

## **LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

March 23, 2006

### **1. ROLL CALL**

The Legislative Council meeting was called to order at 5:11 p.m. by Representative Kott, Chairman, Legislative Council, in the Senate Finance Committee Room and via teleconference.

The roll was taken. In attendance were Council members: Representatives Kott, Coghill, Harris, Rokeberg, Weyhrauch, Berkowitz, Senators Cowdery, Ben Stevens, Gary Stevens, Therriault, Wilken, and Davis. Members absent: Representative Gatto and Senator Wagoner. Staff present: Varni, Ohmer, Collins, Cook, Clothier, Ibesate, Maher, O'Hare, Popely, and Williams.

### **2. APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 13 AND 28, 2006 MINUTES**

Senator Therriault moved Legislative Council approve the minutes of the February 13 and February 28, 2006 Council meetings.

With no objection, the motion passed unanimously.

### **3. FAIRBANKS OFFICE SPACE RFP 431**

Senator Therriault moved that Legislative Council go into Executive Session under Uniform Rule 22(b)(1) and (3), discussion of matters, the immediate knowledge of which would adversely affect the finances of a government unit and discussion of a matter that may, by law, be required to be confidential. He asked that the following staff remain in the room or on teleconference to answer questions. Pam Varni, Judy Ohmer, Tam Cook, Terry Bannister, Jan Price, and Ted Popely.

Speaker Harris objected for purposes of discussion.

Speaker Harris removed his objection.

Legislative Council went into Executive Session.

Legislative Council came out of Executive Session.

Senator Seekins reported the Fairbanks RFP Subcommittee met and received a timely proposal from AlaskaUSA Federal Credit Union. No other proposals were received. The Subcommittee recommended unanimously that Legislative Council accept the proposal.

Senator Therriault moved that Legislative Council award RFP 431 to AlaskaUSA Federal Credit Union for a five-year term at \$29,073.54 per month with annual CPI adjustments.

With no objection, the motion passed unanimously.

#### **4. LEASE RENEWALS: OFFICE OF VICTIMS' RIGHTS, GOLDSTEIN BUILDING, AND BARROW LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE**

Pam Varni, Executive Director of the Legislative Affairs Agency, explained to the Council that three lease renewals were before the Council for approval. Senator Therriault moved that Legislative Council approve the following lease renewals: Juneau Storage, Goldstein Improvement Company, one-year renewal for \$33,046; Barrow Legislative Information Office, Arctic Slope Telephone Association, one-year renewal for \$30,800; and Office of Victims' Rights, L92, LLC, one-year renewal for \$44,610.

With no objection, the motion passed unanimously.

#### **5. MASONIC TEMPLE**

Don Johnston, Building Manager, reported he accompanied Jensen Yorba Lott, Inc. on the condition-assessment tour of the Masonic Temple. He said he agreed with the written report by Jensen, Yorba, Lott and that the project is worth looking into.

Discussion followed regarding the approximate square footage of the building and lot, converting the building to office space, installing a sky bridge over Seward Street, removing the building for parking spaces, possible resale of the building, heat, plumbing, ventilation and air conditioning cost and repair, using the building for storage, existing leases in effect, possible soil contamination, and approximate cost for renovations.

Representative Coghill requested that Legislative Council request from the City and Borough of Juneau in writing, what type of use is permitted or not permitted with the sale of the building.

Mr. Clark Gruening, lobbyist with the City and Borough of Juneau, stated it was his understanding that the agreement would be to take the property as is, and do

whatever the Council would choose with the building along with the land underneath it.

Chairman Kott moved that the Masonic Temple building purchase be placed on the March 30<sup>th</sup> Legislative Council agenda. Don Johnston was asked to report back with answers on operating costs and square footage measurements. Chairman Kott stated Legislative Council members should give some thought to the potential use of the building.

Chairman Kott requested Mr. Gruening obtain a firm answer regarding the above issues from the City and Borough of Juneau and report back to Legislative Council at the March 30<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Gruening agreed.

**6. LATE PER DIEM REQUEST: SENATOR DONNY OLSON AND REPRESENTATIVE MIKE KELLY**

Senator Therriault moved Legislative Council approve the late per diem request for Senator Donny Olson and Representative Mike Kelly.

With no objection, the motion passed unanimously.

**7. OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN FY07 BUDGET REQUEST**

Linda Lord-Jenkins, Ombudsman, stated the proposed FY07 budget is a maintenance-level budget with minor increases in the contractual and commodities sections. The Governor's Budget contained \$795,700 for the Ombudsman's Office, which incorporates PERS increases and a two-percent increase in employee salaries.

Senator Therriault moved Legislative Council approve the Office of the Ombudsman FY07 Budget request and forward it to the Finance Committees for their review and action.

With no objection, the motion passed unanimously.

**8. ANCHORAGE OFFICE SPACE LEASE**

Mr. Acree, landlord for the current Anchorage legislative office space presented information to Legislative Council regarding the parking shortage at the Anchorage LIO. Mr. Acree outlined his own plan to shorten legislative parking in the basement level when coupled with the nine Glacier BrewHouse parking spaces. He also indicated that his plan would leave the Legislature with a number of parking spaces not complying with the lease requirements because the spaces would be undersized. In addition, it would require that up to nine outside individuals would be utilizing the legislative parking facility.

Discussion followed regarding measurement and size of parking spaces and compliance with the lease agreement.

Senator Cowdery moved to adjourn.

Representative Rokeberg objected.

Chairman Kott stated he would review the proposal submitted by Mr. Acree and will address the noncompliance issue. Chairman Kott requested that the Agency continue to withhold the deduction from the rent until compliance is demonstrated.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.