

**KENAI CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 20, 2024 – 6:00 P.M.
KENAI CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
210 FIDALGO AVE., KENAI, AK 99611
MAYOR BRIAN GABRIEL, PRESIDING**

MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Kenai City Council was held on March 20, 2024, in City Hall Council Chambers, Kenai, AK. Mayor Gabriel called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Gabriel led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call

There were present:

Brian Gabriel, Mayor	Henry Knackstedt, Vice Mayor
Phil Daniel	Deborah Sounart
Alex Douthit	Victoria Askin
James Baisden (<i>remote participation</i>)	

A quorum was present.

Also in attendance were:

**Xinlan Tanner, Student Representative
Dave Ross, Acting City Manager
Scott Bloom, City Attorney
David Swarner, Finance Director
Linda Mitchell, Planning Director
Stephanie Randall, Human Resource Director
Katja Wolf, Library Director
Tyler Best, Parks and Recreation Director
Scott Curtin, Public Works Director
Derek Ables, Airport Manager
Shellie Saner, City Clerk

3. Agenda Approval

Mayor Gabriel noted the following additions to the Packet:

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| Add to item E. 2. | Public Hearing – Ordinance No. 3403-2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amendment Memo |
| Add to item E. 4. | Public Hearing - Resolution 2024-09 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amendment Memo• Informational Item |
| Add to item G. 1. | Unfinished Business / Public Hearing - Ordinance 3392-2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amendment Memo - Fill in the blanks• Amendment Memo - Housekeeping• Amendment Memo - Planning & Zoning Commission• Public Comment |

Add item P. 1.

Information Items

- Kenai Peninsula Borough, Voter Turnout Working Group - Prioritized List of Actionable Recommendations

MOTION:

Vice Mayor Knackstedt **MOVED** to approve the agenda and consent agenda with the requested revisions. Council Member Askin **SECONDED** the motion.

The items on the Consent Agenda were read into the record.

Mayor Gabriel opened the floor for public comment on consent agenda items; there being no one wishing to be heard, the public comment period was closed.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT was requested.

VOTE: There being no objection; **SO ORDERED.**

All items listed with an asterisk () are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the council and will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a council member so requests, in which case the item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda as part of the General Orders.

B. SCHEDULED ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS - None.

C. SCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Central Area Rural Transit System (CARTS) Update and Status Report, CARTS Board of Directors President Jodi Stuart and Executive Director Jessica Schultz.

Jodi Stuart, CARTS Executive Director provided an overview of the history of CARTS and introduced Executive Director Schultz. Ms. Schultz summarized CARTS available schedules and services provided; noted 30% of rides were to Kenai and the importance of using local funding as a matching source to be eligible for additional Federal funding.

D. UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tim Navarre addressed the Council in support of CARTS and recommended funding be included in the upcoming budget for CARTS in an amount similar to past funding from the City.

Tim Dillion addressed the Council in support CARTS and noted that transportation, child care and housing have a direct impact on the work force.

Samantha Springer, Executive Director of the Kenai Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center addressed the Council noting it was her 1-year anniversary as the Executive Director.

Marion Nelson, Kenai Fine Art Center Board President addressed the Council regarding the upcoming Student Art Show; Art Center Workshops; and provided a facility update.

E. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. **Ordinance No. 3402-2024** - Accepting and Appropriating a Donation to the Kenai Community Library for Library Materials, Programming, Furniture and Shelving. (Administration)

MOTION:

Vice Mayor Knackstedt **MOVED** to enact Ordinance No. 3402-2024. Council Member Askin **SECONDED** the motion.

Mayor Gabriel opened the floor for public comment. There being no one wishing to be heard, the public comment period was closed.

Appreciation was stated for the donors and that materials will be added to the print collection in memory of Don Weller.

VOTE:

YEA: Askin, Douthit, Baisden, Sounart, Knackstedt, Daniel, Gabriel

NAY: None

**Student Representative Tanner: Yea

MOTION PASSED.

2. **Ordinance No. 3403-2024** - Amending Sections of Kenai Municipal Code Chapters 21.10 - Leasing and Acquisition of Airport Reserve Lands, and 22.05 - Disposition of City Lands, to Extend the Time Allowed for Private Development on City Leased Lots and Requiring Certain Financial Assurances Prior to Lease Execution. (Administration)

MOTION:

Vice Mayor Knackstedt **MOVED** to enact Ordinance No. 3403-2024. Council Member Daniel **SECONDED** the motion.

