



CITY OF GUSTAVUS CITY COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING

Monday, March 09, 2026 at 7:00 PM
Gustavus City Hall

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Sally McLaughlin
Vice Mayor Lucas Beck
Council Members: Renee Patrick,
Justin Marchbanks, Karen Hutten,
Jim Kearns, Mike Taylor

CITY HALL

City Administrator – Kathy Leary
City Clerk – Liesl Barker
City Treasurer – Ben Sadler
Phone: 907-697-2451
clerk@gustavus-ak.gov

AGENDA

VIRTUAL MEETING INFORMATION

ID: 515 501 9406

PASSCODE: XXXXXXXX

TEL: 253-215-8782

ROLL CALL

Reading of the City of Gustavus Mission Statement

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. 02-09-2026 General Meeting Minutes
2. 02-23-2026 Special Meeting Minutes

MAYOR'S REQUEST FOR AGENDA CHANGES

COMMITTEE / STAFF REPORTS

3. Conservation Lands Advisory Committee Quarterly Report
4. Library Quarterly Report
5. City Treasurer Monthly Report
6. City Administrator Monthly Report

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

CONSENT AGENDA

ORDINANCE FOR PUBLIC HEARING

7. FY26-13NCO An Ordinance providing for the amendment of the city held accounts in fiscal year 2026 - closing Capital Project CP19-06 DRC Composting Facility (Introduced 02-09-2026)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

8. FY26-14NCO An Introduction of an ordinance providing for the amendment for the city held accounts in fiscal year 2026 - closing capital project CP24-01 DRC expansion
9. Approve the proposal to engage with a new city attorney

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

10. Mayor Monthly Report

CITY COUNCIL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

POSTED ON: Month Day, 202X at P.O, Library, City Hall & <https://cms.gustavus-ak.gov/>

ADA NOTICE

Any person with a disability who requires accommodations in order to participate in this meeting should telephone the City Clerk’s office at (907) 697-2451, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting in order to make a request for a disability related modification or accommodation.

MISSION STATEMENT

The City of Gustavus is a distinctive Alaskan City that provides high quality public services in a thoughtful, cost effective and professional manner to sustain a safe, beautiful tolerant environment to live, work, and play with respect for individual freedom and each other.



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MINUTES - PENDING

VIRTUAL MEETING INFORMATION

<https://tinyurl.com/2khe4zhm>

ID: 515 501 9406

PASSCODE: 9526

TEL: 253-215-8782

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mayor Sally McLaughlin
Vice Mayor Lucas Beck
Council Member Renee Patrick
Council Member Karen Hutten
Council Member Mike Taylor
Council Member James Kearns (via zoom)
Council Member Justin Marchbanks



Reading of the City of Gustavus Mission Statement

Mission Statement read by Beck.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. 12-08-2025 General Meeting Minutes
2. 01-19-2026 Special Meeting Minutes (rescheduled 01-12-2026 general meeting)

Motion made by Hutten to approve 12-08-2025 General Meeting Minutes and 01-19-2026 Special Meeting Minutes by unanimous consent.

Public Comment: None

Council Comment: None

Hearing no objections, the 12-08-2025 General Meeting Minutes and 01-19-2026 Special Meeting Minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

MAYOR'S REQUEST FOR AGENDA CHANGES

There were no agenda changes.

Hearing no objections, Mayor McLaughlin announced the agenda set as presented by unanimous consent.

COMMITTEE / STAFF REPORTS

3. Disposal and Recycling Center Quarterly Report
Disposal and Recycling Center Manager/Operator, Ian Barrier submitted a written report and provided an oral summary.
Clarifying Questions:
Taylor
McLaughlin
Hutten
4. Gustavus Visitors Association Quarterly Report
Gustavus Visitor Association President, Leah Okin submitted a written report and provided an oral summary.
Council Clarifying Questions:
Taylor
Hutten
5. City Clerk Quarterly Report
City Clerk, Liesl Barker submitted a written report and provided an oral summary.
Council Clarifying Questions:
Taylor
Marchbanks
Beck
6. City Treasurer Monthly Report
City of Gustavus City Treasurer, Ben Sadler provided monthly financial documents and gave an oral summary.
Clarifying Questions:
Taylor
7. City Administrator Monthly Report
City of Gustavus City Administrator, Kathy Leary provided a written report and provided an oral report.
Clarifying Questions: None

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

CONSENT AGENDA

None

ORDINANCE FOR PUBLIC HEARING

- 8. FY26-12NCO An Ordinance providing for the amendment of the City Held Accounts in Fiscal Year 2026 - Closing Out Capital Project CP24-02 Same Old Road Drainage.(Introduced 01-19-2026)

Mayor McLaughlin opened the public hearing at 7:41PM.

