

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The City Council led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

III. ROLL CALL

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

Council member McCann was absent and excused

Also Present:

John Hozey, City Manger
Sheri Pierce, City Clerk

Members of staff and approximately 30 people in the audience

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF July 16, 2012.

The minutes were approved as presented.

V. PUBLIC APPEARANCES

VI.

1. Colleen Price – SWAN Update

Colleen Price presented an update on the Sound Wellness Alliance Network. She briefed the Council on the latest nationwide statistics on obesity. Alaska, she reported, was in the highest category in the country with a majority of people who have a body mass index of 30% or more. Valdez, she stated, was at 27%. She explained that SWAN was working to lower this number by offering the following programs: Healthier You, Ski For Free, HAWK Alaska hiking program, the Valdez Run Series and biometric screening. Ms. Price recognized members of SWAN who were in attendance and then introduced Ashley Ney-Vollmer who gave an update on the upcoming Healthier You program. She and Ms Price closed by thanking the City Council for their on-going support.

VII. PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Harold Blehm addressed the Council with an update on the un-filled position at Worthington Glacier. He explained that there was a job advertised by State Parks and it has been filled but it is a shared position with the entire area. They will not be at Worthington Glacier all of the time and will only do periodic drop-ins, he reported. He explained that the position was dedicated before the recent accident at the glacier.

Mr. Blehm reported that the resolution that the Council passed supporting this issue is still included in efforts to convince the State that a position needs to be created there. He said negotiations are still on-going and will probably continue throughout the winter. He felt that by the next operating season they would have reached a decision. He spoke about the recent rescue at Worthington Glacier and acknowledged how lucky they are to have the back country rescue team that they have.

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

CITY MANAGER

Mr. Hozey began his report by introducing the new Capital Facilities Director, Dean Day, to the City Council. The Council welcomed Mr. Day to Valdez.

High School Roof Replacement Project

Mr. Hozey reported that the project is moving along well. He stated that the academic wing is about 98% complete and that the vocational education roof is at about 80% complete. Next they will move on to the pool during August 10th – 13th, he reported. Mr. Hozey announced that the pool facility will be closed while work on the roof is being completed.

Strategic Planning

Mr. Hozey stated that Strategic Planning had been put on the back burner due to other pressing priorities over the summer. He stated that staff have met with the consultants and have organized the information from the last Planning Core meeting. He indicated that there is still quite a bit of work to do. Mr. Hozey explained that the Core still needs to prioritize the different milestones, gain consensus on responsible parties, and develop an implementation strategy. He asked that another Core meeting be held on Thursday September 6th to start working through those requirements.

Council member Prax asked about the attendance of the Strategic Planning group. Mr. Hozey replied that for the last few meetings only the Planning Core

was involved. For regular meetings, he explained, most cells had representatives at most meetings. Council member Prax stated that he had heard from other members of the group that they just could not dedicate the amount of time needed for the entire process. He felt that it should be noted that not everyone who started the process will be able to see it through to the end. Mr. Hozey agreed that it has always been a challenge to find enough people to volunteer their time to meetings that can sometimes take a year or more to complete.

Beautification Task Force

Mr. Hozey reported that they decided to solicit more community input on the proposed plan. He announced that they had a booth at the open air market during Gold Rush Days. He stated that from that booth they gathered 116 surveys, most of which provided very positive feedback about the plan. The next step, he said, will be to hold a Town Hall Meeting where they will work with the public to try and work through some of the suggestions provided. After the Town Hall meeting, the task force will bring a full briefing back to the Council along with recommendations they may have for continuing the process.

STP Outfall Project

Resolutions were passed and applications have been completed and submitted by Lisa Von Barga, Community and Economic Development Director. He reported that they did receive DEC approval which in turn boosts the city's score.

Medical Campus Master Plan Task Force

The Task Force met and finished organizing the plan and gave final direction to the consultant to put it into a final draft. After the consultant completes the final draft the task force will meet one last time to review it before presenting it to the City Council.

