

**Minutes of Regular Assembly Meeting
Held on October 24, 2017**

Mayor David L. Jack called the Regular Assembly meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., October 24, 2017, in the Borough Assembly Chambers. Assembly Members Howell, Prysunka, and Gilbert were present. Assembly Members Rooney, Powell, and Decker were absent. Borough Manager Von Bargen and Clerk Kim Lane were also in attendance.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Assembly Member Stephen Prysunka.

The Invocation was given by Mayor Jack

Mayor Jack presented a Proclamation for Extra Mile Day.

Mayor Jack presented Certificates of Service to Rolland Howell for his service on the Planning & Zoning Commission and to Robert Rang for his service on the School Board.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA - None

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Prysunka declared a potential conflict of interest on item 13c since his wife is an employee of SEARHC and of the Wrangell Medical Center and receives pay for her services.

Jack stated that he did not see a conflict since the item was not directly related to his wife but to the entire hospital staff. There were no objections from the Assembly.

CONSENT AGENDA

M/S: Gilbert/Prysunka, to approve Consent Agenda Items marked with an () asterisk; Items 6a and 7a through 7e. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Special Assembly meeting held October 9, 2017 and the Public Hearing and Regular Assembly meetings held October 10, 2017 were approved as presented.

COMMUNICATIONS

- a. School Board Action: Special Meeting held October 5, 2017
- b. Parks & Recreation Board Minutes: June 7, 2017
- c. Southeast Alaska by the Numbers 2017
- d. POA-2017-475, Application for Permit from Brett Woodbury to the US Army Corps of Engineers to create usable uplands in the Wrangell Harbor
- e. Correspondence from Senator Murkowski, congratulating Wrangell on SE Conference's Community of the Year for 2017 award

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

In addition to Von Bargen's Report, she also reported on the following:

- Borough Goals;
- Staff Meetings following Assembly Meetings;
- Jim Clark, regarding appeal of the Roadless Rule;

- Email received from Jim Clark, regarding a decision from the GAO (Government Accountability Office) that they had agreed with Senator Lisa Murkowski letter that the 2016 Amendment to the Tongass Land and Resource Management Plan that was approved in 2016 is a rule for purposes of the Congressional Review Act; will be required to be submitted to Congress for review; Murkowski will be drafting a Resolution in opposition of the plan that will require 51 affirmative votes to pass; if it passes, will go back to the 2008 amended Tongass Land Plan which would come into effect as modified by the re-imposition of the Roadless rule of 2011; would allow an annual harvest of up to one hundred million board feet of old growth;
- Call from Jed Smith Alcohol, Marijuana Control Office on how to communicate better on protests/approvals with conditions;
- ANSEP Boarding School / Resolution tabled at the AFN Conference;
- Having a difficult time filling Lifeguard positions; Parks & Recreation will be holding a Work Session on the aquatics and activities programs; soliciting input from the community;
- Finance Department will (within the next month) be offering residents to pay their utility bills online;
- Harbor Department constructed a gangway out of left over projects so that boat operators can leave the vessel and not have to ride the boat up with the lift;
- Will be attending Wrangell Island Objection meeting regarding Wrangell Island Timber Project telephonically;
- Manager's Roof.

Prysunka stated that he would like to see the Forest Service set aside at least twenty years of funding to maintain the for the USFS M/V Chugach project.

Von Bargaen stated that the Forest Service would have maintenance money set aside in perpetuity to take care of the cradle and maintenance; any other structure or cover would not be an obligation that the Forest Service would accept; Forest Service will pay for the concept plan; Borough might have to seek grant funding for some of it.

Prysunka spoke in opposition of the Borough paying for any of this project; stated that we have buildings that require attention and we are unable to take care of the issues that we have; how are we able to commit our community to paying for some of this project; does not agree with paying for maintenance and upkeep when other projects require more attention.

Von Bargaen stated that Staff would not bring this back to the Assembly until those details were laid out.

BOROUGH CLERK'S FILE

Clerk Lane's report was provided.

MAYOR/ASSEMBLY REPORTS AND APPOINTMENTS

10a Reports by Assembly Members

Prysunka provided a SEAPA Board Report:

- Water levels looking good at Tyee and Swan;
- Trey Acteson, SEAPA CEO in Washington, lobby on a land dispute at Swan that was missed during the transfer of land;

- Ketchikan delegation asking to join FOIA (Freedom of Information Act); not in favor of joining since some information is proprietary;
- Trey Acteson, SEAPA CEO to come and report to the Assembly in January.

10b Wrangell Medical Center Board Appointment – October 2018

Mayor Jack appointed Don McConachie Sr. to fill the vacancy on the Wrangell Medical Center Board of Director's until October 2018. There were no objections from the Assembly.

10c Prior Vacant City Boards and Committee Appointments

Mayor Jack appointed Charles Haubrich to fill the vacancy on the Planning & Zoning Commission until October 2018. There were no objections from the Assembly.

