

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Cobb called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the City Council chambers.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

Mayor Dave Cobb	Council member Dorothy M. Moore
Council member Karen Ables	Council member Alan Sorum
Council member Mike Wells	Council member Steve McCann
Council member Prax	

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF February 22, 2011

The minutes from February 22, 2011 were approved as presented with one minor correction.

V. PUBLIC APPEARANCES

VI. PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Alan Crume

Mr. Alan Crume, Alpine Woods resident, stated that he had concerns regarding the current request for bids for the Alpine Woods dike. He stated that the city had agreed to meet with the residents of Alpine Woods to discuss the location of the new dike and to date no meeting had been scheduled. Mr. Crume said he believed that the proposed location of the new dike would disrupt a landing strip which has been used quite often. Mr. Crume said that originally the plans were to construct the dike in an area which would not interfere with the landing strip or disrupt the trees. Mr. Hozey replied that to his knowledge the city had never agreed to hold a meeting with Mr. Crume or the residents of Alpine Woods regarding the project. Mr. Hozey stated that the city had received a letter signed by residents in Alpine Woods concerning the proposed location of the new dike which was also presented to all members of the city council. Mr. Hozey stated that when he asked for direction from the council on if he should move forward with the engineers design and survey or consider the plan submitted by the residents of Alpine Woods, he was directed by the council to use the survey provided by the engineers. Mr. Hozey said that the project was currently advertised for bid with a closing date of March 14th. Mr. Hozey stated that he was not directed by the council to hold a meeting with the residents or concerned parties regarding this issue. Mr. Crume replied that this was not his understanding.

Council member Ables stated that she had expressed her concerns at the time regarding the displacement or disruption of the airstrip. She referenced a signed photograph by a past city engineer which depicted the placement of the dike in a different location. Mr. Hozey responded that the photograph was not based on an actual survey of the area, but in fact based on a hydrological study. It was a notional idea of where the future dike might be placed. Mr. Hozey stated that after the city was authorized to begin the project, an actual engineering firm and survey team was hired to determine the best location for the dike. Council member Ables asked if the current placement of the dike would compromise the existing airstrip or interfere with landings. Mr. Hozey replied that the dike will be constructed next to the runway but should not cause any interference. Mr. Hozey stated that a number of trees would be removed, but this should not cause problems for the airstrip.

Council member Sorum stated that the residents did not want the trees removed and that removal of the trees would impact the use of the airstrip. He suggested that the city council listen to the concerns of the residents.

Mayor Cobb stated that the council requested comment from the residents and after 45 days had received nothing. After the survey teams began work in the area, the city received a letter from residents stating their opposition. After the survey results were submitted to the city, the city council gave direction to the City Manager to continue on with the project using the engineering design and survey work.

Council member Wells expressed concern with moving the dike further toward the river basin and closer to the existing gravel pits. He pointed out that the hydrology study specifically stated that the dike should not be located close to the gravel pits.

Council member Ables asked for affirmation from the engineers that the proposed location of the dike would not interfere with the airstrip.

Rick Wade, Alpine Woods/Nordic resident stated that the most recent engineering survey had changed the plan that had been established by the three prior engineers. Mr. Wade stated that the residents had been involved in previous planning efforts and had worked with previous engineers to complete an extensive study of the area. Mr. Wade said that it was recommended at that time to place the dike along the edge of the gravel pit. Mr. Wade said that the existing gravel pit was constructed as a flood control project, with the base constructed above where the bottom of the dike should be placed. Mr. Wade said the dike should be constructed in a way which would prevent the river from emptying into the stream which runs through the middle of Nordic subdivision. Mr. Wade said he believed none of the reasons for constructing the dike in the present location are valid. Mr. Wade stated that the present engineers did not read the 2008 study prior to the current survey. He stated that prior administration met with the residents of Alpine Woods and Nordic Subdivision and had agreed on the prior placement of the dike. Mr. Wade stated that the concerns voiced by the residents of

Alpine Woods and Nordic Subdivision have been ignored by the present city administration. He asked how this problem could be rectified.

