

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
OF THE CITY OF KODIAK  
HELD THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2015  
IN THE BOROUGH ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS**

**I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION**

Mayor Pat Branson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Councilmembers Randall C. Bishop, Terry J. Haines, Gabriel T. Saravia, Richard H. Walker and John B. Whiddon were present and constituted a quorum. Councilmember Charles E. Davidson was absent. City Manager Aimée Kniazowski, City Clerk Debra L. Marlar, and Deputy Clerk Michelle Shuravloff-Nelson were also present.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Salvation Army Sergeant Major Dave Blacketer gave the invocation.

**II. PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Councilmember Whiddon MOVED to approve the minutes of the April 9 and April 23, 2015, regular meetings as presented.

The roll call vote was Councilmembers Bishop, Haines, Saravia, Walker, and Whiddon in favor. Councilmember Davidson was absent. The motion passed.

**III. PERSONS TO BE HEARD**

**a. Presentation of Government Finance Officers Association Budget Award**

The Government Finance Officers Association has awarded the City of Kodiak a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its FY2014 budget. This award represents the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting.

Interim Finance Director Swanson accepted the award.

**b. Proclamation: Library Week**

Councilmember Bishop read the proclamation, which encourages all residents to visit the library to take advantage of the range of library resources available at Kodiak Public Library and discover the unlimited possibilities at your library.

Library Director Katie Baxter accepted the proclamation. She said since 1958 the American Library Association has promoted library week to remind communities that public libraries are the individual's resource for life. She said in 1940 Kodiak established a library, and she gave an overview of the current library usage. She said the library is a community anchor for enriching opportunities such as employment, economic, and personal interests. She thanked the Mayor and Council for their support.

**c. Proclamation: Declaring Peace Officers Memorial Day and Police Week**

Councilmember Haines read the proclamation, which urges all citizens and patriotic, civic, and educational organizations to recognize police officers, past and present, who by their faithful and loyal devotion to their responsibilities have rendered a dedicated service to their community and, in so doing, have established for themselves an enviable and enduring reputation for preserving the rights and security of all citizens.

Police Chief Wallace accepted the proclamation and thanked the Mayor and Council for their continued support and for honoring law enforcement. She asked citizens to thank a police officer for their service.

**d. Proclamation: Declaring Emergency Medical Services Week**

Councilmember Saravia read the proclamation, which urges residents to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers.

Fire Chief Mullican accepted the proclamation and thanked the Mayor and Council for their continued support. He said the Fire department staff works hard to respond to emergencies to assist the community.

**e. Proclamation: Declaring Older Americans Month**

Councilmember Whiddon read the proclamation, which recognizes the important role of older Americans in our community and urges citizens to celebrate older adults and the people who serve and support them as powerful and vital citizens who greatly contribute to the community.

**Lawrence Anderson** and **David Blacketer** accepted the proclamation. Mr. Blacketer said the Senior Center supports the older Americans within the community. He said the older population, whether working or retired, are viable members of the community. He said senior citizens are volunteering and helping to raise money throughout the state. He thanked the Mayor, Council, and public for honoring older Americans.

**f. Public Comments**

**Lawrence Anderson** thanked the Mayor and Councilmembers for their support of the Senior Citizens of Kodiak, Inc. He said Executive Director Pat Branson provides a great service to the older population, she is very caring, and the center's staff is wonderful. He gave a report of the Senior Center's programs and activities, and he stated the services allow for elders to live independently. He gave an overview of the positive survey results regarding the Senior Center's services. He said he is very pleased with the baseball and softball field.

**Jeannine Marsh**, Tribal Administrator of Sun'aq said there is number of homeless, transients, and inebriated individuals downtown displaying threatening and inappropriate behaviors, which has caused her to contact KPD. She said the disturbances downtown have affected their services and have made staff, parents, and children feel unsafe. She said she is tired of feeling unsafe and requests action be taken by changing ordinances, fixing the square, and patrolling downtown.

**Maurice Burun**, former commander of the American Legion, said he has seen the problems downtown and agrees with comments made by Ms. Marsh. He said the public has used the bath-

room outside in the area, and he commented there may be a need to help these people. He spoke of pigeon problems in Kodiak and commented these are not local birds to the area. He said Mission road needs to be patrolled more often for speeders.