Mayor Gabriel opened the floor for public comment.

Richard Page, SOARS International Ministries Director addressed the Council regarding the negative effect of the ordinance to organizations who operate on grants related to the requirement to show financial resources; prior to COVID the project was originally a 3.5-million-dollar project and now a 14-million-dollar project; current challenges getting materials; project plans were complete; and losing the lease at this time would be a significant loss of improvements to SOARS.

There being no one else wishing to be heard, the public comment period was closed.

It was reported that prior to 2018 the City owned improvements on lease lots; due to lack of lease activity code was changed so that the lessee would own the improvements, since that change lease activity has increased; the City recognized current challenges causing the need for additional time; the ordinance would increase the time to complete construction from two-years to three-years and it also increased the extension option from one, one-year extension to two, one-year extensions.

It was additionally reported that three current lease holders affected by this ordinance have exhausted the lease extension options and would be required to reapply; a non-code ordinance would be the only way to extend the current leases, which was not recommended as the lease holders would be in the exact same position in one-year.

There was general consensus that the administration should work closely with the current lease holders through the reapplication process.

MOTION TO AMEND:

Vice Mayor Knackstedt **MOVED** to amend Ordinance No. 3403-2024 as follows:

Sixth whereas clause to read, "at its regular meeting on March 14, 2024 the Airport Commission recommended the City Council approve this Ordinance."

Council Member Askin **SECONDED** the motion.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT was requested on the motion to amend.

VOTE ON MOTION TO AMEND: There being no objection; **SO ORDERED.**

MOTION TO AMEND:

Vice Mayor Knackstedt **MOVED** to amend Resolution No. 3403-2024 to remove the word "reasonable" as follows:

Section 1, KMC 21.10.040, paragraph (b), subparagraph (5) to read, "Evidence showing the applicant has [REASONABLE] financial resources to complete the proposed improvement, such as a liquidity verification letter or other document from a financial institution. This information may be provided separately from other application material and will be kept confidentially by City administration as allowed by law."

Section 2, KMC 21.10.060, paragraph (b) to read, "Based on the initial review and staff recommendation for action, if the City Manager determines the application is complete and the applicant has [REASONABLE] financial means to complete the proposed improvements, the application shall be referred to the Airport Commission and the Planning and Zoning Commission for review and comment, together with the City Manager's recommendation for approval or rejection. For protection of private financial information, documentation showing the applicant has [REASONABLE] financial resources to complete the proposed improvement will be redacted or withheld from the application when published and provided to the Airport, Planning Commission and City Council."

Section 3, KMC 21.10.070, paragraph (a) to read, "A request from an existing lessee for a lease amendment, extension or renewal of the lease must be submitted to the City on an application form provided by the City. Applications must be complete and dated on receipt and payment of the nonrefundable application fee as set forth in the City's schedule of fees adopted by the City Council. All applications proposing new improvements must include evidence showing the applicant has [REASONABLE] financial resources to complete the proposed improvement, such as a liquidity verification letter or other document from a financial institution. This information may be provided separately from other application material and will be kept confidentially by City administration as allowed by law."

Section 5, KMC 22.05.025, paragraph (b), subparagraph (4) to read, "Evidence showing the applicant has [REASONABLE] financial resources to complete the proposed improvement, such as a liquidity verification letter or other document from a financial institution. This information may be provided separately from other application material and will be kept confidentially by City administration as allowed by law."

Section 6, KMC 22.05.040, paragraph (b) to read, "Based on the initial review, if the City Manager determines the application is complete and the applicant has [REASONABLE] financial means to complete the proposed improvements, the application shall be referred to the Planning and Zoning Commission and any other applicable commissions for review and comment, together with the City Manager's recommendation for approval or rejection. The recommendation may include a recommendation for a subdivision to reduce or enlarge a parcel to meet the intended development or use. For protection of private financial information, documentation showing the applicant has [REASONABLE] financial resources to complete the proposed improvement will be redacted or withheld from the application when published and provided to the Planning Commission, other applicable commission and City Council."