Mr. Jack McCay, Capital Facilities Director, stated that administration had presented the council with all of the facts related to the present engineering study and survey, and that based on those facts the city council gave direction to administration to accept the engineer's recommendation and move forward on the project. Mr. McCay said that a re-survey of the area would be very costly and a waste of time. Mr. McCay pointed out that placement of the dike next to the gravel pit would require filling in a portion of the gravel pit.

Council member Wells stated that from a lay person's point of view by looking at the site he understood there may be concerns. Council member Wells said that he had requested to see the as-built for this project but to date had not been provided with that information. He stated that the city needs to review the survey work and compare this with the engineering plans to assure the city was provided with what they paid for. Mr. McCay responded that the survey must be verified by the State of Alaska. Mr. Hozey responded that the city will receive an as-built which will prove that the survey was completed to the engineer's specifications.

Council member Prax stated that it was the responsibility of the city to provide documentation justifying the placement of the dike. Council member Ables said she was concerned that a line of trees would be removed. Council member McCann asked Mr. Wade if he had surveyed the area himself. Mr. Wade responded that he had, and that the low spots were not optical illusions. Mr. Wade stated that based on his survey results, the proposed dike would not be three feet higher than the floodwater as required. Mr. Wade stated that by moving the dike away from the airstrip and closer to the gravel pit would not cost more money. Council member Ables requested that administration be directed to look into Mr. Wade's concerns and realigning the dike along the river. Council member Prax asked the consequences of halting the project until this issue is resolved.

Council member Moore asked who owned the land where the dike will be constructed and who was the owner of the airstrip. Lisa VonBargen, Community Development Director, responded that the State Department of Natural Resources is the owner of the property. Mr. Wade stated that he and his family have been maintaining the airstrip. Mr. Wade stated that the airstrip had been registered with the State at one time, however in checking with the State of Alaska he discovered that it was no longer on the registration list. Mr. Wade said he believed the city was responsible for de-registration of the airstrip.

Mr. Wade stated that he was told by the city contractor today that the proposed dike would narrow the airstrip and cut the length in half which would make it unusable and bring the river closer to the stream. Mr. Wade stated that removing the trees would eliminate a natural wind block, making it impossible to park airplanes.

Council member Prax asked again what the consequences would be to delay this project. Mr. Hozey responded that cancelling the request for bids would delay the project by one year and possibly increase the cost.

Mayor Cobb stated that he believed the city had done their due diligence in regard to this project. He said he was frustrated that the residents of Alpine Woods accused city administration of conspiring against them. Mayor Cobb said he believed the city and council have done everything possible in a good faith effort to protect the residents. Mr. Wade responded that the residents have received no feedback or response to their concerns or requests for meetings with the city.

Mr. Wade stated that the design of the dike is acceptable. It is the placement of the dike which needs to be addressed.

The consensus of the council was to delay moving forward on this project until the concerns of the Alpine Woods residents are addressed. The council requested a presentation and explanation by the engineering firm who designed the dike. Mr. Hozey said the bid process would be halted until the council's questions were answered.

Council member Wells stated that he was tasked as a council member to represent the majority of the residents in Alpine Woods, not just the few who were in attendance at the meeting this evening. He asked Mr. Hozey if delaying the project could put the residents in danger should a flood occur in the area. Mr. McCay replied that if construction of this dike was delayed the residents would be no better protected than they were prior to the last flood.

VII. CITY MANAGER/CITY CLERK/CITY ATTORNEY/MAYOR REPORTS

CITY MANAGER

John Hozey reported on current projects stating that the police department improvements project has been delayed slightly which will push the completion date back to May 1st.

The completed design for the VCT Electrical and High Mast lights were received, however the cost estimates are much higher than expected. Mr. Hozey reported that they are currently reevaluating the scope of work to pull it in to be a more reasonable project.

Mr. Hozey reported that the Civic Center theater seating project is coming along nicely. The old seats have been removed and the new seats have arrived and will be installed during the week of March 14th.

The Assisted Care Living Task Force met on February 28th and will be meeting again on March 9th. They are moving toward finalizing a concept for the Assisted Care facility. Mr. Hozey stated that they hope to finalize this at their March 9th meeting.

