

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 16, 2023**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Mercurief called the meeting to order at 9:06AM.

II. ROLL CALL

Council members present were Joseph Kozloff, Victor Clarey, Naomi Edenshaw, and Raymond Melovidov. Daniel Porath was traveling. Jason Bourdukofsky was absent. A quorum was established.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

CM Clarey MOVED to approve the agenda. Seconded by CM Melovidov. Motion to approve the agenda carried by voice vote with 5 Ayes.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

CM Clarey MOVED to approve January 18, 2023, minutes. Seconded by CM Kozloff. Motion to approve the minutes carried by voice vote with 5 Ayes.

V. PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

A. None

VI. REPORTS

A. Mayor

The town is doing a good job keeping Covid down.

B. City Manager

Zavadil and others met with Trident representatives, they are committed to Saint Paul and want to remain a good partner. Working with them in connecting their power to the city grid. They are going through their waste permitting process right now. It was an overall positive meeting.

CM Melovidov mentioned that Trident is going to take the ammonia out of the building, they won't be able to make ice without ammonia. CBSFA is planning to hold the harvest and will use a tender boat to take the fish down to Akutan. Trident will let them use space and equipment. The fish will get landed and ticketed on St. Paul; shared fish tax will come to St. Paul. Trident looking at other things they could do with the plant to keep it going.

The harbor survey results came in, attached in City Manager Zavadil's report. Maintenance is scheduled for next year, dredging the main break water and beginning of the harbor and settlement management area. Will know more as things develop. CM Melovidov asked about the settlement management area and who manages it. Confirmed that Army Corp manages navigational features and not what goes up to the docks. CM Clarey asked how far away from the dock they will dredge. Up to the turning basin. CM Clarey asked if TDX side can be ground down due vessel groundings. Work will not go outside of maneuvering turning basin. CM Melovidov wasn't aware they wouldn't go right up to the docks. Buildup by dock, causes surge, no monies to dredge that out. CM Clarey asked if there is storm damage funding? Zavadil asked those who may have been affected. Working through that now, it's a complicated process and really slow. He informed TDX and CBSFA that money is available, and they must file a claim with the state, since they are not a public facility the process is different.

Insurance will cover repair to roof of fire station. Plan to put a bunch of screws from the top to make sure the roof doesn't fly up anymore. Insurance gets it back to the original condition but can't get it replaced. City is looking for funding for replacement, it's going to have to fit in available grant opportunities.

EDA grant for small boat harbor utilities proposals out for design, January 19; they are due tomorrow. Meeting next week, review by March 10 and a contract selected March 31, hope to have negotiations wrapped up by April 13, trying to target getting everything in by mid-March for the loan. DC lift station project, Kuna finished report, 65% completed March 1 and 95% design by end of March. First part of May, 1.4 mil available but came in at 1.8 mil., to request more funding from village safe water, may not start construction this year. The design is good, both sites by school and below the bar there will be concrete wet well, lift pumps will be surface mounted pumps, will limit need for confined space entry. Two pumps, one a backup. Requested a fence around the wells as it will have a hatch. The one below the tavern will move a little south and stay within the existing easement footprint. Met on 24 with AMLeague about revolving loan fund for sewer project. Working with DC engineer to see what is best to get needs filled.

Awarded to develop a safety action plan, 8 communities in Alaska received the grant. Met this week to see how we could partner. Haven't received any grant paperwork yet, it USDOT 200,000. EPA environmental review hopes to start construction this year on the road into the new landfill. Received 3 million. Meeting about permitting, in 2005 it was permitted but not developed. With funding received move forward to develop the new land.

Reached out to USDOT on essential air service. In September proposals go out, RAVN plans on submitting again. City Manager reached out to Aleutian Airways to see if they'd be interested. Might need part 139 certification on our airport. CM Clarey asked about RAVN schedule, can they be flexible without weather back to back flights don't always work. -They have to configure the plane to come to St. Paul and they'd not be able to service another site quickly.

Public safety – Caitlin selected for public work, Devon working at the slope. Mathew mandregan hired as dispatcher, maxim Zacharof in training. Couple others to get more for coverage due to changes, people out sick. Sergeant Murdock was promoted to director of public safety, currently he's the only officer on island. Impact on budget should be minimal. Next meeting, he will be reporting. Think he'll do well. If we can't find an officer, open to doing a community service officer, not state certified but can assist with calls. Next meeting next week with tribal staff to help coordinate better with the security they are performing. Trying alternatives to provide the proper coverage. Chief changed his schedule, out Thursday Friday and Saturday at night patrolling. It's what people wanted. Community service officer will be cross deputized. They won't have arrest power or be carrying a weapon but actively engaged with call under the direction of chief. Chief sworn in as cross deputized with the tribe. Were still going to look for a police officer.