**Candace Branson**, Education Coordinator at Sun'aq, said the behavior in the square is inappropriate; she described the behavior she has witnessed while supervising youth activities. Her suggestions were to remove the landscaping and seating, to have improved police responsiveness downtown, and to have a safe environment for healthy activities. She urged the Council to make changes.

**Taletha Gertz**, parent of one of the Alutiiq dancers, said a fight occurred with four adults outside of Sun'aq where her son witnessed the event and became fearful. She feels frustrated her child had to witness this event downtown. She thinks downtown should be a place of beautification, and the public should not be scared to be in the area. She said she hopes changes are made to eliminate these problems.

**Doreen Anderson** concurred with the comments shared regarding the concerns downtown. She said the police response has been delayed at various times due to higher priorities within the community. She shared that elderly bingo players do not like to go downtown because of the difficult individuals downtown. She stated she has worked at the tribal hall for 13 years, and this is the worst the downtown area has been.

**David Masinter** said he wants to recognize the Veterans. He said there is a service at the City Cemetery during Memorial Day. He said he is a resident of the Jackson trailer park and he hopes the Council can help work on places to move their mobile/trailer homes. He said he feels the problems downtown and at the harbor will increase with Jackson trailer park closing. He inquired about KATS services to residents. He thanked the City for listening to his comments. He said there are hard working families in despair at this time over the closing of the trailer park.

**Nick Cristique**, via telephone, said he has a family to support and a senior citizen in his house and closing of the park will be difficult. He hopes the Council can assist.

**Patty Holmes**, representing the Kodiak Garden Club, thanked and expressed appreciation for using City property for their event in June. She said the funds received from the upcoming event gives grants to schools and various projects around town.

**Jody Spivey**, Store Manager at Wells Fargo, said there continues to be a problem in the downtown area and people are sleeping in the bank ATM area. She said staff had to clean blood off the lobby walls from a fight occurring in their facilities. She said there are difficult people to deal with downtown and commented the police are very good about responding when contacted. She hopes there can be something done to address the issues in the downtown area.

**Debbie Olsen**, Operation Manager for First National Bank, said they have people sleeping in their ATM locations and using their electrical outlets. She has witnessed them displaying inappropriate behavior downtown. She hopes something can be done to improve the downtown area.

**Trevor Brown**, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce, thanked the Council for considering the extension of the lease at Pier I. He said the facility gives the Visitors Bureau and the

Alaska Marine Highway a home. He said they have collected funds for renovations of the building. He said Crab Festival is occurring next week, and he thanked Council for the use of the parking lots downtown. He said there are a lot of great events planned for next week. He said community clean up was a success and litter patrol will occur in June. He said he has also heard about the problems downtown and feels it is a community issue, and the downtown revitalization committee has discussed some ideas that can be implemented.

**Rusty Olsen** said he was born and raised in Kodiak. He said he has worked downtown for over 40 years, and it is in the worst condition at this time. He said there are people who are scared to be downtown. He said he had an incident in the past with a dangerous individual. He encouraged the Council to get involved to keep him and others from having to relocate from the downtown area.

**Meagan Roderick** said she is from Sitka, and stated she appreciates KPD. She indicated that she sees the transient population, homeless, and mentally ill, living by the Brother Francis Shelter and commented that there needs to be more patrolling to deal with loitering. She indicated she has been assaulted. She supports loitering laws and does not feel safe. She said there are places in Sitka that can be modeled.

**Bob Brodie** thanked the Council for the opportunity to speak; he said he is a property owner and property manager of a building close to St. Paul Plaza. He said the merchants are held hostage by the people downtown. He said feces, urine, vomit and spit needs to be cleaned up continually and knows the police are currently short staffed. He said a concerted effort between the City, Borough, Chamber, and State needs to occur for the establishment of a residential treatment facility. He spoke of owners getting chain link to secure buildings downtown.

**Kyle Crow**, via telephone, said this is not a problem unique to Kodiak and feels it is a problem nationwide. He said there used to be campgrounds in Kodiak. He commented on expensive housing in town, property zoning codes, and individuals with mental illness, which are complicated problems for the Council to find solutions.

**Barbara Cobban** said she lives in Jackson, and there are 113 residing in Jackson trailer park. She said if the City could provide lots for the trailers, they could require a gated community with drug testing and background checks to ensure that residents are in compliance with maintaining their structures. She said it would benefit the City to open land, because it would generate revenue. She asked for consideration of the Council. She said she was a family of five and needs a location to put her trailer.

**Costas Gianopolis** said he came to Kodiak in 1988 from Jamaica and he was welcomed into the community. He spoke about a trailer he helped purchase years ago. He said trailer park residents have spoken at the City and Borough meetings because there are over 500 that will not have a home. He asked for everyone to help.

**Jean Barber** spoke about the trailer park closing and the 100 trailers that have families that will need to relocate. She spoke about the lack of available housing and the availability and usage of vouchers. She expressed her concern about where these people will go because facilities are full. She asked what the community is going to do to help these people.

**Judi Kidder** said the ordinances need to be revised to relocate trailers to a new lot. She spoke about bycatch issues discussed at the Borough meeting and about the high prices of housing and the housing market. She spoke about Habitat for Humanity houses, vouchers, and the school district budgets.

**Leonard Roberson**, via telephone, said there has been years of economic mismanagement. He said he reads about the City projects with high dollar prices and commented the population is decreasing, and the costs of spending should be reduced. He does not support sidewalk construction.

**Enrique Perez** spent 17 years living in Jackson trailer park and asked for the Council to help. He said the residents pay City and Borough taxes in the community. He said many of the homes have additions and will be difficult to move.

**Kevin Andresen**, via telephone, said he is a resident of Jackson trailer park. He commented he understands this closing of the trailer park is not a City issue, but he asked the City to use their power to work with the Borough to slow down the closure.

**Aseura Antonio** voiced his opinion as a trailer park home owner. He works at Ardiners and would hate to leave Kodiak because he can't find a place to live. He thanked the Council for the opportunity to speak.

#### IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

#### V. NEW BUSINESS

##### **a. First Reading, Ordinance No. 1332, Authorizing a Lease of Space in the Pier I Building to Kodiak Area Chamber of Commerce, Inc.**

Mayor Branson read Ordinance No. 1332 by title. Ordinance No. 1332 authorizes a ten-year lease of space in the Pier I building to the Kodiak Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber of Commerce, a nonprofit organization, promotes the economic, commercial, and industrial development of Kodiak, including tourism and tourism related activities. The current ten-year lease expires June 30, 2015.

Councilmember Haines MOVED to pass Ordinance No. 1332 in the first reading and advance to second reading and public hearing at the next regular or special Council meeting.

The roll call vote was Councilmembers Bishop, Haines, Saravia, Walker, and Whiddon in favor. Councilmember Davidson was absent. The motion passed.

##### **b. First Reading, Ordinance No. 1333, Authorizing a Lease of the Head Start Building to Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc, D/B/A Kodiak Head Start**

Mayor Branson read Ordinance No. 1333 by title. The City has provided a no-cost lease to the Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc. (RurAL CAP), for the local Head Start Program

since 1994. The program leases the property at 419 Hillside Drive. The lease term is for five years at the rate of \$1.00 per year, and the City provides in-kind water and sewer services. RuRAL CAP notified the City on April 22, 2015, that it would like to renew its lease. Due to the terms, the lease must be approved by ordinance.

Councilmember Bishop MOVED to pass Ordinance No. 1333 in the first reading and advance to second reading and public hearing at the next regular or special Council meeting.

The roll call vote was Councilmembers Bishop, Haines, Saravia, Walker, and Whiddon in favor. Councilmember Davidson was absent. The motion passed.

**c. Resolution No. 2015–14, Authorizing the Issuance of a Permit to the Kodiak Garden Club for Use of Public Property for its Annual Plant Sale**

Mayor Branson read Resolution No. 2015–14 by title. Resolution No. 2015–14 authorizes the issuance of a permit to the Kodiak Garden Club to use the covered area of the Baranof Park ice rink to hold its annual plant sale on June 6, 2015.

Councilmember Walker MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 2015–14.

The roll call vote was Councilmembers Bishop, Haines, Saravia, Walker, and Whiddon in favor. Councilmember Davidson was absent. The motion passed.