Hermon Hutchins Flooring Project

Mr. Hozey reported that the school portion of the project is about 99% complete and the school district offices are about 80% complete.

Salmon Berry Ski Hill

Mr. Hozey stated that they have been working on building the enclosure for the lower bull wheel and that is complete. They have finalized the design and survey work for the hill. He stated that they would be meeting more that week to get it out to bid to have the hill re-sloped so that they can maintain it better with less snow.

New Harbor Uplands at Hotel Hill

The borings are complete and the draft report is due in mid September. The final report, he said, would be 6 months out because there is testing needed on some materials that are required.

Gas Line Summit

Mr. Hozey reported that the City Clerk, Mayor and the City Attorney are working very hard on this project. He stated that they are now finalizing speakers in the program which should be complete that week. He felt that they are currently on track for the event.

Parks and Recreation Cultural Services Director Recruitment

Only one person was interviewed for the position since the other two candidates withdrew. Mr. Hozey stated that he was cautious about hiring that individual since there were no other applicants interviewed. He stated that there were other applicants who had submitted their information too late to be considered in the first round but that they would now be considered. He indicated that there would be a second round of interviews and a public reception on August 9th for the new applicants. He encouraged all who were able to come by and meet the candidates.

Alaska Municipal League (AML) Summer Meeting

Mr. Hozey reported that the AML meetings are the week of August 13th. He stated that also the Alaska Municipal Managers Meeting is the same week in which he serves as President. Therefore, he stated, he and the Mayor will be in Bethel the entire week of August 13th.

Land Purchase for Proposed New Maintenance Shop

As previously briefed to Council, Mr. Hozey explained, if the functions of maintenance are combined within the city and with the school district, the City will need additional land to build a new shop for this purpose. There is land across the street from the current Public Works shop, he stated. The land owner, however, is not very interested in selling. That land owner said that he would prefer that we contact the Port Valdez Company who owns other land in the area and try to work with them first to acquire the needed land. There are two other parcels that would be applicable to the needs of this project that are owned by Port Valdez Company. He stated that they had budgeted to purchase one before and brought it to Council the previous year. The price at that time was below appraised value but Council chose not to move forward then because there was

no solid plan for its use. Of the two lots potentially available, the Planning and Zoning Commission felt that the parcel on the south side of the road against the hill would be a great location for a new shop hence removing it from the Kelsey Dock area. Mr. Hozey stated that they had an appraisal done on that parcel a little over a year ago. He asked the Council if it was their desire for him to acquire a new appraisal or could he negotiate based on the appraisal done last year.

Council member Sorum asked how much land the City currently owned elsewhere. He felt that the price seemed so out of line before why would they consider it again. Mayor Cobb stated that most of the land owned by the City is not in the core of the City but is further out off the Richardson highway.

Council member Prax stated that he felt this process was moving along much faster than he felt comfortable with. He felt that there were several conversations that needed to happen before moving forward on this and several pieces of the plan that have not been addressed. Mr. Hozey agreed that there was an entire discussion that he still needed to have with Council but several things need to be lined up so that that discussion can occur. He said that if the city can't identify land to build a shop, they cannot have the conversation. He stated that he was not suggesting that they buy the land he is just doing research on what it would be if they decided to do so. Once he gets a price from them he can bring back the idea to Council and they can then decide if it is something worth pursuing.

Council member Prax stated that he was very frustrated with the tone of Administration's approach stating that it comes across as if these ideas are definite when in fact they have not been agreed upon. Council member Prax felt they could use the old appraisal as a ball park figure in the discussion. He felt that many assumptions have been made and presented to the Council as actions that are going to take place.

Mr. Hozey stated that he respectfully disagreed. He stated that there were many different options to consider, therefore research was needed and information gathered together so discussions can take place. Mr. Hozey stated that several discussions have occurred between the council and administration regarding these possibilities. During these discussions nobody raised any concerns with the proposed idea. If he does not hear from Council that they oppose an idea, he moves forward and that is what has happened in this case.

