



MUNICIPALITY OF SKAGWAY, ALASKA
REGULAR ASSEMBLY MEETING

October 5, 2023
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1. **Call to Order:**

Mayor Cremata called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Cremata formally acknowledged that the Assembly is gathered on the traditional land of the Tlingit people.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

2. **Roll Call:**

Present: Mayor: Andrew Cremata **Assembly Members:** Deb Potter, Sam Bass, Orion Hanson, Alex Weddell, Dan Henry, Jay Burnham

Absent:

3. **Approval of Minutes:**

A. September 7, 2023

Motion/Second: Bass/Potter

To approve the September 7, 2023 Assembly meeting minutes.

The Motion passed by roll call vote, 6 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

4. **Approval of Agenda:**

Motion/Second: Henry/Potter

To approve the agenda.

The Motion passed by roll call vote, 6 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

5. **Reports of Officials and Committees:**

A. **Mayor's Report:**

Mayor Cremata indicated that:

- His written report is in the packet.

B. **Assembly Committee Reports:**

A. **Assemblymember Jay Burnham:**

Motion/Second: Burnham/Hanson to approve the check register in the amount of \$2,052,461.93.

Assemblymember Burnham indicated there were some large checks for the transfer facility, rockslide mitigation, and a payment to the school.

Motion passed by roll call vote, 6 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

Assemblymember Burnham indicated that Finance met on October 4, 2023, and did the following:

- Reviewed four community funding grant applications.
 - Finance postponed until the next meeting.
- Reviewed the proposed sale of the port truck in ground machine by competitive bid.
 - Finance recommends Assembly approval.

Assemblymember Henry indicated that he stopped by the school and the new kitchen facility looks great and the menu is phenomenal.

C. Treasurer's Report:

D. Manager's Report:

Manager Ryan indicated that:

- He wrote about Mayor Cremata's service in his report, and he would like to thank him for his guidance.
- Boardwalk maintenance typically happens in October, but with cruise ships still coming in, there will be some businesses who are inconvenienced by closures to get the work done.
- The next step in the AP&T rate increase protest is to file a petition to intervene and engage an expert to identify the issues within the rate structure. The Regulatory Affairs and Public Advocacy (RAPA) can potentially file as well, so it has been advised to wait until that time to finalize the petition.

6. Communications to the Assembly:

A. Correspondence:

Correspondence was received from:

- Senator Jesse Kiehl, Representative Andi Story, and Representative Sara Hannan re: Mayor Cremata's Tenure

B. Hear Citizens Present

Charity Pomeroy indicated her thanks to Mayor Cremata for his service.

Tom Cochran indicated his congratulations to the newly elected officials and thanked Mayor Cremata for doing an exemplary job during unprecedented times.

Valerie Larsen requested to have an art display in the chambers that can have a featured school artist each month.

Lea Mauldin expressed concern about the relationship between the Assembly and the Clinic Board.

Sherry Corrington expressed her thoughts about Mayor Carlson and her vision for Skagway.

Reba Radey indicated her support for the containerized ore shipments.

Mary Thole indicated her support for the containerized ore shipments; and expressed concern for garbage bears.

Fable Wallace expressed concern for garbage bears.

Anika Thole expressed concern for garbage bears.

7. **Ordinances, Resolutions, & Proclamations:**

A. **Public Hearing, Second Reading, and Adoption of Ordinance No. 23-23: Requiring Bulk Ore Shipment to be Containerized**

Motion/Second: Henry/Potter to adopt Ordinance No. 23-23.

Public Hearing

Tom Cochran indicated that he is not in favor of this ordinance because it sends the wrong message to industry. There will not be enough time with the 2024 summer cruise ship schedule to load an ore ship.

The Public Hearing was closed.

Assemblymember Potter indicated that she has spent a lot of time researching containerized ore shipments, and while it will take more time, it will ensure that no additional contamination happens under the Municipality's management.

Assemblymember Weddell indicated that the logistical questions posed by Tom Cochran are valid. However, this sets the highest standard of safety for the community and the environment.

Assemblymember Hanson indicated that the ore dock redevelopment project is designed to accommodate an ore ship in port for several days.

The Motion passed by roll call vote, 6 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

8. **Unfinished Business:**

9. **New Business:**

A. **Certification of October 3, 2023 Municipal Election Results**

Motion/Second: Henry/Potter to certify the October 3, 2023 election results.

Donna Griffard, Election Board Chair indicated:

- Her thanks to the Election Board, Mark Larsen, Nan Saldi, Cara Cosgrove, and Julene Brown for all their time and hard work on this election; and to the Clerk's office.
- An electronic precinct scanner was used, and all write-in votes were counted by hand.
- 503 registered voters submitted ballots.

- The polls closed at 8 p.m. Tuesday and the election board had preliminary results at about 12:30 a.m. on Wednesday.
- The Canvass Board met at 4 p.m. on Thursday, October 5th to count the absentee, questioned, and special needs ballots.
- The Canvass Board recommends the Assembly certify the regular election results as shown on the Election Certificate.

The Motion passed by roll call vote, 6 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

B. Approval Port Truck in Ground Machine Sale by Competitive Bid

Motion/Second: Potter/Burnham to approve the competitive bid sale of the Port Truck in Ground machine.

Manager Ryan indicated that this piece of equipment does not run, and there is no longer a use for it. The minimum bid has been set at \$50,000.

The Motion passed by roll call vote, 6 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

10. Mayor and Assembly Discussion Items:

Assemblymember Henry indicated that:

- In the past, a radial arm has been considered in relation to ore shipments, and that may still be a viable idea later.
- The mining companies want to avoid handling the ore a second time because it is more expensive, and that is their challenge and not the Assembly's.

Assemblymember Burnham indicated that:

- Metal lids on dumpsters are expensive, but the Municipality should investigate requiring all dumpsters to have them.

Assemblymember Weddell indicated that in Canada there are signs that say, "A fed bear is a dead bear."

Assemblymember Bass indicated that:

- He is humbled by being elected as the new mayor and his primary obligation will be to fairly consider and protect the ideas, perspectives, and fundamental rights of everyone in this community.
- He would like to thank Mayor Cremata for his outstanding service to the community and for ensuring that Skagway maintained a solid footing from which can now be built greater financial security, increased access to public services, expanded and more robust infrastructure, and an increase in the quality of life for everyone.

Assemblymember Potter indicated that she would like to see some additional signage around town regarding protocols and laws about bear attractants.

Mayor Cremata indicated that the families of elected officials are often subjected to the criticisms people have. His thanks to the families of elected officials who rarely get any praise and still must deal with criticism.

11. Executive Session:

12. Adjournment:

With no more business on the agenda, and with no objection from the table, Mayor Cremata adjourned the regular Assembly meeting of October 5, 2023 at 8:23 p.m.

ATTEST:

Sam Bass, Mayor

Steve Burnham Jr., Borough Clerk
(SEAL)

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