**d. Resolution No. 2015–15, Authorizing Issuance of a Permit to the Filipino-American Association of Kodiak for the Use of Public Property for a Dance to Fund the Filipino-American Basketball Team’s Travel Expenses**

Mayor Branson read Resolution No. 2015–15 by title. The Filipino-American basketball program is raising funds for basketball trip to Wasilla They requested the use of the Teen Center for a dance fundraiser on May 29, 2015, from 7-11:30 p.m. Fil-Am proposes to charge an entry fee of \$3 per participant or \$5 per couple.

Councilmember Haines MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 2015–15.

The roll call vote was Councilmembers Bishop, Haines, Saravia, Walker, and Whiddon in favor. Councilmember Davidson was absent. The motion passed.

**e. Authorization of ABC Board Restaurant Designation Permit and Transfer of Ownership From Kodiak Harbor Convention Center to Island Hotels, LLC**

Kodiak Harbor Convention Center filed an application for a restaurant designation permit and transfer of ownership with the State of Alaska Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board. The permit is currently held by Kodiak Harbor Convention Center, and the owners of the permit have requested the permit be transferred to Island Hotels, LLC dba Chart Room. State regulations require the ABC Board to forward the restaurant designation application to the City Council for approval before a permit can be issued. State regulations also provide an opportunity for the City Council to protest issuance of a liquor license.

Councilmember Whiddon MOVED to approve the ABC Board Restaurant Designation Application and Transfer of Ownership for Island Hotels, LLC.

The roll call vote was Councilmembers Bishop, Haines, Saravia, Walker, and Whiddon in favor. Councilmember Davidson was absent. The motion passed.

**f. Authorization of Purchase/Replacement of HVAC Controller at Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP)**

The heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) controller failed at the WWTP. The controller is no longer made or supported by the manufacturer. A request for quotes was issued and two quotes were received.

Councilmember Haines MOVED to approve the purchase of a replacement HVAC controller from CCI Automated Technologies in the amount of \$23,881, with funds coming from the WWTP repair and maintenance account and authorize the City Manager to sign the necessary documents for the City.

The roll call vote was Councilmembers Bishop, Haines, Saravia, Walker, and Whiddon in favor. Councilmember Davidson was absent. The motion passed.

**g. Authorization of Extension of the Professional Services Contract for Legal Services With BIRCH, HORTON, BITTNER, and CHEROT**

The firm of BIRCH, HORTON, BITTNER, and CHEROT was selected to provide legal services to the City in July 2000. The original contract was for a three-year period, with an option for three additional one-year extensions. The contract and nine extensions have been approved and renewed by Council since that time. The current contract extension is set to expire on June 30, 2015. The firm, and Tom Klinkner, the City's primary municipal attorney, wish to continue to serve the City of Kodiak and requested a one-year contract extension.

Councilmember Whiddon MOVED to authorize the tenth amendment to the contract dated August 22, 2000, with BIRCH, HORTON, BITTNER, and CHEROT for professional legal services.

The roll call vote was Councilmembers Bishop, Davidson, Haines, Saravia, Walker, and Whiddon in favor. Councilmember Davidson was absent. The motion passed.

## **VI. STAFF REPORTS**

### **a. City Manager**

Manager Kniazowski said the Monashka pumphouse project has been delayed. She said the compost project is underway. She said the FY2016 budget ordinance and an FY2015 supplemental budget ordinance will be introduced May 28. She said there is no encouraging news on the FY2016 legislative budget, which has large implications statewide. She said Pier III is moving along, and the project team has met recently. She shared the Department of Health and Social Services conducted an active shooter exercise; she commented she was disappointed that she was

not included by the State as the local Emergency Services Director. She indicated an exercise by Public Health regarding the point of dispensing plan would take place tomorrow, and a limited emergency management team will be stood up to participate in the exercise. She gave an update on meetings held in Washington DC with Mayor Branson and Councilmember Whiddon. She commented on the concerns expressed during the meeting regarding St. Paul Plaza and said further discussion is scheduled at the Council work session on June 9. She explained the City is not a social service agency, and there will need to be a community based solution and referenced the inclusion of the homeless coalition. She said she will be out on medical leave next week. Library Director Baxter will have signature authority, and Fire Chief Mullican will be Acting Emergency Service Director.

**b. City Clerk**

City Clerk Marlar informed the public of the next scheduled Council work session and regular meeting. She mentioned that Municipal Clerk's week occurred and she expressed her appreciation for her staff.

**VII. MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor Branson thanked Clerks and the Finance department for their work. She voiced appreciation for the community attending the meeting to express their concerns. She shared there is a downtown revitalization committee comprised of volunteers that has met during the last year to attempt to resolve some of the concerns presented by audience members. She stated we need to take back the community and expressed the issues addressed during the meeting are multi-layered issues. She suggested some ways to begin dealing with these problems and urged the Council to take action very soon. She said she wants businesses to feel safe. She spoke about Jackson trailer park closing, and a joint meeting with the Borough should be scheduled to discuss affordable housing. She said the ferries are running; however, the winter schedule is on hold until the budget is finalized. She said a naval aviations sample resolution from Tom Lance may be brought forward in the future. She said there was discussion on bike path grant funds and further updates will be scheduled. She said the Lighthouse Church is open to the homeless for meals. She spoke in support of a treatment facility and stated it will be discussed as part of the Health Summit in the fall. She congratulated the High School graduates. She said the priorities are dealing with the downtown area and affordable housing.

**VIII. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Walker concurs with Mayor Branson on a need to address the downtown problems. He thanked the Clerk's Office and the Finance department for their work. He said as a Councilmember he supports taking action on the downtown area in the short-term while long-term solutions are sought. He shared his concern with those in Jackson trailer court and hopes the City can work with the Borough. He congratulated the High School graduates. He thanked the Council for their continued work on the Kodiak community.

Councilmember Haines thanked the Finance department for their work. He expressed support for the police proclamation. He thanked the public for coming to the meeting to share their thoughts. He said he supports work being done in the downtown plaza. He said "housing first" should be



looked at; he spoke about addressing illegal activities, and commented there is a lack of bathrooms for people to use in the downtown area. He said they have to move on the downtown inebriated issues now. He noted that affordable housing is important and said campgrounds with facilities are an option that can be explored.

Councilmember Whiddon congratulated Interim Director Karl Swanson and the Finance team for their award, and he thanked the Police department for their service. He said he has previously mentioned the need for a public relations staff person to dispel rumors and give facts, which he still thinks is necessary. He spoke about a recent fisheries forum and said there was consensus on key points regarding gulf trawl bycatch management. He said flatfish was shut down to the entire economic matrix. He said the downtown issues reflect society as a whole. He said he would like patrolling downtown; he does not think bulldozing St. Paul Plaza will solve the social issues downtown. He said the housing task force was meeting last year and he would be interested in updates from that group.

Councilmember Saravia thanked the police officers and paramedics for their service. He said downtown issues should be discussed, especially finding ways to help these individuals. He thanked the Clerk's Office and the Finance department. He shared his concern about Jackson trailer park. He hopes to discuss available lots in the future for the displaced trailers.

Councilmember Bishop thanked the department heads for the budget work session. He spoke about downtown, stating he has concerns about the appropriate and respectful way to approach difficult people. He is interested in researching the language of ordinances. He said residential centers are helpful for those that want help. He said Jackson trailer court should be scheduled on a joint work session soon. He thinks this is a community, as well as, a City problem.

## IX. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

**Judi Kidder** thanked the Council for their comments regarding the homeless problem. She suggested a lot be granted to the population away from central downtown. She does not support the removal of the pocket park. She commented on Jackson trailer court and said the City has ordinances that prohibit the movement of trailers. She said they are looking for a multi-faceted approach to resolve the housing issues.

**Steven Krauss**, via telephone, said he knew someone that had to move from Trident housing and is now living at Jackson trailer park. He asked who will work in the cannery and live in the bunkhouses in the future.

**Barbara Cobban** gave an example of the City sales tax collected from the local population and noted the importance of that revenue for Kodiak. She supports the efforts downtown and patrolling. She thanked the Council for their consideration.

**Leonard Roberson**, via telephone, said he agreed with Mr. Haines about the residents of Jackson trailer court and the high cost of rent. He spoke in opposition to spending money for a pedestrian pathway.

David Masinter thanked the Mayor, Council, and City Manager. He said residents of Jackson trailer park spend their money in town and are looking for assistance.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Whiddon MOVED to adjourn the meeting.

The roll call vote was Councilmembers Bishop, Haines, Saravia, Walker, and Whiddon in favor. Councilmember Davidson was absent. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:53 p.m.



ATTEST:

CITY OF KODIAK

  
MAYOR

  
DEPUTY CITY CLERK

Minutes Approved: May 28, 2015