Council member Prax stated that they have not even heard what it will cost if the City takes on the maintenance of the school buildings. He felt that discussion should have occurred before buildings were designed.

Council member Wells stated that based on the recommendation from the Superintendent we cannot absorb the maintenance of the schools. Mr. Hozey stated that he had learned earlier this week that absorbing school maintenance is

still a possibility if the school district contracts the work out to the City. He explained that he had not had a chance to discuss that possibility with the Superintendent since that option was just presented. Mr. Hozey stated that if they do not combine organizationally, they can still be physically located in the same facility and share certain resources. He explained that they had the discussion of moving the bus barn during the middle school project plan because the entire site is being graded to a different level that is not conducive to the current building.

In addition to that, Council member Wells stated, it was determined during those discussions that it needed to be decided what the new building would encompass. That decision, he said, has not been made. Mr. Hozey agreed. He stated that the research he is proposing would help define the pieces needed to make informed decisions about the building.

Council member Wells agreed with Council member Prax that they needed to first meet to decide what the needs for the building are and once that is determined they can find the piece of land that will accommodate those needs.

Council member Moore wondered if instead of purchasing land they could look into swapping land. She also stated that she was not in favor of only moving the maintenance staff. They have to also consider what they need to do with the museum since it is owned by the City and has to be included in this plan.

Council member Sorum reiterated the point that we need to look at what we currently own before exploring the possibility of buying more land.

Mayor Cobb felt that the appraisal we have now is sufficient for purposes of the current discussion and that we should sit down and discuss plans for the bus barn before pursuing any purchases of land. Mr. Hozey stated that he would then move forward in that direction.

CITY CLERK

Ms. Pierce reminded the public that anyone interested in running for Mayor, City Council, or the School Board can pick up petitions for those seats in her office. The deadline to file, she explained, is August 17th at 5:00 PM and the election will be held on October 2nd 2012.

Ms. Pierce stated that she has also been very busy on the LNG Summit and it is coming along nicely.

She concluded by reporting on the status of the SIRE Technologies records management software project. She stated that they are meeting almost daily to prepare for the implementation of the new software. She explained to Council that after the upcoming election they will be switching to electronic packets

viewed on an iPad which will replace the hard copy version they currently use. Training for that conversion will be held on October 15th, she reported.

MAYOR

Mayor Cobb recognized Valdez Ducks Unlimited for their efforts in the recent Robe River clean up event. He thanked all of the volunteers for their exceptional effort in cleaning the waterway and the banks of Robe River. He reported that in addition to the normal removal of plastic bottles and aluminum cans they also removed a washing machine, a mattress, 55 gallon drums, buckets and foam buoys. He thanked and congratulated them on the success of this event.

CITY ATTORNEY

Mr. Walker stated that there had been inquiries about the possibility of moving oil via railroad from a group in Canada. The Valdez Port Director had a similar inquiry, he explained. They were looking at three points of export and Valdez is one of those. Mr. Walker stated that he just wanted to make Council aware of the exploration of this new idea.

Mr. Walker reported that last week the Alaska Supreme Court ruled on behalf of Valdez on the Fish Meal Plant that Seattle processor Jerry Burdison looked to put in Valdez. It was a nine year case that was finally ruled in favor of Valdez. Mr. Walker acknowledged all who were involved in the case as it took a very significant amount of their time.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Proclamation – Glacier Rescue Operation

X. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion Item: Dan Ureda North Waterfall Re-plat

Mr. Hozey explained that when the City took out the Black Gold Recreation Center and cleared that area for development, the right of way to the lots closest to the park strip was never finalized. The issue never came up until this re-plat was brought forward. The idea that was proposed by the Planning and Zoning Commission was to relocate the bulb. That, however, is not the most economical plan.

