

Special Ketchikan City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Williams at 7:00 p.m., November 1, 2010, with the following members present: Jason Harris, Kj Harris, Matthew Olsen, Jack Shay, Robert Sivertsen and Marty West. Councilmember Dick Coose was present for a short time via teleconference before he was disconnected.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given by all persons in the Chambers.

Staff present were Manager Amylon, Assistant Manager Martin, Finance Director Newell, City Attorney Bradford, Civic Center Manager Jones, Fire Chief Hill, Human Resources Manager Miller, Information Technology Manager Thomas, Museum Director Naab, Police Chief Talik, Library Director McQuerry and City Clerk Suiter.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Mayor Williams said there was a budget update relative to the Information Technology Department, a memorandum from the attorney relative to a conflict of interest, and a memorandum from the attorney regarding his acceptance into the Alaska Bar Association.

**PERSONS TO BE HEARD** – None

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Attorney Bradford spoke regarding possible conflicts of interest that councilmembers may have, and he said the Municipal Code is clear that if a councilmember should abstain from voting on an issue that would impact that financial interest, they should. He explained not only should they abstain from voting, but they are prohibited from engaging in the discussion of that topic. He noted it was the opinion of the mayor and council last year that for the budget as a whole, each individual employee does not have a substantial financial interest and is not impacted by a vote on the entire budget. He felt it was a decision to be raised and determined solely at the discretion of the mayor, who sits as judge. He stated the Council could overrule the mayor with a majority vote. He felt once the possibility or appearance of a conflict of interest is raised, the mayor is to decide. He said the Code gives some guidance, which he has laid out for the Council. He explained it comes down to whether a councilmember could be reasonably affected by that vote. He stressed it is important to avoid even the appearance of a conflict. He elaborated by giving some examples.

Mayor Williams said for right now we'll move ahead, and he said if councilmembers felt they had a conflict they should let him know. He noted both Councilmembers Sivertsen and Olsen have spouses who work in Finance and he has a son-in-law who works for the Police Department.

### **Mayor and City Council**

Mayor Williams said there was a decrease due to not hiring a federal lobbyist.

Moved by Olsen, seconded by West to amend by moving all community agencies except the Ketchikan Visitors Bureau out of the General Government Budget and add them to the KPU Budget.

Motion to amend passed with West, Olsen, Shay, Jason Harris, Kj Harris and Sivertsen voting yea; Coose voting nay.

### **Law Department**

No action was taken.

### **City Clerk**

(Clerk's Note: Councilmember Coose lost his connection on the teleconference at this point in the meeting and did not rejoin.)

Moved by Sivertsen, seconded by Kj Harris to reinstate the deputy clerk position to a full time position.

Motion passed with Kj Harris, Sivertsen, West, Shay, Olsen and Jason Harris voting yea; Coose absent.

No further action was taken.

### **City Manager**

Manager Amylon answered questions from the Council. No action was taken.

### **Finance Department**

Finance Director Newell answered questions from the Council. No action was taken.

### **Information Technology**

Moved by West, seconded by Olsen the City Council decrease the Information Technology Department's Contractual Services Account No. 53 for 2011 by \$10,000 from \$60,000 to \$50,000.

Motion passed with Sivertsen, Jason Harris, Kj Harris, Olsen, West and Shay voting yea; Coose absent.

Information Technology Manager Thomas answered questions from the Council. No further action was taken.

### **Fire Department**

Fire Chief Hill answered questions from the Council. He explained the monetary difference between paying overtime and hiring a new firefighter to cover staffing needs.

Moved by Sivertsen, seconded by Shay to assess a payment in lieu of taxes against the Wastewater Service Fund and utilize those funds to reestablish a firefighter position.

Councilmember Olsen said he would like to see an evaluation of how the 48/96 staffing patterns affect overtime and temporary salaries.

Moved by Olsen, seconded by Shay to amend by striking “and utilize those funds to reestablish a firefighter position.”

Motion to amend passed with Jason Harris, West, Kj Harris, Sivertsen, Olsen and Shay voting yea; Coose absent.

Moved by Jason Harris, seconded by Kj Harris to defer to the next meeting. After discussion, Councilmember Jason Harris withdrew his motion with the consent of the second.

Main motion, as amended, passed with Shay, Kj Harris, Olsen, West, Jason Harris and Sivertsen voting yea; Coose absent.

Councilmember Jason Harris said he would like to see the position of Training Officer remain vacant rather than be abolished, so that it could be filled at some point in the future in the event funding became available.

Councilmember Shay said the Alaska Municipal League discovered there was quite a large appropriation given to states for the coordination of 911. He noted he spoke with Assistant Manager Martin who requested information about it, and he will get it from Alaska Municipal League as soon as possible.

The Council took a short break at 7:51 p.m. and reconvened at 8:00 p.m.

### **Police Department**

Police Chief Talik answered questions from the Council.

In response to Councilmember Sivertsen, Manager Amylon said last year was the first year the Council chose to take the Raw Fish Tax out of the General Fund and direct it to the Small Boat Harbors Fund. Traditionally, he said, the Raw Fish Tax has always gone to the General Fund, and it was a big hit to take relative to the budget that was proposed this year with the added debt cost of the new fire station. He continued clearly there will be future opportunities, once we pay back the interfund loan that the Port owes to the Economic and Parking Development Fund, to direct CPV monies to the harbors for construction projects that are under consideration such as the drive down ramp. He

explained the small boat harbors serve and have a significant presence relative to the cruise ship industry. He stated if the concern of the Council is giving funds to Harbors without adversely affecting the General Fund, the CPV money is a logical way to allow the Council the latitude to keep the Raw Fish Tax within the General Fund, and use those monies to fund positions that we're looking at in terms of eliminating.

Councilmember Jason Harris said the people who are paying the fish tax are the same people who are hoping to see improvements in dockage areas to help retain them in the Ketchikan area.

Moved by Sivertsen, seconded by Shay to move the Raw Fish Tax revenues back to the General Fund.

Councilmember Jason Harris said the Port and Harbors Advisory Board has been looking at things that have been requested by the fishing fleet and a priority list has been made, which he can get for the Council, of the projects that money can be used for.

Motion passed with Sivertsen, Olsen, Kj Harris and Williams voting yea; Jason Harris, Shay and West voting nay; Coose absent.

Police Chief Talik reported about the process in procuring a drug dog, noting staff found one in Washington state which will be less expensive than getting one from Texas. He said the money saved will allow a trainer to come to Ketchikan for a few weeks to work with the officer and the dog in Ketchikan's environment. He noted the dog will be ready to go in December and staff hopes to start something after the first of the year.

He continued by explaining a possible reserve officer program, where a citizen's police academy would start in the summer. He said selected citizens would go through the academy and those who finish and are eligible may qualify for the reserve officer program. He stated a reserve officer could be put in a police vehicle with a certified officer. He said this would keep another officer free when answering calls as the reserve officer would serve as backup. He explained there are no set state rules, and it would basically be up to the local municipalities to run the program. In response to Councilmember West, he said there is interest in such a program and the Police Department would need to perform some background work.

Manager Amylon requested clarification regarding the motion, and Mayor Williams said the motion was to put the money back in but not the positions.

### **Library Department**

No action was taken.

### **Museum Department**

Museum Director Naab answered questions from the Council.

November 1, 2010

Moved by Olsen, seconded by West to increase the administrative assistant position to three-quarter time.

Moved by Jason Harris, seconded by Sivertsen to defer until the next budget meeting.

Motion to defer passed with no objections.

Councilmember Olsen said he would like to see the Museum Curator of Exhibits position left on the books, so it is not forgotten once the museum expands. Mayor Williams asked if there were any objections, and none were heard.

### **Civic Center**

Civic Center Manager Jones answered questions from the Council. No action was taken.

Moved by Sivertsen, seconded by Shay to reinstate the two police officer positions to the budget.

Motion passed with West, Olsen, Shay, Jason Harris, Kj Harris and Sivertsen voting yea; Coose absent.

### **MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Shay reported a momentous decision has been made at the Borough tonight relative to the Ward Cove property. He hoped the proposed purchaser of the property carries through on the various elements that were enumerated in the newspaper, and that the Borough holds them to some degree responsible for development.

Manager Amylon said it was staff's intent to have the KPU Budget to the Council by Thursday's meeting.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

As there was no further business, the Council adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

---

Lew Williams III, Mayor

ATTEST:

---

Katherine M. Suiter  
City Clerk