

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

1 — Meeting Date, Place and Call to order:

This Special meeting was held on Monday, July 15th, 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	(Present - Teleconference)
Doris Greif	- City Council	(Present)
Jay Towne	- City Council	(Present)
Louise DiPaolo	- City Council	(Present)

2.1 — Public Participants:

John Dodson	McKenna Wickware	Melody Ogle	Matthew Yellen
Sarah Yellen	Sue Crew	Kody Belisle	Fran Rhodes
Roger DiPoalo			

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 June 10th, 2023 - Sue Crew disputed summarizing “Papac Alaska Logging” to “Papac” in the road report summary.
- 2: Special Meeting Minutes of July 8th, 2024 - Sue Crew disputed the summary of information regarding the current condition of the swimming hole.

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

Motion:

Mayor Poelstra moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.

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

3.1 — Business:

Old Business: None.

New Business:

- a: *Moving Portion of General Funds into Interest Bearing Account, Discussion and Decision.*
- b: *Feasibility of Developing Public / City Water Source Near No Name Bridge (by Christian’s), Discussion and Decision.*

4 — Mayor’s Report:

Mayor Poelstra reported he got half of the bottom gangway ramp re-coated with fresh black Kelkote. He will get the other half done as soon as there is more hot weather. All of the rubber bumpers are here. They will be installed between the floatplane float and the gangway ramp to replace the ones that are missing. Pressure testing system for the bulk fuel transfer pipe re-certification is here, just one required fitting is still en-route that is required before the testing can be completed. Once testing is complete, the report will be sent to the US Coast Guard.

The letter to Division of Forestry regarding the East Charley Timber Sale SSE-1386K was submitted. Mayor

Poelstra read the letter back to those in attendance and brought copies for review. He called and spoke with Greg Staunton (DOF) to confirm they received the letter and discussed the positive working history to date with Mike Papac and his crew. Greg said he had heard the same regarding the community being neighborly. Mayor Poelstra asked if there would be a possibility of working with DOF on small timber sales once the land DOF has around Edna Bay has been logged. Greg said they are open to the conversation to help meet local needs and welcomed a meeting with the community to see what options could be worked on.

Mayor Poelstra got more information on the refillable extinguishers. The wholesaler he has spoken to said the models they stock are not Amorax type extinguishers. Tyler Industrial can refill extinguishers but they must be Amorax type extinguishers. Tyler Rental can take a load of extinguishers from Craig into Ketchikan, free of charge every few weeks, then bring them back to Craig for pickup once they are filled. Mayor Poelstra will check on pricing to purchase refillable models from Tyler Rental directly.

The Fish & Game Advisory group in Anchorage has been contacted to start the process of scheduling a meeting to elect new members. Myla Poelstra is waiting on a response from them on updated materials. Mayor Poelstra noted that the Fish & Game Committee reports to the City, but is a separate entity that is governed by the State of Alaska. The Committee carries a lot of weight and is very beneficial.

Mayor Poelstra noted that F&G meetings, like any other including online chat groups, cannot be attended by 3 or more Council members at any time without it being a posted meeting. The public has the right to attend all meetings since they contribute to a decision by the Council. State law requires all gatherings of the Council to be posted, and he cautioned that if Council members use chat systems (i.e. Facebook Messenger) that they only use it to send out info, but do not use it to engage in conversation specific to City business since it may be interpreted as a meeting by a member of the public.

Mayor Poelstra explained a law unique to Edna Bay provides all residents the right to persons to be heard on all topics of a meeting, rather than just at the end of the meeting like every other City in Alaska. The council is then obliged to vote in concurrence with the public consensus poll taken before each decision, barring some very limited exceptions. Mayor Poelstra emphasized that with the public directly involved in the decision making process in Edna Bay, information is shared at the same time with all in attendance so everyone is equally informed. Therefore, a pre-meeting Mayor's Report is not separately provided to the Council.

Mayor Poelstra talked with the USFS about available rock sources on Federal land that remain on Kosciusko where the City could utilize the material for development of an improved parking and boat launch at the City shoreline and upland near the school. They provided the Mayor with an older map showing where pits may be available, but asked if he could drive to each of them and survey available material. They want him to send over a report on the rock pits before applying for a permit. Mayor Poelstra wants to have a public meeting with their team to discuss access options for a bridge across Buggy Creek.

Joe Wargi started grading from the T near the School and applied 12x 10+ yard loads of rock to the area just past the first big muskeg up to Fran's driveway. Joe is allowing time for the new material to be packed down firmly before he grades again to reduce how quickly the potholes return. He will finish grading the road after. Mayor Poelstra noted it was brought to his attention that water is leaking around the culvert that was replaced behind the Bulk Fuel Facility. He called Mike Papac and asked him if they could take a look at it.

