decision before local governments had officially weighed in and that residents should have the chance to testify to the Board after doing so at the local level, not retroactively. He expressed desire to learn if this was the Board's typical procedure, as it is not the methodology he recalls from the past. **Mr. Cleworth** spoke about the Borough Ordinance on tax incentives that Ms. Tidwell addressed and stated that he believes it is quite different than the City's, as the Borough's is focused on multi-family, apartment buildings.

**Ms. Rogers** expressed the sentiment that this focus on housing is necessary in order to maintain the sense of community that has existed in Fairbanks for generations. She thanked those who are putting time and attention into the subject. She noted the recent passing of former Councilmember Valerie Therrien's father who was close to 107 years old. She expressed condolences to the family.

**Ms. Sprinkle** indicated that she had no comments at this time.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a) Ordinance No. 6286, as Amended – An Ordinance Amending the 2024 Operating and Capital Budgets for the Third Time. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.

*Note: A procedural error was made at the second reading of Ordinance No. 6286 on July 22 – a public hearing was not held. As a remedy, another reading will be held to include a public hearing. At the July 22, 2024 regular City Council meeting, Mr. Marney, seconded by Ms. Sprinkle, moved to ADOPT Ordinance No. 6286. Amendments, including substitution of an amended, proposed version, were passed. The motion to ADOPT remained on the floor.*

**Mayor Pruhs** called for testimony and hearing none, declared Public Testimony closed.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 6286, AS AMENDED, AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Tidwell, Sprinkle, Ringstad, Marney, Rogers, Cleworth

NAYS: None

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED and Ordinance No. 6286, as Amended, ADOPTED.

- b) Request for Reconsideration by Council Member Tidwell of the motion to APPROVE Resolution No. 5116, as Amended. The resolution was approved by the City Council on July 22, 2024, and the request for reconsideration was filed with the City Clerk on July 23, 2024.

Resolution No. 5116, as Amended – A Resolution Authorizing an Agreement Between the Fairbanks North Star Borough, the City of North Pole, and the City of Fairbanks to Jointly Provide for Economic Development. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs.

**Ms. Tidwell**, seconded by **Mr. Marney**, moved to RECONSIDER Resolution No. 5116, as Amended.

**Ms. Tidwell** acknowledged that they have spent a lot of time discussing this Resolution. She shared that after it was approved, she and Ms. Sprinkle met with the Borough Mayor to better understand the history and discuss a better working relationship between the City Council and Borough Assembly. She stated that she has an amendment that she believes will resolve some of remaining concerns and give Mayor Pruhs the authority to sign the agreement between the City of Fairbanks, City of North Pole, and the Borough, allowing them to move forward.

**Ms. Sprinkle** agreed that the passion put into this issue is strong and that if there is an option to make the situation better, it is worthy of reconsideration.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO RECONSIDER RESOLUTION NO. 5116, AS AMENDED, AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Ringstad, Rogers, Marney, Sprinkle, Cleworth, Tidwell

NAYS: None

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

**Ms. Tidwell**, seconded by **Ms. Sprinkle**, moved to AMEND Resolution No. 5116, as Amended, by striking Section 2, renumbering the remaining sections accordingly, and to have Section 4 read: “The City of Fairbanks would like to work cooperatively with the Fairbanks North Star Borough to resolve the issue of the ARDOR, to get clear resolution of the Fairbanks North Star Borough’s taxing authority for economic development, and to establish representation on the FNSB Economic Development Commission.”

**Ms. Tidwell** shared that the current language of contingencies within Section 2 adds unnecessary complications to the process and that their meeting with the Borough Mayor made it clear that the intent to work cooperatively is strong. She noted that they learned how, in the past, the Commission had designated seats for all three local mayors and that a resolution to reestablish this practice was forthcoming at the Borough level. She clarified that Mayor Pruhs would have the choice to sit on the Commission or appoint another Councilmember or another representative of his choosing, and that this would not change her own appointment to the Commission.

**Ms. Rogers** discussed the decline of visibility and action of this Commission over the decades, noting that she had served on it at its inception. She indicated that there is much more that needs to be addressed between the cities and Borough to ensure this new effort is effective and lasting.

**Ms. Sprinkle** expressed appreciation in this amendment’s effort to further the conversation and open the door for refining the details while moving forward. She agreed that the meeting she attended with Ms. Tidwell was very helpful.

**Mr. Cleworth** indicated that he does not believe it was ever their intent that it had to be a member of the Council that was appointed to the Commission but rather that the makeup and selection process would mirror that of the Planning Commission. He stated that it sounds like there is interest in this being enacted and asked if that was correct. **Ms. Tidwell** clarified that the discussion regarding Commission makeup included specific seats for all three Mayors, or their designee, which would be relatively easy to implement and ensured representation for the City. She shared that they discussed resetting the Commission makeup to mirror the Planning Commission but that it would involve certain existing members being removed, which was an uncomfortable idea for many members. **Mr. Cleworth** stated that he likes things to be definitive and much of what is being considered is not so, citing Commission makeup and taxation power as very important things which should be easy to define. He expressed preference that representation for the cities of Fairbanks and North Pole be proportionate to their populations.

**Mr. Ringstad** agreed that the final phrase of the proposed Section 4 is pretty broad language and could result in any kind of makeup. He stated that proportional representation for the two cities, as stated in the original Section 2, would be prudent.

**Ms. Sprinkle** pointed out that if the ARDOR is moved away from the Borough, this entire Commission may not need to exist.

**Ms. Tidwell** explained that while they are removing the word “contingent” from the original Section 2, they are leaving in the sunset date to ensure that if the items they have discussed are not resolved, there will no longer be a Memorandum of Understanding. She added that this amendment allows the Borough to move forward and spend the money they have set aside for economic development within the City, which is currently held up. She stated that adding more language to



the end of Section 4 does create more work for the Borough but she believes it would still allow them to move forward.

**Mr. Cleworth** pointed out that the Borough has already set mill rates for the current year and that he does not believe they can go back for the fiscal year. He explained that any changes will not take effect until July 1, 2025, so he does not see why time is of the essence for spending money.

**Ms. Tidwell** reminded the Council that FEDC received funds through the Borough's budget which are currently restricted, unable to be used within the City due to the absence of an agreement such as this. She stated that there are additional funds that were previously cut from the budget that may also be reallocated if this agreement is approved.

**Ms. Rogers** expressed frustration at the feeling that the conversation was moving further from a solution. She indicated that some of the undertones ring less cooperative which unsettles her.

**Ms. Sprinkle** pointed out that J. Stewart earlier shared that the military represents approximately one third of the economic activity within the community and that Fort Wainwright is within City limits. She noted that FEDC's restrictions from Borough funds means that they cannot spend anything on matters that would incorporate this important reality.

**Ms. Tidwell** reiterated that this is not as complicated of an issue as they have made it. She addressed miscommunications that occurred early in the process such as getting the matter before the Council in a timely fashion and the Borough failing to communicate neither urgency nor consequences of a lack of signed agreement. She indicated that there is a tone to them not signing the agreement as well as including contingencies, and that she would like to move past these kinds of tones. She repeated that their primary concerns are still within the language of the amendment and that the sunset date is key to ensuring that the hope of working together is not just lip service.

**Mr. Marney** addressed the Council's recent attempts to extend olive branches which seem to always get voted down or disregarded by the Assembly. He asserted that this issue is not on the Council and that it is not unreasonable to have more clear language as Mr. Cleworth had shared.

**Mr. Cleworth** explained that the only language that had real teeth was the former Section 2, particularly regarding representation, and that it does not seem like a huge request. He noted that all other items are simply requests for information and commitment to working together. He stated that he believes someone at the Borough likely realized that a type of unauthorized taxation was happening to City residents. He suggested that, if so, perhaps they should ask for reimbursement. He discussed their fiduciary responsibility to the residents of the City of Fairbanks because this involves a tax and they deserve representation. Mr. Cleworth acknowledged that representation on the Commission has changed a lot over the years and that there has been no outreach from the Borough to ensure that the City is involved in a way it should be. He pointed out how this is their opportunity to ensure that they have a say on matters moving forward.

**Mr. Ringstad** indicated that while he agreed with Mr. Cleworth, the sunset date itself was another example of teeth and buys them some time. He suggested they do include language regarding representation proportionate to population, as a way to see if the Borough in fact would be willing to work with the cities towards a more balanced approach going forward. He stated that the history of economic development entities in the community has often been haphazard or nonexistent.

**Ms. Rogers** expressed support for what had been discussed but wanted to make sure they did nothing that would harm the ARDOR as that would include State-level considerations. She conveyed goals of seeking growth and prosperity for all of central Alaska. She stated that it is sometimes embarrassing to think of how much unfulfilled potential occurs within their region. She reiterated that whatever they agree to needs to be a real system where they work together.

**Ms. Tidwell**, seconded by **Mr. Ringstad**, moved to AMEND the amendment on the floor by adding “by the City of North Pole and City of Fairbanks to be proportional to their populations.” to the end of Section 4.

**Ms. Tidwell** explained that their discussion had clarified the Council’s general preference regarding proportionate representation versus just having a Councilmember occupy a seat.

**Mr. Ringstad** agreed that this would be a better approach.

**Mr. Cleworth** pointed out that this Commission does not have any final authority and serves only in an advisory capacity. He indicated that he still prefers to keep the original contingency language.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO AMEND THE AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION NO. 5116, AS AMENDED, BY ADDING “BY THE CITY OF NORTH POLE AND CITY OF FAIRBANKS TO BE PROPORTIONAL TO THEIR POPULATIONS.” TO THE END OF SECTION 4, AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Marney, Ringstad, Rogers, Tidwell

NAYS: Cleworth, Sprinkle

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

**Ms. Sprinkle** stated that, with the new amendment, she does not see how this will end up being any different than what they had originally passed.

