

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
MAY 16, 2016
3:57 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Gary Stevens, Chair
Representative Bob Herron, Vice Chair
Senator John Coghill
Senator Lyman Hoffman
Senator Anna MacKinnon
Senator Kevin Meyer
Senator Peter Micciche
Senator Cathy Giessel, alternate
Representative Mike Chenault
Representative Craig Johnson
Representative Sam Kito
Representative Charisse Millett
Representative Mark Neuman
Representative Steve Thompson, alternate
Representative Harriet Drummond, alternate

MEMBERS ABSENT

Senator Charlie Huggins
Senator Lesil McGuire, alternate
Representative Mike Hawker

OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT

Representatives Reinbold and Spohnholz

AGENDA

OTHER COMMITTEE BUSINESS

SPEAKER REGISTER

[4:00:09 PM](#)

- I. **CHAIR GARY STEVENS** called the Legislative Council meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. in Room 208 of the Bill Ray Center. Present at the call were Senators Stevens, Meyer, Coghill, Hoffman, MacKinnon, Micciche, and Giessel, alternate member; Representatives Herron, Chenault, Johnson, Kito, Millett, Neuman, and Thompson and Drummond, alternate members. Senators Huggins, and McGuire, alternate member, and Representative Hawker were absent.

Other Legislators present: Representatives Reinbold and Spohnholz.

II. **COMMITTEE BUSINESS - EXECUTIVE SESSION**

a. Anchorage Office Space

b. Bill Ray Center Lease

a. Anchorage Office Space

CHAIR STEVENS noted for members that Council would be going into Executive Session to follow-up on the May 2, 2016, Anchorage office space proposal.

[4:01:53 PM](#)

VICE CHAIR HERRON moved that Legislative Council go into Executive Session under Uniform Rule 22(B)(1), discussion of matters, the immediate knowledge of which would adversely affect the finances of a government unit and 22(B)(3), discussion of a matter that may, by law, be required to be confidential. I ask that the following individuals remain in the room: Doug Gardner, Katrina Matheny, Linda Hay, Curtis Clothier, and any legislative staff working for Council members. In addition, we ask that Kevin Cuddy with Stoel Rives remain on teleconference, and we also welcome any Legislators who are not on Legislative Council to remain in the room or on teleconference.

There being no objection, the Legislative Council went into Executive Session.

[5:01:54 PM](#)

Legislative Council came out of Executive Session.

VICE CHAIR HERRON moved that Legislative Council authorize the chair to enter into and sign a purchase and sale agreement, subject to legislative appropriation, for the purchase of the land and office building known as 1500 West

Benson Boulevard in Anchorage, for an amount not to exceed \$12.5 million.

There being no discussion, a roll call vote was taken.

A roll call vote was taken.

YEAS: Meyer, Coghill, Hoffman, MacKinnon, Micciche, Giessel, Chenault, Johnson, Millett, Neuman, Thompson, Herron, Stevens

NAYS: Kito

The motion authorizing the Chair to pursue purchasing the land and office building known as 1500 West Benson Boulevard in Anchorage for an amount not to exceed \$12.5 million passed 13-1.

b. Bill Ray Center Lease

[5:03:17 PM](#)

VICE CHAIR HERRON moved that Legislative Council authorize the chair to spend up to \$25,000 per month, through midsummer 2016, to maintain the Bill Ray Center for legislative office and meeting space as necessary until the Legislature's need for the space during the 29th Alaska State Legislature has concluded.

CHAIR STEVENS objected for purpose of discussion, and said that the issue here was that there has been a lot of effort, money, and time into preparing this Bill Ray Center for legislative use. All the materials, the telecommunications, etc., have been put in at the Legislature's expense and we don't want to move out until we know that we are done for this year. As soon as we are done with this special session, the lease will be terminated for this building. The lease cost is \$25,000 per month; the building is available through the end of August; and the lease may be exited at any time.

Discussion followed regarding the cost of the lease; confirming that the lease is month-to-month through the end of August and can be canceled at any time; and that the rate may be pro-rated. There was also a call to contact the Juneau Foundation to appeal to their desire to keep the Legislature in the Capital City and to help reduce the cost of the special session by contributing toward the lease costs.

A roll call vote was taken.

YEAS: Meyer, Coghill, Hoffman, MacKinnon, Micciche,
Giessel, Chenault, Johnson, Kito, Millett, Neuman,
Thompson, Herron, Stevens

NAYS: None

The motion to maintain the Bill Ray Center for legislative office and meeting space until the end of the special session was approved 14-0.

There being no further business before the committee, the Legislative Council meeting was adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

[5:08:19 PM](#)