



MAYOR

Dianne M. Keller

COUNCIL

Greg Koskela, Seat A

Douglas W. Holler, Seat B

Steven Menard, Seat C

Marty Metiva, Seat D

Ron Cox, Deputy Mayor, Seat E

Mark A. Ewing, Seat F

**WASILLA CITY COUNCIL
MEETING AGENDA**

WASILLA CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Wasilla City Hall, 290 E. Herring Avenue, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 373-9090

REGULAR MEETING

7 P.M.

APRIL 9, 2007

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A. Presentation of Colors by Boy Scout Troop 300

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

V. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY

A. Presentation of Character Awards: Wasilla High School State Basketball Boys and Girls Champions, Pep Band, Coaches, Managers, And Cheerleaders.

VI. COMMISSION AND AGENCY REPORTS

A. Planning Commission

B. Parks and Recreation Commission

C. Airport Advisory Commission

D. Matanuska-Susitna Borough

- E. Jeanne Troshynski, Friends of Wasilla Public Library
- F. Meritage Development Group LLC

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A. Public Hearings

1. **Ordinance Serial No. 07-13:** Amending The FY-07 Budget By Appropriating \$50,000 From The Multi-Use Sports Complex Fund's Fund Balance To The Capital Land Acquisition Account To Increase The Deposit With The Superior Court For The Acquisition Of The Site Of The Multi-Use Sports Complex.
2. **Ordinance Serial No. 07-14:** Amending WMC 3.65.020, Coverage, Use, Accrual And Other Aspects Of PTO, To Provide For Cash Payment Of An Employee's Accrued And Unused PTO Upon Termination Of Employment, And Ratifying The City's Past Practice Of Making Such Payments.
3. **Ordinance Serial No. 07-15:** Amending The FY-07 Budget By Transferring \$29,620 From The Vehicle Fund Balance To The Vehicle Fund For The Purchase Of A New Vehicle For The Wasilla Police Department.
4. **Ordinance Serial No. 07-16:** Amending WMC 5.16.100, Collection Of Sales Tax—Addition And Separate Statement, To Permit A Seller To Pay Sales Tax On The Seller's Gross Receipts In Lieu Of Stating Sales Tax Separately And Adding It To The Sales Price.
5. **Ordinance Serial No. 07-18:** Amending WMC 5.08.070, Approval Of Contracts, By Adding Subsection D In Regard To Public Utility Services.

B. Persons to be Heard

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes of Preceding Meetings:

1. Regular Meeting: March 12, 2007
2. Special Meeting: March 1, 2007

B. Introduction of Ordinances: Recommended Public Hearing on April 23, 2007:

1. **Ordinance Serial No. 07-17:** Amending WMC Section 5.16.045, Rules Applicable To Particular Businesses Or Occupations, And WMC Section 5.16.050, Exemptions, To Provide Exemptions From Sales Tax For Sales Of Materials Used In Building Construction That Are Uniform For The City And The City Of Palmer; Amending WMC Section 5.16.050, Exemptions, To Identify Separately Those Exemptions From Sales Tax That Require A Certificate Of Exemption; And Amending WMC 5.16.080, Certificate Of Exemption, To Provide Fees For Certificates Of Exemption For Sales Of Materials Used In Building Construction That Are Uniform For The City And The City Of Palmer, And To Provide A Period For Transition To The New Fees For Certificates Of Exemption.
2. **Ordinance Serial No. 07-21:** Amending WMC 16.36.060 Concerning The Fee And Deposit, And 16.36.070 Concerning Notices And Record Preparation, In An Appeal From A Decision Of The Planning Commission; And Enacting WMC 16.36.075, Appeal Procedure—Authority Of Hearing Officer, Concerning The Hearing Officer's Authority To Determine Matters Of Procedure In An Appeal From A Decision Of The Planning Commission.
3. **Ordinance Serial No. 07-22:** Amending The FY-07 Police Department Budget By Accepting And Appropriating Asset Forfeiture Funds From The State Of Alaska To The Police Department To Cover Expenditures For Equipment For The Wasilla Police Department Investigations Unit.
4. **Ordinance Serial No. 07-23:** Amending The FY-07 Budget By Accepting And Appropriating An Arbor Day Grant In The Amount Of \$2,000.
5. **Ordinance Serial No. 07-24:** Amending The FY-07 Budget By Accepting And Appropriating A Matanuska-Susitna Borough Grant In The Amount Of \$60,108 For Partial Reimbursement Of 2006 City Paving Projects.