**Mr. Cleworth** explained that the original Section 2 included their desires as contingencies for their agreement whereas the language of the new Section 4 is less definitive, stating that they “would like to work” with the Borough. He noted that if their preferences are not met, they will have already entered into the agreement and their only way out would be to wait until July 1, 2026.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO AMEND RESOLUTION NO. 5116, AS AMENDED, BY STRIKING SECTION 2, RENUMBERING THE REMAINING SECTIONS ACCORDINGLY, AND TO HAVE SECTION 4 READ: “THE CITY OF FAIRBANKS WOULD LIKE TO WORK COOPERATIVELY WITH THE FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH TO RESOLVE THE ISSUE OF THE ARDOR, TO GET CLEAR RESOLUTION OF THE FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH’S TAXING AUTHORITY FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TO ESTABLISH REPRESENTATION ON THE FNSB ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION BY THE CITY OF NORTH POLE AND CITY OF FAIRBANKS TO BE PROPORTIONAL TO THEIR POPULATIONS.”, AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Tidwell, Marney, Ringstad, Sprinkle, Rogers

NAYS: Cleworth  
**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 5116, AS AMENDED, AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Tidwell, Marney, Ringstad, Sprinkle, Rogers  
NAYS: Cleworth  
**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED and Resolution No. 5116, as Amended, APPROVED.

- c) Ordinance No. 6287 – An Ordinance Amending Fairbanks General Code Section 2-149(e), Fiscal Note on Ordinances and Resolutions. Introduced by Council Member Cleworth. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.

**Ms. Sprinkle**, seconded by **Mr. Ringstad**, moved to ADOPT Ordinance No. 6287.

**Mayor Pruhs** called for testimony and hearing none, declared Public Testimony closed.

**Mr. Marney** asked to be added as a sponsor to the Ordinance.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 6287, AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Sprinkle, Rogers, Cleworth, Marney, Ringstad, Tidwell  
NAYS: None  
**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED and Ordinance No. 6287 ADOPTED.

- d) Ordinance No. 6288 – An Ordinance Establishing an Incentive Bonus Program Within the Fairbanks Public Works Department for Recruitment and Retention. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.

**Ms. Tidwell** noted that she had declared a conflict of interest at the first reading of this Ordinance at the regular Council meeting of July 22, 2024. **Mayor Pruhs** affirmed the conflict of interest.

**Ms. Sprinkle**, seconded by **Mr. Cleworth**, moved to ADOPT Ordinance No. 6288.

**Mayor Pruhs** called for Public Testimony.

Jeff Jacobson – J. Jacobson recounted how, as the former Director of Public Works, he began sounding the alarm 10 months prior about retention concerns at the department. He pointed out that over half of the employees at Public Works have zero to five years of experience, with most of that group actually having less than two years under their belt. He discussed the limited number of experienced staff being unable to handle the necessary training and mentoring for the larger group of less experienced members. J. Jacobson expressed appreciation that this Ordinance was before the Council and urged them to consider taking every opportunity to keep skilled workers at

the City, noting the significant losses over the last few years. He pointed out that there are still four vacancies for permanent positions.

**Ms. Sprinkle** asked if he thought the proposed incentive amounts would be enough to make people stay. J. Jacobson indicated that they had been given a dollar amount to work with. He stated that the City is outmatched by competing employers such as local businesses. He acknowledged that the Council did well in the last union contract but that the labor market blew it away.

Jeremiah Record – J. Record shared that as the shop maintenance foreman at Public Works, this Ordinance represented a stop-gap measure, although longer-term solutions needed to be discussed through their Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA). He affirmed that they are bleeding talent and services are going to be impacted. He expressed hope for keeping the people they have and performing their operations on behalf of the City at the same, if not better, levels as the past.

**Mayor Pruhs** called for additional testimony and hearing none, declared Public Testimony closed.

**Mayor Pruhs** stated that he viewed this incentive program as a way to reinvest salary savings from the department to retain valuable personnel while they can. He indicated that some of these individuals are people he has known for 50 years. He referenced conversations with Operator Lead Myrlene Wheelock who trains equipment operators every year and has shared that they no longer get the cream of the crop. He noted that she, like many others at Public Works, could likely get a better job elsewhere but that they stay due to the camaraderie and pride in working for the City. Mayor Pruhs acknowledged that they are essentially putting on a band-aid until the CBA opens up but that this is a unique contract which requires them to be equal to all employees for matters such as this. He stated that he had provided a total dollar amount for them to work with and that they were empowered to determine how it should be distributed. He affirmed that the numbers within the Ordinance's attachment are what had been submitted in return.

**Ms. Sprinkle** asked if these funds were part of the Employee Capital Incentive Program (ECIP). **Mayor Pruhs** indicated that this was not an ECIP scenario and asked how much had been distributed in the previous year as part of the ECIP. Chief Financial Officer Margarita Bell reported that approximately \$65K was distributed in 2023, however no funds were allocated to personnel at Public Works. **Ms. Sprinkle** pointed out that the title of the Ordinance references recruitment but that it sounds like it is solely focusing on retention. **Mayor Pruhs** pointed out that the effective dates technically would allow for a new recruit to qualify for the bonuses if they were hired soon. He encouraged department administrators to market that aspect.

**Ms. Rogers** stated that she appreciated the testimony from J. Jacobson and J. Record. She discussed the importance of working together to address issues and move forward in the best way.

**Mr. Marney** shared his concerns about the bonuses being tied to longevity rather than positions. He noted that the stated challenge is losing higher-skilled positions that are vital to operations and so incentives should take into consideration a different ranking than just how long someone has worked for the department. He noted that losing a mechanic who maintains and repairs large equipment, or operators trained for snow removal, should be looked at differently than a custodian. Mr. Marney recounted meeting with department staff, along with Mr. Ringstad, and being told that this was not the answer but that health care issues needed fixed. He acknowledged having mixed

feelings on this but recognizes how much help they need. He concluded with praise for the great job they do every year despite the challenges they face.

**Ms. Rogers** expressed disapproval with Mr. Marney's comment about custodians being valued differently than those with higher-skilled positions. She stated that the department is strong as a team and they should not disrupt that.

**Mr. Cleworth** asserted that this Ordinance is written more like a longevity bonus rather than a retention bonus and that he has a problem with that. He indicated that some changes could be made to get it back on track.

**Mr. Cleworth**, seconded by **Mr. Ringstad**, moved to AMEND Ordinance No. 6288 by changing "apply retroactively to July 1" to "start on November 1" in Section 4.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 6288 BY CHANGING "APPLY RETROACTIVELY TO JULY 1" TO "START ON NOVEMBER 1" IN SECTION 4, AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Rogers, Marney, Sprinkle, Ringstad, Cleworth  
NAYS: None  
ABSTAIN: Tidwell  
**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

**Mr. Cleworth**, seconded by **Ms. Sprinkle**, moved to AMEND Ordinance No. 6288, as Amended, by striking the word "pro-rated" in the fourth statement of the Bonus Agreement (Attachment A).

**Mr. Cleworth** explained that if this is meant to be a retention bonus, it does not make any logical sense to have prorations. He stated that there is a lot of money involved with this, for which the City deserves a commitment, and that a department head cannot effectively plan without a sense of what that commitment might be. He gave an example of someone who plans to move in January taking the bonus now, while only having to pay back a portion, and the City being down another person in the middle of a snow clearing campaign.

**Mayor Pruhs** acknowledged that the previous amendment to change the effectiveness to November 1 supports this additional revision of removing the proration. He expressed hope that these commitments would help ensure personnel remain for this and the following winter.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 6288, AS AMENDED, BY STRIKING THE WORD "PRO-RATED" IN THE FOURTH STATEMENT OF THE BONUS AGREEMENT (ATTACHMENT A), AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Sprinkle, Cleworth, Ringstad, Marney, Rogers  
NAYS: None  
ABSTAIN: Tidwell  
**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

**Mr. Cleworth** asked where the total dollar amount for this bonus effort came from. **Mayor Pruhs** replied that he produced the number, using about 30% of current salary savings, with the intention

of an additional bonus at the end of the year using additional savings. **Mr. Cleworth** reiterated that this is clearly set up as a longevity bonus and does not take into consideration the concerns about losing specialized positions where they are truly hurting the most, such as mechanics and operators. He asserted that they should be putting effort into the areas with the greatest concern. **Mayor Pruhs** shared that he had suggested sign-on bonuses for bringing in new mechanics but was told that other employees who have been there for years would be upset. **Mr. Cleworth** acknowledged that anytime they do bonuses for one department, which they started years ago and cannot seem to get away from, it will upset someone, either in that department or another. **Mayor Pruhs** pointed out that when they addressed retention in the police department last year, Mr. Cleworth's preference was to issue one-time bonuses rather than other potential incentive options, which is why he approached this department in the same way. **Mr. Cleworth** acknowledged that he understands what is trying to be accomplished and reiterated that he mostly does not like the way the funds are slated to be divided.

**Ms. Sprinkle** asked what would be the result of giving all employees the same amount for staying. **Mayor Pruhs** explained that he gave the total amount that would be available and the employees chose how to distribute funds in the way they felt would best retain staff.

**Mr. Cleworth** indicated that based on reports of past conversations, knowing that Councilmembers Marney and Ringstad have had more in-depth discussion with members of Public Works, he was expecting to hear more about health insurance coverage enhancements.