Mr. Hozey stated that the airport, library, and civic center fire alarms all went out to design together and are now finished. They will be put out as one bid package during the week of March 14th.

Mr. Hozey reported that a public hearing will be held on March 29th at 6:30 pm at the Civic Center to take public comment on the middle school master plan. He stated that copies of the data are available to the public at City Hall and at the School Administration offices.

Mr. Hozey stated that the Corbin Creek/Robe River water/sewer design is still pending due to home owner's access to easements. Those negotiations are in progress which is taking quite a bit of staff time. As soon as agreements are made about easements they will proceed with the design.

Mr. Hozey said that the Beautification Committee is meeting every two weeks and are focusing on the plan that originated in the late 1990s. Mr. Hozey stated that Diane Kinney, Ports and Harbor Director, was working with the group to revise the old plan so they do not have to start from scratch.

Mr. Hozey explained that the legislative priorities are an on-going process this time of year. He indicated that there is a lot of activity going on that they are monitoring. He stated that he is preparing for his upcoming Washington D.C. lobbying trip.

Mr. Hozey reported that at the last meeting there was a question about the Egan plaque that was supposed to be put up at the museum. He stated that there is some money set aside for that but the masonry work that needs to be done cannot be done locally. He explained that Bob Zastrow is now checking on quotes from a company in Palmer who could come down and do the work. However, Mr. Hozey warned that if the price is more than the money we have set aside for the project then other avenues of paying for the project will need to be explored.

Council member Wells asked about the VCT Electrical upgrades and if we will be able to service our customers this summer. Mr. Hozey replied in the affirmative stating that they could not get a permanent fix because of a back order situation on the pedestals themselves. So, what they are proposing to do for the short term is to install additional wiring and outlet strips so they can get through this summer. He indicated that the permanent fix will be completed in the fall.

Council member Prax asked when the city will begin the widening of the boat launch project. Mr. Hozey replied that they are still working on the design and propose to do the work toward the end of the upcoming summer season.

CITY CLERK

Ms. Pierce reported on all upcoming meetings. Steve VanSant will be in Valdez to conduct Board of Equalization Training for the City Council at the 2nd meeting in April. Ms. Pierce stated that she had forwarded information to the city council regarding HB90 related to proposed changes to the Senior Citizen Tax exemption. She asked Council to please take a look at that bill because if passed it would affect most senior home owners living in Valdez in regards to the exemption program. She stated that it could potentially disqualify many seniors who currently receive the exemption because it would become income based. Ms. Pierce stated that Mr. VanSant will let us know when we can offer testimony on the bill and she asked the Council to get any comments back to her regarding this issue.

CITY ATTORNEY

Mr. Walker addressed the current issue surrounding TAPS. The preliminary evaluation number released on March 1st, is 25% lower than last year. He stated that there varying numbers all over the map from previous years. He indicated that there will be meetings where they can sit down with their expert teams and see how the State came up with their number and see why it changed so much from previous years. As a result of those meetings, an informal decision will be made and the City's input will close on the 20th of March. Mr. Walker indicated that the final decision will come out on the first of April and that will be the state's number. He stated that they will do all they can to encourage the state to get closer to the number they came up with last year. Mr. Walker stated that from there it will go to the State Assessor Review Board (SARB) in the middle of May and the decision from that will be released in June. He stated that the number that comes from SARB will be the final number used for purposes of paying the tax bill for 2011. Mr. Walker indicated that it is a lengthy process. He stated that they have not seen a drop in quite some time.

Council member Ables asked who sits on the SARB and if that changes every year. Mr. Walker stated that they are people who have experience in assessing, usually assessors. He stated that there are changes but that they do not change every year. Mr. Walker reported that the board would be the same this year as it was last year which can be somewhat helpful.