6. **Ordinance Serial No. 07-25:** Amending The Zoning Map To Change The Zoning District From RR-Rural Residential And RM-Multi-Family Residential, To C-Commercial, For Approximately 69.89 Acres, Consisting Of Matanuska-Susitna Tax Parcels A-5, D-5, D-6, & D-15, Within Section 16, Township 17 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian, And A 24.15-Acre Portion Of Tract A, Center Point Subdivision, Phase II; Generally Located South Of The Alaska Railroad Right-Of-Way And Northwest Of Knik-Goose Bay Road.
7. **Ordinance Serial No. 07-26:** Approving A Planned Unit Development On Approximately 23.33 Acres In The C-Commercial Zoning District, Consisting Of Tracts A-1, B, C, D, And E Of The Cottonwood Creek Mall Subdivision, For The Cottonwood Creek Mall Redevelopment.

C. Resolutions

1. **Resolution Serial No. 07-12:** Transferring Funds Within An Accounting Fund In The Amount Of \$3,420 For Airport Apron Phase 1C Engineering Design Services.
 - a. **AM No. 07-16:** Contract Amendment To Hattenburg, Dilley, And Linnell In The Amount Of \$12,000 For Airport Apron Phase1C Design Services.
2. **Resolution Serial No. 07-13:** Adopting And Supporting The Alaska National Guard 297th Support Battalion Through The America Supporting Americans Adoption Program. (Sponsored by Mayor Keller)

D. Action Memorandums

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Resolution Serial No. 07-09:** Establishing The Mayor's Salary At \$79,960 Effective July 1, 2007, In Accordance With WMC 2.16.070 And Repealing Resolution Serial No. 03-16. (Sponsored by Council Member Koskela)
- B. **AM No. 07-15:** Request For Sales Tax Penalty Waiver For Echostar Satellite.

- C. **AM No. 07-17:** Direction To The City Attorney To Research The Possibility Of Sales Tax Exemptions For Groceries For Senior Citizens And Disabled American Veterans. (Sponsored by Council Member Ewing)

XI. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Information Memorandums

- 1. **IM No. 07-07:** Planning Commission Recommendation On Capital Improvement Program 2008 – 2012.
- 2. **IM No. 07-08:** Expenditure Reports: January And February 2007.
- 3. **IM No. 07-09:** Expenses Greater Than \$5,000 From January 2007 Through March 2007

B. Commission Minutes

- 1. Planning Commission: February 27 and March 13, 2007
- 2. Parks and Recreation Commission: February 21 and March 14, 1007
- 3. Airport Advisory Commission: March 20, 2007
- 4. Employee Relations Committee: March 1, 2007

