

July 2, 2020  
Regular City Council Meeting

**Discussion of Directing Staff to Compile Information Regarding Council Committee Review and Modification of Staff's Draft of a City of Ketchikan Statement Regarding Recent National Events and Ketchikan Police Department Practices – Councilmember Chapel**

## Karl Amylon

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**From:** Emily Chapel  
**Sent:** Friday, June 19, 2020 12:40 PM  
**To:** Karl Amylon; Lacey Simpson  
**Cc:** Joseph White  
**Subject:** KPD

Hi Karl, Lacey and Chief White,

Could I get a copy of the KPD policies relating to deescalation and their use of force continuum as requested during our meeting together at the beginning of June? The entire KPD policy manual would be fine. Can you clarify what documents/policies KPD is governed by? Please also share the KPD training schedule for the past 3-5 years and what percentage of our officers completed those trainings? How many new officers have we added in the last 3-5 years? Can we ask one KPD officer to sit on the 'committee' to provide their perspective as we craft the statement?

Finally, what steps are being taken in regards to our officers decisions and the recent potential for community outbreak?

Thanks!

Em

**Discussion of a Proposed Ordinance to Amend the Ketchikan Municipal Code to Make it Unlawful to Discriminate Based on Race, Color, Age, Religion, Sex, Marital Status, Changes in Marital Status, Pregnancy, Parenthood, Disability, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Gender Expression, Ethnicity, or National Origin – Councilmember Gage**

Councilmember Gage felt this conversation should have taken place a long time ago not in 2020. She said this is one of those discussions where if you don't live it, you don't know it and you can't speak to it. She said she has heard things from other disabled people that she was told 25 years ago. She indicated discrimination is a slippery slope, and if we allow it in any capacity it allows for the destruction of our constitution and the rights of all individuals. She said it was time Ketchikan joined Juneau, Sitka and Anchorage, and at some point the State will catch up.

Mayor Sivertsen asked for a show of hands to direct the city attorney to move forward with an Ordinance to Amend the Ketchikan Municipal Code to make it unlawful to discriminate, and at least four hands were shown.

**Budget Transfer – Restoration, Purchase and Installation of Mosaic Piling Cap Sculptures – Terry Pyles**

Moved by Flora, seconded by Bergeron the City Council authorize a \$25,000 budget transfer from Appropriated Reserves of the CPV Fund to the Tourism & Economic Development Department's Port Piling Cap Sculptures Capital Account to fund the restoration, purchase and installation of four existing mosaic piling cap sculptures created by local artist Terry Pyles for display adjacent to the Port on pilings at Daly Float parallel to Berth I.

Manager Amylon indicated as a point of clarification this will be brought back as a budget amendment for final approval at the July 2, 2020 Council meeting.

Motion passed with Chapel, Bergeron, Coose, Kiffer, Gage, Zenge and Flora voting yea.

**Phase I Procurement of Signposts, Signpost "Fish" Art, Interpretive Panels and Wayfinding Vinyl Sign Decals – Salmon Walk**

Moved by Bergeron, seconded by Zenge the City Council authorize staff to move forward with Phase I procurement of signposts, signpost "fish" art, interpretive panels and wayfinding vinyl sign decals for the Salmon Walk at an estimated cost of \$23,915 as detailed in the Museum Director's report dated June 10, 2020; and approve funding from the Tourism & Economic Development Department's 2020 Downtown Visitor Amenities Capital Account.

Motion passed with Chapel, Bergeron, Coose, Kiffer, Gage, Zenge and Flora voting yea.

**City of Ketchikan Statement Regarding Recent National Events and Ketchikan Police Department Practices**

Moved by Chapel, seconded by Zenge the City Council accept staff's June 10, 2020 draft statement regarding recent national events and Ketchikan Police Department practices and direct the city manager to publish such statement as may be modified by the City Council and in what forums the City Council determines appropriate.

## "UNAPPROVED" June 18, 2020

Councilmember Chapel thanked staff and the Police Department for putting together this draft statement. She indicated she would like to see modifications made to the statement to include strength and action items before the Council takes action. She felt it fell short of the community's primary concerns.

Manager Amylon indicated his office was given the task of putting together a statement from the Council relative to issues that were going on in the lower 48. He indicated his office did not receive any direction or suggestions on what they Council would like to see. He suggested the Council form a committee to put together a statement that would be agreeable to the Council.

Councilmember Chapel felt this Council may not be the most appropriate group to assist in this conversation, but felt it should come from people of color.

Manager Amylon said if the statement provided tonight does not reflect what would be collectively a Council position, he would respectfully suggest that you draft something and bring it back to the Council for approval. He felt that would be more effective rather than staff going back and try and do modifications that still may not be what the Council is looking for.

Councilmember Chapel indicated she would be willing to put something together, but in all fairness there are a lot of models out there that this statement could be based on. She said there is nothing more important than human lives and our local people need that reassurance from our Police Department that their lives are safe in their hands. She cited the community feedback on this issue and what their position at this point is has been loud and clear.

Manager Amylon said he works at the direction of the Council, and if the Council wants to direct him as to how to proceed with this statement he can do that.

Councilmember Coose felt the statement as presented was fine for this community, and didn't feel we should work this to death. He said this nation is one nation under God and everybody is equal.

Councilmember Gage said from her perspective this statement could be improved, noting she has gone through several letters from many different Police Departments all over the United States and it is very hard to find one that fits this community. She said these are hard conversations, and a lot of people don't want hear it.

Councilmember Kiffer said it was hard to hear all the conversations, but he would be willing to be part of a committee to put something together that would better meet some of the concerns he has heard tonight.

Mayor Sivertsen said things have changed over the years, but he was very proud and feels completely safe with Ketchikan's Police Department. He felt it was unfortunate what has happened in other community's in regards to recent events. He said he was comfortable with the current statement, and this statement may be adjusted in the future as times change. He said as we talk about use of force, he felt from his experience each situation is accessed when the officer arrives, because each incident is different. He said he didn't want anything written in this statement that would hamper our Police Department from doing the right thing.

Moved by Kiffer, seconded by Gage to defer until the July 2, 2020 City Council meeting.

Motion to defer passed with Zenge, Chapel, Flora, Bergeron, Coose, Kiffer and Gage voting yea.

Mayor Sivertsen asked for a show of hands to form a committee to bring back a revised draft statement. Councilmember Chapel, Gage and Kiffer volunteered for the committee.