Mr. Walker stated that he was invited to the White House to meet with the senior advisor for President Obama to talk about the All Alaska Gas Line Project. He stated that it was supposed to be a fifteen minute meeting that lasted nearly an hour. He reported that they were impressed with the number of jobs involved and the trade deficit opportunity. They acknowledged that the energy market has changed significantly in the lower 48. He stated there seems to be a big push in Washington for jobs and this could be a definite possibility. He said that it remains to be seen what will come of it but that there is definitely interest. Mr. Walker stated that he would keep the City posted.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval to go into Executive Session
 - a. TAPS Valuation/Litigation
 - b. City vs. AMLJIA Litigation
 - c. City Manager Evaluation

MOTION: Council member Moore moved, seconded by Council member Ables , to approve all items on the Consent Agenda.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 7 yeas, motion carried.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval for the Disposal of Hospital Chemistry Analyzer

MOTION: Council member Wells moved, seconded by Council member McCann, to approve the disposal of hospital chemistry analyzers.

Council member Moore asked if it abides by our policies on how to dispose of property. Mr. Hozey responded in the affirmative.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 7 yeas, motion carried.

2. Approval to Purchase Lot 3, Mineral Creek Industrial Park in the Amount of \$450,000

MOTION: Council member Moore moved, seconded by Council member Wells, to approve the purchase of Lot 3, Mineral Creek Industrial Park Subdivision in the amount of \$450,000.

Rich Long, Valdez resident, addressed the Council about the purchase of the lot. He stated that he was surprised to see this on the agenda. He referenced plans for relocating the City maintenance area while he was on Council stating that he did not have a problem with that at all. He was surprised though that we were purchasing a 5 acre lot for this purpose and questioned if there was, in fact, a master plan for the use of the land. He stated that he assumed we would be building a large facility there. He felt that based on the previous year's agendas that the subject had not been previously discussed or ever brought before the public. He stated that making a commitment to purchase a half a million dollar property implied there was a plan and he wanted to know what that plan was and why it is necessary to spend so much money on this particular lot. He stated that in looking at the City as a corporate entity where the public is the stake holder he felt that in the past it had been a bit irresponsible to sell land for \$20,000 - \$30,000 an acre and then buy it for \$100,000 an acre. He also stated that a similar parcel to the one in question was sold by the City not too many years ago for

\$50,000, nowhere close to the purchase price of this property. He stated that now, we are buying a piece of land for half a million dollars for an undisclosed project. He indicated that the City cannot afford to keep selling low and buying high. Mr. Long asked the Council what the specific plan was for this property and when does the public become involved in the process. Mr. Long questioned the City's fiscal responsibility in times of economic down turn. He asked the Council to stop and take a hard look at spending this large amount of money for this property. He argued that the idea of having to buy a property because of fear that it will increase in value is not always the best way to go about it. He felt that it could end up costing the City in the long run. He stated that he felt that considering the state of the economy, the price of the land might actually go down. Mr. Long questioned the difference in value of surrounding parcels stating that he did not see why this land was so much more valuable.

In closing, Mr. Long stated that years ago there was a multi-million dollar plan to build a visitor's center that was denied by Council. Now, we have ended up with a more appropriate sized cabin. He used that as an example of fiscal responsibility and the act of practicing what we preach. He stated that we should use that rational of decision making in deciding whether or not to purchase this land. Mr. Long also commented that whatever the plan is to build on the property a new facility will have to be maintained and will become a permanent financial responsibility for the City. Mr. Long stated that according to the census our population count is going down which means fewer businesses, and fewer jobs. He asked the Council how they could justify increasing our infrastructure at this time

Mr. Hozey responded that there has been a planning process. He stated that a City wide master plan was completed of all City facilities. He stated that several different components were looked at in that plan. All needs were evaluated and they were brought before Council in a work session format. At that time the Council prioritized them and the highest one on the list was the relocation of the City shop. Mr. Hozey stated that in the plan it shows a type of facility that they would relocate to. He stated that at the time they were looking at land that was closer to the existing shop, directly across the street. He stated that the plan shows it there because that is where they had hoped to put it but there was some concern about that location bringing light industrial use right up against a residential neighborhood. He said that it made more sense once they found out the property in question was available to keep the City facility up against the hill. It was a better use of land for the already developed plan. Mr. Hozey emphasized that it has been several years in the making. Mr. Hozey stated that he cannot speak to the value of the appraisal because he is not an appraiser but that the asking price was firm and the appraisal came in higher than that. He stated that they had windfall money last year as a result of the TAPS evaluation and Council chose to take that money and set it aside for this purpose at midyear. It is a onetime use of money that falls into the master plan. Mr. Hozey stated that whether or not the facility would actually be built is still to be determined. He stated that it is a dynamic process and that we are not starting cold as it has been in the works for a few years.