As there were vacancies on the Planning & Zoning Commission and the Wrangell Convention & Visitors Bureau that need to be filled, Mayor Jack directed the Clerk to continue advertising.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD

Patrick Mayer, Wrangell School Superintendent, thanked Mr. Rang for serving on the School Board; will meet with Borough Manager Von Barga to discuss ANSEP.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

13a PROPOSED ORDINANCE No. 937: AN ORDINANCE OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 3.05 OF THE WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE, ASSEMBLY – RULES OF PROCEDURE (*first reading*)

M/S: Prysunka/Gilbert, moved to approve first reading of Ordinance No. 937 and move to a second reading with a Public Hearing to be held on November 7, 2017.

Prysunka asked that verbiage be added to address presenters/citizens who provide materials to the Assembly; that they are encouraged to provide such materials "in advance". There were no objections from the Assembly.

Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13b Approval of Consent to Assignment of Lease for Financing Purposes for the Marine Service Center, Yard Lot 1, leased by Don Sorric

M/S: Gilbert/Prysunka, moved to once again, postpone this item until the next Assembly meeting on November 7, 2017. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13c APPROVAL OF PROPOSED RESOLUTION 10-17-1383 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY & BOROUGH OF WRANGELL AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL OF THE LINE OF CREDIT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY & BOROUGH OF WRANGELL AND THE WRANGELL MEDICAL CENTER

M/S: Prysunka/Howell, moved to approve Resolution 10-17-1383 of the Assembly of the City & Borough of Wrangell Authorizing the Renewal of the Line of Credit Agreement between the City & Borough of Wrangell and the Wrangell Medical Center.

Robert Rang, Wrangell Medical Center, CEO, reported on the current financial status of the hospital.

Prysunka asked that Mr. Rang and the Borough Manager remain in constant communication, moving forward regarding the financials of the hospital.

Gilbert requested that Mr. Rang submit the documents that he had submitted for this agenda item be submitted each month; will keep the assembly informed and allows for monitoring of the accounts receivables.

Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13d Approval of the Letter to Governor Walker regarding Transboundary Waters (postponed from the October 10th Regular meeting)

M/S: Gilbert/Howell, moved to approve the letter to Governor Walker regarding Transboundary Waters.

Von Bargaen stated that she wanted to add a small paragraph to the letter that speaks to the indigenous people in our community. There were no objections to the addition.

Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13e Approval of Alternative Option for the Wrangell Island Project Timber Harvest and Withdrawing the Draft Record of Decision Objection by the City & Borough of Wrangell

M/S: Prysunka/Gilbert, moved to approve the Alternative Option for the Wrangell Island Project Timber Harvest and Withdrawing the Draft Record of Decision Objection by the City & Borough of Wrangell.

In response to Gilbert, on how many million board feet would be viable, ***George Woodbury, Shoemaker Loop Road***, gave a detailed explanation of the last ten years of the management of the Tongass and how this could be our last chance to change it and restore the timber industry to bring it up to close to where it used to be; started on this project about ten years ago and we were at the two-hundred million level of potential timber; now down to zero units that were prepared that could carry its weight out of the woods; however, if you selected (as what the Forest Service is doing now) piecemeal all around, anywhere from five to fifteen on the outside out of the fifty or sixty that was advertised, and the one hundred-eighty from where we started; old growth reserves, Roadless have decimated the opportunity to harvest. Mr. Woodbury stated that we have to tell the Forest Service to do it over; but we cannot do that until the plan is amended.

Prysunka voiced his concern that he didn't want to see us advocating for exportation of timber; would like to see a mill here again; he wanted the priority to be focusing on the opportunities that were outlined in the letter that was sent to the USDA back in August.

1. Establishing long term timber supply plan for small mills and value added manufacturing;
2. Develop infrastructure to maximize value-added local wood manufacturing;
3. Create and market Tongass wood brand;
4. Support "Buy Local" campaign for wood products;
5. Recruit timber manufacturers; and
6. Enhance workforce development and opportunities for youth skills development.

Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

Jack called for a five minutes recess at 8:24 p.m.

Regular meeting reconvened at 8:27 p.m.

13f Approval of Borough Goals

M/S: Gilbert/Prysunka, moved to postpone the approval of the Borough Goals until the November 7, 2017 Assembly meeting. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

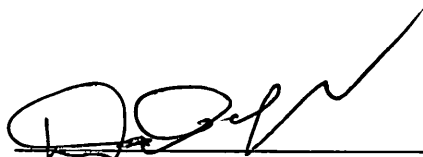
ATTORNEY'S FILE – Available for Assembly review in the Borough Clerk's office.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – None

Regular Assembly Meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

ATTEST:


Kim Lane, MMC, Borough Clerk


David L. Jack, Mayor