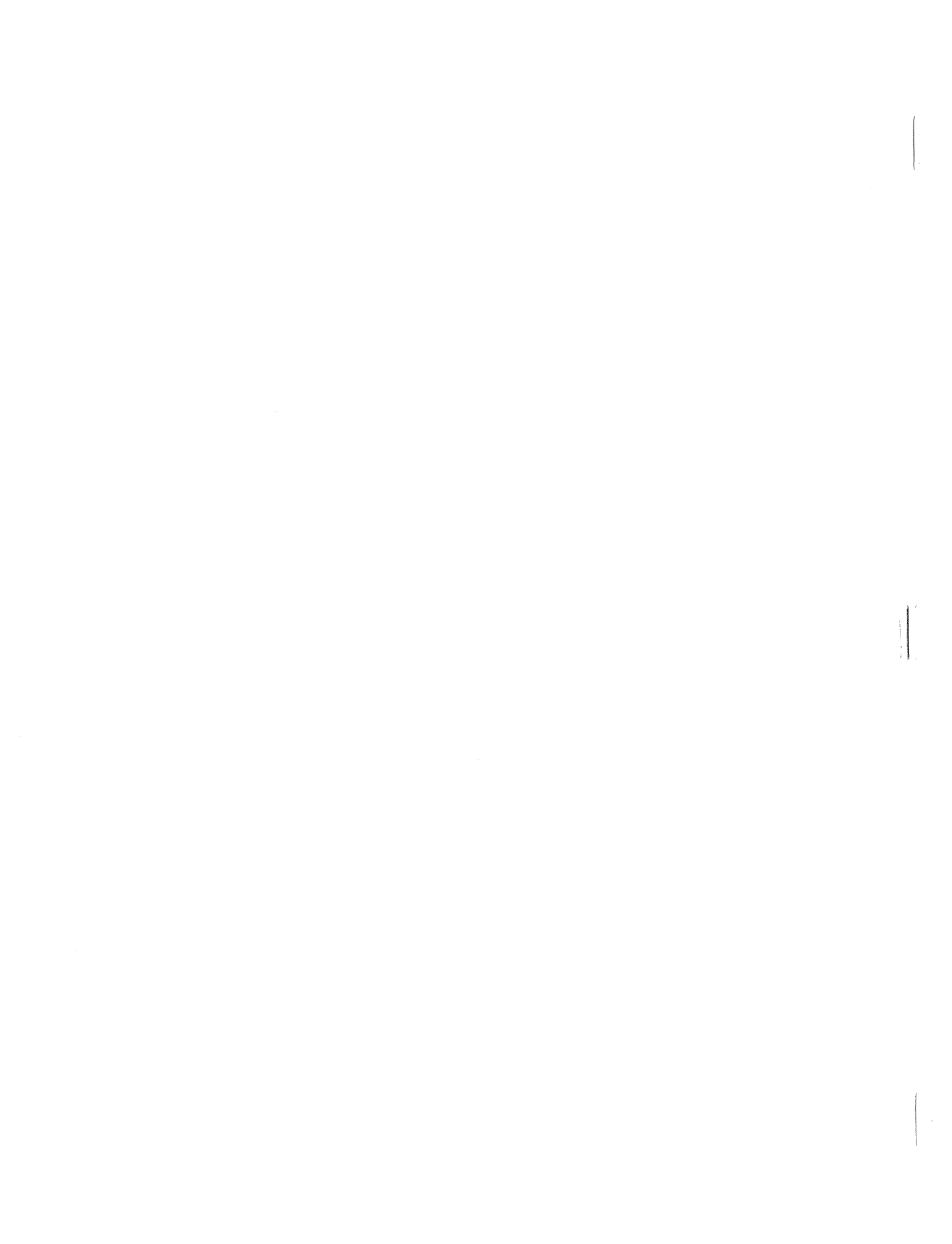
XII. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

XIII. MAYOR, CLERK AND ATTORNEY COMMENTS

XIV. COUNCIL COMMENTS

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

XVI. ADJOURNMENT



I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Wasilla City Council was held on Monday, April 9, 2007 at the Wasilla City Council Chambers, Wasilla, Alaska. Mayor Dianne M. Keller called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Council Members present and establishing a quorum were:

Mr. Greg Koskela, Seat A
Mr. Doug Holler, Seat B
Mr. Steve Menard, Seat C
Mr. Marty Metiva, Seat D
Mr. Ron Cox, Deputy Mayor, Seat E
Mr. Mark Ewing, Seat F

Staff in attendance were:

Ms. Kristie Smithers, City Clerk
Ms. Jamie Newman, Deputy Clerk
Mr. Tom Klinkner, City Attorney
Ms. Sandra Garley, Deputy Administrator
Mr. Archie Giddings, Director of Public Works
Ms. Susan Colligan, Finance Director
Ms. Angella Long, Police Chief
Mr. Bruce Urban, Recreation and Cultural Services Manager

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A. Presentation of Colors by Boy Scout Troop 300

Boy Scout Troop 300 led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Keller asked if there were amendments to the agenda, hearing none, the agenda was approved as presented.

V. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY

- A. Presentation of Character Awards: Wasilla High School State Basketball Boys and Girls Champions, Pep Band, Coaches, Managers, And Cheerleaders.

Mayor Keller read a letter into the record from Mayor John Combs, City of Palmer, expressing sincere congratulations to the Wasilla Warrior Boys and Girls Basketball 4A State Champions.