Mr. Long thanked Mr. Hozey for the explanation but asked for clarification on if there was a conceptual plan and if we knew exactly what type of building we would be building. Mr. Hozey responded that the architect developed a plan for moving the shop and accommodating snow storage, equipment storage and the consolidation of other City facilities. He stated that the 5 acre parcel allows for growth in the future if needed. Mr. Long asked if he could get a copy of the plan and Mr. Hozey stated that he certainly could. Mr. Hozey emphasized that we have not committed to build anything but that Council had identified this as a top priority and in order to do that we have to acquire land. Mr. Long stated that was the issue with this purchase. He did not agree with the City purchasing a piece of land that we may or may not build on. He stated that this land has all of the possibilities of being purchased and the facility never being built which could be a great waste of money. Mr. Long stated that he felt that it was very premature to commit the money to this land. He said that he did not feel that the land was going anywhere or that it would be quickly increasing in value.

Council member Sorum stated that there have been several plans associated with this project and in looking back on what was proposed and what has come to fruition, very little has happened. He stated that though the Kelsey dock does look great there is not a plan for a hotel and the cruise ships are not currently stopping in Valdez either. He stated that he feels of all of the other things that the City needs to take care of such as the roof at the high school, the bleachers in the gym, and with the news of the recent assessment that did not go our way that we do not necessarily need to purchase this at this time. He asked if this was time sensitive and if we absolutely have to do this right now. He stated that maybe we should wait until the state reviews the assessment and gives us a firm number before we commit to buying this. Mr. Hozey stated that the only thing that makes him nervous about this land is that it did appraise at a higher value than the asking price. He also stated that the seller had a fixed price and if they get the word that the appraisal came in higher that they are likely to increase their asking price. He stated that he saw an opportunity to get the land now at below appraisal value.

Council member Ables thanked Mr. Long for his comments. She asked what is on both sides of Harris Street and how much we can use of the land where the city shop is located as far as the right-of-way is concerned. Mr. Hozey stated that when the study was done they looked at the possibility of vacating that street and re-organizing the property and it was too tight to do so. Council member Ables stated that she was uncomfortable with the price of this property. She stated her concerns in relation to what is ahead of us. She commented that if the seller increases their price then so be it.

Council member McCann asked Mr. Walker when a definitive answer would be given by SARB on the assessment. Mr. Walker replied that we would know their number June 1st and that at that time we would choose to appeal it or not.

Council member Moore stated that in previous years the public was not happy with the Council's decision to not purchase properties in Robe River and Alpine Woods which later cost the City 2 to 3 times as much money. She stated that a citizen found out the

City was interested in them, bought them, and then turned around and sold them to the City for an inflated amount.

Council member Prax stated that he would like to see a searchable data base of City plans published on City's website so that the public can be better informed of the process. He said he believed that the more information we can get out to the public the better. Council member Prax stated that he does not feel comfortable planning when we do not know what our income will be for the next three years. He stated that we have brought in an architect to tell us if we need more buildings and not surprisingly it was determined that we did. He commented that the driver for getting rid of the yellow warehouse was a hotel that has not been talked about in two years. He stated that if the plan goes through and if we really do build a new shop facility that he would rather pay the appraised value for the lot at the time knowing that there is a solid plan. He stated that he would choose to hold off on this purchase for the time being.

Council member Wells agreed with Council member Prax stating that the Council should sit down and work on strategic planning before making this purchase.

Diane Kinney, Ports and Harbor Director, stated that she just wanted to remind Council that there has been money for an interpretive center down at the Kelsey dock and that they have been talking about moving the Parks and Recreation shop to a building with proper heat for quite some time now. She stated that she did not know how this is a surprise as they have been talking about this possibility for years. She stated that this is why planning is important because staff get frustrated with how to plan as we are jumping from one direction to another.