Ms. Von Bargen stated that they needed direction from Council if they are comfortable with the Planning and Zoning Commission approving a plat with the potential of a bulb relocation. It could, she said, be shown as a potential

future improvement on the plan and the commission was not comfortable with putting the Council in that position without giving them a chance to comment.

Council member Ables asked who owned Lot 3; Ms. Von Bargaen replied that currently Jack McCay owns that lot but that there is a potential buyer interested in it. Council member Wells inquired about why Lot 2 is so small. Ms. Von Bargaen stated that it was reserved for the City because it is a parking lot. They wanted to retain that lot because it sits just adjacent to the park strip and the playground. There is no desire by the City to sell that lot.

Dan Ureda stated that he purchased the land but that the City kind of dropped the ball when they decided to make those two lots available with no access. There was no plan where the egress out of those lots would be. He stated that he has re-platted his land and he intends to sell it. He explained that the Planning and Zoning Commission had been very supportive. The summary provided to Council, he said, was very well written and he completely supported it. He stated that he did not understand why the City created two residential lots with no plan of how people would get in and out of them. He felt that the street should be finished. There is no drainage there and the sidewalks are torn up, he stated. He bought the land and plans to sell a portion of it and felt that the issues need to be addressed now. The infrastructure, he concluded, is the core of the City and needs to be taken care of.

Council member Ables asked what the ultimate goal is. He stated that having the bulb where it is actually benefits him but it is worthy of discussion. What mostly concerns him, he stated, is the drainage of the street. Mayor Cobb stated that there were two drainage areas on the bulb by Mr. Ureda's property and by Jack McCay's property. Mayor Cobb explained that the right-of-way is raised and has elevation that would cause water from the snow storage lot to flow into the existing drains located on the bulb. Mr. Ureda stated that it is a fair statement but felt that people who are going to develop the land deserve what everyone else has on similar streets.

Mayor Cobb asked what Mr. Ureda's wishes were. He stated that he wanted the sidewalks and streets finished making it consistent with other streets. He also stated that moving the bulb would comply with consistency issues as well. He also noted that the sidewalk is in very poor condition and should be repaired.

Mr. Ureda's main objective he stated was to be able to move forward in selling his land and he was there to ask that the sidewalks and street be fixed properly.

Council member Wells asked if the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Commission is to extend the street and to install a new cul- de -sac. Ms. Von Bargaen replied in the affirmative. Council member Wells stated that he

could agree with the commission's recommendation but he did not know when the work would be able to be completed. He asked Mr. Ureda if he was fine with platting in the recommendation with the understanding that it may take quite a bit of time before the work is complete. Mr. Ureda replied in the affirmative stating that if it was re-platted that he could move forward with selling his property.

Council member Sorum asked him if he was definitely planning on selling the land. Mr. Ureda replied in the affirmative. Council member Sorum felt that since he wanted to sell it that the City would be money ahead if they bought his land and made it into a snow lot and did not pursue re-platting the land. Mayor Cobb stated that the City would then be competing with the public and their ability to purchase a lot.

Council member Moore stated that the Black Gold subdivision in question was designed by someone other than the City of Valdez. She said modular homes were brought in during the building of the pipeline and placed much closer together than the current lots. Once the pipeline was built the houses were sold off and the land was then platted. Ms. Von Bargaen agreed with Council member Moore.

Council member Moore asked if it was Council that decided to sell Black Gold and if the Planning and Zoning Commission was involved in platting the land at that time. Ms. Von Bargaen stated that when the Black Gold Recreation Hall was demolished the decision was made to subdivide that property to make residential lots. She stated that they looked at the Black Gold parking lot and the strip of land that runs from North Waterfall to the Park Strip and decided that it would make a nice road which would provide the access needed. Instead of platting it so that it was an extension of North Waterfall they left it as a right-of-way and in hindsight that was inappropriate.

She felt that they did not do their due diligence in planning to make sure that it became part of the street line up as part of their maintenance plan of improving streets. She recommended that they now make sure that the right-of-way as it is platted becomes an extension of North Waterfall and that the strip of pavement is maintained to the same standard that a normal street would be. Ms. Von Bargaen said that after speaking to the Public Works department and the Fire Department, they are fine with it being left as it is until it can be re-configured. She concluded that if it is the desire of Council and the Commission to re-locate the bulb then there are decisions that need to be made with surrounding property owners regarding options that could be considered in the design.

Council member Prax stated that he did not have a problem with this going forward and if this street comes up for re-paving that it would be handled at that

time. He wondered though if the parking lot was used very much. Mr. Ureda stated that it is very seldom used. Council member Prax suggested that perhaps since the parking lot is not utilized maybe the City could do a land trade and give up that parking lot to the person who buys Lot 1 for the corner that is needed to make the bulb. He felt that 99% of the people would walk to the park.

Mayor Cobb stated that he did not feel that a bulb was needed. He felt that if people need to turn around they could use the parking lot. Ms. Von Bargaen said that was not the most perfect solution.

While a re-plat is in front of them they wanted to make sure that all options are on the table. If they move the bulb and have to acquire very small portions of properties to do so, then they need to do that up front of the platting process, she explained. However, she stated, that will delay Mr. Ureda's ability to sell his property.

Mayor Cobb asked if the Planning and Zoning Commission has looked at all options. Ms. Von Bargaen replied in the affirmative and it had been decided by the commission that moving the bulb was preferred but they wanted the Council to have a say before they plat it. Mayor Cobb stated that if the bulb is moved to the end of the right of way then they would take up the area that is now used for snow storage. He stated that for 7 months out of the year it would be covered in snow. He felt that a cost effective way to do it is to not put a bulb in there, clean things up, straighten things out, and put curb cuts in which would allow the sellers to move ahead and sell their property.

Council member Prax stated that the parking lot was quite excessive for the amount of use it gets. He felt that if someone wants to go there they could park in the street. Ms. Von Bargaen stated that she would prefer to keep that parking lot because if a trash truck, loader, or emergency vehicle needs more space then they have the space in the parking lot.

The off-set bulb idea was discussed by Council which seemed to be a much better solution. Ms. Von Bargaen asked if it was the desire of the Council for the commission to move forward with platting a future off-set bulb that goes into the parking lot. If they need the bulb shape to be such that they would need a portion of Mr. Ureda's lot then they should trade a portion of the back side of the parking lot to give Mr. Ureda what he needs.

Potential Buyer, Amber Mehlberg, addressed Council and stated that they were concerned where their driveway would be when they build and when the work might be done to the street by the City. She hoped that they could come up with a date where they could have progress revisited but they could go ahead and proceed with the sale. She indicated that they were hoping to build next

summer so there was some time to come up with a solution. Mayor Cobb asked if she could work with Ms. Von Bargaen to designate an area where a curb cut could be put in for the driveway. She replied in the affirmative stating that the conversation has already begun.

Ms. Von Bargaen stated that they could allow the plat to go through as proposed by the commission and it could then be sold to the Mehlbergs. After the fact, she explained; the City could come back and do their own plat which changes the right-of-way into a portion of North Waterfall Subdivision and the bulb issue would be dealt with at that time. That would allow for things to move as quickly as possible. Or, she stated, they could work it all into one plat where the City pays for a portion and the current owner pays the other portion of the plat. However, that would definitely hold up the sale considerably. It was Ms. Von Bargaen's recommendation to go with the first option. Mr. Ureda and Ms. Mehlberg agreed to those terms.

2. Approval of the 2013 Budget Policy Statement

MOTION: Council member Wells moved, seconded by Council member Ables, to postpone this item to the next regular meeting of Council.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 6 yea, 1 absent (McCann), motion carried.

3. Approval of Contract with COHO Contractors, LLC for Phase 1 Upgrades to the Waterlines in City Hall in the Amount of \$129,218

MOTION: Council member Moore moved, seconded by Council member Sorum, to approve a contract with COHO Contractors, LLC for Phase 1 Upgrades to the waterlines in city hall in the amount of \$129,218.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 6 yea, 1 absent (McCann), motion carried.