Mayor Poelstra called to talk with Alaska Commercial Divers about inspecting the breakwater, since we are at the point where the zincs and attachment points are due for evaluation. He will check on whether there is information on the size of zincs that were used and whether they were welded or bolted on. He will work to get a quote from ACD before the next meeting.

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) said he will be contacting Taquan Air to see if they are interesting in helping the City replace the worn out wind sock at the dock. They have offered in the past.

7.2 — Road Committee:

Michael Williams (Road Chairman) spoke with both Mike Papac and Jere Crew about whether they are interested in putting a bid in on Limestone Place improvements once the contract is ready. He reported both parties are interested.

7.3 — EMS Committee:

Mayor Poelstra said there are two or three volunteers that have added their name to the sign-up list. There are not currently enough people to facilitate a new ETT training class. He and Myla will look into what options exist for ETT training at this time and see what the current threshold will be for holding a class in Edna Bay.

7.4 — Search & Rescue Committee:

Roger DiPaolo (Chairman) reported there was a Search & Rescue event that took place, the Troopers were assisted. A Facebook Messenger group chat has been setup specific to Search & Rescue events to better facilitate getting information out while a search is ongoing.

Roger suggested that this Search & Rescue event highlighted his desire to see the City purchase a FLIR drone to help find lost people quicker and reduce the risk to others having to search into the woods. The drone can see heat. Discussion took place, with some being uncomfortable with a device with that kind of surveying potential being used in town, and also with the cost of upkeep on the batteries and equipment in addition to the need for commercial drone pilot licensing and annual training.

7.5 — Fire Committee:

Brian Mortensen (Fire Chief) not present - no report.

Mayor Poelstra opened discussion around cheaper, one-time use fire extinguishers or refillable models for a higher cost. After discussion, general consensus was to find refillable models that Tyler Industrial can re-certify when needed, since they can be used several times without losing their charge, can be refilled for approx 15 years and are generally better designed and more durable. Matthew Yellen suggested that it would be good to refill/re-certify them at the 15-year mark even if they aren't totally empty so that they are all rated for 5 more years of service before replacement is required. Mayor Poelstra will get a unit price from Tyler Industrial.

7.6 — Fish & Game Advisory:

No report at this time. The State is working on scheduling and information for the upcoming meeting.

7.7 — Bulk Fuel:

Tyler Poelstra (Plant Manager) reported that we are getting late in the year and expects to hear from the US Coast Guard for their annual inspection any time. All records will be ready to go for their arrival.

8 —

Old Business

None.

9 —

New Business

Item A - Moving Portion of General Funds Into Interest Bearing Account....:

Mayor Poelstra explained that the Bulk Fuel R&R Account funds are currently held in an interest bearing account at First Bank, and result in ~\$550/mo interest being generated. The City has around \$150K of funds that could be moved into another interest bearing account to increase generated interest to nearly \$1500/mo if the community is interested in doing so.

Mayor Poelstra suggested that the amount of interest generated could replace the monthly costs associated with City operating costs like the phone, square, internet and insurance. No decision has been made to spend the interest on any such services at this time. He noted that funds can be removed from the interest bearing account up to 4 times per year, which Mayor Poelstra did not feel would be problematic due to how few contracts are let by the City. Councilor DiPaolo asked that we verify whether the account is FDIC insured or not, just for piece of mind.

Consensus of the public attendants was taken in favor of moving \$150K into an interest bearing account, no objections were noted.

Motion:

Councilor Towne motioned to move \$150,000.00 from general funds into an interest bearing account.

- *Seconded by Mayor Poelstra*

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

Item B - Feasibility of Developing Public / City Water Source Near No Name Bridge...:

Mayor Poelstra opened the discussion, but noted that Mike Williams was the source of the topic and he had to leave the meeting, so it was hard to discuss the intent of the topic without more information.

Councilor Towne said he believe the basis was to develop a weir for refilling the Fire Truck. Mayor Poelstra said there are several items that will need to be determined before anything can be done at the site, including discussion with the land owner (Mental Health Land Trust), evaluating whether it being a fish bearing stream restricts how the water can be diverted or used and evaluating the condition of the Fire Truck water tank.

This item was tabled to the next agenda.

10 —

Persons to Be Heard

Sarah Yellen thanked everyone that was involved in the Search & Rescue that took place.

Sue Crew said she believes the City needs to address the issue of waste management. She asked that a discussion be on the next Agenda. (Mayor Poelstra and Councilor Towne agreed to add it to the agenda).

Adjournment

Mayor Poelstra moved that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion to adjourn seconded by Councilor Towne.

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM.