

1 — Meeting Date, Place and Call to order:

This Regular meeting was held on Monday, April 8th, 2024 at Edna Bay School and via WebEx. Mayor Poelstra called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

2 — Roll Call:

Tyler Poelstra	- Mayor / City Council	(Present)
Sandy Henson	- Vice Mayor / City Council	(Present)
Myla Poelstra	- Clerk + Treasurer / City Council	(Present)
Mike Williams	- City Council	(Absent)
Doris Greif	- City Council	(Present)
Jay Towne	- City Council	(Present)
Louise DiPaolo	- City Council	(Present)

2.1 — Public Participants:

Caleb Kitson	Matthew Yellen	Sarah Yellen	Roger DiPaolo	Sue Crew
John Dodson				

3 — Consent Agenda:

A: Approval of Meeting Agenda:

The current agenda was read by Mayor Poelstra.

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

B: Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:

The following minutes were presented for review:

1: Regular Meeting Minutes of March 11th, 2024 - No questions. Sue Crew noted a few minor typos.

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

Motion:

Mayor Poelstra moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.

- *Seconded by Councilor DiPaolo*
- **Approved by unanimous vote of the council**

3.1 — Business:

Old Business: None.

New Business:

- a: *First reading of City of Edna Bay FY '25 Budget Ordinance #24-35NCO, Discussion and Decision.*
- b: *First reading of Budget Amendment Ordinance #24-36NCO for Safety Ladders, Discussion and Decision.*

4 — Mayor’s Report:

Mayor Poelstra reported that Mike Papac called him last week. Papac asked if there would be a way to provide an alternative for them to drive logging trucks through town if they could fix up the road as they use it. Mayor Poelstra explained it was not his decision to make, that the DNR Commissioner had already reached a final decision not to use the road through town and that any decision regarding use of the road would require a Timber Transport Permit that is reviewed and approved by the Community. Mike Papac relayed it was his impression that the primary concern from the community was the area needed at the marine access facility being unavailable for emergencies and was looking for a way to put in driving through town as an optional bid.

Mayor Poelstra said he will be reaching out to Papac Timber to discuss how communications will work around the logging activity so locals have a way to make sure they can move around on the roads that will be shared for the duration of the sale.

He reported the the U.S. Forest Service will be holding a town meeting on April 18th from 1pm to 4pm to look

at the future of Tongass Forest management on Kosciusko. They want to hear from locals how we use the forest and what kinds of things we want them to keep in mind as they begin developing the new forest plan.

Mayor Poelstra reported he received a call late on Friday from AP&T. They have added Edna Bay as a potential site for application of broadband re-connect funds to install fiber internet to all homes in Edna Bay that would like the service. They are looking for an adopted resolution before they apply for the funds. The opportunity is very last minute and many questions are unanswered, so a meeting will need to be held to look into logistics, pricing, concerns and any other information important to the community before deciding whether to adopt a resolution of support and send it into AP&T. The deadline for submission is May 22nd. The service would offer high speed internet up to 1000Mbps and phone in one package.

He relayed a concern brought to him by Councilor DiPaolo regarding a dead tree standing next to Thayer Creek Bridge. She was concerned it may fall and damage the bridge, so it should be taken down by someone with falling experience. Mayor Poelstra said due to proximity to the fish bearing stream he would need to make contact with DNR regarding removal of the tree and make sure there are no issues that could result. Locals noted there are loggers around town who could likely assist with falling it if needed.

Mayor Poelstra raised the Harbormaster position for discussion, since it was agreed to in October to revisit who would continue on in the role in the Spring since Caleb Kitson has additional logistics involved to drive to the harbor to check on the slips and Matthew Yellen is able to see the harbor from his front windows. Mayor Poelstra expressed his appreciation for the good job Caleb is doing and asked if he was still wanting to continue on in the role. Mayor Poelstra asked Matthew if he would be willing to help out in times when the Harbormaster is out of town. Caleb said he would be happy to continue on as Harbormaster and Matthew said he is okay with helping out when Caleb is out of town.

5 — Clerk's Report:

No report.

6 — Treasurer's Report:

No report. No questions on the Treasurer's Report.

7 —

Committee Reports

7.1 — Dock Committee:

Tyler Poelstra (Dock Chairman) reported we have written confirmation from the Department of Transportation that the harbor upgrade project is fully closed out. The \$100,000 of encumbered local funds to be used for final overages can now be released for other purposes. DOT did note that they are still dealing with some standing issues related to final survey of the area so that DNR can transfer the area to the City. They noted that since the project is long closed out budget-wise, they may have to scratch up funds to perform a survey. If they cannot find enough funds, they may come to the City to request financial assistance for the final survey.

