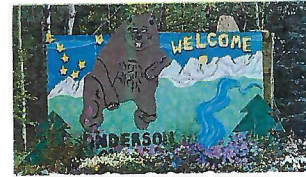


City of Anderson
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Anderson, AK 99744
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Minutes of Anderson City Council Meeting

Location of the meeting was at the city hall and through our virtual platform, Zoom.

Meeting Time

January 14, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Notice

Notice was provided

Present

Mayor Katie Griebe

Vice Mayor Cassie Eads

Council Members: Kyle Fulford, Kay Hockin, Jeff Taylor, Quenten Rathbone, and Mike Chaffin.

Proceedings

Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 6.10 p.m. by Katie Griebe. The Agenda was approved. Cassie motions and Mike seconds. All are in favor.

Minutes

The meeting minutes from the board meeting on December 9, 2024 were approved.

Cassie Motioned to approve and Mike seconds.

In favor: Katie, Cassie, Jeff, Quenten, and Mike.

Opposed: Kay, and Kyle
Kay and Kyle did not get the minutes in enough time to read through. They felt it prudent to not to approve the minutes.

Ayes have it 5-2. Motion passes and minutes are approved

Public Access

Nothing at this time

Mayors Report

See attachment

In addition to the written report Mayor Katie states that the Clerk, Darcia Grace has reported to her that money seems to be missing from our credit card processing. We are not sure what is going on but believe it's possibly some sort of cybercrime, not from anyone local. We reported this to the FBI to investigate.

Departmental Reports

- **Fire Department** – Nathaniel Grimes reports they had one EMS Run and one firefighter run. There is a question about billing for these runs and the past runs. Nate explains that we can't depend on these due to the slowness of the payments and the volume is very low. They continue to bill but they don't rely on that. Insurance companies are paying some.
They are working on an ambulance plan to help with costs and to provide benefits to the public such as providing CPR classes to the members for free. They are working on drafting that final letter.
The new employee, Robert Price, passed his certification with a high score of 82%. Robert and Nate will be offering CPR courses sometime in February for those interested.
This summer forestry will be hiring a crew of 3 to patrol the highway all summer starting around April. They will help clean up brush around homes and the city, for fire safety.
Funds from forestry are available for a new thermal camera, and 2 medical EMT bags.
- **Library**- Katie Griebe reports: The library started Craft night. This begins on Thursdays from 6:30-8:30 and 4th Friday movie night. This month is Beauty and the Beast. Story hour is every Friday at noon.
- **Public Works**- Quenten Rathbone reports: We have our hoses for the Vac truck now, and are ready for the next disaster when it comes up. Everything else is good.
- **Parks**- Kyle Fulford –Nothing to report until spring.
- **Environment**- Mike Chaffin is going through 12 months of our logs regarding the Lagoon. Outside of that nothing else to report.
- **Lands**- Jeff Taylor doesn't have anything to report other than the Agenda item to be discussed later, regarding the land committee. He would like to nominate George for the land committee.
- **Medical Clinic**- Kay Hockin says waiting for maintenance to be done on the building. She would need someone to work on the pipes and the electrical and Katie suggested that would be worked on in the spring.
- **Public Safety**- Cassie Eads reports: Doing work on contracts and policies.
- **Bills To Be Paid Report** – See attachment

Cassie makes a Motion to pay the bills and Mike seconds.
Motion to pay the bills passes and all are in favor.

Presentations for Upcoming Solar Farm Project

See attachments (slide show presentations)

Email for questions and comments or concerns jenn.miller@renewableipp.com

Jenn Miller speaks regarding the project. This is a plan in the works and still needs GVEA approval to proceed. They want to get public input at this time. The area is around the airport that they are hoping to put the solar farm. This is a full on study and working on getting all the approvals out of the way.

The community gave input to show they were concerned about their trails and public access to lakes that the community enjoys in this area. Jenn says this is the input that they need. They want to work with the public to make sure that the recreational areas are still accessible.

There were comments and concerns about how this would affect the access for pilots that have planes at the airport. The company wanted to try and accommodate enough room for everyone.

There were comments regarding wildfires and how the airport is used for staging by the Alaska State Firefighters. The company was glad to know about this and will be getting ahold of the appropriate people regarding this issue.

For more info go to the zoom video link

https://1drv.ms/v/c/f5099a4a2cc5ado1/EYXf9zbjX_dNht7sXfMIaaMBIQTsepsyO9rhkzztEUXZ6Q?e=qsly62

There will be another meeting on this topic further in the planning process.

1. Old Business

Tree Cutting

A report on the status is given. Areas are marked for cutting. Please take the trees on the South end first, and leave two foot stumps. The city is getting the area ready for mining gravel.

Land Committee

Katie reports that we would like the Land Committee to give us help in finding who owns some of these condemned properties and see about getting them cleaned up. The Committee is also going to be working on a Cemetery plot. George Haskins has volunteered to serve on the committee.

Jeff Motions to nominate George Haskins for the land committee and Cassie seconds. All are in favor, Motion passes. This committee now consists of George Haskins, Leroy Sutton, Charlie Rathbone, Nate Grimes, and Nichole Christiansen.

2. New Business

a. AMLIP Account

- i. Katie reports that she would like to open up an account for capital projects with AMLIP starting with \$100,000 that we should be receiving for the Vac truck. This will start the account.
The AMLIP is an investment pool started by the Alaska Municipal League, a nonprofit. It is made up of 86 boroughs and municipalities to provide low risk, interest bearing account. There is no minimum to invest and no time requirement.
- ii. Discussion: Katie answers questions and explains that this money cannot be touched. If we do not use the funds for the Vac truck then in 2029 when the state asks for those funds back, we will give it back. The city gets to keep all the interest that was earned during that time period.
- iii. Mike Motions to start an AMLIP account for \$100,000. Cassie seconds and all are in favor.

b. Start a Sewer R&R Account with AMLIP

- i. Katie explains that the prior council agreed to open this account and did so last year. They needed to close this account shortly after to fix some of the sewer problems that happened. In order to get our Ruba scores up, we need this account to be opened again. We need it to get back up to \$50,000. We could start this account at \$10,000 and increase it over time, until it gets back up to where we need it. This money would sit and bear interest or would be used for any emergencies that we might have with the Sewer.

- ii. Mike Motions that we start this account with the \$10,000. Kyle seconds. All are in favor.

c. AMLIP Account for Sewage Lagoon Closure

- i. Katie explains, this is an account that was drained and closed during the embezzlement years ago. This is actually a requirement by the Federal Government to operate a Sewage Lagoon. We need to get money into a Sewage Lagoon Closure account as soon as possible.
- ii. Mike questions if this is an account for each lagoon or just one for both. Katie states that this would just be one for both at this time.
- iii. Mike Motions that we open a Sewage Lagoon Closure Account and Kyle seconds this Motion.
- iiii. There is a questions about the amount of this Account. Katie says that we are required to have \$50,000 for each Lagoon. She suggests we start at \$15,000 and work up from there.
The Motion is still on the table and All are in favor.

d. Resolution 25-01 certifying the annual financial statement FY23

- i. See Resolution.
Katie dictates: Second class cities are required by AS 29.20.640 to submit a Certified Statement of income and expenditures or audit each year.
The reason that we need this now is that we have grants that are being held up due to us not having this done. Carmen Jackson, CPA, provided this report.
- ii. Cassie questions if this is an accounting, to the best of our knowledge and Katie says this is true to the best of our knowledge.
- iii. Mike Motions that we approve the Resolution 25-01 Quenten seconds. All are in favor. Motion passes.

e. Resolution 25-02 certifying the annual financial statement FY24

- i. See Resolution.
Katie dictates the wording on the resolution. This one we are doing because we know that it will be required by future grants. This is a preemptive step.

- ii. Cassie Motions that we approve the Resolution 25-02 and Mike seconds. All are in favor. Motion passes.
- f. **Potential Council Member Travel** – AML Conference in Juenau in February for 1 council member (Katie Griebe) estimated cost of \$3000 for airfare, car rental, program registration, and hotel.
- ii. Mike Motions that we send Katie to the Conference and Quenten seconds. All are in favor.

3. **Public Access**

a. **Correspondence**

There is a letter of grievance from a member of the public who has a sewer issue. He would like reimbursed due to some expenses that accrued when his Sewer needed thawed out. He has a receipt.

It seems there is a consensus that we may need a policy for credits for sewers that aren't working due to improper setup. The policy committee will be considering this issue in the near future.

Other Public Access issues

b. **School Issue**

Kay has a grievance with the City Council and asks them to support the school staying open.

Katie Griebe wants to clarify, she is on the school board as a mom and community member but not as a mayor and asked that this issue be put on the school agenda. There are schools closing in many different communities.

Katie Griebe reminds the public that the City Council has no authority over the school. The people sitting up at this table are to represent city matters. The school is not a city matter. Katie reminds the public that the school board meeting is in Healy on Thursday and recommends grievances would take place in that venue.

- c. **School Issue**
Community member Shaleen Holmes also wants school support from the city or to find out what the community as a whole wants.
- d. **School Issue**
Sandy Trumbower is showing concern for the impact of the town if the school were to shut down.
- e. **School Issue**
Michele Nelson states in many of these communities they have a choice. There are other schools in their towns. Not here, we have one. She says that Katie should refrain from voting because there must be a conflict of interest. That needs to be looked into.
- f. **School Issue**
Robert Price shows his disapproval of comments that are looking at what is best for the city. He thinks it should be about what is best for the children. What kind of education? What kind of socialization? These are the issues that should be focused on.
- g. **School Issue**
George brings up the financial issue of the school. It costs \$400,000 for the 6 students.
- h. **School Issue**
Jeff thinks it is too long for children to be on the bus.
- i. **School Issue/Denali Borough and GVEA Representative**
Krista Zaponne introduces herself, she is our District 7 Board of Director Representative for GVEA, as well as Deputy Presiding Officer for the Denali Borough. She wishes to clarify, the Denali Borough does not wish to shut down the school. However, there is a state Mandate, that if the school does not have 10 students by October then the school will not be recognized as a state school and may lose funding.

Krista also reports for GVEA that there is an intertie project that will be using GVEA electrical resources. There is a Public Service Notification to get ready for blackouts for ½ an hour up to an hour. This will happen temporarily for roughly 5 years, seasonally, until the project is complete. You can get more info on the GVEA website.

j. **The Denali Borough Mayor Chris Noel Reports**

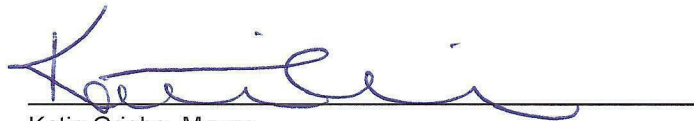
Chris shares news about events going on in the borough such as the Parkfest. He talks about grants that are available to non-profits for road improvement. He appreciates the passion and dialogue for the school. He is glad the Council and Mayor are getting involved with AMLIP

City Council Comments

The comments are appreciative in nature.
Kyle would not be happy if the school shut down.

Adjournment

Mike Motions to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 pm. The next board meeting will be held on February 11th, 2025 at 6:00. pm. Minutes submitted by Darcia Grace, Secretary.



Katie Griebel, Mayor



Darcia Grace, Clerk

City of Anderson

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