

**Minutes  
of the  
Anchorage City Council Meeting**

**March 9, 2009  
6:00 PM**

The Council members in attendance were: Dan Heiskell, Brian Rublein, Susan Mitchell, Bill Wetherton, and Roger Durham. Mayor Hewitt presided. Also in attendance were Assistant to the Mayor Alice McKinley; City Clerk Nan Schlindwein; Public Works Director Erwin Booth; Police Chief Chris Winders; City Attorney John McGarvey; Treasurer Renee Major; and guests Eric Taylor, Stephen Kottkamp, and Diane McAllister.

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

**MINUTES**

The minutes from the February 9, 2009, Regular Meeting of City Council were presented. Wetherton motioned to accept the minutes, which was seconded by Durham, and unanimously approved by Council.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The City's check register and financial report for February 2009 were presented.

**POLICE REPORT**

Chief Winders presented the February 2009 police report.

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

The minutes from the February HPC meeting were presented.

**FORESTRY BOARD**

Diane McAllister presented the minutes from the February Forestry Board meeting. The tree order for the 2009 Canopy Campaign has been sent in and she expects the trees to be planted in a couple of weeks. She stated that the tree order was smaller than last year, perhaps due in part to residents' recovery work from the recent ice storm. A little more than 100 trees were ordered, with the majority ordered through the wholesale program.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mitchell did a first reading of an ordinance establishing the City of Anchorage tax rate on real and personal property for the tax year 2008-2009. The only property assessments raised this year were those homes that had been listed on the market, sold during the year, newly built homes, or homes with new additions. As required by ordinance, the homes sold were assessed at purchase price; the homes on the market assessed at 80% of the asking price. About seventeen assessment appeals were heard last month. Revenues this year will increase very little and the proposed tax rate will remain at .416.

McKinley stated that \$94,463.00 has been deposited into the City's bank account by Kentucky Emergency Management for FEMA reimbursement of damage costs from the September storm. She is now in the process of filing paperwork with FEMA for the January ice storm. She stated that for the January ice storm FEMA will reimburse 75% of what they consider fair cost, with the state then reimbursing an additional 12%. Tree Care, Inc. was hired the day after the storm hit to clear streets and to remove debris in the City. McKinley stated that Tree Care had available at the time the needed vehicles, equipment, and manpower that expedited the clean up process, completing the work in four days. The original bill from Tree Care was approximately \$150,000.00. Tree Care could not give an acceptable account of vehicles, equipment, and personnel used, and

after discussions with the owner, the cost was decreased to \$90,000.00, running about \$2,100/hour, closely matching the hourly rate charged after the September storm. The City has not been satisfied with the clarification of the bill so will pay 50% now, withholding the remainder until the City feels the amount charged is justified.

At 6:16 p.m. City Council adjourned.

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W. Thomas Hewitt  
Mayor

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Nan Schlindwein  
City Clerk