

CITY OF CRAIG
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
November 30, 2023

ROLL CALL

Mayor Kasey Smith called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. Present were Kasey Smith, Hannah Bazinet, Shauna Thomas, Josh Bennett, Michael Kampnich, Chanel McKinley, Millie Schoonover.

Audience Present/Telephonically: Kristi Kunhert, Jackie Hanson, Chuck Hanson, Jim Taylor, Mel Blanc, Quinn Aboudara, Ed Douville

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made and seconded to approve the consent agenda.

SCHOONOVER/KAMPNICH

MOTION PASSED (5-0)

HEARING FROM THE PUBLIC

Kristi Kunhert thanked the council for meeting and thanked Shaan Seet for their fast action on helping during the landslide. She stated there needs to be a permanent fix for the culvert and 62 Pit. She brought to the council's attention that no one on Prince of Wales Island is eligible for flood/landslide insurance because our island is not FEMA compliant.

Mayor Kasey Smith stated that Southeast Roadbuilders proposed to extend the creek by the culvert to redirect water and that is only a temporary fix.

Jackie Hanson (telephonically) thanked the City of Craig and Shaan Seet for their help with the landslide. She brought up another landslide that happened and did damage to their home in 2020. She stated there needs to be a permanent fix to the culvert and the gravel in the culvert needs to be dug out.

Jim Taylor stated at 10-mile PSN there are trees that are slowly sliding down towards the road. He asked if disaster planning will cover out to 10-mile since City ownership does not go that far.

Mayor Kasey Smith stated he would like to schedule a meeting with Clinton Cook and Ed Douville to collaborate and discuss potential solutions.

Quinn Aboudara stated that he is marking hazardous areas of PSN with ribbons and people can contact him at Shaan Seet with concerns.

Chuck Hanson thanks the City Council for having the meeting. He suggested that equipment be staged out PSN when a storm comes through.

Mel Blanc stated he thinks an 84" culvert would solve the problem.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

Resolution 23-20, Disaster Declaration. Brian Templin stated this resolution will give the City more flexibility in procurement and spending to respond to the disaster. The disaster declaration

will also be forwarded to the State of Alaska and the disaster may be included in the current disaster declaration for Wrangell.

SCHOONOVER/BAZINET

MOTION PASSED (6-0)

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Shauna Thomas asked Mayor Kasey Smith why he only asked Southeast Roadbuilders to do the work for PSN. She also asked if an engineer had been consulted.

Kasey stated he wanted a cost analysis to bring to the council so they have an idea of what the cost of repairs will be. He stated the engineer report is not ready to be shared and that the 48" culvert is only a temporary fix.

Brian Templin stated that he is sending a letter to the State to extend the funding from the Wrangell Disaster Declaration to Craig. This would allow more money to the City of Craig for the disaster.

Millie Schoonover asked why Prince of Wales Island is not FEMA flood compliant.

Brian Templin stated that the city has never applied for floodplain mapping. Brian also stated that once floodplain mapping were completed that all properties within the mapped floodplain would need flood insurance which may increase the cost of homeowner insurance significantly and could potentially cause more difficulties for people financing homes in the mapped floodplain. He stated that FEMA would have to be invited to Craig for the floodplain assessment in order to become compliant. He stated there is no formal jurisdiction for PSN since it is in the unorganized borough and outside of municipal city limits so it may be difficult to even get FEMA to map that area.

Mike Kampnich stated that we should emphasize to the State that this is a regional issue and not specific to Wrangell since we are all in Southeast Alaska.

Brian stated that the city costs for the portion of the landslides outside of city limits will be applied to the PSN road maintenance fee.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:27 pm.

SCHOONOVER/KAMPNICH

APPROVED (6-0)


KASEY SMITH, MAYOR




MARY SALAZAR, CITY CLERK