Public Testimony: None

Mayor McLaughlin closed the public hearing at 7:41PM.

Motion made by Taylor to approve FY26-12NCO An Ordinance providing for the amendment of the City Held Accounts in Fiscal Year 2026 - Closing Out Capital Project CP24-02 Same Old Road Drainage as introduced on 01-19-2026.

Seconded by Patrick

Council Debate:

Taylor

McLaughlin

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Beck, Council Member Patrick, Council Member Hutten, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Marchbanks

7 yea/0 nay

Motion passed

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 9. Approve GVFD Fire Chief Job Description

Motion by Kearns to approve GVFD Fire Chief Position Description.

Seconded by Beck

Public Comment:

Chantel Mulligan-Rear

Council Debate:

Marchbanks

Hutten

City Administrator Leary

Taylor

Kearns

Hutten

City Administrator Leary

Patrick

McLaughlin

Marchbanks

City Administrator Leary

Hutten

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Beck, Council Member Patrick, Council Member Hutten, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns
 Voting Nay: Council Member Marchbanks

6 yea/ 1 nay

Motion passed

NEW BUSINESS

10. QUASI-JUDICIAL Matter City of Gustavus waives the right to file a protest of the renewal of Excursion Restaurant Llc's Restaurant Eating Place Liquor License
 There were zero Council Member conflicts of interest of Ex Parte communication to declare.
 Mayor McLaughlin opened the Public Hearing at 8:12pm.
 Public Testimony:
 Susan Warner
 Mayor McLaughlin closed the Public Hearing at 8:13 pm
 Motion made by Kearns that the City of Gustavus waives the right to file a protest of the renewal of Excursion Restaurant Llc's Restaurant Eating Place Liquor License.
 Seconded by Taylor
 Council Debate: None
 Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Beck, Council Member Patrick, Council Member Hutten, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Marchbanks
 7 yea/ 0 nay
 Motion passed
11. City of Gustavus writes off the following ambulance service debts from FY25 \$703.40 and ambulance subscription services \$80.00 as uncollectable, in total \$783.40.
 Motion by Hutten that the City of Gustavus writes off the following ambulance service debts from FY25 \$703.40 and ambulance subscription services \$80.00 as uncollectable, in total \$783.40.
 Seconded by Marchbanks
 Public Comment: None
 Council Debate: None
 Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Beck, Council Member Patrick, Council Member Hutten, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Marchbanks
 7 yea/ 0 nay
 Motion passed

- 12. Approve project planning document for Heavy Equipment Procurement - CAT 950 Wheel Loader with Forks and Snowplow attachment

Motion by Kearns to approve project planning document for Heavy Equipment Procurement - CAT 950 Wheel Loader with Forks and Snowplow attachment.

Seconded by Beck

Public Comment:

Ben Sadler

Council Debate:

Beck

Hutten

City Administrator Leary

Kearns

McLaughlin

City Administrator Leary

Marchbanks

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Beck, Council Member Patrick, Council Member Hutten, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Marchbanks

7 yea/ 0 nay

Motion passed

- 13. CY26-03 A resolution approving the submission of Capital Improvement Funding Requests

Motion by Marchbanks to approve CY26-03 A resolution approving the submission of Capital Improvement Funding Requests.

Seconded by Hutten

Public Comment: None

Council Debate: None

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Beck, Council Member Patrick, Council Member Hutten, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Marchbanks

7 yea/ 0 nay

Motion Passed

- 14. FY26-13NCO Introduction of an Ordinance providing for the amendment of the city held accounts in fiscal year 2026 - closing Capital Project CP19-06 DRC Composting Facility (Public Hearing 03-09-2026)

Motion made by Beck to introduce FY26-13NCO An Ordinance providing for the amendment of the city held accounts in fiscal year 2026 - closing Capital Project CP19-06 DRC Composting Facility (Public Hearing 03-09-2026).