Section 7, KMC 22.05.045, paragraph (a) to read, "A request from an existing lessee for a lease amendment, assignment, extension or renewal of the lease must be submitted to the City Manager or designee on an application form provided by the City. Applications must be complete and dated on receipt and include payment of the nonrefundable application fee and applicable deposit as set forth in the City's schedule of fees adopted by the City Council. All applications proposing new improvements must include evidence showing the applicant has [REASONABLE] financial resources to complete the proposed improvement, such as a liquidity verification letter or other document from a financial institution. This information may be provided separately from other application material and will be kept confidentially by City administration as allowed by law. Construction must be completed within 3 years except in special circumstances that require a longer period of time and which must be approved by the City Council;"

Council Member Askin **SECONDED** the motion.

It was reported that a current lessee suggested that inclusion of the word “reasonable” added unnecessary ambiguity and subjectivity to the standard.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT was requested on the motion to amend.

VOTE ON MOTION TO AMEND: There being no objection; **SO ORDERED.**

MOTION TO AMEND:

Vice Mayor Knackstedt **MOVED** to amend Ordinance No. 3403-2024 as follows:

Section 4, KMC 21.010.080, paragraph (g), subparagraph (5) to read, “If the lessee shows good cause to the City Council, and evidence of progress towards completion of the proposed improvements, including but not limited to a building permit, invoices for site specific building materials, or third party contracts for construction, as well as updated financial information as required in KMC 21.10.040(b)(5) and the City Council determines the action is in the best interest of the City, the City Council may grant an extension of the time initially not to exceed 12 months to complete permanent improvements by resolution that is sufficient to allow for the completion of the permanent improvements or for submission of documentation that the permanent improvements have been completed. A final twelve-month extension may be granted by separate resolution of Council if the lessee meets the same criteria for the first twelve-month extension and provides a performance bond, deposit, personal guarantee or other security interest sufficient to satisfy the Council that the improvements will be completed [COVER THE REMAINED OF THE UNFINISHED WORK ON THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS] and Council determines the final extension is in the best interest of the City.

Council Member Douthit **SECONDED** the motion.

It was reported that this amendment and the next would allow for greater flexibility when there was a need to find a solution for completion of a project.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT was requested on the motion to amend.

VOTE ON MOTION TO AMEND: There being no objection; **SO ORDERED.**

MOTION TO AMEND:

Vice Mayor Knackstedt **MOVED** to amend Ordinance No. 3403-2024 as follows:

Section 8, KMC 22.05.055, paragraph (f) to read, “If the lessee shows good cause and evidence of progress towards completion of the proposed improvements, including but not limited to building permits, invoices for site specific building materials, or third party contracts for construction, as well as updated financial information as required in KMC 22.05.25(b)(4) and the City Council determines the action is in the best interest of the City, the City Council may grant an extension of the time initially not to exceed 12 months to complete permanent improvements by resolution that is sufficient to allow for the completion of the permanent improvements or for submission of documentation that the permanent improvements have been completed. A final twelve-month extension may be granted by separate resolution of Council if the lessee meets the same criteria for the first twelve-month extension and provides a performance bond, deposit, personal guarantee or other security interest sufficient to satisfy the Council that the improvements will be completed [COVER THE REMAINED OF THE UNFINISHED WORK ON THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS] and Council determines the final extension is in the best interest of the City.

Council Member Askin **SECONDED** the motion.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT was requested on the motion to amend.

VOTE ON MOTION TO AMEND: There being no objection; **SO ORDERED.**

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED:

YEA: Douthit, Baisden, Sounart, Knackstedt, Daniel, Gabriel, Askin

NAY: None

**Student Representative Tanner: Yea

MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED PASSED.

3. **Resolution No. 2024-08** - Awarding a Contract to Provide Health and Life Insurance Consulting Services. (Administration)

MOTION:

Vice Mayor Knackstedt **MOVED** to adopt Resolution No. 2024-08. Council Member Sounart **SECONDED** the motion.

Mayor Gabriel opened the floor for public comment. There being no one wishing to be heard, the public comment period was closed.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT was requested.

VOTE: There being no objection; **SO ORDERED.**

4. **Resolution No. 2024-09** - Awarding a Contract for Kenai Visitor and Cultural Center Facility Management Services. (Administration)

[Clerk's Note: Council Member Douthit declared a possible conflict with Resolution No. 2024-09 as he is the Vice President of the Kenai Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center Board of Directors. Mayor Gabriel ruled a conflict did exist and Council Member Douthit abstained from discussion and voting on the resolution.]

MOTION:

Vice Mayor Knackstedt **MOVED** to adopt Resolution No. 2024-09. Council Member Sounart **SECONDED** the motion.