Mayor Cobb stated that if we had a strategic plan they would know exactly where we were going and would know how to react to a loss or increase of revenue.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 6 nays, 1 yea (Council member Moore), motion failed.

3. Approval of Two Year Contract Extension to Matilda Wonder for City Beautification Services in the Amount of \$23,000 Per Year

MOTION: Council member Ables moved, seconded by Council member Moore, to approve a two year contract extension to Matilda Wonder for city beautification services in the amount of \$23,000 per year.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 7 yeas, motion carried.

4. Approval of a Contract Change Order in the Amount of \$10,000 to Rohde and Associates Architects

MOTION: Council member Moore moved, seconded by Council member Prax, to approve a contract change order in the amount of \$10,000 to Rohde and Associates Architects.

Council member Moore asked for clarification on the motion. Mr. Hozey stated that the original contract was for design, not construction and that this is a change order to the design contract. Council member McCann asked for clarification on why they needed more money for the design. Jack McCay, Capital Facilities Director, stated that Rhode and Associates was contracted to design the Senior Center roof and sprinklers as two separate projects. They went out to bid as such and two different contractors were awarded the bid. He stated that on the sprinkler project, as part of the roofing project the architect was going to extend the eaves so the ice problem on the front of the building would be eliminated. On the sprinkler project he showed the eaves with sprinklers required but the contractor elected not to bid those because he interpreted the drawings to say that code did not require this as shown. The Fire Marshal informed them that it was in fact required and that they had to be added to the plan. Council member McCann asked if when the contractor put in his bid if we knew he was not planning on installing the sprinklers. Mr. McCay replied in the negative stating that they questioned his bid because it was so low and the contractor stated that he knew what he was bidding on and was comfortable with the price. Council member Wells asked if this work is to go back in and redesign the work he did. Mr. Hozey replied in the negative stating that amount of money is due to the architect for additional time used to get the contractor to do what he was hired to do.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 7 yeas, motion carried.

5. Approval to Purchase Garbage Truck with Accessories from Bob's Services in the Amount of \$211,881

MOTION: Council member Wells moved, seconded by Council member Moore, to approve the purchase of a garbage truck with accessories from Bob's Services in the amount of \$211,881.

Council member Wells asked what we might be able to recover on the old truck if we put this out to bid. Larry Weaver, Public Works Director, stated that he did not know. Council member McCann asked what the typical mileage was on a garbage truck when they were traded in. Mr. Weaver stated that several factors influence that decision. He stated that it is more than mileage and usage. He stated that their trucks never leave the City. They try to look at them and when they start to become a problem they decide to replace them. He stated that a lot of corrosives go through them and that they do not regulate the garbage they pick up like other cities do. He said that there are things put in the trucks that are very hard on them. Council member McCann asked what the year of the truck was that we are replacing. Mr. Weaver stated that it was a 2004 model. Council member Ables asked what kinds of costs we are incurring on maintenance on the old truck. Mr. Weaver responded that the break system had been replaced twice,

that there is an electrical problem, and the trash body is in need of major repair. He stated that the longer we keep it the more maintenance will be needed. He also said that prices on vehicles just keep going up and that this vehicle will go up at the end of March by 6%. Council member McCann asked if we could spend more money to get something that would last longer. Mr. Weaver replied in the negative. He stated that his staff takes care of the trucks as best they can but that they do not have the automated wash systems where every time the truck comes in at night everything is completely washed down. He stated that they do not have the man power to do that but that they do wash the trucks at least twice a week. He stated that the life expectancy on the trucks depend on several factors. Council member McCann asked if there was a more frequent wash out system would it increase the life of the truck. Mr. Weaver stated that he did not know how much life it would give the truck. Council member Ables asked about the corrosion caused by the trash. Mr. Weaver stated that a wash down station for them is not practical because of how much it would cost. He stated that if we were a large municipality he would definitely suggest that but it is not practical for us.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 7 yeas, motion carried.

6. Approval of Community Property Tax Exemptions for Connecting Ties, KCHU Terminal Radio, Valdez Fisheries Development Association, Advocates for Victims of Violence and Frontier Community Services.