**Mr. Ringstad** explained that the whole situation is clear as mud, with four or five different unions involved, each with different health care packages in play. He noted that some of those arrangements could use help but others not as much. He admitted that he does not know enough about the details and that he is not sure there would even be a fair way to address this issue across the department. He stated that this should be looked more into when it's time to negotiate the CBA.

**Mr. Cleworth**, seconded by **Ms. Sprinkle**, moved to AMEND Ordinance No. 6288, as Amended, by adding a Section 5, to read: "This program will take place of the Employee Capital Incentive Program (ECIP) for this year only."

**Mr. Cleworth** explained that this bonus will exhaust a large portion of their savings for the year and that typically they count on savings to cover additional equipment costs that were not originally budgeted, allowing the department to have the necessary tools to operate. He noted that they are taking away the lion's share of those funds through this bonus program and as such, another incentive such as the ECIP at the end of the year would be redundant. He pointed out that this bonus is still more lucrative than what the ECIP would be, which he supports for retention.

**Mr. Ringstad** asked to confirm how the ECIP was implemented last year. CFO Bell again reported that in 2023, a total of \$65K in ECIP funds were distributed across the City but that none were provided to any Public Works personnel.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 6288, AS AMENDED, BY ADDING A SECTION 5, TO READ: "THIS PROGRAM WILL TAKE PLACE OF THE EMPLOYEE CAPITAL INCENTIVE PROGRAM (ECIP) FOR THIS YEAR ONLY.", AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Marney, Cleworth, Rogers, Sprinkle, Ringstad  
NAYS: None  
ABSTAIN: Tidwell  
**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

**Mr. Cleworth** indicated that he plans to vote for the Ordinance but with continued reservation about the division of funds. He acknowledged that the department personnel themselves had chosen this allocation split and asked if this was set in stone or if the employees could further revise the amounts if desired. **Mayor Pruhs** stated that upon adoption, the amounts would be set.

**Ms. Sprinkle** asked if Mr. Cleworth might be willing to share the reason behind his question. **Mr. Cleworth** stated that the bonuses are based on longevity and if this was truly an effort to incentivize retention for key positions and higher-skilled staff, the chart should be very different.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 6288, AS AMENDED, AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Cleworth, Ringstad, Rogers, Sprinkle  
NAYS: Marney  
ABSTAIN: Tidwell  
**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED and Ordinance No. 6288, as Amended, ADOPTED.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Resolution No. 5133 – A Resolution Awarding a Contract to Sungard Public Sector in the Amount of \$430,670 for Fairbanks Emergency Communications Center (FECC) Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) Software Upgrade. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs.

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA

- b) Resolution No. 5134 – A Resolution Designating Check Signing Authority for Banking, Investment, and Custodial Accounts of the City of Fairbanks, Alaska. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs.

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

- c) Ordinance No. 6289 – An Ordinance Amending Schedule A of the Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the City of Fairbanks and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1547 for the Code Compliance Inspector Position. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs and Council Member Sprinkle.

ADVANCED on the CONSENT AGENDA.

### **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE CITY COUNCIL**

- a) Permanent Fund Review Board Meeting Minutes of April 24, 2024

ACCEPTED on the CONSENT AGENDA

- b) Clay Street Cemetery Commission Meeting Minutes of June 5, 2024

ACCEPTED on the CONSENT AGENDA

- c) Appointment to the Discretionary Fund Committee

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS AND COUNCILMEMBERS' COMMENTS**

**Mr. Ringstad** reported that the Permanent Fund Committee recently met. He referenced financial summaries that were shared in a report and noted that when a new fund is established it is typically treated very conservatively in the early years. He pointed out that since certain policies changed in 2017, their annual rate of return has continued to grow. He shared their hope for more good years ahead and discussed intentions to pursue more aggressive investment opportunities while balancing out their risk.

**Mr. Marney** indicated that he had no report or additional comments.

**Ms. Tidwell** thanked the Council for its willingness to work through Resolution 5116 one more time and shared her optimism in a more cooperative future ahead between the City and Borough. She expressed gratitude that S. Fletcher would be introducing an Ordinance to remove the time constraints for representatives from the cities and school district during Assembly meetings.

**Mr. Cleworth** stated that the Ordinance S. Fletcher discussed would do well to also include an allowance for representatives in attendance at Assembly meetings to speak on any agenda items that affect their respective entities. He explained that currently they would have to vacate their representative seat to go speak at the public microphone, which seems inappropriate. He noted that this was only implemented a few years ago and it would be nice to see the upcoming Ordinance expand the allowances and return to past precedents. Mr. Cleworth stated he would like to see a compiled list of all changes that the Assembly and Planning Commission made to the Downtown Fairbanks 2040 Plan.

**Ms. Rogers**, recognizing that her time on the Council was coming to a close, gave individual messages of appreciation to her fellow Councilmembers. She also praised the staff of the City and expressed support for the Mayor's efforts to bring staff reports to their meetings. She stated she was proud to be a part of their group.

**Ms. Sprinkle** congratulated Victoria Dowling for her appointment to the Discretionary Fund Committee. She reported that the Chena Riverfront Commission needs additional members and extended an invitation for individuals to apply.

### **CITY CLERK'S REPORT**



Clerk Snider shared that a number of vacancies exist across many boards and commissions. She explained how interested individuals can view those vacancies on the City website and how to submit an application to serve.

### **CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Attorney Chard thanked the Councilmembers for their service to the community.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Mr. Cleworth**, seconded by **Ms. Tidwell**, moved to ENTER into an Executive Session to discuss *Eyre v. City of Fairbanks, et al.* and *Vlasakakis v. City of Fairbanks*.

**Mayor Pruhs** called for objection and, hearing none, so ORDERED.

**Mayor Pruhs** called for a brief recess. The Council reconvened in Executive Session following the brief recess.

a) *Eyre v. City of Fairbanks, et al.* (entered at 8:56 p.m.)

b) *Vlasakakis v. City of Fairbanks* (entered at 9:15 p.m.)

**Mr. Cleworth** brought the City Council out of the Executive Session, noting that the Council met in an Executive Session to discuss *Eyre v. City of Fairbanks, et al.* and *Vlasakakis v. City of Fairbanks*. He affirmed that no action was taken.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. Ringstad**, seconded by **Ms. Sprinkle**, moved to ADJOURN the meeting.

**Mayor Pruhs** called for objection and, hearing none, so ORDERED.

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

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DAVID PRUHS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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D. DANYIELLE SNIDER, MMC, CITY CLERK

Transcribed by: CC



FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES, AUGUST 26, 2024  
FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
800 CUSHMAN STREET, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

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The City Council convened at 6:30 p.m. on the above date to conduct a Regular Meeting of the Fairbanks City Council via Zoom webinar and in the City Council Chambers located at 800 Cushman Street, Fairbanks, Alaska, with Mayor David Pruhs presiding and the following Councilmembers in attendance:

Councilmembers Present:      Jerry Cleworth, Seat A  
   June Rogers, Seat B  
   Sue Sprinkle, Seat C  
   Crystal Tidwell, Seat D  
   Lonny Marney, Seat E  
   John Ringstad, Seat F

Absent:                                None

Also Present:                        Thomas Chard, City Attorney  
   Michael Sanders, Chief of Staff  
   Margarita Bell, Chief Financial Officer  
   Colt Chase, Deputy City Clerk  
   Andrew Coccaro, Fire Chief  
   Ron Dupee, Police Chief (remotely)  
   Richard Sweet, Deputy Police Chief  
   Jake Merritt, Human Resources Director  
   Kristi Merideth, FECC Manager (remotely)  
   Brynn Butler, Housing Coordinator (remotely)  
   Marsha Oss, Reentry Coordinator

### **INVOCATION**

The invocation was given by Deputy City Clerk Colt Chase.

### **FLAG SALUTATION**

At the request of Mayor Pruhs, **Ms. Tidwell** led the flag salutation.

### **CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

*[Clerk Note: Names of citizens who provide comments may not be spelled correctly if their name was illegible on the physical sign-up sheet.]*

Scott Austin – S. Austin shared that he recently received a \$43 parking ticket in the downtown area and claimed that he was denied due process when he came to the scheduled appeal hearing. He expressed dissatisfaction with the existence and legitimacy of the Parking Authority. He explained that the person who wrote the ticket was not present, he did not have an opportunity to question

the legitimacy of the citation, and that when he asked for proof of the violation (parking more than 18 inches from the curb), the referenced photograph included no measuring device. S. Austin stated that this led to an argument with the City Engineer who asserted that the curbs downtown are all 18 inches and as such, the visual reference of the curb compared to his tire was sufficient evidence. He shared that the City Engineer invited him to go measure the curbs himself if he would like. S. Austin reported that he had done just that, documenting his measurements, and discovered that none of the curbs he encountered were more than 16 inches. He stated that this only added to his frustration and to the validity of his argument that without adequate proof to validate his citation, his rights had been infringed upon. He requested that the Council contact the Parking Authority to request he be refunded his payment for the citation.

**Ms. Rogers** asked for additional details about his efforts to personally measure the curbs. S. Austin shared that every measurement he took showed the curbs being within a fraction of 16 inches. He noted that the curb face is slanted, which may result in a measurement of 18 inches if measured from the top of the curb. He clarified that this would be unfair as one parking their tire directly in contact with the curb itself would therefore still be measured as two inches away, which is a poor argument. He added that he shared his photos with the Parking Authority who indicated a possibility that they would issue a refund. **Ms. Rogers** asked when this occurred. S. Austin reported that the citation occurred in late June but the appeal hearing had only been held last week.