Questions were raised about parking at the dock and who can enforce long-term parking. Tyler said ideally there should only be short term parking at the head of the dock approach. Long term should go on the other side of the road by the community shop. Since the USFS has a right of way through the area, the City may want to ask them and DOT if the shore side of the parking area could be expanded all the way out to where the road drops down on the MAF. Tyler suggested a conversion could happen between the City, Papac and Greg Staunton to see if the extra rock created by lowering the grade on Kosciusko Dr. could be used to add to the parking area. That new drivable surface could also alleviate traffic congestion and safety concerns at the bottom of the hill and provide a close location to use up the excess rock.

Tyler and Caleb walked the harbor and evaluated 19 other locations where boats are either not going to ever come into contact with a ladder, or areas in the central locations of the large floats where they would be between two vessels to provide the shortest route to exiting the water right next to the life rings. All 19 areas have been marked. Sue Crew asked if a mariner with experience would be asked for their opinion on the placement of the ladders before they are installed. Appropriate sized U bolts will also be purchased to install on both sides of each ladder to ensure ropes cannot get caught on the ladder and rip it free from the dock.

Tyler noted that we are several years into the harbor and breakwater being installed and we are almost due for a diver to come and inspect the connection points and zincs on the breakwater. When the breakwater was installed DOT / Sealy suggested inspections should be done around every 5th year of service.

A new phone is on the way to replace the aged out dock phone. The buttons all stopped working on the old dock phone. Tyler took the phone apart and cleaned all of the oxidized contacts to restore its function, but it started to fail again only a few weeks after.

7.2 — Road Committee:

Michael Williams (Road Chairman) not present. Mayor Poelstra said it was agreed to apply 10 loads of fines to the road. He said his preference is to have the Road Chairman here to help decide where all of the loads are spread. It was noted that the road going to Bartel's driveway down to Pat Galloway's needs to be ditched to keep water from washing over the road surface. Mayor Poelstra also noted that the log bridge just before Pat Galloway's may need to be repaired or replaced before heavy machinery goes across it again.

7.3 — EMS Committee:

Mayor Poelstra indicated that a group of invested, dedicated locals will need to agree to follow through with training and participation before a trainer will come out to Edna Bay to hold an ETT certification class.

7.4 — Search & Rescue Committee:

Roger DiPaolo (Chairman) reported that radio #4 has been returned to the S&R committee and is working normally.

7.5 — Fire Committee:

Brian Mortensen (Fire Chief) not present - no report. Mayor Poelstra said that we need to continue looking for a plow for the fire truck and find someone who is willing and able to do some mechanic work on it. Roger has completed the electrical work. The truck needs the "water warning" fixed so it can start again and be driven out of Roger's yard.

7.6 — Fish & Game Advisory:

No report.

7.7 — Bulk Fuel:

Tyler Poelstra (Plant Manager) reported that gasoline prices nationwide are beginning to rise. Fuel prices at the facility will need to go up in response to ensure we are able to pay for the next load of fuel. Petro Marine also adjusts resale pricing based on fluctuations in the market while the barge is en-route so even if the City orders fuel while the price is low, sometimes it can increase by the time of delivery.

Questions were raised on if there is a way to move forward with the City obtaining a solution for propane. Tyler said he will begin making calls to see what the process will look like for regulatory requirements and approval. It may require a new Fire Marshall review process or other items we are not aware of due to the volatility of propane and proximity to above ground fuel storage tanks. He will report back what he finds out.

8 — Old Business

None.

9 — New Business

Item A - First Reading of City of Edna Bay FY '25 Budget Ordinance #24-35NCO:

Mayor Poelstra read back the contents of the draft ordinance to those in attendance. Paper and digital copies were available.

After discussion it was agreed to add \$4500 in additional funds to the EMS budget in case there is a need for training or other EMS perishable items.

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

Motion:

Mayor Poelstra moves to approve the First Reading of Ordinance #24-35NCO to establish an operating budget for the fiscal year 2025, with the noted amendment.

- *Seconded by Councilor DiPaolo*

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

Item B - First Reading of Budget Amendment Ordinance #24-26NCO for Safety Ladders....:

Mayor Poelstra read back the contents of the draft ordinance to those in attendance. Paper and digital copies were available.

The ordinance covers the cost of purchasing 19 more Up-n-Out safety ladders and related equipment.

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

Motion:

Mayor Poelstra moves to accept the First Reading of Ordinance #24-36NCO, an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Edna Bay, Alaska to amend the budget FY '24, with the noted amendment adding \$7,000.00 to Docks.

- *Seconded by Councilor Towne*
- **Approved Unanimously by vote of the council**

10 —

Persons to Be Heard

Caleb said he would be opposed to any type of fiber internet in Edna Bay; it increases the likelihood of surveillance.

Matthew said there is dinner and a movie at the Church on Sunday at 6PM. The movie will follow at 7PM.

Adjournment

Mayor Poelstra moved that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion to adjourn seconded by Councilor Henson.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.