Mayor Gabriel opened the floor for public comment. There being no one wishing to be heard, the public comment period was closed.

There was discussion regarding the proposed amendment which would include a new permanent position dedicated to the cultural center; the position would manage artifacts, rotate displays and improve the appeal to visitors.

MOTION TO AMEND:

Vice Mayor Knackstedt **MOVED** to amend Resolution No. 2024-09 as follows:

Section 1 to read, "That the contract to provide Kenai [TOURISM AND MARKETING] Visitor and Cultural Center Facility Management Services is awarded to the Kenai Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center for the total amount of \$145,200 annually for a period of three years, beginning July 1, 2024."

Council Member Sounart **SECONDED** the motion.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT was requested on the motion to amend.

VOTE ON MOTION TO AMEND: Motion **APPROVED**, without objection.

MOTION TO AMEND:

Vice Mayor Knackstedt **MOVED** to amend Resolution No. 2024-09 as follows:

Section 1 to read, "That the contract to provide Kenai Visitor and Cultural Center Facility Management Services is awarded to the Kenai Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center for the total amount of [~~\$145,200~~] \$152,480, to include a new cultural center coordinator, annually for a period of three years, beginning July 1, 2024."

Council Member Askin **SECONDED** the motion.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT was requested on the motion to amend.

VOTE ON MOTION TO AMEND: Motion **APPROVED**, without objection.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT was requested on the main motion as amended.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED: Main motion as amended **APPROVED**, without objection.

5. **Resolution No. 2024-10** - Awarding a Contract for City of Kenai Tourism and Marketing Services. (Administration)

MOTION:

Vice Mayor Knackstedt **MOVED** to adopt Resolution No. 2024-10. Council Member Daniel **SECONDED** the motion.

Mayor Gabriel opened the floor for public comment. There being no one wishing to be heard, the public comment period was closed.

It was reported that the provider had a local office and provides similar services to other municipalities.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT was requested.

VOTE: There being no objection; **SO ORDERED**.

6. **Resolution No. 2024-11** - Approving the Use of the Fleet Replacement Fund for the Purchase of One Ford Police Interceptor Utilizing the State of Alaska Equipment Fleet Contract. (Administration)

MOTION:

Vice Mayor Knackstedt **MOVED** to adopt Resolution No. 2024-11. Council Member Askin **SECONDED** the motion.

Mayor Gabriel opened the floor for public comment. There being no one wishing to be heard, the public comment period was closed.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT was requested.

VOTE: There being no objection; **SO ORDERED**.

7. **Resolution No. 2024-12** - Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Bar and Lounge Concession Agreement for the Kenai Municipal Airport. (Administration)

MOTION:

Council Member Askin **MOVED** to adopt Resolution No. 2024-12. Vice Mayor Knackstedt **SECONDED** the motion.

Mayor Gabriel opened the floor for public comment. There being no one wishing to be heard, the public comment period was closed.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT was requested.

VOTE: There being no objection; **SO ORDERED**.

F. MINUTES

1. *Regular Meeting of March 6, 2024. (City Clerk)

G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. **Ordinance No. 3392-2024** - Amending the Kenai Zoning Code to Add a New Zoning District, Working Waterfront (WW) and Amending the Official Zoning Map for Certain Parcels from Heavy Industrial (IH) to Working Waterfront (WW) or Conservation (C) Zoning District. (Knackstedt)

[Clerk's Note: The motion to enact Ordinance 3392-2024 was on the floor from the February 21, 2024 City Council Meeting.]

Mayor Gabriel opened the floor for public comment.

Matthew Moffis thanked the Council and staff for bringing this forward.

There being no one else wishing to be heard, the public comment period was closed.

There was discussion thanking the Planning and Zoning Commission for their work and recommendations.

MOTION TO AMEND:

Vice Mayor Knackstedt **MOVED** to amend Ordinance No. 3392-2024 as follows:

Ninth whereas clause to read, "the Harbor Commission and the Planning and Zoning Commission held a joint work session on February 12, 2024 to discuss the proposed ordinance to create a waterfront zoning district and amend the Comprehensive Plan; and,"

Tenth whereas clause to read, "the Planning and Zoning Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting of February 14, 2024 recommended approval with amendments on amending the Kenai Municipal Code (KMC) to add a new zoning district and rezone the waterfront area; and,"

Eleventh whereas clause to read, "the Harbor Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting of February 12, 2024 recommended approval on amending the KMC to add a new zoning district and rezone the waterfront area; and,"

Insert a new twelfth whereas clause to read, "at its meeting on February 21, 2024, City Council postponed the public hearing to March 20, 2024 and scheduled a joint work session with Planning and Zoning Commission on March 20, 2024 before the regular meeting; and."