Seconded by Beck

City Treasurer Sadler

Public Comment: None

Council Debate: None

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Beck, Council Member Patrick, Council Member Hutten, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Marchbanks

7 yea/0 nay

Motion Passed

- 15. Approve amendments to Gustavus Endowment Fund Grant Policy and Procedure

Motion by Kearns to approve amendments to Gustavus Endowment Fund Grant Policy and Procedure.

Seconded by Partrick

Public Comment: None

Council Debate:

Kearns

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Beck, Council Member Patrick, Council Member Hutten, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Marchbanks

7 yea/0 nay

Motion passed

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

- 16. Mayor Monthly Report

McLaughlin submitted a written report and provided an oral summary.

Clarifying Questions: None

CITY COUNCIL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Taylor - Conservation Lands Advisory Committee gallery show

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Johan Janse Van Rensburg

Whittney Rapp

Leah Okin

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 17. To discuss matters, the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the City of Gustavus: To discuss matters related to borough formation petition.

Motion by Beck to go into executive session to discuss matters, the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the City of Gustavus: To discuss matters related to borough formation petition.

Seconded by Hutten

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Beck, Council Member Patrick, Council Member Hutten, Council Member Taylor, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Marchbanks

7 yea/0 nay

Motion passed

Mayor McLaughlin closed the General Meeting at 8:44P.M.

At this point the Clerk assigned city council to a breakout room and the members of the public remained in the main room. *(City council members attending virtually are not permitted to attend executive session per ordinance 2.40.140k)* Clerk locked door to chambers and posted a sign for executive session.

Mayor McLaughlin opened the Executive Session at 8:50P.M.

Motion made by Patrick to end executive session and reconvene the general meeting by unanimous consent.

Seconded by Marchbanks

Hearing no objections, the motion passed by unanimous consent.

Mayor McLaughlin closed the Executive Session and opened the General Meeting at 9:14P.M.

No further action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business and hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 9:14PM.

POSTED ON: February 4, 2026 at P.O, Library, City Hall & <https://cms.gustavus-ak.gov/>

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Sally A. McLaughlin, Mayor

Date

Attest: Liesl M. Barker, City Clerk

Date



CITY OF GUSTAVUS CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, February 23, 2026 at 6:00 PM
Gustavus City Hall

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Sally McLaughlin
Vice Mayor Lucas Beck
Council Members: Renee Patrick,
Justin Marchbanks, Karen Hutten,
Jim Kearns, Mike Taylor

CITY HALL

City Administrator – Kathy Leary
City Clerk – Liesl Barker
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Phone: 907-697-2451
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MINUTES- PENDING

VIRTUAL MEETING INFORMATION

<https://tinyurl.com/5x32a6uh>

ID: 515 501 9406

PASSCODE: 5589

TEL: 253-215-8782

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mayor Sally McLaughlin
Vice Mayor Lucas Beck
Council Member Karen Hutten
Council Member James Kearns
Council Member Justin Marchbanks

ABSENT

Council Member Renee Patrick (unexcused)
Council Member Mike Taylor (unexcused)

Reading of the City of Gustavus Mission Statement

Mission statement read by Kearns.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion on feasibility study regarding formation of borough in the Icy Strait region.

Topics for discussion include:

- Whether or not to collectively hire a consultant to assess the feasibility of a borough including the communities of Elfin Cove, Pelican and Gustavus.
- The study could include information on:
 - the extent of local support for the borough
 - ability to meet Local Boundary Commission standards
 - economic viability and tax revenue
 - ability to provide essential services
 - pros and cons of different borough models



- impacts on the communities involved
- Other considerations

This discussion is just to assess whether the city would like to commission a feasibility study, not on whether the city would like to take action on borough formation, at this time.

Motion by Beck to open discussion on feasibility study regarding formation of borough in the Icy Strait region.

Seconded by Marchbanks

Public Comment: None

Council Debate:

- Marchbanks
- McLaughlin
- Kearns
- City Administrator Leary
- Hutton

2. Approve hiring a consultant, Kathie Wasserman to conduct a feasibility study regarding formation of borough in the Icy Strait region.