Mayor Keller presented Character Awards to the members of the Wasilla Warrior High School Boys and Girls Basketball Team, Cheerleaders and Pep Band for winning the 4A State High School Basketball Championship.

VI. COMMISSION AND AGENCY REPORTS

- A. Planning Commission

Commissioner Stan Tucker:

- reported on the efforts of the Subdivision Rewrite Committee;
- noted that the Commission recommended a list of proposed Capital Improvement Projects for FY 2008 through 2012; and
- requested that the Council consider a code amendment adopting a statement of building codes.

- B. Parks and Recreation Commission

Commissioner Scott Norman:

- reported that the Commission is recommending renaming the Bumpus Equestrian Trail to the Bumpus Recreational Area;
- reported that Independence Day celebration activities are coming along nicely;
- reported Arbor Day festivities are being planned;
- noted that the park sign for Carter Park is near completion; and
- stated that the Commission is considering the acquisition of land on Buena Vista Park.

- C. Airport Advisory Commission

Mr. Archie Giddings, Public Works Director:

- reported that the Commission took no action at their last meeting;
- noted that the Commission received a presentation on taxiway expansion; and
- reported that the FAA may install a weather camera on the pilot shack at the Wasilla Municipal Airport.

D. Matanuska-Susitna Borough

No report was presented.

E. Jeanne Troshynski, Friends of Wasilla Public Library

Ms. Troshynski:

- reported on the recent activities of the Friends of Wasilla Library; and
- noted that Valley Performing Arts requested joint facility space should a new library be constructed.

F. Meritage Development Group LLC

Mayor Keller reported that the Meritage Development Group had not yet arrived and requested that they be allowed to address the Council upon arrival. No objection was raised. (See page 8 of the meeting minutes.)

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A. Public Hearings

1. **Ordinance Serial No. 07-13:** Amending The FY-07 Budget By Appropriating \$50,000 From The Multi-Use Sports Complex Fund's Fund Balance To The Capital Land Acquisition Account To Increase The Deposit With The Superior Court For The Acquisition Of The Site Of The Multi-Use Sports Complex.

Mayor Keller opened the public hearing on Ordinance Serial No. 07-13.

Mr. Steve Stoll spoke in opposition to Ordinance Serial No. 07-13 and stated that the City has a moral obligation to retire the Multi-Use Sports Complex general obligation bonds as early as possible.

MOTION: Council Member Koskela moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 07-13.

The City Attorney presented an overview of the ordinance.

Discussion moved to the Council and questions were asked of the Finance Director regarding scheduled bond payoff.

VOTE: The motion to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 07-13 passed unanimously.

2. **Ordinance Serial No. 07-14:** Amending WMC 3.65.020, Coverage, Use, Accrual And Other Aspects Of PTO, To Provide For Cash Payment Of An Employee's Accrued And Unused PTO Upon Termination Of Employment, And Ratifying The City's Past Practice Of Making Such Payments.

Mayor Keller opened the public hearing on Ordinance Serial No. 07-14 and there being no one who wished to present testimony the public hearing closed.

MOTION: Council Member Metiva moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 07-14.

The Deputy Administrator presented an overview of the ordinance and answered questions from the Council.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

3. **Ordinance Serial No. 07-15:** Amending The FY-07 Budget By Transferring \$29,620 From The Vehicle Fund Balance To The Vehicle Fund For The Purchase Of A New Vehicle For The Wasilla Police Department.

Mayor Keller opened the public hearing on Ordinance Serial No. 07-15 and there being no one who wished to present testimony the public hearing closed.

MOTION: Council Member Koskela moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 07-15.

Chief Long presented an overview of the ordinance.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

4. **Ordinance Serial No. 07-16:** Amending WMC 5.16.100, Collection Of Sales Tax—Addition And Separate Statement, To Permit A Seller To Pay Sales Tax On The Seller's Gross Receipts In Lieu Of Stating Sales Tax Separately And Adding It To The Sales Price.

Mayor Keller opened the public hearing on Ordinance Serial No. 07-16 and there being no one who wished to present testimony the public hearing closed.

MOTION: Council Member Metiva moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 07-16.

