

THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA
SPECIAL ASSEMBLY MEETING
Meeting Minutes – May 4, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

MEETING NO. 2022-11: The Special Assembly Meeting of the City and Borough of Juneau Assembly was held at City Hall and virtually via Zoom Webinar and called to order by Mayor Beth Weldon at 5:30p.m.

II. LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Ms. Hale provided the following land acknowledgment: We would like to acknowledge that the City and Borough of Juneau is on Tlingit land, and wish to honor the indigenous people of this land. For more than ten thousand years, Alaska Native people have been and continue to be integral to the well-being of our community. We are grateful to be a part of this community, and to honor the culture, traditions, and resilience of the Tlingit people. *Gunalchéesh!*

III. ROLL CALL

Assemblymembers Present: Greg Smith, Michelle Hale, Carole Triem, Alicia Hughes-Skandijs, Christine Woll, Wade Bryson, and Mayor Beth Weldon.

Assemblymembers Absent: Deputy Mayor Maria Gladziszewski, ‘Wáahlaal Gíidaak,

Staff Present: City Manager Rorie Watt, Deputy City Manager Robert Barr, City Attorney Robert Palmer, Municipal Clerk Beth McEwen, Eaglecrest Manager Dave Scanlan, Finance Director Jeff Rogers, Finance Budget Analyst Adrien Speegle, Administrative Assistant Caitlyn O’Meally

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

V. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Instruction for Public Participation

Ms. McEwen provided instruction to the listening public on how to participate in the meeting via the Zoom platform.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

VII. AGENDA TOPICS

A. Public Hearing: Ordinance 2021-08(b)(am)(AP) An Ordinance Appropriating up to \$800,000 to the Manager for the Eaglecrest Gondola Capital Improvement Project; Funding Provided by General Funds.

The Purchasing Officer is processing bids to transport the gondola from Austria to Juneau, which was initially estimated to be \$400,000. However, the potential lowest bid is nearly \$850,000 and the other bid is nearly \$1,120,000. With CBJ having contracted to pay \$1.34 million (1.23M Euro) for the gondola itself plus the engineering inspection costs, loading/export fees, employee travel costs, and attorney fees, there is insufficient budget authority in the existing appropriation to sign a contract for the transportation. Given the gondola transportation bids, a \$500,000 supplemental appropriation is currently necessary to fund transportation at the lower bid.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly adopt this ordinance.

Public Comment

None.

Assembly Action

Mayor Weldon asked members if they had any questions before they proceed with any motions.

Mr. Smith asked the Manager to provide an update on Goldbelt's involvement and their willingness to spend \$10,000,000 on this project. Mr. Watt responded that he and Mr. Scanlan have met with Goldbelt and they feel very comfortable that a deal is achievable. They discussed Goldbelt's general thoughts and it is strictly an economic deal that they are interested in. He said there was some trepidation expressed from the public that Goldbelt will want some part of control in Eaglecrest and Mr. Watt said he didn't foresee that as being a problem. He said that the Municipal Attorney and he has been in contact with outside counsel who have worked on complicated public/private contracts in the past so that is a really good resource. In light of those considerations, he is optimistic that negotiating a deal with Goldbelt is quite achievable.

Mayor Weldon asked where we are at in the negotiations to purchase the gondola; in essence: "Have we bought it yet?" Mr. Palmer said that we are well on our way to owning a gondola. We have spent the better part of \$1,000,000 towards the purchase of the gondola which was a result of action taken following the COW in April, the Eaglecrest Manager, City Engineer, and Contract Manager went over to Austria to inspect the gondola prior to it being packaged up. The inspection was satisfactory; it was exactly as described, in good to great condition, and is on its way to being disassembled for loading and the target date for CBJ to receive the title for the gondola is May 20.

Mayor Weldon said that now that it seems we own this gondola, what would happen if this ordinance doesn't pass.

Mr. Watt said that we would be in a very difficult position having spent a lot of money to purchase a gondola on another continent without the funds to move it. He said that he could not think of a good outcome or something approaching a good outcome if this ordinance doesn't pass.

MOTION by Mr. Bryson to adopt Ordinance 2021-08(b)(am)(AP) and asked for unanimous consent. Objection noted by Ms. Hughes-Skandijs and Ms. Triem.

Ms. Hughes-Skandijs said that she voted against the purchase of the gondola as she feels it is a bad route for the city to go. She said that it was a bad process that was followed and she specifically appreciated the Mayor's last question. She said that she cannot in good conscience agree to put more public funds towards a deal that they have not seen the terms of and only received verbal updates about. She said that the Assembly shouldn't take its duty lightly and they, as well as the Eaglecrest Board, need to ensure it is a good deal.

Ms. Triem said she wouldn't be speaking to her objection and can't wait for the day that the Assembly needs no longer discuss this topic.

ROLL CALL VOTE on adoption of Ordinance 2021-08(b)(am)(AP)

Yeas: Bryson, Hale, Smith, Woll, Weldon

Nays: Hughes-Skandijs, Triem

Motion passed 5 yeas, 2 nays.

B. Bid Award: RFB 22-280 Eaglecrest Gondola Shipping

Bids were opened on the subject project on April 21, 2022. The following bids were received:

Bidder	Total Section A – Shipping
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Lynden Logistics	\$845,163.50
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ATS	\$1,120,110.00
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Bidder	Total Section B - Storage
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No bids were received	
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The City Manager recommends award to Lynden Logistics for the total bid amount of \$845,163.50.

Public Comment

None.

Assembly Action

Mayor Weldon asked to confirm that no bids were received for the storage section. Mr. Scanlan confirmed that there were no bids received for the storage.

MOTION by Ms. Hughes-Skandijs to award Bid RFB 22-280 in the amount of \$845.163.50 to Lynden Logistics and asked for unanimous consent. *Hearing no objections, the motion passed.*

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Assembly, the Special Assembly meeting was adjourned at 5:43p.m.

Signed: _____

Elizabeth J. McEwen
Municipal Clerk

Signed: _____

Beth A. Weldon
Mayor