

DRAFT City of Edna Bay - Special (Postponed Regular) Meeting DRAFT

1 — Meeting Date, Place and Call to order:

This Special meeting was held on Monday, May 20th, 2024 at Edna Bay School and via WebEx. Mayor Poelstra called the meeting to order at 6:05 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:

Fran Rhodes	Marilyn Yellen	McKenna Wickware	Russ Bartels	Charleen Bartels
Melodie Ogle	Roger DiPaolo	Matthew Yellen	Sarah Yellen	Sue Crew
John Dodson	Kelsey Leak	Paul Haag		

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 April 8th, 2024 - No questions.

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

4 — Mayor's Report:

Mayor Poelstra reported that AP&T's proposal to bring fiberoptic Internet to Edna Bay has been tabled for now. AP&T ran into some issues with additional taxes and fees attached to the grant they are working to address. This resulted in Edna Bay and several other communities being dropped from this round of the grant. Edna Bay is still on the list and if AP&T can work out the details they will send over more information for everyone to review before the City considers adopting a resolution of support for the proposed project.

Another load of fuel has been ordered and the barge will be in the area for the delivery around the 5th of next month. Due to price spikes leading up to the Memorial Day weekend holiday, prices had to be adjusted to prepare for purchasing the next load of fuel.

Mayor Poelstra said he would be getting information from DNR on what can be done about the dead tree standing next to Thayer Creek Bridge. He had concerns about removing it due to the anadromous fish creek

and thought that may be why the USFS did not remove it when the new bridges were built.

Mayor Poelstra reported he met with Mike Papac and drove the local town roads to discuss potential road grading in exchange for Papac's daily use of the road for small vehicles and some pieces of equipment to pass through on occasion. Papac asked about the possibility of trucking logs through town if he could fix the road as it wears. Papac called to discuss this a few days before the bid closure.

Mayor Poelstra let Papac know that DNR would first need to change their final decision to require Alternative 2 (use of Koscisuko Dr. and the Marine Access Facility) that was made based on local feedback, concerns, and cost considerations by Division of Forestry. Additionally, a Timber Transport Permit would need to be filled out and submitted to the City for community review and approval, and there was simply not enough time so late in the process.

While the USFS was meeting with locals, Mayor Poelstra discussed some of the logistics of the MAF with them. They indicated the MAF could not be expanded any further due to proximity to a Native remains site on the top half of the permitted area. Papac has cleared off some of the area on top, and last Mayor Poelstra heard, Papac was discussing how to expand the flat area on top to better accommodate emergency medivacs while the lower landing is used for timber staging for barge haul out.

Mayor Poelstra asked Papac to hold off on grading since there is so little material on the road surface to use for reshaping the road. The need for adding additional fines on the road so they can be better maintained has been discussed in the community for many years, and Papac is not offering any rock. They did not offer a granular approach to grading and/or brushing some areas and not others. It is an all or nothing. He noted that Division of Forestry and Papac do not seem to understand or appreciate that the local road was originally built as an ATV trail to get kids to the school and is not made from good materials that will hold up.

Charleen Bartels noted she was there when the initial brushing was done to open up areas for the road to be built, and noted it was built with poor quality material because it's all the community had. Mayor Poelstra noted the pit scrape the USFS contractor topped the road with did little to change that. He noted that in the last few years, locals fixed potholes by shoveling them all full by hand from a dozen dump truck loads of rock, and that is the spirit of what built this road one piece at a time. He wants us to consider the risk of long term damage for short term gains. If they offered to rebuild the entire road from the ground up, that might be something different to consider.

Mayor Poelstra said it would be best for things to stay as they are with a neighborly relationship with Papac. We are happy to work with them and they are welcome to drive through town to the job site every day with their pickups. He felt it would be best not to be in a position where we owe Papac for anything in particular. He noted that the community has never given anyone blanket approval to access and change roads without thorough community involvement and planning through road meetings and votes of approval.

Roger DiPaolo noted that Kosciusko Dr. differs from other roads in town since it was built on top of solid rock and does not float on rip-rap like other roads in town. It can handle much more weight and was built to a different standard than the other local roads. Mayor Poelstra wanted everyone to consider the precedent it would set if we allow anyone to do road work in exchange for commercial hauling in town. Next time, it may be Sealaska or some other entity we are not in good standing with, and we will have much less to stand on if we back down on protecting the integrity of our neighborhood and our local roads. We could lose authority we have worked hard to establish to preserve the spirit of the community.

Mayor Poelstra explained a new rock source of shale needs to be found somewhere within municipal lands where we can develop a larger rock source for quality road topping material. The pit we blasted near the harbor has material sufficient for building road foundation, but it is not good material for road surface.

Discussion started around the Swimming Hole on the road to Cape Pole and why that area was logged. Mayor Poelstra noted that that preservation of that area in the Sealaska legislation was hard fought. The bill Senator Murkowski passed included provisions to reserve the area as an emergency water source in case of dry summers when water is needed for emergency use (not necessarily for drinking). The area was logged and it appears the underground stream has been disturbed since the water is stagnant and the depth is now receding. Division of Forestry may have harvested it under the Good Neighbor Authority act, and Greg Staunton likely was involved in that decision.