The Finance Director presented an overview of the ordinance.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

5. **Ordinance Serial No. 07-18:** Amending WMC 5.08.070, Approval Of Contracts, By Adding Subsection D In Regard To Public Utility Services.

Mayor Keller opened the public hearing on Ordinance Serial No. 07-18 and there being no one who wished to present testimony the public hearing closed.

MOTION: Council Member Ewing moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 07-18.

The Public Works Director presented an overview of the ordinance and answered questions from the Council.

Discussion moved to the Council and debate ensued.

MOTION: Council Member Menard moved the previous question. (*Clerk note: The effect of this motion is to immediately stop debate.*)

GENERAL CONSENT: The motion passed without objection.

VOTE: The motion to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 07-18 passed with Deputy Mayor Cox, Council Members Holler, Koskela, Menard, and Metiva in favor and Council Member Ewing opposed.

Council Member Menard requested a fifteen minute recess. No objection was raised.

The Council recessed at 8:07 p.m. and reconvened at 8:21 p.m.

B. Persons to be Heard

Ms. Vicky Lee Fenster, Valley Community for Recycling Solutions, Wal-Mart Recycling Program:

- shared information on the Wal-Mart Recycling Program; and
- reported that the program is in jeopardy do to unexpected fees imposed by shipping companies who have shipped recycling backhaul free of charge for many years.

Ms. Robyn Hall, Executive Director, Wasilla Senior Center:

- spoke about services provided by the Wasilla Senior Center; and
- requested that the Council reinstate financial support of the Senior Center.

Ms. Ruby Church:

- spoke on behalf of the Wasilla Senior Center and requested that the City reinstate funding to the Senior Center; and
- shared information on the programs provided to senior citizens by the Senior Center.

Ms. Sandra Joynes, Grandview Inn and Suites:

- spoke in support of establishing a Wasilla Visitor and Tourism Bureau; and
- spoke about tourism potential in Wasilla.

Mr. John Emmi:

- spoke in support of establishing a Wasilla Visitor and Tourism Bureau; and
- spoke in support of marketing Wasilla as a tourism destination.

Mr. Mark Lee:

- thanked the City for supporting the Alaska Avalanche; and
- reported that the Avalanche is establishing a Junior Program.

Mr. Dave Glenn, Grasshopper Aviation:

- stated that the City needs to do a better job promoting tourism and developing a tourism industry.

Mr. Chas St. George, Past President, Greater Wasilla Chamber of Commerce:

- requested that the Council reconsider AM No. 07-12 and establish a Wasilla Visitor and Tourism Bureau; and
- stated that the tourism bureau will act as a conduit to work with small businesses to grow and diversify business opportunities.

Mr. Beagle Jarvis:

- shared his passion for Wasilla; and
- urged the Council to fund a tourism bureau.

Ms. Bonnie Quill, Executive Director of Mat-Su Convention and Visitors Bureau (MSCVB):

- spoke about the economic benefits of the tourism industry;
- reported on the role of the MSCVB; and
- encouraged the city to fund the development of a Wasilla Visitor and Tourism Bureau.

Ms. Cheryl Metiva, Executive Director, Greater Wasilla Chamber of Commerce:

- talked about the Chamber's response to RFP 0643-0-2007/WM (AM No. 07-12);
- spoke about how the tourism industry can be improved upon; and
- urged the Council to reconsider AM No. 07-12 and fund the establishment of a Wasilla Visitor and Tourism Bureau.

Mr. John Klapperich:

- stated that the City needs to do a better job promoting, nurturing, and appreciating small business;
- expressed disappointment that the Council did not invest dollars into small business via the adoption of AM No. 07-12;
- stated tourism will diversify the City's sales tax base; and
- encouraged the Council to reconsider AM No. 07-12 and fund the establishment of a Wasilla Visitor and Tourism Bureau.

Mr. Jason Hamlin:

- talked about the Chamber's role in supporting local business; and
- encouraged the Council to reconsider AM No. 07-12 and fund the establishment of a Wasilla Visitor and Tourism Bureau.

Ms. Dianne Woodruff:

- spoke in opposition to Resolution Serial No. 07-09.