Mayor Cobb and Council member Wells declared a conflict of interest and asked to abstain from this item. Council consensus was to grant this request.

MOTION: Council member Sorum moved, seconded by Council member Ables to approve the Community Property Tax Exemptions for Connecting Ties, KCHU Terminal Radio, Valdez Fisheries Development Association, Advocates for Victims of Violence, and Frontier Community Services.

Council member Prax asked for the values associated with the exemptions. Ms. Pierce stated that could be provided in a report for the next meeting.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 5 yeas, 2 abstaining, (Council member Wells and Mayor Cobb), motion carried.

X. RESOLUTIONS

1. #11-15 – Authorizing a Land Exchange with Erik Haltness of a portion of Lot 33, Block 35 Mineral Creek Subdivision for a portion of Tract A, Block 35 Mineral Creek Subdivision owned by the City of Valdez

MOTION: Council member Wells moved, seconded by Council member McCann, to approve Resolution No. 11-15.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 7 yeas, motion carried.

2. #11-16 – Providing for the Conveyance of Easements Within ADL 225445 Browns Creek Municipal Land Selection to the State of Alaska Department of Transportation

MOTION: Council member Sorum moved, seconded by Council member Ables, to approve Resolution No. 11-16.

Council member Prax applauded the reason for the motion but questioned the \$400 value to control something into perpetuity. Council member Prax stated that from the drawings he could not tell how large of an area it was. Mr. Hozey stated that there is one easement in front of it and one easement in back of it. Council member Prax stated that though he was in favor of the motion that the average citizen would not be able to get a deal like this.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 7 yeas, motion carried.

XI. REPORTS

1. Replacement Vehicle Report

Council member Prax thanked Mr. Weaver for the report. He stated that he was still interested in seeing where the vehicles are moved from what they were originally intended to be used for. Mr. Weaver stated that he would include that in future reports. Council member Moore asked if vehicles ever moved to different departments. Mr. Weaver replied in the affirmative stating that they shift vehicles around as needed until time to get rid of them completely.

2. EPA Grant Report

Ms. Von Barga stated a correction to the report. The amount that the City has available for this project is \$949,181 not \$825,600. The total grant available for expenditure is not what is listed in the report it is actually \$1,670,781.

3. Health Fund Report

XII. COUNCIL BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

COUNCIL MEMBER McCANN

Council member McCann stated that he would not be present for the next Council meeting as he will be out of state.

COUNCIL MEMBER WELLS

Council member Wells stated that he would not be at the next Council meeting. He will be out of state as well.

COUNCIL MEMBER PRAX

Council member Prax stated that he appreciated the report on the emergency planning and supplies for Alpine Woods.

COUNCIL MEMBER MOORE

Council member Moore stated that she had requested more accessible public information on meetings. She referenced the permanent fund meeting held that day stating that it is a public meeting and should be very obvious to the public that it is going on. She stated that she had already spoken with Ms. Pierce about this issue. She stated that she appreciates Ms. Pierce's efforts to get meeting notifications to the public at the beginning of every Council meeting.

Council member Moore stated that she learned long ago to disagree agreeably. She said that she hoped that we would do that in these meetings. She said that she is deeply saddened when the good hard working people at City Hall are put down. She reported that she did not feel there was ill intent by any of them in any way. She said that she hoped we could do better at disagreeing in an agreeable fashion. She also thanked the State for sanding the sidewalks.

MAYOR COBB

Mayor Cobb stated that he was in Fairbanks over the weekend at the Middle School State Wrestling Championships and Valdez did very well. Council member Wells attended the Basketball tournament in Delta and the girls just missed out on state by finishing 3rd and the boys finished 4th. He thanked all of the students for a great job and for representing Valdez so well.

XIII. COUNCIL TRAVEL

Mayor Cobb stated that he would be attending a Port Authority meeting on March 12th. He also said that he would be attending a presentation in Juneau to the Majority and the Governor's people on the Port Authority project during the week of March 14th.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

XV. RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Cobb adjourned the meeting at 9:50 pm.