Motion by Hutten to approve to hire a consultant, Kathie Wasserman to conduct a feasibility study regarding formation of borough in the Icy Strait region.

Seconded by Beck

Public Comment:

- Whitney Rapp
- Clarifying Question: McLaughlin
- Susan Warner

Council Debate:

- McLaughlin
- Kearns

Voting Yea: Mayor McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Beck, Council Member Hutten, Council Member Kearns, Council Member Marchbanks

5 yea/0 nay

Motion Passed

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business and hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 6:22 P.M.

POSTED ON: February 11, 2026 at P.O, Library, City Hall & <https://cms.gustavus-ak.gov/>

ADA NOTICE

City of Gustavus, Alaska
 City Council Special Meeting Minutes - PENDING
 February 23, 2026
 Page 2 of 3

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Sally A. McLaughlin, Mayor

Date

Attest: Liesl M. Barker, City Clerk

Date

**CITY OF GUSTAVUS, ALASKA
ORDINANCE FY26-13NCO**

**AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF GUSTAVUS PROVIDING FOR THE AMENDMENT OF
THE CITY HELD ACCOUNTS IN FISCAL YEAR 2026 –
CLOSING CAPITAL PROJECT CP19-06 DRC COMPOSTING FACILITY**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GUSTAVUS CITY COUNCIL AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Classification. This is a **Non-Code Ordinance**

Section 2. For the Fiscal Year of 2026, the following City held account balance transfers are to be made for the reasons stated.

Section 3. For the current fiscal year, City held accounts are amended to reflect the changes as follows:

CITY HELD ACCOUNTS	Amounts		
	Account Balance*	Amended Balance	Change
CP19-06 DRC Composting Facility <i>Transferring funds and closing out CP19-06</i>	\$ 66,645.85	\$ 0.00	\$ 66,645.85
AMLIP Capital Improv Long-Term <i>This transfer will move funds from AMLIP Capital Current to Capital Improvements Long Term.</i>	\$ 692,626.70	\$ 759,272.55	\$ 66,645.85
Total Change in City Held Account Balances			\$ 0.00

Section 4. The City held accounts are hereby amended as indicated.

Section 5. Effective Date. This ordinance becomes effective upon its adoption by the Gustavus City Council.

DATE INTRODUCED: February 09, 2026

DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING: March 09, 2026

PASSED and **APPROVED** by the Gustavus City Council this XX day of _____, 2026.

Sally A McLaughlin, Mayor

Attest: Ben Sadler, City Treasurer

Attest: Liesl M Barker, City Clerk

**CITY OF GUSTAVUS, ALASKA
ORDINANCE FY26-14NCO**

**AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF GUSTAVUS PROVIDING FOR THE AMENDMENT OF
THE CITY HELD ACCOUNTS IN FISCAL YEAR 2026 –
CLOSING CAPITAL PROJECT CP24-01 DRC Expansion**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GUSTAVUS CITY COUNCIL AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Classification. This is a **Non-Code Ordinance**

Section 2. For the Fiscal Year of 2026, the following City held account balance transfers are to be made for the reasons stated.

Section 3. For the current fiscal year, City held accounts are amended to reflect the changes as follows:

CITY HELD ACCOUNTS	Amounts		
	Account Balance*	Amended Balance	Change
CP24-01 DRC Expansion <i>Transferring funds and closing out CP24-01</i>	\$ 45,944.19	\$ 0.00	\$ 45,944.19
AMLIP Capital Improv Long-Term <i>This transfer will move funds from AMLIP Capital Current to Capital Improvements Long Term.</i>	\$ 694,770.71	\$ 740,714.90	\$ 45,944.19
Total Change in City Held Account Balances			\$ 0.00

Section 4. The City held accounts are hereby amended as indicated.

Section 5. Effective Date. This ordinance becomes effective upon its adoption by the Gustavus City Council.

DATE INTRODUCED: *March 09, 2026*

DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING: *April 13, 2026*

PASSED and **APPROVED** by the Gustavus City Council this XX day of _____, 2026.

Sally A McLaughlin, Mayor

Attest: Ben Sadler, City Treasurer

Attest: Liesl M Barker, City Clerk