4. Approval of Contract with Harris Sand and Gravel for the Kelsey Dock Upland Waterline Replacement in the Amount of \$329,520

MOTION: Council member Sorum moved, seconded by Council member Moore, to approve a contract with HARRIS Sand and Gravel for Kelsey Dock upland waterline replacement in the amount of \$329,520.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 6 yea, 1 absent (McCann), motion carried.

5. Approval of Contract with H Construction for Civic Center Hill Trail and Shelter Upgrades in the Amount of \$86,086.48

MOTION: Council member Moore moved, seconded by Council member Wells, to approve a contract with H Construction in the amount of \$86,086.48

Council member Wells asked how much of the total amount is replacement of existing and how much is installation of the new trail. Mr. Hozey explained that the lower third of the existing trail would be replaced and re-directed further to the East so that they would not run into the same issue with current snow removal practices. The majority of the work, he explained, is an extension of where the trail currently is at the top and down towards the Coast Guard facility. Council member Wells stated that he could not support this motion because he did not approve of the extension of the trail.

Council member Ables stated that she was on the trail recently and felt that maintenance was needed on the existing trail. She reported that the railing at the top is damaged and needs repair. She did not, however, agree with making a new trail.

Council member Sorum asked if this had been presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Mr. Hozey replied in the affirmative. Todd Wegner, acting Parks and Recreation Director, stated that they have been looking at extending the trail for quite some time. He explained that they blow snow up onto the trail during the winter which is causing erosion of the trail. He explained that there is a natural spine on the west side of the trail that would make a better trail. He also stated that it would provide a safer option in regards to bear traffic so that there would be another exit if bears are on the trail.

Council member Sorum suggested that minutes from the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting that discussed this issue be provided in the agenda statement for Council's review.

Council member Moore stated that she could support it because it would be a nice change so that the trail is a circular path so that hikers do not travel the same way down the trail they already climbed. She also felt that it would be another nice view of Valdez with the addition of the extended area.

Council member Prax stated that he felt for the money they were not getting enough and there were other things in the City that the money could be spent on that get far more use. He also felt that if snow removal is causing damage then perhaps they should modify their method of moving snow. Mr. Wegner stated that initially they hoped to do the work in house but with time parameters and all of the work that has to be done with other parks and recreation priorities they found that they would not have time to do the work. Therefore, it was decided to outsource the work.

Council member Ables stated that she could not support it for that amount of money but did hope that the chain link fence on the existing trail would be repaired.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 3 yea, 3 nay, 1 absent (McCann), motion failed.

6. Approval of the Valdez City Schools Capital Improvement Grant Submission to the State of Alaska Department of Education and Early Development

MOTION: Council member Moore moved, seconded by Council member Ables to approve Valdez City Schools capital improvement grant submission to the State of Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.

Council member Moore asked if this is in priority order and Mr. Hozey replied in the affirmative. She stated that she was glad that they are getting to look at these grants and that they are working together with the school district.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 6 yea, 1 absent (McCann), motion carried.

7. Approval to Purchase a Caterpillar 14M Motor Grader from NC Machinery Co. in the Amount of \$463,890

MOTION: Council member Wells moved, seconded by Council member Moore to approve the Purchase a Caterpillar 14M Motor Grader from NC Machinery Co. in the Amount of \$463,890

Council member Wells asked how much money they might get for the trade in of the old grader. Rob Comstock, City Shop foreman, stated that they did not know yet. He said that once the new grader was ordered they probably would not see delivery of it until February. At that time they would trade in the old one. He did indicate that in the past they have made very good money on their graders because they stay in very good shape and tend to hold their value.

Council member Wells acknowledged that the program has been very beneficial to the City. He asked that a report be presented of what they have recouped in trade-in value. Mr. Hozey explained that it does come back to Council during budget season as a report from the previous year.