Mayor Poelstra shared that our attorney has several paths forward to obtain and protect the area where Carwash Springs runs. It can be designated as a community water source, and can be obtained through

various means. He noted that even if designated as a water source, it does not have to be treated. He will follow up with the attorney for more information on the next steps in protecting Carwash Springs. Mayor Poelstra has heard Division of Forestry will be conducting a dye test study prior to letting the next sale to bid to ensure it does not encompass the watershed of Carwash Springs. He will share any new info he receives.

Questions were raised on if there is any movement on the City obtaining propane bottles and providing them to locals. Mayor Poelstra said Petro Marine will run bottle exchanges to the Fuel Facility when they come in for fuel deliveries, but that there are some clearances that first need to be checked with the Fire Marshal's office before too much energy is spent figuring out how to build a secure storage area. Myla Poelstra said the City Shop may be an area we could use if inside of the Bulk Fuel Facility fenced yard is too close for the Fire Marshall. Mayor Poelstra said he would need to check with the USFS in that case since it sits next to their right of way. He will report back what he finds out as he is able to gather more information.

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 he and Caleb Kitson will work to install the new safety ladders in the coming months starting with 10 being installed in locations where boats will never moor or be able to contact with them. The remaining 10 will be added after considering needs at the harbor and available space.

Tyler indicated it is about time to have a diver look at the breakwater attachments and zincs.

Tyler stated that now that the MAF permit has been renewed, the dream of using that area for a boat launch and storage area long term is over. It is time to start looking at how to build a permanent boat launch on the City permitted area by the school, and look at improving the City land above it for boat storage.

7.2 — Road Committee:

Michael Williams (Road Chairman) not present. Mayor Poelstra will have Joe Wargi clean up the potholes with the grader when it hasn't been raining for a few days. The conditions need to be right.

7.3 — EMS Committee:

Mayor Poelstra indicated a sign up roster will be posted to see if there are enough people to even consider bringing in an Emergency Trauma Technician trainer at this time. He is unsure who is running ETT classes at this time. He and Myla will look into the details.

7.4 — Search & Rescue Committee:

Roger DiPaolo (Chairman) asked if the two backpacks can be retrieved from the multipurpose building.

7.5 — Fire Committee:

Brian Mortensen (Fire Chief) not present - no report. Mayor Poelstra said we need to get fire extinguishers and smoke alarms ordered now that the budget amendment is passed.

Mayor Poelstra noted the community is short mechanics at this time. Some work is needed to get the water warning resolved on the Fire Truck. McKenna Wickware said her father may be interested in helping. John Dodson also volunteered to take a look at the Truck if we need help. Mayor Poelstra said he would get in touch with the Fire Chief to see if he was okay with work being done on the truck and then report back his answer to the volunteers.

7.6 — Fish & Game Advisory:

Mayor Poelstra indicated a sign up roster will be posted.

7.7 — Bulk Fuel:

Tyler Poelstra (Plant Manager) reported that a new load of fuel is being scheduled for the beginning of June.

He also noted that the pressure testing equipment needs to be ordered, but due to logistics in preparing the equipment, testing process and forms it is unlikely it will all be done in time for the annual pressure testing window. We will need to hire Sam Johnson to perform pressure testing this year, and he expects to hear from him soon.

8 —

Old Business

None.

9 —

New Business

Item A - Public Hearing for 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.

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

Motion:

Mayor Poelstra moves to adopt Ordinance #24-35NCO as presented.

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

Item B - Public Hearing for 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.

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

Motion:

Mayor Poelstra moves to adopt Ordinance #24-36NCO as presented.

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

10 —

Persons to Be Heard

Louise DiPaolo wanted to say how much she appreciates what community members did to make Kosciusko Dr. what it is, but the road work done by Mike Papac is wonderful. She's glad to see everyone in attendance at today's meeting to be able to hear what is going on and say their piece. She is praying for better communication with Division of Forestry and thinks we did the smart thing to slow things down.

Roger DiPaolo said Search & Rescue has equipment now that includes loaded backpacks for three people. He has found out that there are specialized Search & Rescue drones that can see heat signatures at 2000'. The last time he checked the price was \$4000-\$5000. He feels it would be a worthwhile investment.

Matthew Yellen said at the time we were voting on the Timber Transport Permit we had the opportunity to take the approach of negotiating with the logging company instead. He hopes in the future we will try to take a different approach rather than taking a firm position.

Sandy Henson said just as a reminder that we are a City now, and there should not be hunting within the Bay. There are too many people shooting inside of the Bay.

Tyler Poelstra thanked everyone for a packed room and was happy to see everyone in attendance.

Charleen Bartels wanted to say thank you for all the hard work.

Adjournment

Mayor Poelstra moved that the meeting be adjourned.
Motion to adjourn seconded by Councilor Towne.
Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.