**Mayor Pruhs** asked if his statement about being denied due process was because he showed up and no hearing was held. S. Austin explained that his statement referred to the lack of opportunity for an appeal as the experience did not include any kind of hearing format. He shared that after asking how he could appeal the decision further, he was told that he could speak to the City Council or file a suit in small claims court. He expressed the view that it does not seem fair for someone to bear the expense of small claims court for something that should involve a more reasonable, lower-level resolution process. He indicated that if he received a speeding ticket, he would have the right to appeal it at numerous levels of the law rather than suing the entity that issued the citation. **Mayor Pruhs** invited him to share his contact information with the Chief of Staff and committed to following up with him to find an acceptable resolution.

Victor Buberger – V. Buberger asked for an update on the planned public restroom for the downtown area. He discussed the possibility of Fairbanks establishing a casino as a way to add life and generate income, citing examples of “Indian casinos” in several other states. He mentioned the need for extra attention in filling potholes before the snow comes, noting the recent excessive rain.

Julie Smyth (via Zoom) – J. Smyth shared that she is a member of the Board of Directors for Bread Line, Inc. and that the need for the services they provided, such as hot meals through Stone Soup Café, has increased dramatically this year. She reported that over 300 meals were provided just earlier that day. She discussed the challenges they face as a result of COVID-era funding and other grant programs having recently ended. She extended the request for support and donations from the community to help their organization continue to meet the needs of those they serve. She concluded with a call for dignity and respect towards those who are homeless, citing stories of individuals being harassed simply for sitting, not camping, in public spaces.

Olivia Rodriguez – O. Rodriguez congratulated the City on the positive progress of the Polaris Building demolition. She shared seeing an exterior section of concrete being removed from the structure today as she walked downtown and expressed excitement for the space’s future.

**Mayor Pruhs**, hearing no requests for additional comments, declared Citizens' Comments closed.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA**

**Mr. Ringstad**, seconded by **Ms. Tidwell**, moved to APPROVE the agenda and consent agenda.

**Mayor Pruhs** called for objection to the APPROVAL of the agenda and, hearing none, so ORDERED.

Deputy Clerk Chase read the consent agenda into the record.

### **SPECIAL ORDERS**

- a) The Fairbanks City Council held a public hearing and considered the following alcohol license applications for renewal:

Lic. #	DBA	License Type	Licensee	Address
1920	Salty's on 2nd	Beverage Dispensary	Tres Amigas, LLC	706 2nd Avenue
4156	Circle K	Package Store	Holiday Alaska, LLC	2300 S. Cushman Street
5353	Fairbanks Distilling Company	Distillery Manufacturer	Patrick Wayne Levy	410 Cushman Street
5436	Hoarfrost Distilling	Distillery Manufacturer	Hoarfrost Distilling, LLC	3501 Lathrop Street, Unit F
704	Costco Wholesale #1342	Package Store	Costco Wholesale Corporation	48 College Road
4168	Food Factory	Beverage Dispensary	CNR Enterprise, LLC	275 Bentley Trust Road
4170	The Library	Beverage Dispensary	Redbox, LLC	603 Lacey Street

**Mr. Marney**, seconded by **Ms. Tidwell**, moved to WAIVE PROTEST on the alcohol license applications for renewal.

**Mayor Pruhs** called for testimony and hearing none, declared Public Testimony closed.

**Ms. Rogers** asked for police input regarding the lengthy report of call activities near the Circle K.

Deputy Police Chief Richard Sweet explained that this business is one of the busiest in Fairbanks and years ago had some of the highest levels of theft. He shared that many practices have been put in place, such as regular safety checks, to reduce these issues and increase police visibility on any given day. He noted that, like other alcohol license application reports, not all calls are associated with the business itself. He discussed high levels of vehicle and foot traffic near this intersection, being a major bus stop, and its proximity to other nearby shops, the rescue mission, food bank, and more. He pointed out that the "SI" indicator on the report represents a "self-initiated" visit.

**Ms. Sprinkle** asked if he felt that the call report would be this long if there was no alcohol sold at the location. R. Sweet stated that for those calls actually associated with the business itself, very few pertain to the liquor store, noting that it is separate from the convenience store and gas station.

**Mr. Ringstad** shared that he visits this business often and rarely sees much police activity. He stated that he is often impressed with the good clean business taking place here. R. Sweet explained how officers frequently stop by to fuel their vehicles and grab a snack, citing statistics of a decrease in calls to locations where a police officer has recently been seen.

**Mr. Marney** expressed concern about the strain on law enforcement staffing in this area of the City. R. Sweet indicated that this part of town has always needed more of a police presence and that every city will have areas of higher call volume; this just happened to be Fairbanks'.

**Mayor Pruhs** acknowledged that this intersection is somewhat of a perfect storm for factors that result in a law enforcement presence, not just a liquor store. R. Sweet noted that many other alcohol establishments have limited hours and that Circle K is open 24 hours, which will naturally mean that their call report will be longer than others.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO WAIVE PROTEST ON THE ALCOHOL LICENSE APPLICATIONS FOR RENEWAL AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Cleworth, Marney, Tidwell, Ringstad, Sprinkle, Rogers

NAYS: None

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED.

### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT**

**Mayor Pruhs** invited Reentry Coordinator Marsha Oss to give a report on her work.

M. Oss shared a handout with the Councilmembers which highlighted her endeavors over the past year, including partnership efforts with the Housing and Homeless Coalition as well as the Crisis Now program. Highlights from her report included:

- Using funds provided through the State of Alaska Department of Corrections Reentry Program, 33 clients recently returning from incarceration were provided backpacks, supplies, and clothing intended to help them seek employment.
- \$40K in funds from the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority were able to cover expenses for 14 individuals, including housing, utilities, driver's license fees, insurance, union membership, heating fuel, car repairs, and basic medical appointments.
- The City Council provided funds for mini grants, up to \$2,500, and 7 individuals met the criteria to receive this support.
- The Governor allocated a quarter of a million dollars for reentry programs across the state, of which Fairbanks received \$60K. This was less restrictive than other funding sources, allowing her to assist with getting individuals set up with union positions and cover the cost of tools, which enabled participants to receive much higher paying jobs.
- Those housed at the Northstar Center, a local residential reentry program, have a forced savings arrangement. This meant that those higher-paying jobs are resulting in significant savings built up for the participants to have funds for housing security once they are ready to progress from the program and move out of the facility.

M. Oss expressed appreciation for the support of the Council and other entities that provide grants to her programs. She shared her hope that these funding sources will continue.

**Ms. Rogers** thanked her for her hard work and asked for more information about one data point on her report that references an individual's home location. Ms. Oss explained that she tracks this information as some individuals are not from Fairbanks but get arrested here and are required to remain in town for supervision until they have completed the requirements of their program.

**Ms. Sprinkle** asked what more she might need at this time. M. Oss stated that her primary request is for those in the community who appreciate these efforts to thank the agencies she works with and support the reentry program. She praised the owners of Golden North Inn who stepped up last winter to help solve a difficult housing situation.

**Mr. Ringstad** asked to confirm the overall expense for her various projects and the number of individuals served. M. Oss reported that about 103 people were served in one way or another with a little over \$108K in project expenses. **Mr. Ringstad** asked if there was a way to track the success or recidivism of the individuals who receive services and benefits through her program. Ms. Oss explained that the Department of Corrections and probation officers do not notify her if one of her clients get arrested again. She added that sometimes individuals get arrested but nothing ends up being charged or they are found not guilty, yet on paper it still looks like they screwed up. She noted how disruptive and devastating this can be to someone who had started to make positive progress. **Mr. Ringstad** stated that his interest is in the overall success over time. M. Oss shared that she is quite tough and sets high expectations for those receiving assistance, including proof of work and a referral from their parole officer.

**Mr. Marney** praised M. Oss's work and stated that Fairbanks is fortunate to have her.

**Ms. Rogers** stated that everyone who works in programs like this need continued advocacy to legislators and administrators to ensure ongoing support.

**Ms. Sprinkle** asked if there is a Borough-level counterpart to her position or if she performs this work for the entire community. M. Oss shared that she was a case manager locally for five years and then became the coordinator. She noted that a lot of her projects are beyond what a typical reentry coordinator does but that her background and the trust that exists with many of the leaders in this field has granted her greater flexibility and more opportunities to provide assistance. She reported that the majority of the individuals she is helping have never lived in their own place with their own couch and bed. She shared details about the monthly meeting for the Reentry Coalition.

**Mayor Pruhs** spoke favorably of M. Oss's dedication and suggested a Resolution be drafted to highlight their local success and recognize her efforts, to be shared with the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority. Mayor Pruhs gave an update on the Portland Loo, the public restroom facility slated for implementation in the downtown plaza. He shared that by the time they would be ready to open it, it would be close to the point of having to shut it down for the winter. He indicated that they would wait until the spring of 2025 to install the facility. He added that despite having 12 individuals show up to the pre-construction conference, they received zero bids, which means they will now have the option to sole-source the project and decide how they would like to proceed, within their budget. Mayor Pruhs reported continued progress with abatements, specifically that the Alaska Motor Inn had hired a contractor to knock down a portion of the fire-damaged building. He stated that the owner has worked tirelessly and the buyer has good ideas for the space. He shared that this news also means that \$100K in budgeted funds for abatement can now be used for other properties that need attention, of which they have three or four set as priorities.

**Mr. Ringstad** inquired about a particular property on Lacey Street. **Mayor Pruhs** indicated that the structure is close to the Thai House restaurant and there is great interest in ensuring the business is not harmed, along with another nearby office building.