Mr. George Ball:

- encouraged the City to capitalize on small business ventures by actively promoting the tourism industry.

Ms. Loi Ricker:

- supports the establishment of a visitor and tourism bureau to promote small tourism based business and grow the economy.

Ms. Jill Bruley, Membership Director and Executive Assistant, Greater Wasilla Chamber of Commerce:

- encouraged the Council to reconsider AM No. 07-12 and fund the establishment of a Wasilla Visitor and Tourism Bureau; and
- talked about how much of her work day is spent assisting people who are relocating or visiting Wasilla.

Mr. Conrad Holler:

- spoke in opposition to Resolution Serial No. 07-09; and
- suggested placing the issue of a salary increase for the position of Mayor on the upcoming ballot for the electorate to decide.

Ms. Linda Henning:

- spoke in support of the establishment of a tourism bureau; and
- urged the Council to reconsider AM No. 07-12 and fund the establishment of a Wasilla Visitor and Tourism Bureau.

Ms. Anne Kilkenny:

- spoke in opposition to Resolution Serial No. 07-09;
- stated that the Council needs to create a compensation system for the position of mayor that does not focus on the person holding the position, but on the duties of the position;
- stated that the compensation for the position of mayor should take into account the background of the individual holding the position and educational achievements; and
- suggested that the salary for the position of mayor be increased based on the Anchorage Consumer Price Index.

Mr. Harold Ward:

- urged the Council to support the Wasilla Senior Center;
- spoke about programs offered by the Wasilla Senior Center; and
- invited the Council to attend senior luncheons.

Mr. Bill Dau:

- spoke in opposition Resolution Serial No. 07-09;
- suggested that the Council enact a manager form of government; and
- spoke in support of AM No. 07-17.

Mr. Bill Church:

- encouraged support of the Wasilla Senior Center; and
- suggested that promoting the Senior Center to visitors would be a great marketing tool.

Phil Lockwood:

- spoke in support of the Capital Improvement Nominated Project to fence the area around the Museum of Alaskan Transportation and Industry (MATI);
- stated that MATI is a huge tourist draw to the City of Wasilla; and
- spoke about recent acquisitions to the MATI collection.

Mr. Steve Stoll:

- stated that the half-percent sales tax to construct the Wasilla Multi-Use Sports Complex must be retired as soon as possible;
- expressed disappointment with the Council for adopting Ordinance Serial No. 07-13;
- spoke in opposition to Resolution Serial No. 07-09; and
- stated that the tourism industry should pool together money to establish a visitor and tourism bureau.

Ms. Jay Nolfi:

- spoke in favor of Resolution Serial No. 07-09; and
- stated setting the salary of the mayor is a decision of the Council.

Mr. Ken Langlois:

- spoke in support of the retention of urban forests and wildlife quarters when granting development permits in the city.

Mayor Keller noted that a representative from the Meritage Development Group has arrived and requested that he be allowed to address the Council at this time. No objection was raised.

Mr. Jack Barrett, Meritage Development Group:

- shared information about new developments to include Creekside Town Square and Gateway Crossing.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes of Preceding Meetings:

1. Regular Meeting: March 12, 2007
2. Special Meeting: March 1, 2007

B. Introduction of Ordinances: Recommended Public Hearing on April 23, 2007:

1. **Ordinance Serial No. 07-17:** Amending WMC Section 5.16.045, Rules Applicable To Particular Businesses Or Occupations, And WMC Section 5.16.050, Exemptions, To Provide Exemptions From Sales Tax For Sales Of Materials Used In Building Construction That Are Uniform For The City And The City Of Palmer; Amending WMC Section 5.16.050, Exemptions, To Identify Separately Those Exemptions From Sales Tax That Require A Certificate Of Exemption; And Amending WMC 5.16.080, Certificate Of Exemption, To Provide Fees For Certificates Of Exemption For Sales Of Materials Used In Building Construction That Are Uniform For The City And The City Of Palmer, And To Provide A Period For Transition To The New Fees For Certificates Of Exemption.
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C. Resolutions

1. **Resolution Serial No. 07-12:** Transferring Funds Within An Accounting Fund In The Amount Of \$3,420 For Airport Apron Phase 1C Engineering Design Services.
 - a. **AM No. 07-16:** Contract Amendment To Hattenburg, Dilley, And Linnell In The Amount Of \$12,000 For Airport Apron Phase1C Design Services.
2. **Resolution Serial No. 07-13:** Adopting And Supporting The Alaska National Guard 297th Support Battalion Through The America Supporting Americans Adoption Program. (Sponsored by Mayor Keller)

D. Action Memorandums

The City Clerk read items from the Consent Agenda into the record.