Council Member Douthit **SECONDED** the motion.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT was requested on the motion to amend.

VOTE ON MOTION TO AMEND: There being no objection; **SO ORDERED.**

MOTION TO AMEND:

Vice Mayor Knackstedt **MOVED** to amend Ordinance No. 3392-2024 as follows:

Section 3, KMC 14.22.010 Land Use Table for Residential - Townhouses; Commercial - Automotive Service Stations; and Industrial - Automotive Repair under the Waterfront (WW) zoning district by deleting the reference to footnote 32.

LAND USES	WW
RESIDENTIAL	
Townhouses ⁴	C ^[32]
COMMERCIAL	
Automotive Service Stations	C ^[32]
INDUSTRIAL	
Automotive Repair	C ^[32]

Council Member Askin **SECONDED** the motion.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT was requested on the motion to amend.

VOTE ON MOTION TO AMEND: There being no objection; **SO ORDERED.**

MOTION TO AMEND:

Council Member Douthit **MOVED** to amend Ordinance No. 3392-2024 as follows:

Section 3, KMC 14.22.010 Land Use Table by inserting a new footnote 33 to read, "Commercial or industrial which falls under the landscaping/site plans requirements of KMC Chapter 14.25 shall include any secondary uses in the landscaping and site plans."

Section 3, KMC 14.22.010 Land Use Table for Residential - One-Family Dwelling under the Working Waterfront (WW) zoning district by, adding S for Secondary Use with reference to footnote 33.

LAND USES		WW
RESIDENTIAL		
One-Family Dwelling		<u>S</u> ³³ /C

Council Member Askin **SECONDED** the motion.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT was requested on the motion to amend.

VOTE ON MOTION TO AMEND: There being no objection; **SO ORDERED.**

MOTION TO AMEND:

Vice Mayor Knackstedt **MOVED** to amend Ordinance No. 3392-2024 as follows:

Section 3, KMC 14.22.010 Land Use Table for Miscellaneous - Bed and Breakfast under the Working Waterfront (WW) zoning district by, deleting P for Principal Permitted Use and inserting C for Conditional Use.

LAND USES	WW
Miscellaneous	
Bed and Breakfast	[P] <u>C</u>

Council Member Sounart **SECONDED** the motion.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT was requested on the motion to amend.

VOTE ON MOTION TO AMEND: There being no objection; **SO ORDERED.**

MOTION TO AMEND:

Vice Mayor Knackstedt **MOVED** to amend Ordinance No. 3392-2024 as follows:

Section 3, KMC 14.22.010 Land Use Table for Public/Institutional - Hospitals under the Working Waterfront (WW) zoning district, by deleting P for Principal Permitted Use and inserting C for Conditional Use.

LAND USES	WW
PUBLIC/INSTITUTIONAL	
Hospitals*	[P] <u>C</u>

Council Member Sounart **SECONDED** the motion.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT was requested on the motion to amend.

VOTE ON MOTION TO AMEND: There being no objection; **SO ORDERED.**

MOTION TO AMEND:

Council Member Daniel **MOVED** to amend Ordinance No. 3392-2024 as follows:

Section 3, KMC 14.22.010 Land Use Table for Miscellaneous - Day Care Centers under the Working Waterfront (WW) zoning district, by deleting P for Principal Permitted Use and inserting C for Conditional Use.

LAND USES	WW
Miscellaneous	
Day Care Centers ¹²	[P] C

Council Member Douthit **SECONDED** the motion.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT was requested on the motion to amend.

VOTE ON MOTION TO AMEND: There being no objection; **SO ORDERED.**

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED:

YEA: Sounart, Knackstedt, Daniel, Gabriel, Askin, Douthit, Baisden

NAY: None

**Student Representative Tanner: Yea

MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED PASSED.

H. NEW BUSINESS

1. ***Action/Approval** - Bills to be Ratified. (Administration) *

Approved by the consent agenda.

2. ***Action/Approval** - Purchase Orders and Purchase Order Amendments Requiring Council Approval in Accordance with KMC 7.15.020. (Administration)

Approved by the consent agenda.

