





CITY OF ANDERSON

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Minutes of Anderson City Council Meeting

 **Location:** Anderson City Hall & Virtual (Zoom)

 **Date:** May 13th, 2025

 **Time:** 7:00 PM

Call to Order

- **Time:** 7:10 PM
 - **Presiding:** Mayor Katie Griebe
-

Roll Call & Attendance

Present:

- Mayor: Katie Griebe
- Vice Mayor: Cassie Eads
- Council Members: Kay Hockin, Jeff Taylor, and Quenten Rathbone

Absent:

- Kyle – Resigned
- Mike Chaffin – Absent
- Jeff Taylor – Late

• **No motion was made to excuse Mike Chaffin's absence. Council chose to move on without action.**

Approval of the Agenda

- Motion: Kay | Seconded: Quenten
 - Motion to Amend the Agenda to remove the Land for Sale Item: Cassie | Seconded: Katie
 - Vote: Unanimous
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Approval of the Minutes

- Motion to approve: Cassie | Seconded: Kay | Vote: Unanimous
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Public Access

- Audie Howell raised concerns about the fee schedule (see Attachment A). He warned of potential anti-trust implications if fees are set below market rates and suggested establishing an hourly rate for septic pumping.
 - Michelle Nelson disagreed with the sewer forgiveness policy and questioned the legitimacy of some customers' payment claims.
 - Darcia Grace explained problems with billing records, including missing or unrecorded payments and delayed billing causing large balances.
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Reports

Mayor's Report

- (See attached)

Fire Department (John Collura)

- Brush truck is now on contract with Alaska State Forestry
- Forestry conducted a prescribed burn at Creamers Field
- Truck received new tires
- Looking to start a fire brigade—seeking volunteers

Library (Katie Griebe)

- Summer Reading Program running
- BookIt Program by Pizza Hut being used
- Received new books via Book Hook Grant
- Hours: Mon & Wed, 3:30–5:00 PM
- Toddler Story Hour moving to monthly
- Celebration of Learning scheduled for tomorrow with snacks

Anderson School (Uwe Hoffman)

- Public invited to:
 - May 14: Celebration of Learning at 6 PM
 - May 20: Track & Field Day at 10 AM
 - May 20: Graduation at 5 PM
 - May 22: Last day of school at noon
 - Field and greenhouse open for summer public use
 - Ongoing phone issues reported

Lands (George Haskins)

- Working to sell land by the highway
- Sorting ownership records; unrecorded deeds causing confusion

- Recommends involving city attorney for title resolution
- Discussion about updating code to allow commercial property sales without a 1-year wait

Policy Committee (Katie Griebe)

- First reading of proposed policy updates (see attachment)
- Council and public invited to review and comment
- Explained process for changing code
- No additional suggestions from council or public
- Question about meeting changes and postings - clarified
- **No action taken; first reading only.**

Denali Borough Mayor's Report

- Not available

Environmental

- Not available

Clear Space Force (Michelle Nelson)

- New Active Duty Commander starting July 8

Public Safety (Cassie Eads)

- Coordinating with Heather and Nate on procedures and equipment readiness
- Considering an auction

Public Works (Quenten Rathbone)

- Preparing trucks for operational readiness
- Culvert blockages noted; affecting gravel access
- Clutch issues—costly repairs expected

Clinic (Katie/John/Kay)

- Photos taken before Forestry moved in (per Kay's recommendation)
- Stove identified as a fire hazard—Kay recommends replacement
- Contract questions and clarifications discussed

Financial Report (Katie / Darcia)

- AML is providing accountant support through a grant (Lisa Fisher)
 - No need to hire an accountant independently
 - Contract signed for financial reporting and oversight support
 - Lisa confirms Darcia has reconciled records
 - Some adjustments still needed to the Chart of Accounts
 - Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss attached
 - Lisa available via email or Zoom for questions
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Bills to Be Paid (Darcia Grace)

- Report includes memos for payments
 - Motion to approve payment of bills: Kay Hockin | Seconded: Quenten | Vote: Unanimous
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Old Business