The emergency radio system got equipment in but it didn't fix the problem for the backup, another piece of equipment to fix has been ordered. Kyle can get it installed when he comes back next week. Calls for services data, not a lot of calls. Analyze breaking down medical call vs criminal vs call for assistance. Will break it down more for council.

Public works – Caitlin new assistant, she hit the ground running. Position moved to city office upstairs. Meeting with divisions every other week to discuss status on projects, how things are going and challenges they might have. Emergency backup generator parts just received. Lift pump and fuses that

need to be replaced. Cummins usually needs to repair to keep under warranty, discussing if Kyle can do it. They are expensive to bring out. Prioritize getting a cover of the unit, corrosion, spoke with Patrick baker.

At Motor pool, working on the garbage truck, getting a hydraulic pump and mounting to the unit. The fuel tanker went down on the 7th, alternator gave out so it's on order. The other tanker was cleaned out and used. Bulk fuel, inspection report came back good. State changed requirements for spill plan. With staff turnover, decided to do a full update this year, working with Integrity Environmental to get it done. Submitting inspection to DC. Should be good to do if we get everything done on the list, won't be find if fix. Change in the budget for items needed to be purchased. Request quotes there will be a budget amendment. Work with St. Paul Fuel on MOU on fuel response. For better coordination, working with Paul Philemonoff to get it done. Feb 1 on tank dips at 43,888, 269,226 gallons of diesel, sufficient to carry us through to the May supply.

Electric utility parts ordered for smart meter system, will replace ampy meters. There was a power outage on February 2, City crews quickly responded. The flickers were the test in isolating where the issue was. Plan to isolate the system to find out where the problem might be. Narrowed down about noon to the coast guard area, the 500kba transformer. Issues was isolated from the sectionalizing cabinet and power restored to airport. RAVN cancelled before that occurred. Notifications to FAA, weather service, TDX that things were going to be down. Initially thought it was the motor pool transformer, had backup plans, TDX had a backup. Had a lineman crew on standby if it was an underground fault. Would have to had scheduled a charter to bring line man by Saturday if issue no found. Trident offered to bring someone on their jet from Dutch. Plan to get the gas station online if issue was not found. Notified Coast Guard that the line was shut off, nothing essential being powered. Mayor Mercurief asked if the Coast Guard could downgrade to a smaller transformer since they are not powering as much as they used to.

CM Melovidov asked if the ASOS was working, the power in harbor may be off. Zavadil updated that a pipe burst, and the water was shut off as well as the meter pulled on Trident. Meeting on the 10th on putting plans together on requirements to connect Trident to the city grid. Plan to get a line, transformer, and necessary equipment to power trident when they are not operating and trident to back feed town during emergency. A bigger transformer is needed.

Water utility January – December report, 89,242 gallons were use, .1 and .5 parts per million chlorine levels, Adrian keeping about .1 to .2 up to .3. Ordered 500lbs of powdered chlorine. Agreement updated with the lab that does testing and supplies sampling bottles. Samples collected for January were E. coli free. Submit quarterly maintenance report to DC, Adrian completed training on wastewater lagoon with ANTHC. More details in the next report on the line break. Caitlin is entering handwritten reports to track typical water use. Problems with sewer under the bar, hope to get it replaced soon. Tone was grading the roads, Simeon volunteered and helped. Schedule to get some of the out-of-town roads.

Mayor Mercurief asked if City phone numbers can be posted on Facebook.
10:31AM break. Back on record at 10:50AM

C. City Clerk

Wegeleben provided a written report and was available for questions. There were no questions.

D. Grants/Project Specialist

Sterbenz reviewed the Grants and Contracts Update PowerPoint. Grants awarded since last meeting include regional Safe Streets and Roads for All from USDOT (\$200,000), and FY2022 Consolidated Appropriations Act Projects from EPA (\$3,000,000).

There are 3 applications submitted with AK Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Management for, security TV system for the harbor, emergency management training and exercise coordinator, and emergency backup generator for water and wastewater treatment.

The PowerPoint presentation shows that there are 13 potential applications with various due dates that are or will be underway.

E. Finance Director

Mandregan provided a written report and was available for questions. There were no questions.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Emergency Ordinance 23-90 - An Emergency Ordinance of the Council of the City of Saint Paul Regarding Mitigation/Protective Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 Throughout Saint Paul Island

CM Kozloff MOVED to approve Emergency Ordinance 23-90. Seconded by CM Edenshaw.

In May, the public health emergency will be ending; tests and vaccines may not be free after. The recent Covid outbreak hit the clinic and school, shutting the clinic down for a while. Overall, everyone did a good job to keep it from spreading. It's up to council if they want to continue testing. The supplies ran low, more supplies were ordered, City will continue to order as long as its free and available. City emergency ordinance gets reviewed every 30 days to see if council wants to continue. People needed to be reminded about tests and submitting. CM Clarey mentioned it's getting harder for people to find tests out in Anchorage for the pretravel test and believes it's a hinderance. He's at the point where he'd like to drop the ordinance or drop pretravel testing and keep post travel. He stated it's a hindrance on RAVN employees. It was mentioned that the CDC still recommends pre and post travel testing. There has been instances of negative pre and post travel results with a positive a few days later.

MOTION to approve Emergency Ordinance 23-90 carried by Roll Call vote of 4 Ayes, with 1 Nay by CM Clarey.

CM Clarey left the meeting at 11:27AM.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Ordinance 23-01 - An Ordinance for the City of Saint Paul Adding to the City Code of Ordinances Chapter 14.25 Passenger Wharfage Fees

First Reading

CM Melovidov MOVED to approve First Reading of Ordinance 23-01. Seconded by CM Edenshaw.

The focus is on cruise ships, fee charged per passenger to be collected by the city. The fee will vary depending on if they disembark on a City or private dock. It would not go into the General Fund by retained in the Harbor Fund. Outreach to cruise lines needs to be done beforehand; would need passenger lists, paperwork. Technically would reduce the amount general fund is supporting harbor funds for harbor needs that are being subsidized from investments. Ketchikan minimum \$5 per head

and the highest is \$10, small fee to not discourage ships from coming. No ships, Saint Paul Tour and cruise lines could not reach an agreement on using the tour buses. To pass a new ordinance needs two readings. If the ordinance passes, talk with Greg on marketing.

MOTION to approve First Reading of Ordinance 23-01 carried by Roll Call vote of 4 Ayes.

B. Resolution 23-02 - Apply for the USDOT RAISE Grant Program for the City South Dock and Harbormaster Office Repairs and Improvements Project

CM Melovidov MOVED to approve Resolution 23-02. Seconded by CM Edenshaw.

Sterbenz included a memorandum in the council packet. Capital construction proposal for phase 1A of City South Dock and New Harbor Master Office Project. Asking for \$13,500,000. Asking for 100% rural share no match. Work would include installing energy absorbing fenders, replace the tires, replace and upgrade ladders, install mooring bollards, birthing dolphins and catwalks, construct a harbor master office in small boat harbor area. Letters of support from Alaska Marine Line, Trident, CBSFA, TDX, Tribe. Thanks to all the entities.

MOTION to approve Resolution 23-02 carried by Roll Call vote of 4 Ayes.

C. Resolution 23-03 - Apply for the USDOT RAISE Grant Program for the Improvements to City North Dock and Piers Project

CM Edenshaw MOVED to approve Resolution 23-03. Seconded by CM Mercurief.

Sterbenz - Two planning proposals and one construction proposal submitted. Would include removal of City North dock and pier. Installation of new dolphins and approach ramps to dolphin and catwalk between dolphins. Freshwater at some of the moorage spots and dredging from dolphin to channel and maneuvering basin. Expecting to cost about 1.5M, it would put City in a position to apply for full construction grants in the near future. Making it universal enough for any vessel. An image of the concept was reviewed. CM Melovidov asked if one proposal can be prioritized. Planning proposals might compete. Three proposals can be submitted, application doesn't ask to prioritize, it possibly may be discussed in negotiations.

MOTION to approve Resolution 23-03 carried by Roll Call vote of 4 Ayes.

Off Record for a lunch break at 11:55AM

Back on Record at 1:17PM

D. Resolution 23-04 - Apply for the USDOT RAISE Grant Program for Saint Paul Harbor Road Upgrade Project

CM Kozloff MOVED to approve Resolution 23-04. Seconded by CM Mercurief.

Sterbenz pulled up a concept drawing for review. The current Haul Road would no longer be a public pass. Some council members were not pleased with how the new road would reduce the space used by local fishermen and that it doesn't make much sense for the community. City Manager wants to propose that the whole harbor area be looked at in how it is utilized and other ideas to maximize

space and utilities, but TDX wants to stick to the settlement agreement. The bid is out for final design of utilities.

CM Melovidov believes there should be discussion about where things are at, might go and how to best utilize the space but understands the City is required to make a road.

MOTION to approve Resolution 23-04 carried by Roll Call vote of 4 Ayes.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no Executive Session held.

X. NEXT MEETING DATES/TIMES/AGENDA ITEMS

A. March 14, 2023, at 9AM

XI. ADJOURNMENT

CM Melovidov MOVED to Adjourn. Seconded by CM Kozloff. MOTION carried by voice vote with 4 Ayes. The meeting adjourned at 1:40PM.

SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED:

Aubrey Wegeleben, City Clerk

Date