

# City of Edna Bay - Special Meeting

## 1 — Meeting Date, Place and Call to order:

This Special meeting was held on Tuesday, January 27th, 2015 at Edna Bay School.  
Mayor Richter called the meeting to order at 6:12 PM.

## 2 — Roll Call:

Heather Richter	- Mayor / Presiding Officer	(Present)
Karen Williams	- Vice Mayor / City Council	(Present)
Tyler Poelstra	- Clerk / City Council	(Present)
Myla Poelstra	- Treasurer / City Council	(Present)
Carleigh Fairchild	- City Council	(Present)
Doris Greif	- City Council	(Present)
Paul Haag	- City Council	(Present)

## 2.1 — Public Participants:

Joe Wargi	Lee Greif	Sharon Wargi	Mike Williams	Pat Richter
Curtis Greif	John Dodson	Ben Crew	Sue Crew	Eric Nichols
Clarence Clark (DNR)				

## 3 — Consent Agenda:

### A: Approval of Meeting Agenda:

The current agenda was read by Councilor (Mr.) Poelstra.

Consensus of the public attendants was taken in favor, and no objections were noted.

- **Consent Agenda Approved by unanimous vote of the council**

## 3.1 — Business:

### Special Business:

- a: Q&A Meeting with Clarence Clark (DNR) regarding the Edna Bay Parlay Timber Sale

## 4 — Special Business

### Item A – Q&A Meeting with Clarence Clark (DNR):

Mayor Richter introduced Clarence Clark from DNR.

Mr. Clark noted that he acts as the Special Assistant to the State Forester. Currently he also operates as liaison to the USFS to implement their current and future forestry plans, and has been in this relationship with them for approximately 7 years. Mr. Clark also shared that his primary role is to act as the Southeast Alaska Program Manager who is in charge of all timber sales in the region.

Mr. Clark explained his roles and working to lower the costs for the Division of Forestry and University of Alaska related to their timber operations, and has worked to reach an unprecedented relationship where both agencies do not charge each other for use of their respective infrastructures.

Discussion then took place regarding the five-year schedule and Mr. Clark's desire to hear from locals about how they think and feel about the operations in the proposed Parlay timber sale. After all public input has been collected, a matrix will be formed to evaluate all of the various needs and concerns of those who took part in the process to help form a final best interest finding. Mr. Clark noted that this decision can be appealed during a 20-day process, and if the findings of the appeal are not to the satisfaction of the person or entity that filed it they can then file for litigation with the Commissioner to challenge the decision in court.

Mr. Clark then discussed the FLUP, or Forest Land Use Plan. This document shows all aspects of provided activities for the purchaser to act on. Most sales are carried out in 1-3 years. However the Parlay sale planned to have around five years of activity in Edna Bay, though Mr. Clark noted that the purchaser was not required to have an operation for that long and could conclude activities in around 1 year if they desired.

He then detailed that funds from Division of Forestry operations go to administration fees related to the

Division of Forestry itself, and to the General Fund to pay for State Administration employees wages.

Discussion began related to 113 acres of settlement land included in the parlay timber sale that was not part of the five-year plan. Mr. Clark described the need for the settlement lands to be harvested in order to assist in paying for the LTF's construction. He added that the State of Alaska wants to improve the value of the settlement lands by building a road to and through them to the LTF. Mr. Clark noted that during planning they had not considered the need for how to get wood from point A to point B, which is why they have opted to select the acreage identified as settlement lands to help generate the facilities necessary to transfer the harvested resources.

Councilor Haag asked Mr. Clark if the City could be involved in the conversations regarding the 113 acres of settlement lands with the Division of Mining Land and Water. Mr. Clark stated that he would send out an E-mail to the agency asking that the City of Edna Bay be included in the process.

During the conversation a few members of the public and Council noted that they would like to see the ocean line buffers protected as much as possible, due to the fact that Edna Bay is a blowhole and having the ocean line buffers harvested could act to "funnel" the wind even more.

Councilor (Mr.) Poelstra asked what position the Division of Forestry would have if the City were to request ownership of the LTF as long as the University of Alaska and Division of Forestry could have indefinite use and access to the facility. Mr. Clark was amiable to a discussion around City ownership, and did not specifically oppose the suggestion. He noted that for access to be maintained to the settlement lands that some form of road maintenance plan would need to be resolved in the future.

During the meeting Mr. Clark stated that he is aware of the errors in the public posting process related to recent timber sales and in the documents for the Parlay sale, and that they are still learning how best to handle them. He suggested that the errors pointed out to him during the comment period and the meeting would be fixed in the final decision document that will be released.

Final discussion concluded after Eric Nichols shared information on the harvesting practices utilized on Kosciusko, the current state and needs of the timber industry, and other information on import / export percentages and costs related to operating a timber company in today's economy.

#### **5 – Persons to be Heard:**

None.

### **Adjournment**

Councilor (Mr.) Poelstra moved that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion seconded by Councilor Williams

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 PM.