### **COUNCILMEMBERS' COMMENTS**

**Mr. Cleworth** stated that it was nice to hear good news via the report by M. Oss.

**Ms. Sprinkle** indicated that she had no comments at this time.

**Mr. Ringstad** reported on his assignment as the Council representative at the last Borough Assembly meeting. He shared that all three representatives from the City of Fairbanks, City of North Pole, and the school district were in attendance, which had not occurred in a long time. He stated that he had conveyed the Council's support for the Ordinance to remove the 5-minute limitation on reports from these representatives. Mr. Ringstad indicated that there were comments during the break in the meeting which gave him hope for an improved relationship between the Council and Assembly going forward. He shared that there was a lengthy, interesting discussion, along with significant public comment, regarding the idea of mail-in voting. He stated that his attendance that night also made him appreciate the decorum of their Council meetings even more.

**Ms. Tidwell** shared that today was the first day of the annual Alaska Defense Forum, which included tours of some of the impressive facilities at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. She noted that a lot of research projects are underway that most of the community has no idea about. She provided details about the upcoming Labor Day parade put on by the local unions.

**Mr. Marney** reported that he had the privilege to participate in a ride-a-long with Officer Zheng. He stated that he is a remarkable young man and shared some of Officer Zheng's background.

**Ms. Rogers** thanked the Mayor for proposing a Resolution to highlight the work of their public services wing. She stated that folks in the trenches doing the hard work need people's support.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a) Ordinance No. 6283 – An Ordinance Amending Fairbanks General Code by Enacting Section 10-207 to Require That Vacant Buildings Be Secured and Registered and Establishing Fines for Violations of These Requirements. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs and Council Members Sprinkle and Ringstad.

*Note: Ordinance No. 6283 was introduced at the Regular Meeting of June 24, 2024, with a motion to ADVANCE made by Ms. Sprinkle, seconded by Mr. Ringstad. The first reading was postponed. The motion to ADVANCE remains on the floor and a public hearing will be held at the second reading, if advanced.*

**Ms. Sprinkle**, seconded by **Mr. Cleworth**, moved to AMEND Ordinance No. 6283 by substituting the amended, proposed version.

**Mayor Pruhs** called for objection to the motion to AMEND Ordinance No. 6283 by substituting the amended, proposed version and, seeing none, declared the MOTION CARRIED.

**Ms. Sprinkle** expressed appreciation for the time the Council had put into working on this Ordinance over the last several months. She provided a handout of images that showed vacant buildings within a small footprint of the downtown area. She explained that her intent was to highlight just how many buildings might meet their criteria across all of Fairbanks and how vastly different they appear from the street level. She expressed the desire to see a continued effort to enhance the downtown area for the sake of residents and visitors.

**Mr. Ringstad** indicated he was concerned about the associated fees, noting that many buildings remain vacant because owners cannot get a tenant. He stated it seemed counterproductive to have a hefty cost for those making an earnest effort to secure tenants but falling short.

**Ms. Sprinkle** pointed out a recent newspaper article highlighting three fires at unoccupied buildings. She noted that the building is no good to an owner if it is destroyed and that such incidents cost the City a lot of money.

**Mr. Ringstad** voiced support for how they handle abatements and stated that a similar process and approach would be useful for this situation. **Ms. Sprinkle** asked if that would really get the owner's attention. **Mr. Ringstad** pointed out the recent instances of the Mayor's abatement efforts finally spurring action from owners who have long been negligent. He stated that getting a result is better than just fining the owners. **Ms. Sprinkle** responded that many of these buildings have been vacant for decades and that others who live near these buildings are also affected. **Mr. Ringstad** recalled that Mayor Pruhs often mentions how every case is unique when it comes to properties. **Ms. Sprinkle** pointed out that there are a variety of remedies and options within the Ordinance to ensure that the City and owner have reasonable flexibility as remedies are sought.

**Mr. Marney** shared that he was contacted by an individual who requested the Council consider exemptions for those wishing to lease a property, similar to those selling. He discussed the numerous vacant structures, many of them former businesses, just driving down Peger Road. He acknowledged that most of the Council's conversation has focused on the downtown area.

**Mayor Pruhs** stated there are many moving parts to this Ordinance and that they have an opportunity with the person they will hire for the new position. He explained that this staff member will have the dedicated time for outreach, contacting the many owners with properties meeting their criteria. He reiterated that each property has a different story and that there is still some work to do on the Ordinance. Mayor Pruhs expressed a preference for another postponement, as there are seven applicants for the new position and they would like adequate time to prepare a program.

**Mr. Ringstad** asked how long until they have this new position filled. HR Director Jake Merritt indicated that the application would close on Labor Day and they will immediately set up interviews. He estimated October 1 as a likely start date, though it could be sooner.

**Mayor Pruhs** indicated that an ideal path forward for the Ordinance would be a work session in November and a return to the agenda of the second regular meeting of December. He explained



that their budget for 2025 will be done by then and they will have an opportunity to give this more attention, along with the benefit of the new, dedicated employee.

**Ms. Sprinkle**, seconded by **Ms. Rogers**, moved to POSTPONE Ordinance No. 6283, as Amended, to the regular Council meeting of December 16, 2024.

**Mr. Cleworth** expressed support for postponement. He stated that the updated version of the Ordinance was a significant improvement and that he only noted a few items for future discussion.

**Ms. Sprinkle** agreed that additional time would be prudent, given how big of a deal an Ordinance like this would be for the community.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO POSTPONE ORDINANCE NO. 6283, AS AMENDED, TO THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF DECEMBER 16, 2024, AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Tidwell, Cleworth, Marney, Ringstad, Sprinkle, Rogers

NAYS: None

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED and Ordinance No. 6283, as Amended, POSTPONED.

- b) Ordinance No. 6285 – An Ordinance Amending Fairbanks General Code Section 74-36 Economic Development Property Tax Exemption or Deferral and Enacting Section 74-37 Tax Incentive for Property Development, Redevelopment, or Renovation. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs and Council Members Sprinkle and Ringstad. POSTPONED from the Regular Meeting of July 8, 2024; a public hearing was held at that time.

*Note: Ordinance No. 6285 was introduced and advanced at the Regular Meeting of June 24, 2024. At the Regular Meeting of July 8, 2024, a motion to ADOPT was made by Mr. Marney, seconded by Ms. Sprinkle and a public hearing was held at that time. The Ordinance was postponed. The motion to ADOPT remains on the floor.*

**Ms. Sprinkle**, seconded by **Mr. Marney**, moved to AMEND Ordinance No. 6285 by substituting the amended, proposed version.

**Mayor Pruhs** called for objection to the motion to AMEND Ordinance No. 6285 by substituting the amended, proposed version and, seeing none, declared the MOTION CARRIED.

**Ms. Sprinkle** stated that some of their work on property issues this year have been more of a “stick” and she hoped that this would be a “carrot”. She noted that feedback from others prompted a shift from a tax exemption to a rebate approach in order to not affect their tax cap. She indicated that she had a couple suggestions for amendments but would hold off until others weighed in.

**Mr. Ringstad** referenced the fiscal note and the total estimated rebate amounts. He shared that recent conversations with local builders have taught him that the low dollar amount of incentive programs like this and the one offered by the Borough are really not worth the trouble.

**Mr. Cleworth** discussed the challenge of budgeting for something like a rebate. He suggested waiting until after the budgeting cycle in order to determine whether funds would be available and even then, just making it a one-year program. He shared that he had spoken to a contractor who has built three large rental units within the last few years and was told that a small rebate like this would not weigh into their decision of whether or not to pursue a project. Mr. Cleworth questioned whether the rebates would have the intended outcome of generating more development or if they would just be unnecessarily subsidizing taxes for a time. He clarified that he was open to the discussion but reiterated that this would have to be a line item in the budget and as such would support holding off on adoption.

CFO Bell confirmed that they would have to effectively reduce the expected revenue from property taxes by adding a line item to account for the expense of rebates. She explained that since the owners would have to obtain building permits for the necessary work that would qualify for the rebate, she would work closely with the Building Official to gauge how much interest existed in the program, to assist with estimates for the associated line item in the budget.

**Mr. Ringstad** acknowledged that he could not say if the number of interested property owners would two or two hundred. He admitted that he has not had enough conversations with builders or owners to properly gauge interest. He added that bankers and brokers might look at it and determine that it is an insufficient incentive and ultimately a waste of the City's time. He agreed that they could use more time to have those conversations and due diligence, perhaps inviting someone from the builders' association to speak with them.

**Ms. Rogers** shared that Span Alaska had recently approached them to ask for something similar to this, so there may indeed be interest from at least some in the community.

**Ms. Sprinkle** noted the many moving parts and agreed it would be prudent to postpone again.

**Mr. Cleworth** concurred that estimates could be drafted and that the timing of late December would be conducive, having the benefit of being after the budget was adopted earlier in the month. He reminded them that the City's portion of property taxes is only about one third of the total amount levied, with the Borough and school district accounting for the rest. He reiterated that it might not be much of an incentive, though he hopes to be proven wrong.

**Mr. Cleworth**, seconded by **Ms. Sprinkle**, moved to POSTPONE Ordinance No. 6285, as Amended, to the regular Council meeting of December 16, 2024.

**Mayor Pruhs** agreed with Mr. Ringstad's suggestion to invite someone from the builders' association. He shared that the two of them sit on that board, which includes construction professionals, bankers, brokers, etc. He added that this effort, along with the City's building codes, would be a good topic for a work session in the future. He expressed appreciation for the efforts, such as this Ordinance, to try and make Fairbanks a better place to live.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO POSTPONE ORDINANCE NO. 6285, AS AMENDED, TO THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF DECEMBER 16, 2024, AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Sprinkle, Rogers, Cleworth, Marney, Ringstad, Tidwell

NAYS: None

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED and Ordinance No. 6285, as Amended, POSTPONED.

