

City of Edna Bay - Special Meeting

1 — Meeting Date, Place and Call to order:

This Special meeting was held on Wednesday, November 18th, 2015 at Edna Bay School. Mayor Richter called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

2 — Roll Call:

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

2.1 — Public Participants:

Sharon Wargi	Joe Wargi	Lee Greif	Pat Richter
Richard Stockdale	Maureen Viera	John Dodson	Sue Crew
Fran Rhodes			

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.

Motion:

Mayor Richter moved to approve the consent agenda as read.

- *Seconded by Councilor (Mr.) Poelstra*
- **Approved by unanimous vote of the council**

3.1 — Business:

Special Business:

- a: *Discussion and decision regarding Alcoa road extension for land owner access.*

4 — **Special Business**

Item A – Discussion and Decision Regarding Alcoa Road Extension...:

Mayor Richter opened the item and noted that the proposal was read back on Monday's Special Meeting. She then asked if Pat Richter could explain the proposal. Pat asked if anyone would like it read back again before proceeding. No one asked for the proposal to be read back. Pat asked that the Clerk note on the proposal that CSL Farm & Services will perform work on the pot hole at the start of Green Island Way, and if feasible also perform work on the culvert under the hole. He noted that the culvert is made from two piling tubes that were welded together and may not be long enough to work properly once they are re-leveled to help the drainage perform properly. The Clerk added the noted improvements to the typed proposal then signed and dated the note for the record.

Sue Crew questioned why the project is not being let to contract by the City at this time. She stated that she had been in communication with an LGS about the matter. She stated based on her conversation with the LGS that she saw no reason why the City could not pass a resolution to pay for the maintenance at this time. Mayor Richter noted that she had spoken with the same LGS who is working on Title 4 for the City, and that she felt the City could not let a contract for this work at this time due to items in Title 4 that need to be clarified. The Mayor also noted that there are many questions about liability involved with the process of covering any fees related to the work that are waiting on Alaska Municipal League Joint Insurance Agency to answer. Councilor Fairchild noted that unless the agenda item states that a Resolution will be passed on the agenda, that the public has not been adequately noticed and the action could not take place at this time.

Councilor Fairchild directed the questions being raised to Richard Stockdale, who is the new land owner

seeking permission to perform road work on Alcoa. He explained that he understands the situation with the City's policies at this time and is willing to pay for the work himself in order to access his land at a sooner date than would be possible if he waits for the City to handle the processes necessary for it to cover the costs and planning for the construction work. He noted that he would be appreciative if any reimbursement could come at a later date. Sue Crew stated that she is not looking to get Richard reimbursed for the work, and stated that his proposal is not on the agenda for a decision.

Mayor Richter stated that it is up to Richard and Maureen if they would like to withdraw the proposal that they have submitted to the City. She also noted that since Edna Bay has been a community it has always taken a process involving multiple steps, public process and a period of time before any road work can be carried out, and it always starts with a public request from one or more community members. This process takes time to work through.

Richard asked if the council was here to make a final decision on the road work at this time and would like to see action taken on the proposal.

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

Motion:

Councilor Greif moved to accept the proposal from Richard Stockdale for work to be conducted on Alcoa Lane.

- *Seconded by Councilor Fairchild*

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

Mayor Richter noted that she has spoken with an LGS on how these situation regarding material cost reimbursement can work, and that our LGS is working to have his comments and suggestions on Title 4 in by Friday of this week.

5 – Persons to be Heard:

Sue Crew noted that the City held a meeting on Monday and had a discussion regarding Title 2. She noted that as passed, her feeling is that Title 2's language would make the Council feel less inclined to speak with the public outside of public meetings. She stated that she is upset that she was only able to reach 2 of 6 Council members in the past few days over the phone. She read back a portion of an E-mail from Tyler Poelstra sent to her regarding meeting to have private discussion of undisclosed topics, and shared that she is confused how meeting outside of meetings with her representatives is seen as in violation of the law.

Councilor Greif shared that when we were a non-profit Community most work around the bay was done on a volunteer basis and that she hopes that culture can survive. She felt that by doing all of these things and being conservative in that way we have been able to save a lot and be more effective for the long term.

Richard Stockdale shared that he has been involved in County Government for many years, and has experience with running budgets that make very effective use of tax payer dollars. He shared that he can relate to being fiscally responsible with local funds.

Mayor Richter felt that Title 4 was ready to utilize but it was brought to the City's attention that it is in need of various changes before it can be used effectively. She wants to make sure we are doing the right thing from the start.

Lee Greif shared that we have now seen two individuals in the City take the initiative to expedite their own projects within the City at their own cost. He stated that he sees no reason for the City to get in the way of their work to quickly meet their respective needs, and feels that the City only asks for common courtesy in the process of presenting the proposal publicly and carrying out the work.

Councilor (Mr.) Poelstra noted that if any member of the public wants their representatives to hear their request for a specific topic of discussion to be on a future agenda, to hear a concern or other item related to public or City business, they can E-mail council@cityofednabay.org and all 7 Council members will receive their message for review and consideration. He also shared that all City meetings are public and have an opportunity for anyone to speak during Person's to Be Heard about any concern or request they have for the City to hear. Councilor (Mr.) Poelstra explained that a "Meeting" that would constitute a violation of the OMA (Open Meetings Act) is a two-way conversation of commitments, and that any discussion related to City or public business should always be held publicly to be in compliance and for the greater public good.

He also noted his pride in the purpose and success of Title 2 in allowing for much deeper public involvement and discussion on all City business than the City is obligated to have, and that he is in favor of as much public involvement as possible compared to less.

Adjournment

Councilor Fairchild moved that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion seconded by Mayor Richter

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 PM.