1. **Tree Cutting**

- Trees too small to be worthwhile
- Different area under consideration
- Permit issues deemed not worth pursuing
- Forestry employees will assist in accessible areas
- Wood is available; public encouraged to help clean brush
- Motion to close tree cutting area: Cassie Eads | Seconded: Quenten | Vote: Unanimous

2. **Land Committee Update**

- **There continues to be an opening on the Land Committee. The City is still seeking volunteers, and the position remains unfilled.**

3. **Budget Ordinance 25-02**

- Read through completed
 - Motion to adopt: Cassie Eads | Seconded: Quenten
 - Vote: Yes – Katie, Cassie, Quenten; No – Kay, Jeff Taylor
 - **Motion to adopt did not pass**
 - Kay and Jeff expressed concerns over accuracy of figures
 - Katie clarified line items
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New Business

1. **Cell Phone for City Operations**

- Discussion regarding the need: Two-step verification purposes and to have the cameras hooked up.
- It is frowned upon to use personal phones for city business — as emphasized in government training.
- Darcia explained the ongoing issues of being locked out of important city accounts when an employee leaves, because the accounts were set up with personal phone numbers for two-factor authentication.
- Public comments and questions were raised regarding the phone's capability.
- Darcia clarified that prepaid phones connect to city office Wi-Fi, so data limits won't be a concern.
- Katie explained the plan would include unlimited data.
- Motion to approve purchase of a city cell phone for operations: Kay | Seconded: Quenten | Vote: Unanimous

2. **Land for Sale Introduction**

- Suggested listing Tract D (across highway) with Amanda Salmon
- Any required surveying to be paid by the buyer
- Amanda is familiar with the community and land
- Motion: Jeff Taylor | Seconded: Quenten | Vote: Unanimous

3. **Railbelt Office Contract Renewal**

- Motion to renew unchanged: Kay | Seconded: Jeff | Vote: Unanimous

4. **Resolution 25-05 – APRA Support**

- Resolution read
- Motion to approve: Kay | Seconded: Katie | Vote: Unanimous

5. **Sewer Bill Forgiveness**

- Needed due to disputed bills and lack of shutoff options
- Proposal to forgive all bills through Jan 1, 2025, and proceed with collections thereafter
- Cassie moved to postpone—**no second; motion failed**
- Motion to forgive through Jan 1, 2025, issue warning after 90 days unpaid, and pursue legal action after 120 days: Kay | Seconded: Cassie | Vote: Unanimous

6. **Fee Schedule**

- Discussion based on Audie Howell’s recommendations.
- Motion to adopt the updated fee schedule as follows:
 - Rustic Camping: \$15 daily / \$60 weekly / \$240 monthly
 - RV Camping (electric + dump): \$45 daily / \$180 weekly / \$720 monthly
 - Dumping Fee: \$10 per dump
 - Pavilion: \$75 (non-residents only)
 - Whole Park Rental: \$1,000
 - Large Events: Fee to be negotiated
 - Showers: \$1.00 per 4 minutes
 - Hauling/Labor: \$150 per hour
 - Septic Tank Pumping: Rates per Audie Howell’s proposal (see Attachment)
 - Gravel, Bull Rock, Sand Fines: \$10 per yard (delivered)
- **Motion:** Cassie | **Seconded:** Katie | **Vote:** Unanimous

Kyle Resignation

- Motion to accept: Kay | Seconded: Cassie | Vote: Unanimous
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Public Access

- Sandy Trumbower asked about healthcare for John
 - Katie confirmed healthcare plan is included in the budget
 - Quenten noted concern about it not being a standard group plan
 - Clarification: City will reimburse via HRA rather than direct payment
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Council Comments

- Thanks to all volunteers and attendees
 - Encouragement to continue community involvement
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Adjournment

- Motion: Cassie Eads | Seconded: Quenten | Vote: Unanimous
- Time: 9:42 PM
- Next Meeting: June 10, 2025

Submitted by Darcia Grace

Katie Griebe
Darcia Grace

Katie Griebe, Mayor
Darcia Grace, Clerk