Council member Moore stated that since there will be at least one new Council member this year she felt that a report spanning the last 5 -10 years would be beneficial so they can see the history of the program.

Council member Sorum suggested that it should be provided in an agenda statement, not just provided with the budget.

Council member Prax felt that if we are able to get great trade in value maybe the machine does not need to be replaced at this time. He felt that we should consider keeping what we have longer. He also questioned if we are looking at different brands when purchasing new vehicles. Mr. Comstock indicated that they do look at other brands each time they purchase but CAT continues to make the most sense with their fleet.

Mr. Comstock reported that the last grader they sold went for \$300,000 and the original purchase price was only \$260,000.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 5 yea, 1 nay (Prax), 1 absent (McCann), motion carried.

8. Approval to Purchase a Caterpillar 966K Loader from NC Machinery in an Amount of \$363,099

MOTION: Council member Moore moved, seconded by Council member Wells to purchase a caterpillar 966K Loader from NC Machinery in the amount of \$363,099

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 5 yea, 1 nay (Prax), 1 absent (McCann), motion carried.

9. Approval to Purchase a 2012 Ford F-350 Super Cab 4X2 With Accessories in the Amount of \$67,355.57

MOTION: Council member Moore moved, seconded by Council member Wells, to approve the purchase of a 2012 Ford F-350 Super Cab 4X2 with accessories in the amount of \$67,355.57

Council member Ables asked what vehicle this is replacing. Mr. Comstock explained that it is replacing the Street's maintenance vehicle.

Council member Moore asked how many years we got out of the truck we are replacing. Mr. Comstock replied that we used the previous vehicle for 12 years.

Council member Sorum noticed that the new vehicle is the same type of truck but that the bed of the truck is what is really being upgraded. Mr. Comstock agreed stating that it is basically the same vehicle and the bed will include a compressor, crane, lift gate, new hydraulics and lights. Council member Sorum asked if what they are using now has the same set up and Mr. Comstock replied in the

affirmative. He explained that the crane on the current vehicle is having major electrical issues and it is in need of being replaced.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 5 yea, 1 nay (Prax), 1 absent (McCann), motion carried.

10. Approval to Purchase a 2012 Ford Expedition With Accessories in the Amount of \$52,073

MOTION: Council member Moore moved, seconded by Council member Wells to purchase a 2012 Ford Expedition with accessories in the amount of \$52,073.00.

Council member Wells asked if this was the vehicle they missed previously. Mr. Hozey explained that at the mid-year budget discussion it was missed in the rotation and it needs to be brought forward. He also added that the vehicle it will replace is a 2004 model which seemed to be a bad year as they have had significant problems with it.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 5 yea, 1 nay (Prax), 1 absent (McCann), motion carried.

11. Acceptance of the 2011 City of Valdez Audit

MOTION: Council member Sorum moved, seconded by Council member Moore to accept the 2011 City of Valdez Audit.

Council member Sorum stated that the auditor and his staff were very easy to work with. He felt that there were not any surprises with the exception of the minimum wage issue. That has been corrected and Council member Sorum felt that it was overall a very positive process.

Council member Moore stated that they did make a suggestion that the City Council modify their travel policy. Mr. Hozey stated that if they had their own policy and follow it then that is all that matters. Ms. Pierce stated that they can draft a policy for council to consider.

Council member Moore stated that a reason they did not get the audit completed on time was because there were a few issues with Providence that held up the audit. She felt that the City should work with Providence to make sure they will be able to provide there information on time to avoid delays in the future.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 6 yea, 1 absent (McCann), motion carried.

XI. RESOLUTIONS

1. #12-50 – Authorizing the Lease of ASLS 87-18 to Copper Valley Wireless

MOTION: Council member Wells moved, seconded by Council member Moore, to approve Resolution No. 12-50.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 6 yea, 1 absent (McCann), motion carried.

2. #12-51 – Accepting the Donation of Nine Land Parcels in the Valdez Industrial Park

MOTION: Council member Moore moved, seconded by Council member Sorum, to approve Resolution No. 12-51.

Council member Ables asked for a description of where the land is located. Ms. Von Bargaen explained that it is just past Harris Sand and Gravel's lot on the left and right hand side on Dayville Road.

Council member Prax asked if this was usable land. Ms. Von Bargaen stated that all of the lots are located within the flood zone. If the land was developed it would cost a significant amount of money to build to proper flood standards. Council member Ables asked when it was plotted. Ms. Von Bargaen replied that it was plotted in the 1970s.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 6 yea, 1 absent (McCann), motion carried.

3. #12-52 – Amending the 2012 City Budget in the Debt Service Fund, the Harbor Fund and the Capital Facilities Fund in Accordance with Attachment A

MOTION: Council member Moore moved, seconded by Council member Wells, to approve Resolution No. 12-52.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: 6 yea, 1 absent (McCann), motion carried.

XII. REPORTS

1. Investment Report
2. Health Fund Report

Council member Moore asked if they would need to be adding to the reserve because of the increased expense of the health plan over the previous year.

Mr. Hozey replied that the increase of the employee contribution to the plan at midyear would cover that expense.

XIII. COUNCIL BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

COUNCIL MEMBER MOORE

Council member Moore stated that she had been volunteering to weigh fish for the fish derbies and had heard positive comments from those participating in the derbies. They indicated that they were happy that the price for the derby has not increased. She also reported that most derby participants she spoke with have been coming back to Valdez year after year for the event. She noted the positive economic impact of the event for Valdez. She also noted the great economic impact of Gold Rush Days. With all of the visitors in town she felt that they needed to be adding crosswalks in the Harbor area to avoid potential accidents. She also felt that "no wake" signs in the harbor were needed as well.

Council member Moore stated that she had noticed many residents and business owners that were out this summer fixing up their buildings and homes. She appreciated the new paint colors and the effort that is going on to make Valdez look nice.

COUNCIL MEMBER PRAX

Council member Prax thanked Council member Moore for all of the hours she has spent weighing fish for the derby. He stated that the derby could not function without volunteers such as her.

Council member Prax noted that the annual Silver Salmon Women's Derby is coming up and that they have already had 250 people sign up. He also acknowledged the great success of Gold Rush Days.

Council member Prax stated that those involved in the recent Worthington Glacier rescue should be commended for the success of the mission. He felt that those involved should be recommended for the prestigious rescuer of the year award that is given once a year. It was agreed that those involved should be nominated for the award. Mr. Hozey stated that they would research the award and would put in for it. Mr. Walker also commended the efforts of those involved in the rescue. He felt that there should be a way to capture the story as it was a truly remarkable event.

Council member Prax closed with an announcement that he would not be running for Council this October. Mayor Cobb thanked Council member Prax for his 6 years of service to the City Council.

COUNCIL MEMBER ABLES

Council member Ables reminded the public about trash being left out and issues with bears in the area. She asked that people keep garbage in cans with secure lids on them to avoid these issues.

Council member Ables concluded by thanking all of those involved in Gold Rush Days as it was a very successful event.

COUNCIL MEMBER SORUM

Council member Sorum stated that the Valdez Marine Safety Committee made their first ever marine safety award to Marine Exchange of Alaska. Marine Exchange of Alaska was founded in Juneau and they do some really exceptional work in marine safety, working with shippers and other folks in Prince William Sound. Council member Sorum announced that they would be having a reception to honor the organization at the City Council Chambers on Friday the 10th at 2:00 PM. He encouraged anyone interested to attend.

MAYOR COBB

Mayor Cobb stated that he felt that the Gold Rush parade was the best he had seen in 20 years. He commended the efforts of all of those who help make Gold Rush Days happen and stated that all of the events were outstanding.

XIV. COUNCIL TRAVEL

XV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Cobb adjourned the meeting at 10:30 pm.