MOTION: Council Member Koskela moved to adopt the Consent Agenda as read by the City Clerk.

GENERAL CONSENT: The motion passed without objection.

The Council requested a five-minute recess. No objection was raised.

The Council recessed at 9:55 p.m. and reconvened at 10:02 p.m.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

X. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Resolution Serial No. 07-09:** Establishing The Mayor's Salary At \$79,960 Effective July 1, 2007, In Accordance With WMC 2.16.070 And Repealing Resolution Serial No. 03-16. (Sponsored by Council Member Koskela)

MOTION: Council Member Koskela moved to adopt Resolution Serial No. 07-09.

Discussion moved to the Council and debate ensued.

MOTION: Council Member Ewing moved the previous question. (*Clerk note: The effect of this motion is to immediately stop debate.*)

VOTE: The motion to move the previous question failed with Council Member Ewing in favor and Deputy Mayor Cox, Council Members Holler, Koskela, Menard, and Metiva opposed.

Debate continued.

MOTION: Council Member Ewing moved the previous question. (*Clerk note: The effect of this motion is to immediately stop debate.*)

VOTE: The motion failed with Council Members Holler and Menard in favor and Deputy Mayor Cox, Council Members Ewing, Koskela, and Metiva opposed.

Debate continued.

MOTION: Council Member Ewing moved the previous question. *(Clerk note: The effect of this motion is to immediately stop debate.)*

VOTE: The motion failed with Council Members Ewing and Holler in favor and Deputy Mayor Cox, Council Members Koskela, Menard, and Metiva opposed.

Debate continued.

MOTION: Council Member Ewing moved the previous question. *(Clerk note: The effect of this motion is to immediately stop debate.)*

GENERAL CONSENT: The motion to move the previous question passed without objection.

VOTE: The motion to adopt Resolution Serial No. 07-09 failed with Deputy Mayor Cox and Council Member Koskela in favor and Council Members Ewing, Holler, Menard, and Metiva opposed.

B. **AM No. 07-15:** Request For Sales Tax Penalty Waiver For Echostar Satellite.

MOTION: Council Member Koskela moved to adopt AM No. 07-15 by granting the sales tax waiver in the amount of \$11.27 to Echostar Satellite LLC for the period ending November 2006.

The Finance Director presented an overview of AM No. 07-15.

Discussion followed.

MOTION: Council Member Menard moved the previous question. *(Clerk note: The effect of this motion is to immediately stop debate.)*

GENERAL CONSENT: The motion passed without objection.

VOTE: The motion to adopt AM No. 07-15 by granting the sales tax waiver in the amount of \$11.27 to Echostar Satellite LLC for the period ending November 2006 passed with Deputy Mayor Cox, Council Members Holler, Koskela, Menard, and Metiva in favor and Council Member Ewing opposed.

C. **AM No. 07-17:** Direction To The City Attorney To Research The Possibility Of Sales Tax Exemptions For Groceries For Senior Citizens And Disabled American Veterans. (Sponsored by Council Member Ewing)

MOTION: Council Member Ewing moved to adopt AM No. 07-17.

Discussion followed and debate ensued.

MOTION: Council Member Menard moved the previous question. *(Clerk note: The effect of this motion is to immediately stop debate.)*

GENERAL CONSENT: The motion passed without objection.

VOTE: The motion to adopt AM No. 07-17 failed with Council Member Ewing in favor and Deputy Mayor Cox, Council Members Holler, Koskela, Menard, and Metiva opposed.

