

**MINUTES OF THE
ANCHORAGE CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING**

**Monday, April 23, 2024
6:00 p.m.**

Council members in attendance were Diane Cook, Patrick McMahon, Karin Tyrer, Bill Wetherton, and Hunter Wilson. Matt Delehanty was absent. Also in attendance were Mayor Neil Ramsey, City Attorney John McGarvey, and Office Manager/Clerk Angie Chick. Guests included Kelly Dauk, Maggi Donnell, Lee Lorch, Nancy and Doc Trentham, Ed Weyler, Sara Tyler, Hannah Barnes, Amanda Matter, Kristin Delaney, Amanda Pagano, Nancy Lynne Walters, Lucy Spickard, and Ann MacDonald Ross.

Mayor Ramsey called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

MINUTES

Cook said the April 8, 2024 minutes should state the Owl Creek Country Club court lights should be modified to reduce glare. Wetherton motioned to approve the minutes with the change. Cook seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Impervious Surface Variance Request – Jury, 907 Glenbrook Road Approved

Tyler Jury presented his impervious surface variance request at the April 8 City Council meeting. Council approved the variance with the condition that adjacent property owner Cole Smith meet with Jury's engineer, Prism Engineering, and give his support for the project. McMahon was appointed to represent the City Council to resolve the contingency. McMahon reported that Mr. Smith met with the engineer and submitted a letter of support, therefore, the variance has been approved.

2024 Tax Rate Ordinance Second Reading

Cook conducted the second reading of the 2024 Tax Rate Ordinance. The ordinance established the fiscal year 2023-2024 ad valorem tax rate of \$0.323 on each one hundred dollars of the January 1, 2024 assessed valuation of all real and personal property, a discount of five percent (5%) of the value of the face amount if the tax bill payment is received at City Hall postmarked on or before May 31, 2024, and due date of June 30, 2024. Ramsey noted the City takes into consideration the increase in home values and has reduced the tax rate several times in the past few years. Wilson motioned to approve the 2024 tax rate ordinance. Tyrer seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Anchorage Independent Public School Auditorium Renovation Update

Anchorage Independent Board of Education Chair Hannah Barnes discussed the history, plans, and status for the Anchorage Public School (APS) auditorium renovation project. Planning began in 2019. Renovations include replacing or updating seating, lighting, flooring and sound system, reconfiguring the stage, painting, and adding aisle lighting. Many of the Anchorage residents in attendance expressed concern that the community was not notified of the renovation plans and they were not included in the planning process. The layout of the stage, preservation of the wall of actor's signatures, and seating were major concerns. Project information was not easily accessible to residents on the school board website. Attendees and the Mayor recommended the Board of Education slow the renovation project process in order to engage residents and gather community support. That decision is up to the Board of Education. For future major projects, the Board may want to consider creating a communication plan to communicate and engage all APS taxpayers. Board communications can be included in the City's monthly newsletter, *The Anchor Age*, and on their website.

ADJOURNMENT

Wilson motioned to adjourn the meeting. Wetherton seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Ramsey adjourned meeting at 6:53 p.m.

Neil Ramsey, Mayor

Reneé M. Major, City Clerk