3. ***Action/Approval** - Special Use Permit to the Alaska Youth Soccer Association for RV Parking at the Multi-Purpose Facility Parking Lot. (Administration)

Approved by the consent agenda.

4. ***Action/Approval** - Special Use Permit to the Alaska Youth Soccer Association for RV Parking at the Kenai Sports Complex Parking Lot. (Administration)

Approved by the consent agenda.

5. ***Ordinance No. 3404-2023** - Increasing Estimated Revenues and Appropriations in the Airport Fund to Provide Supplemental Funding for 100 Low Lead Float Plane Basin Fuel. (Administration)

Introduced by the consent agenda and Public Hearing set for April 3, 2024.

6. ***Ordinance No. 3405-2023** - Increasing Estimated Revenues and Appropriations in the Congregate Housing Fund for Costs Above Budgeted Amounts. (Administration)

Introduced by the consent agenda and Public Hearing set for April 3, 2024.

7. ***Ordinance No. 3406-2023** - Increasing Estimated Revenues and Appropriations in the Airport Special Revenue and Airport Improvement Capital Project Funds and Authorizing a Final Adjusting Contract Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with HDL Engineering for Construction Administration Services for the 2020 Kenai Municipal Airport Sand Storage Facility Project. (Administration)

Introduced by the consent agenda and Public Hearing set for April 3, 2024.

8. **Discussion** - Scheduling Council Employee Evaluations (Mayor Gabriel)

Special City Council meetings were scheduled for April 17, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. and April 18, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. for Council Employee Evaluations in the Kenai City Council Chambers.

I. COMMISSION / COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Council on Aging

No report, next meeting April 11, 2024.

2. Airport Commission

Vice Mayor Knackstedt reported on the March 14, 2024 Work Session, next meeting April 11, 2024.

3. Harbor Commission

Council Member Askin on the March 11, 2024 Work Session, next meeting April 8, 2024.

4. Parks and Recreation Commission

Council Member Sounart on the March 7, 2024 Work Session, next meeting April 4, 2024.

5. Planning and Zoning Commission

Council Member Askin reported on the March 13, 2024 Meeting, next meeting cancelled.

6. Beautification Committee

No report, next meeting April 9, 2024.

J. REPORT OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Gabriel reminded everyone about the upcoming Senior Connections Pie Auction fund raiser.

K. ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

1. City Manager - Acting City Manager Ross reported on the following:

- Employee Appreciation Event scheduled for April 26, 2024.
- State of the City Presentation scheduled for April 17, 2024 at the Kenai Chamber of Commerce, Business Luncheon.
- City Manager to attend the Alaska Infrastructure Development Symposium.
- Current Recruitments for Public Safety Dispatcher, summer positions including Temporary Enforcement Officer's, Parks & Recreation and Public Use Fishery positions.

2. City Attorney, no report.

3. City Clerk – City Clerk Saner reported on the following:

- Final report from the KPB Voter Turnout Working Group was included in the laydown as an informational item.

L. ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Citizen Comments (*Public comments limited to (5) minutes per speaker*)

Samantha Springer, Executive Director of Kenai Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center reported to Council that the Visitor Guide had been updated and was at the printers.

2. Council Comments

Council Member Baisden reported that the Kenai Central High School Cheer Team captured their fourth straight State Championship.

Student Representative Tanner reported on activities at Connections, Kenai Alternative and Kenai Central High School; Connections participation in SkillsUSA; provided a sports update and noted she was the recipient of the Carson Scholarship.

Council Member Sounart wished everyone a happy spring.

Council Member Askin congratulated Student Representative Tanner for receiving the Carson Scholarship.

Council Member Douthit reminded everyone about the upcoming Senior Connection, Pie Auction fundraiser.

Council Member Knackstedt reported that the members of the Airport Commission noted the good conditions at the Airport over the winter.

M. EXECUTIVE SESSION - None.

N. PENDING ITEMS - None.


O. ADJOURNMENT

P. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Kenai Peninsula Borough, Voter Turnout Working Group - Prioritized List of Actionable Recommendations.

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

I certify the above represents accurate minutes of the Kenai City Council meeting of March 20, 2024.



Michelle M. Sauer, MMC
City Clerk

*** The student representative may cast advisory votes on all matters except those subject to executive session discussion. Advisory votes shall be cast in the rotation of the official council vote and shall not affect the outcome of the official council vote. Advisory votes shall be recorded in the minutes. A student representative may not move or second items during a council meeting.*