XI. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Information Memorandums

1. **IM No. 07-07:** Planning Commission Recommendation On Capital Improvement Program 2008 – 2012.
2. **IM No. 07-08:** Expenditure Reports: January And February 2007.
3. **IM No. 07-09:** Expenses Greater Than \$5,000 From January 2007 Through March 2007

B. Commission Minutes

1. Planning Commission: February 27 and March 13, 2007
2. Parks and Recreation Commission: February 21 and March 14, 2007
3. Airport Advisory Commission: March 20, 2007
4. Employee Relations Committee: March 1, 2007

No action was taken on the communication items.

MOTION: Council Member Metiva moved to extend the meeting beyond 11 p.m. as required by WMC 2.04.060.D

GENERAL CONSENT: The motion passed without objection.

XI. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Ms. Anne Kilkenny:

- talked about different ways the Council might structure the salary range for the position of mayor to include experience and educational incentives.

Ms. Colleen Cottle:

- expressed concern over parking fees being charged for attendance at the Home Show this year;
- expressed concern over the lack of janitorial service at the Wasilla Multi-Use Sports Complex; and
- expressed concern over the lack of maintenance at the Wasilla Multi-Use Sports Complex.

Mr. Conrad Holler:

- spoke in support of exempting groceries from sales tax collection from November through May of each year; and
- asked the city to remove an ice house from Lake Lucille before the ice goes out of the lake.

Ms. Dianne Woodruff:

- expressed concerned about the unintended consequences of exempting sales tax at the point of sale; and
- suggested that the city consider issuing payment to those that qualify for sales tax exemptions versus having businesses implement different sales tax structures.

Ms. Cheryl Metiva:

- requested that the Council consider a code amendment to more efficiently grant sales tax waivers as stated in AM No. 07-15.

Ms. Jay Nolfi:

- spoke in opposition to the granting of sales tax exemptions for various groups because of the unintended burden placed on small businesses in terms of sales tax collection and reporting; and
- stated that the council is a citizen council not a professional council.

XIII. MAYOR, CLERK AND ATTORNEY COMMENTS

Mr. Tom Klinkner, City Attorney:

- updated the Council on the Luper Land Use Case and the Eminent Domain Case.

Ms. Kristie Smithers, City Clerk:

- asked for direction from the Council in scheduling future work sessions; and
- asked Council Members Ewing and Holler when they would like to travel to Juneau for lobbying.

The Council directed the Clerk to schedule a work session on April 23, 2007 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss establishing a Visitor and Tourism Bureau, possible sales tax exemptions to include senior citizens and disabled American veterans, and the salary structure for the position of mayor.

Mayor Keller:

- reported that Matanuska Music has developed a program dedicated to restoring instruments for local schools and raising awareness about the importance of music in a child's education;
- updated the Council on proposed legislation to amend state liquor license law supported by the City; and
- noted she provided the Council with a written report.

XIV. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Ewing:

- apologized for not attending the last council meeting; and
- noted his absence was a result of a family emergency.

Council Member Koskela:

- requested an update from Chief Long on the police radio grant from the Borough;
- thanked the public for their participation in the meeting; and
- stated he is working with the purchasing officer to address concerns raised in relation to AM No. 07-12.

Council Member Holler:

- requested assistance from the City in removing debris from Lake Lucille which will potentially pollute the lake once the ice goes out.

Council Menard:

- suggested that administration take a pro-active approach to removing debris from Lake Lucille which will potentially pollute the lake once the ice goes out;
- asked why parking fees will be charged at the Home Show this year;
- stated that communication between constituents and the council could be improved upon by issuing council members computers; and
- requested that the council refrain from making direct attacks on individuals during debate.

Council Member Metiva:

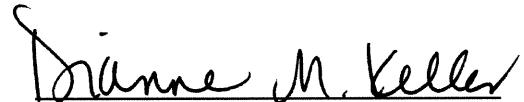
- congratulated the Wasilla Warrior Girls and Boys Basketball Teams for an outstanding season;
- spoke in support of work sessions as a means to make council meetings more efficient; and
- reminded the Council to use the Goals and Initiatives adopted by the Council in their decision making process.

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

No executive session was held.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business at hand, Mayor Keller adjourned the meeting at 11:34 p.m.


DIANNE M. KELLER
Mayor

ATTEST:



KRISTIE SMITHERS, MMC
City Clerk

Adopted by the Wasilla City Council on April 23, 2007.