



MAYOR
Dianne M. Keller

COUNCIL
Stephanie Massie, Seat A
Douglas W. Holler, Seat B
Steve Menard, Seat C
Marty Metiva, Seat D
Dianne Woodruff, Seat E
Kristofer Larson, Deputy Mayor, Seat F

**WASILLA CITY COUNCIL
MEETING AGENDA**

**Meeting Location: Wasilla City Multi Use Sports Complex
1001 S. Mack Drive, Wasilla, AK 99654
(907) 373-9010**

SPECIAL MEETING 6 P.M. OCTOBER 24, 2007

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Realignment of Sun Mountain Avenue

1. Committee of the Whole

a. Ms. Margaret King, Facilitator

VI. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

VII. MAYOR, COUNCIL AND CLERK COMMENTS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Special Meeting of the Wasilla City Council was held on Wednesday, October 24, 2007, at the Wasilla Multi-Use Sports Complex, located at 1001 S. Mack Drive, Wasilla, Alaska. Mayor Dianne M. Keller called the meeting to order at 6:26 p.m. The purpose of the meeting was to enter into a Committee of the Whole to discuss the realignment of Sun Mountain Avenue. *(Clerk note: the meeting was scheduled to begin at 6 p.m., however, due to weather conditions, it was called to order at 6:26 p.m.)*

II. ROLL CALL

Council Members present and establishing a quorum were:

- Mr. Stephanie Massie, Seat A
- Mr. Doug Holler, Seat B
- Mr. Steve Menard, Seat C
- Mr. Marty Metiva, Seat D
- Ms. Dianne Woodruff, Seat E
- Mr. Kristofer Larson, Deputy Mayor, Seat F

Staff in attendance were:

- Ms. Kristie Smithers, City Clerk
- Ms. Jamie Newman, Deputy Clerk
- Ms. Sandra Garley, Deputy Administrator
- Mr. Archie Giddings, Public Works Director
- Mr. Jim Holycross, City Planner

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Keller invited Margaret King to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Realignment of Sun Mountain Avenue

1. Committee of the Whole

a. Ms. Margaret King, Facilitator

MOTION: Council Member Menard moved to enter into a Committee of the Whole at 6:26 p.m. to discuss the realignment of Sun Mountain Avenue.

GENERAL CONSENT: The motion was approved without objection by Deputy Mayor Larson, Council Members Holler, Massie, Menard, Metiva, and Woodruff.

Ms. Margaret King, Facilitator, presented an overview of the meeting. She talked about the role of a facilitator; introduced officials in attendance; and reviewed the ground rules of the meeting.

Mr. Archie Giddings, Public Works Director, gave an overview of the City's efforts, since approximately 2002, to improve E. Sun Mountain Avenue between Seward Meridian and Cottonwood Creek.

Questions were asked of Mr. Giddings.

Mr. Jim. Sawhill, Engineer, Lounsbury & Associates, presented detailed information on the development of Creekside Town Square. *(Clerk note: Lounsbury & Associates provides engineering services to the Meritage Development Group.)*

Questions were asked of Mr. Sawhill.

Ms. Annette Andres, Owner, Windbreak Café, expressed concern and raised ethical questions regarding the relationship of the City of Wasilla and Meritage Development Group. She spoke about the impact to her business caused by the closure of E. Sun Mountain Avenue, west of the Windbreak Café and requested an independent review of the development process.

The Council recessed at 7:39 p.m. and reconvened at 7:53 p.m.

Discussion continued regarding the development Creekside Town Square.

Mr. Kevin Vandermolen, Development Manager, Meritage Development Group, spoke about the proposed development of Creekside Town Square and the estimated economic benefits to the community.

Questions were asked of Mr. Vandermolen.

Officials from State of Alaska, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT) and staff from the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB) answered questions regarding the role of DOT and the MSB in the proposed development. Representatives from both entities acknowledged that the intersections on E. Sun Mountain Avenue warrant improvement as traffic increases.

MOTION: Council Member Menard moved to exit the Committee of the Whole.

GENERAL CONSENT: The motion failed with Council Members Holler and Menard in favor and Deputy Mayor Larson, Council Members Massie, Metiva, and Woodruff opposed.

Discussion continued and Administration talked about scheduling a transportation work-session to include property owners from a defined geographic area and agency representatives to discuss road improvements within the defined geographic area.

MOTION: Council Member Larson moved to exit the Committee of the Whole at 10:42 p.m.

GENERAL CONSENT: The motion passed without objection with Deputy Mayor Larson, Council Members Holler, Massie, Menard, Metiva, and Woodruff voting in favor.

VI. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Ms. Cheryl Metiva:

- spoke in favor of the meeting stating it was long overdue.

VII. MAYOR, COUNCIL AND CLERK COMMENTS

Mayor Keller:

- thanked the audience for attending; and
- stated Wasilla is open to all businesses both large and small.

Council Member Massie:

- thanked the public for their participation; and
- stated her hope is that this meeting will serve as a start to improving communication.

Council Member Holler:

- thanked the Council for scheduling this evenings meeting; and
- shared his frustration with the lack of information provided by Administration on major developments.

Council Member Metiva:

- thanked the audience for attending the meeting;
- spoke in support of new and existing businesses;
- noted this evenings meeting was productive; and
- expressed support for an open process that includes all stake holders.

Council Member Woodruff:

- thanked the audience for attending the meeting;
- expressed the need to solve street connectivity issues through intergovernmental agencies;
- expressed disappointment with Administration for not apologizing to owners of the Windbreak Café for the threatening letter sent regarding the taking of Windbreak property; and
- spoke in support of an independent review of the conduct of city staff in relation to the development of Creekside Town Square.

Deputy Mayor Larson:

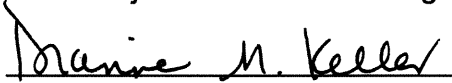
- thanked Ms. King for her service;
- thanked staff and agency representatives for attending the meeting; and
- shared thoughts for improving the development process.

Council Member Menard:

- thanked the audience for attending the meeting;
- reminded elected officials of their oath of office;
- spoke in support of responsible development; and
- spoke about the need to preserve the identity of Wasilla.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business at hand, Mayor Keller adjourned the meeting at 10:55 p.m.


DIANNE M. KELLER, Mayor

ATTEST:


KRISTIE SMITHERS, MMC
City Clerk

Adopted by the Wasilla City Council on November 26, 2007.