- c) Ordinance No. 6289 – An Ordinance Amending Schedule A of the Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the City of Fairbanks and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1547 for the Code Compliance Inspector Position. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs and Council Member Sprinkle. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.

**Mr. Ringstad**, seconded by **Ms. Sprinkle**, moved to ADOPT Ordinance No. 6289.

**Mayor Pruhs** called for testimony and hearing none, declared Public Testimony closed.

**Mr. Ringstad** pointed out that the increased wages of this change to Schedule A was based on salary savings for the current year but that in all future years it would remain at the higher rate and go up along with all other positions. He noted that they were committing to a long-term increased expense regardless of whether any salary savings exist in future years. He acknowledged that the real question is whether they want to hire someone and if they are willing to pay what it will take to accomplish that, considering their recent discovery that the offered wage was far below industry standards in the local labor market.

**Ms. Rogers** thanked Mr. Ringstad and agreed with his assessment.

**Mr. Marney** stated that he knows the Building Department has been hurting for a long time already due to vacancies and that the recent retirement of former Building Official Clem Clooten, after 42 years with the City, has only made that hurt worse. He expressed desire to do whatever they can to help strengthen the staffing of the department.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 6289, AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Marney, Cleworth, Ringstad, Tidwell, Rogers, Sprinkle

NAYS: None

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the MOTION CARRIED and Ordinance No. 6289 ADOPTED.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Resolution No. 5135 – A Resolution Awarding a Contract to Colaska Inc. in the Amount of \$277,562 for the 4th Avenue and State Street Storm Drain Project. Introduced by Mayor Pruhs.

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA

### **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE CITY COUNCIL**

- a) Reappointment to the Fairbanks Diversity Council

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA

- b) Appointment to the Fairbanks Diversity Council

APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS AND COUNCILMEMBERS' COMMENTS**

**Ms. Tidwell** indicated that she had no report or further comments.

**Ms. Rogers** thanked those who have been diligently performing their work on behalf of the City.

**Mr. Ringstad** expressed appreciation for Ms. Sprinkle's work on the tax rebate idea. He reiterated the benefit of considering a work session that included others with expertise in the field to advise them on possible ways to encourage growth and development within the City.

**Ms. Sprinkle** stated that she looks forward to working with Mr. Ringstad on the tax incentive Ordinance as well as the remaining loose ends pertaining to the joint economic development agreement that was recently approved.

**Mr. Ringstad** expressed a curiosity of whether the Borough would be interested in joining a tax exemption or rebate program for similar purposes, given that two thirds of taxes go to the Borough.

**Mr. Marney** indicated that there will come a time that they miss Ms. Rogers' words of wisdom. He reminded everyone that school was back in session and urged caution when driving, including following posted speed limits.

**Ms. Tidwell** pointed out that the Borough Assembly had referred a similar tax incentive program to the joint Economic Development Commission, which will have a special session to discuss the idea in the near future.

**Mr. Cleworth** clarified that the Borough program Ms. Tidwell mentioned has a slightly different scope but was still a positive effort to encourage similar outcomes. He thanked Brenda McFarlane for organizing a recent party to celebrate Ms. Rogers' 80th birthday. He shared some of the disheartening statistics about small business failure rates within the first several years of existence, highlighting the significant challenges faced by those striving to succeed.

**Ms. Rogers** echoed Mr. Marney's warning and added that large parking lots often have small children darting about, requiring additional caution from all drivers.

**Mayor Pruhs** expressed appreciation for J. Smyth's earlier comments regarding the services Stone Soup Café provides to the community. He praised the similar hard work done by the public services branch of the City, naming the coordinators of the Reentry, Crisis Now, and Housing and Homeless programs. He paraphrased Winston Churchill, stating that so much is done by so few for so many. He thanked the Council for their approval of recent appointments to the Fairbanks Diversity Council, sharing that the group had solidified greatly and done amazing work in the last six months. He indicated that he needs to appoint someone to the Fairbanks Historical Commission and invited them to forward any suggestions for candidates.

## **CITY CLERK'S REPORT**

Deputy Clerk Chase stated that he had nothing to report.

## **CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Attorney Chard thanked the Councilmembers for their commitment and service to Fairbanks.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Mr. Cleworth**, seconded by **Ms. Sprinkle**, moved to ENTER into an Executive Session to discuss PSEA Labor Negotiations and FFU Labor Negotiations.

**Mayor Pruhs** called for objection and, hearing none, so ORDERED.

**Mayor Pruhs** called for a brief recess. The Council reconvened in Executive Session following the brief recess.

- a) PSEA Labor Negotiations (*entered at 8:36 p.m.*)
- b) FFU Labor Negotiations (*entered at 9:04 p.m.*)

**Mr. Cleworth** brought the City Council out of the Executive Session, noting that the Council met in an Executive Session to discuss PSEA Labor Negotiations and FFU Labor Negotiations. He affirmed that no action was taken.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Ms. Sprinkle**, seconded by **Ms. Tidwell**, moved to ADJOURN the meeting.

**Mayor Pruhs** called for objection and, hearing none, so ORDERED.

**Mayor Pruhs** declared the meeting adjourned at 10:04 p.m.

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DAVID PRUHS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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COLT CHASE, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

Transcribed by: CC



800 Cushman Street  
Fairbanks, AK 99701

Telephone (907) 459-6702  
Fax (907) 459-6710

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Pruhs and City Council Members

FROM: D. Danyielle Snider, City Clerk



SUBJECT: Alcohol License Renewal Applications

DATE: September 4, 2024

Notice has been received from the State Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office (AMCO) for the following alcohol license renewal applications:

Lic. #	DBA	License Type	Licensee	Address
710	Mecca Bar	Beverage Dispensary	JRB, Inc.	549 2nd Avenue
4816	Mayan Palace	Beverage Dispensary	Taco Azteca, Inc.	3401 Airport Way
5266	Fushimi	Restaurant/Eating Place	Fushimi, LLC	607 Old Steese Highway

Pursuant to FGC Sec. 14-178 the Council must determine whether to protest alcohol license renewal applications after holding a public hearing. The 60-day response deadline to AMCO is October 1, 2024.

The Police Department has included call reports for the locations listed above, but **there are no department-recommended protests** for these alcohol license renewal applications.

# CITY OF FAIRBANKS PUBLIC SAFETY

## Event List with Report Numbers

Mecca Bar 8.11.23 to 8.9.24

Report #	Call Time	Nature	Location	Prime Unit	Disp.	Close Time
	07/26/2024 20:52:21	TRESPASS/UNWANTED -	549 SECOND AVE	S19	SUBL	07/26/2024 23:21:50
24001610	07/03/2024 07:27:29	SI - FOLLOW-UP	549 SECOND AVE	O37	RPT	07/03/2024 07:44:07
	06/18/2024 07:10:30	SI - SECURITY CHECK	549 SECOND AVE	O18	NRP	06/18/2024 07:10:36
24001610	05/20/2024 21:45:44	DAMAGE/VANDALISM -	549 SECOND AVE	O37	RPT	05/20/2024 23:26:49
	05/02/2024 00:29:12	INCAPACITATED PERSON	549 SECOND AVE	O37	NRP	05/02/2024 02:09:41
	04/05/2024 20:35:18	DISTURBANCE PHYSICAL	549 SECOND AVE	O8	NRP	04/05/2024 20:50:51
	03/29/2024 19:33:19	INCAPACITATED PERSON	549 SECOND AVE	S19	NRP	03/29/2024 22:06:24
	03/28/2024 19:53:57	TRAFFIC OVERRIDE	549 SECOND AVE	O50	NRP	03/28/2024 19:57:39
24000842	03/27/2024 13:40:25	SI - FOLLOW-UP	549 SECOND AVE	I27	RPT	03/27/2024 17:03:13
	03/19/2024 13:43:02	WANTED PERSON -	549 SECOND AVE	DESK	NRP	03/19/2024 14:13:41
	03/14/2024 20:40:19	AOA - NON URGENT -	549 SECOND AVE	O8	NRP	03/14/2024 20:54:07
	03/14/2024 13:05:46	SEND PROTOCOL POLICE	549 SECOND AVE	O42	NRP	03/14/2024 13:12:05
	03/06/2024 19:42:25	TRESPASS/UNWANTED -	549 SECOND AVE	O28	NRP	03/06/2024 19:56:17
24000617	02/28/2024 23:53:39	SI - FIELD CONTACT	549 SECOND AVE	O20	RPT	02/29/2024 00:28:46
	02/28/2024 22:57:24	INCAPACITATED PERSON	549 SECOND AVE	O20	NRP	02/28/2024 23:52:18
	02/19/2024 23:24:12	SI - FIELD CONTACT	549 SECOND AVE	S5	NRP	02/19/2024 23:27:34
24000497	02/18/2024 21:06:27	DISTURBANCE VERBAL	549 SECOND AVE	S21	RPT	02/18/2024 22:38:06
	02/18/2024 13:32:27	DUI - PARKED - CHARLIE	549 SECOND AVE	O31	NRP	02/18/2024 13:47:01
	01/12/2024 22:38:50	TRESPASS/UNWANTED -	549 SECOND AVE	O28	NRP	01/12/2024 22:49:26
24000108	01/10/2024 15:41:31	PAST THEFT - BRAVO	549 SECOND AVE	O8	RPT	01/10/2024 16:40:11
	01/03/2024 01:37:57	INCAPACITATED PERSON	549 SECOND AVE	O17	NRP	01/03/2024 01:48:03
23004643	12/19/2023 00:47:25	DISTURBANCE PHYSICAL	549 SECOND AVE	O20	RPT	12/19/2023 01:18:01
	11/18/2023 20:51:15	SEND PROTOCOL POLICE	549 SECOND AVE	O31	NRP	11/18/2023 21:04:56
	11/16/2023 20:28:47	911 HANG-UP - CHARLIE	549 SECOND AVE	O50	NRP	11/16/2023 20:51:18
	10/21/2023 21:08:36	SUSP CIRCUMSTANCES -	549 SECOND AVE	O20	NRP	10/21/2023 22:58:17
23003670	09/24/2023 19:49:00	THEFT FROM VEHICLE -	549 SECOND AVE	O31	RPT	09/24/2023 21:07:57
23003639	09/22/2023 11:53:20	LOST PROPERTY - ALPHA	549 SECOND AVE	O27	RPT	09/22/2023 14:11:13
23003620	09/21/2023 01:17:45	TRESPASS/UNWANTED -	549 SECOND AVE	O55	RPT	09/21/2023 02:42:12

Report Generated: 08/13/2024 07:01:09 | User ID: 1181

Report #	Call Time	Nature	Location	Prime Unit	Disp.	Close Time
	09/15/2023 00:56:59	OFFICER ADVICE	549 SECOND AVE	O30	NRP	09/15/2023 01:49:19
	09/13/2023 21:54:01	DISTURBANCE PHYSICAL	549 SECOND AVE	O55	NRP	09/13/2023 22:19:34
23003403	09/04/2023 02:15:38	INDECEN/LEWDNESS -	549 SECOND AVE	O55	RPT	09/04/2023 02:47:05
23003273	08/25/2023 18:17:47	THEFT - DELTA	549 SECOND AVE	O2	RPT	08/25/2023 18:42:38
23003147	08/16/2023 17:08:43	ASSAULT - DELTA	549 SECOND AVE	O2	RPT	08/16/2023 18:28:52

Total Number of Events Listed: **33**



## CITY OF FAIRBANKS PUBLIC SAFETY

### Event List with Report Numbers

Mayan Palace 8.11.23 to 8.9.24

Report #	Call Time	Nature	Location	Prime Unit	Disp.	Close Time
24002230	07/08/2024 16:45:56	PAST THEFT - BRAVO	3401 AIRPORT WAY	DESK1	RPT	07/08/2024 16:53:57
	05/15/2024 12:39:06	MINOR TRAF VIOL/COMP	3401 AIRPORT WAY	C3	NRP	05/15/2024 12:51:37
	04/15/2024 16:53:28	TRESPASS/UNWANTED -	3401 AIRPORT WAY	O6	NRP	04/15/2024 17:09:29
	02/06/2024 22:02:54	TRESPASS/UNWANTED -	3401 AIRPORT WAY	O20	NRP	02/06/2024 22:38:31
	01/28/2024 18:46:48	INCAPACITATED PERSON	3401 AIRPORT WAY	S21	NRP	01/28/2024 18:51:12
23004061	10/27/2023 08:38:14	HOT PD CALL	3401 AIRPORT WAY	C2	RPT	10/27/2023 10:08:17
	09/19/2023 13:44:03	SUSP CIRCUMSTANCES -	3401 AIRPORT WAY	O50	NRP	09/19/2023 14:02:40

Total Number of Events Listed: 7

## CITY OF FAIRBANKS PUBLIC SAFETY

### Event List with Report Numbers

Fushimi 8.11.23 to 8.9.24

Report #	Call Time	Nature	Location	Prime Unit	Disp.	Close Time
	07/05/2024 14:37:40	DUI - PARKED - CHARLIE	607 OLD STEESE HWY	O18	NRP	07/05/2024 15:00:49
	05/11/2024 08:59:05	TRESPASS/UNWANTED -	607 OLD STEESE HWY	O7	NRP	05/11/2024 09:14:26
	04/25/2024 10:02:47	TRESPASS/UNWANTED -	607 OLD STEESE HWY	S39	NRP	04/25/2024 10:37:59
	03/26/2024 13:12:04	MVC - NO INJURIES -	607 OLD STEESE HWY	O42	NRP	03/26/2024 13:35:13
	03/13/2024 19:27:03	MVC - NO INJURIES -	607 OLD STEESE HWY	DESK	NRP	03/13/2024 19:46:13
	09/27/2023 11:46:13	TRESPASS/UNWANTED -	607 OLD STEESE HWY	O31	NRP	09/27/2023 12:26:07
	09/27/2023 09:39:05	URINATING/DEFECATING	607 OLD STEESE HWY	S15	NRP	09/27/2023 10:02:04
	09/27/2023 08:00:49	TRESPASS OVERRIDE -	607 OLD STEESE HWY	C2	NRP	09/27/2023 09:17:42
	09/27/2023 00:18:54	SI - FIELD CONTACT	607 OLD STEESE HWY	O20	NRP	09/27/2023 00:20:31
	09/26/2023 07:54:33	TRESPASS/UNWANTED -	607 OLD STEESE HWY	C1	NRP	09/26/2023 08:27:41
	09/22/2023 08:17:11	TRESPASS/UNWANTED -	607 OLD STEESE HWY	L1	NRP	09/22/2023 09:07:26
	09/17/2023 10:17:51	DRUGS - USE - CHARLIE	607 OLD STEESE HWY	O50	NRP	09/17/2023 12:22:25
	09/12/2023 08:58:54	TRESPASS/UNWANTED -	607 OLD STEESE HWY	S5	NRP	09/12/2023 10:21:41

Total Number of Events Listed: 13



800 Cushman Street  
Fairbanks, AK 99701

Telephone (907) 459-6702  
Fax (907) 459-6710

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Pruhs and City Council Members

FROM: D. Danyielle Snider, City Clerk



SUBJECT: Marijuana License Renewal

DATE: Septebmer 4, 2024

Notice has been received from the State Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office (AMCO) for the following marijuana license renewal application:

Lic. #	DBA	License Type	Licensee	Address
10589	Nature's Releaf	Retail Marijuana Store	Nature's Releaf, LLC	503 7th Avenue

Pursuant to FGC Sec. 14-214 and 3 AAC 306.060, the Council may determine whether to protest a marijuana license renewal application after holding a public hearing. The 60-day deadline for response to AMCO on the above-listed renewals is October 4, 2024.

Pursuant to FGC Sec. 14-215(b)(12), I have inquired about complaints filed within the past 12 months with the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) and AMCO in regard to this marijuana establishment. FNSB and AMCO responded that they have no complaints on file for any of these licenses within the past year.

The Police Department has included a call report for the location listed above, but **there are no department-recommended protests** for this marijuana license renewal application.

## CITY OF FAIRBANKS PUBLIC SAFETY

### Event List with Report Numbers

Nature`s Releaf

Report #	Call Time	Nature	Location	Prime Unit	Disp.	Close Time
	01/27/2024 13:17:03	DAMAGE/VANDALISM -	503 SEVENTH AVE	S21	NRP	01/27/2024 14:15:10
	12/03/2023 18:14:11	SI - FOLLOW-UP	503 SEVENTH AVE	O50	NRP	12/03/2023 18:59:00

Total Number of Events Listed: 2

**ORDINANCE NO. 6290**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING  
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF FAIRBANKS AND THE  
FAIRBANKS FIREFIGHTERS UNION IAFF LOCAL 1324 TO ADD  
COMMUNITY PARAMEDIC AND TRAINING CAPTAIN POSITIONS**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Fairbanks 2024 has funding assigned for a Community Paramedic and a Training Captain; and

**WHEREAS**, a Community Paramedic will work with local medical and social service partners to find long-term solutions for citizens to reduce 911 misuse; and

**WHEREAS**, a Training Captain will conduct internal training to include fire academies, drivers training, and various refresher trainings; and

**WHEREAS**, the Fairbanks Firefighter Union (FFU) Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) does not currently have a Community Paramedic or Training Captain position; and

**WHEREAS**, the FFU and City of Fairbanks agree these positions are necessary for the Fairbanks Fire Department to deliver quality services to the community; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Fairbanks and FFU have developed the job descriptions for these positions; and

**WHEREAS**, the FFU and City of Fairbanks agree both positions are best suited for a standard 40 hour per week schedule; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Fairbanks and FFU will amend the CBA to include Community Paramedic and Training Captain positions.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRBANKS, ALASKA, as follows:**

**SECTION 1.** The Letter of Agreement amending the current CBA between the City of Fairbanks and the FFU, attached as Exhibit A, is approved and ratified.

**SECTION 2.** The effective date of this Ordinance is five days after adoption.

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**David Pruhs, Mayor**

AYES:  
NAYS:  
ABSENT:  
ADOPTED:

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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D. Danyielle Snider, MMC, City Clerk

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Thomas A. Chard II, City Attorney

**CITY OF FAIRBANKS**  
**FISCAL NOTE**

**I. REQUEST:**

Ordinance or Resolution No: 6290

Abbreviated Title: ORDINANCE AMENDING FFU CONTRACT PAY SCHEDULE

Department(s): FIRE

Does the adoption of this ordinance or resolution authorize:

1) additional costs beyond the current adopted budget? Yes X No       

2) additional support or maintenance costs? Yes        No X

If yes, what is the estimate? see below

3) additional positions beyond the current adopted budget? Yes        No X

If yes, how many positions?       

If yes, type of positions?        (F - Full Time, P - Part Time, T - Temporary)

**II. FINANCIAL DETAIL:**

<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>	<b>2024</b>
WAGES AND BENEFITS - TRAINING CAPTAIN	-\$2,000
WAGES AND BENEFITS - COMMUNITY PARAMEDIC	\$9,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$7,000</b>

<b>FUNDING SOURCE:</b>	<b>2024</b>
GENERAL FUND [FIRE DEPARTMENT]	\$132,000
GENERAL FUND [MAYOR DEPARTMENT]	-\$125,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$7,000</b>

The Ordinance changes a full-time 72-hour suppression captain to a 40-hour training captain and transfers the community paramedic position from the Mayor's Department to the Fire Department with a change in rate from \$39.03 to \$42.45.

Reviewed by Finance Department:

Initial mb

Date 8/27/2024

Exhibit A to Ordinance No. 6290

**LETTER OF AGREEMENT**

**City of Fairbanks  
and  
Fairbanks Fire Fighters Union (FFU)  
IAFF LOCAL 1324**

The FFU and the City agree to the following changes to add the Community Paramedic and Training Captain to the 40 hour per week pay scale in the Schedule A.

		00	01	02	03
DFM	5801	32.46	37.00	42.57	47.91
COMM PARA	5901			42.45	45.84
TRAINER	5700			49.92	53.48
ADMIN	6701			30.40	31.02
CLERK	6601	27.42	28.23		

City of Fairbanks

Fairbanks Fire Fighters Union

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David Pruhs, Mayor  
City of Fairbanks

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Nick Clark, President  
IAFF Local 1324



# MEMORANDUM

City Clerk's Office

Colt Chase, Deputy City Clerk

TO: Mayor Pruhs and City Council Members

FROM: Colt Chase, Deputy City Clerk 

SUBJECT: Appointment of Election Officials for the 2024 Regular Election

DATE: September 6, 2024

The following list of Election Judges for the 2024 Regular Election is submitted for your approval. This list does not include Borough or City Clerk's Office staff who will work as election officials for absentee voting and the evening of the election. Please note circumstances may arise that require changes to be made.

<u>AURORA</u>	<u>FAIRBANKS #1</u>	<u>FAIRBANKS #2</u>
Chair – Audrey Foldoe	Chair – Susan Yanish	Chair – Lynn Slusher
Ann Diener	Co-Chair – Marilyn Nigro	Co-Chair – Sarah Triggs
Barbara Sperl	Deborah Rathbun	Genie Claypoole (Partial)
Megan McCarthy	Frank Yanish (Partial)	Janet Cenker (Partial)
	Ann Hagestead (Partial)	Gayle Myers (Partial)
	John Rathbun (Partial)	James Connor (Partial)
		Diane Lyon (Partial)
		Michele D. Thompson Kelly (Partial)
		Clark Milne (Partial)
		Stephen Sparrow (Partial)
		Karen Milne (Partial)
		Helen Howard (Relief)

<u>FAIRBANKS #3</u>	<u>FAIRBANKS #4</u>	<u>FAIRBANKS #5</u>
Chair – Anne Doerpinghaus	Chair – Nancy Dreydoppel	Chair – Donna Hummel
Co-Chair – Antonio Shumate	Co-Chair – Barbara Nore	Co-Chair – Bonnie Marsh
Sarah Delon	Ashley Morris	Debra Mabee
William Witte	Debra Foster	Cherie Solie
Gail Mayo (Partial)	Leann Folsom	Twyanna Coger
Lydia Oceretko (Partial)	Kaila Narow (Partial)	Donald Mabee
Lois Walker (Partial)	Lindsey Dreydoppel (Partial)	Susan Holder (Partial)
		John Glass (Relief)

<u>FORT WAINWRIGHT</u>	<u>CANVASS BOARD</u>
Chair – Peggy Barnebey	Nancy Dreydoppel
Co-Chair – Mary Rafter	Leann Folsom
Ann Renfro	Ramona Reeves
Ariena Jensen	Cheryl Markwood
	Barbara Nore



FAIRBANKS DIVERSITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 11, 2024, 5:30 – 7:00 P.M.  
HELD VIA [ZOOM WEBINAR](#) AND AT  
FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
800 CUSHMAN STREET, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA



**Wendy Tisland**, standing in for the Chair, called the regular meeting of the **Fairbanks Diversity Council (FDC)** to order at 5:37 p.m. on the above date. Attendance was as follows:

**Members Present (in person):**

Wendy Tisland, Seat H  
June Rogers, City Council Member  
Jake Merritt, HR Director

**Members Present (Zoom):**

Timothy Ledna, Seat A  
Richard Basarab, Seat B  
Marsha Oss, Seat E  
Roscoe Britton, Seat J  
Karen Blackburn, Seat I

**Members Absent:**

*Vacant*, Seat C  
Juanita Webb, Seat D (excused)  
Dorothy Shockley, Seat F  
Rachael Kvapil, Seat K  
Jonathan Bagwill, Seat G  
David Pruhs, Mayor

**Others Present:**

D. Danyielle Snider, City Clerk

**CALL TO ORDER** (Reading of Mission Statement and Land Acknowledgement)

**Chair pro tem Tisland** called the meeting to order and read the Mission Statement and Land Acknowledgment.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**Chair pro tem Tisland** led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**R. Basarab**, seconded by **R. Britton**, moved to APPROVE the agenda.

There being no objection, the agenda was approved.

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

a) Regular Meeting Minutes of May 14, 2024

**R. Basarab**, seconded by **R. Britton**, moved to APPROVE the minutes.

There being no objection, the minutes were approved.

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS** (Limited to 3 Minutes)

Marie Manning – M. Manning stated that she is new to Fairbanks and was interested in seeing what was happening in the community. She thanked the FDC for including her in the meeting.

## REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

*This item was not addressed as Chair Webb was not present.*

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) Follow-up Report on the Race for Racism

**Chair pro tem Tisland** stated that she was not there at the beginning of the race, but she later assisted with the route for the 10K. She asked J. Rogers and M. Oss if they would like to add anything. **M. Oss** stated that there were only two people who took the 10K route, but the maps used were outdated and caused some confusion. She stated that there were about 42 people at the event. **J. Rogers** added that in years past the number of attendees reached 70, but participation had been low the previous year. She stated that event organizers were pleased with this year's turnout. **Chair pro tem Tisland** mentioned Chair Webb's idea for the FDC to partner with organizers and possibly take over the coordination of the event in the future. **J. Rogers** stated that it was nice to see families participating in the event.

- b) Juneteenth – Saturday, June 15, 12 – 4 p.m., Bernice Allridge Park, 2550 Wilson St.

**Chair pro tem Tisland** stated that the FDC is still seeking volunteers to help with the Juneteenth event. **R. Basarab** volunteered for the 3 – 4:30 p.m. timeslot. **M. Oss** reminded everyone that she would be out of town and would not be able to volunteer. She stated, however, that her assistant, Anya, would attend. **J. Rogers** stated that she will be at the event but would not be able to help with setup or takedown. **Chair pro tem Tisland** urged FDC members to volunteer to fill the empty timeslots; she added that members could also contact Clerk Snider later to sign up. **R. Britton** indicated that he has another commitment preventing him from volunteering. Clerk Snider stated that Chair Webb volunteered to drop off and pick up the FDC materials at the event. **K. Blackburn** stated that she can volunteer, but she would have to confirm her availability later and follow up with Clerk Snider.

- c) Human Library – Saturday, July 20

**T. Ledna** stated that one FDC member, M. Oss, has volunteered to be a “book” for the Human Library. He stated that he already sent out a signup link to FDC members, and he would send out more information as the event draws closer. He stated that only a few “books” are needed and he will need help hosting. He stated that it should not be a lot of work. He added that reservation of meeting space will need to be coordinated with the Clerk's Office. Clerk Snider confirmed that she had already calendared the event to take place in the City Council Chambers.

## FDC MEMBERS' COMMENTS

**R. Britton** and **K. Blackburn** had no comments.

**R. Basarab** stated he looks forward to the Juneteenth event and hopes it is well attended. He stated that it will reflect well on the FDC if there is a good member presence at Juneteenth.

**T. Ledna** had no comments.



**M. Oss** stated that she is currently on vacation. She shared that the Midnight Sun Intertribal Powwow is coming up and suggested that the FDC look into participating at the event. She stated that the Powwow is in July but was unsure of the date.

**Chair pro tem Tisland** mentioned the upcoming Midnight Sun Run and stated that there are opportunities for community members to volunteer at the event.

**J. Rogers** stated she was happy to see the FDC have a quorum and commented on the eager participation of members in volunteering for whatever is necessary. She thanked HR Director Jake Merritt for attending the FDC meetings.

**J. Merritt** stated he is happy to see the FDC's progress since his first meeting in January.

Clerk Snider confirmed that the Intertribal Powwow would occur July 19-21. She added that she would let Chair Webb know that interest in the event was expressed by FDC members. **M. Oss** shared that the cost to host a table is \$50, and she asked whether the FDC had a budget for such items. **J. Rogers** replied that the FDC does not have a budget but may make a request to the Mayor. **M. Oss** volunteered J. Rogers to make the request to Mayor Pruhs.

**J. Rogers** thanked M. Manning for attending and invited her to attend again in the future.

M. Manning stated that she has been in the Fairbanks area for nearly a year, and she would like to volunteer and be active in the community.

Clerk Snider invited M. Manning to apply to serve on the FDC and provided contact information.

### **MEETING DATES**

a) Next Regular Meeting Date, July 9, 2024

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**R. Basarab**, seconded by **R. Britton**, moved to ADJOURN the meeting.

There being no objection, **Chair pro tem Tisland** declared the meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Juanita Webb, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
D. Danyielle Snider, MMC, City Clerk

Transcribed by: DS