

CITY OF UNALASKA
UNALASKA, ALASKA

RESOLUTION 2017-71

A RESOLUTION OF THE UNALASKA CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING FUNDING FOR TRAVEL, PER DIEM AND SALARIES FOR TWO MEMBERS OF THE ALASKA MARINE PILOTS ASSOCIATION TO PARTICIPATE IN A SHIP SIMULATION STUDY AS PART OF THE ANALYSIS OF THE PROPOSED DEEPENING OF THE ENTRANCE CHANNEL TO DUTCH HARBOR, TO BE CREDITED AS IN-KIND PAYMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$17,000.

WHEREAS, the Unalaska City Council authorized a 50/50 cost-share agreement with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for a feasibility study to dredge the entrance into Dutch Harbor; and

WHEREAS, this cost-share agreement allows the City to contribute in-kind services to meet a portion of the expenses of the agreement; and

WHEREAS, the USACE has requested that the City of Unalaska pay for travel, per diem and salary for two Alaska Marine Pilots to travel Mississippi to participate in a Ship Simulation study as an in-kind contribution; and

WHEREAS, the USACE has reviewed expenses for travel, per diem and salary for the Alaska Marine Pilots and determined they are reasonable; and

WHEREAS, this in-kind contribution toward the Ship Simulation study will allow the feasibility study to remain on schedule; and

WHEREAS, the City of Unalaska has appropriated funds within the Entrance Channel Dredging Project budget to pay for travel, per diem and salary for the Alaska Marine Pilots.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Unalaska authorizes funding for travel, per diem and salary for two members of the Alaska Marine Pilots Association to participate in a ship simulation study as part of the analysis of the proposed deepening of the entrance channel to Dutch Harbor, in an amount not to exceed \$17,000.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY A DULY CONSTITUTED QUORUM OF THE UNALASKA CITY COUNCIL THIS 12 DAY OF DECEMBER 2017.


MAYOR

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK



MEMORANDUM TO COUNCIL

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS
FROM: PEGGY MCLAUGHLIN, PORTS DIRECTOR
THRU: NANCY PETERSON, CITY MANAGER
DATE: DECEMBER 12, 2017
RE: A RESOLUTION OF THE UNALASKA CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING FUNDING FOR TRAVEL, PER DIEM AND SALARIES FOR TWO MEMBERS OF THE ALASKA MARINE PILOTS ASSOCIATION TO PARTICIPATE IN A SHIP SIMULATION STUDY AS PART OF THE ANALYSIS OF THE PROPOSED DEEPENING OF THE ENTRANCE CHANNEL TO DUTCH HARBOR, TO BE CREDITED AS IN-KIND PAYMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES CORPS OF ENGINEERS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$17,000.

SUMMARY: This resolution authorizes the payment of travel expenses, per diem and salary for two Alaska Marine Pilots to travel to Mississippi to participate in a Ship Simulation study for the Entrance Channel Dredging project. This expenditure will be considered an in-kind payment toward our cost share agreement with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Funds for the payment of these expenses shall come from the Entrance Channel Dredging Project. This expenditure is not to exceed: \$17,000.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION: On June 28, 2016 Council approved Resolution 2016-48 authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the United States Army Corps of Engineers for the Dredging of the Entrance Channel.

BACKGROUND: The City Council agreed to enter into a cost-share program with the Corps of Engineers for the Unalaska (Dutch Harbor) Channels Feasibility Study. The purpose of the study is to analyze the proposed deepening of the entrance channel to Dutch Harbor. This is a 50/50 cost-share program and the City's portion is not to exceed \$1,500,000. The City's match can be made in part through "in-kind" services and the USACE has requested the City to fund the pilots' costs for the simulation as an in-kind payment.

DISCUSSION: The USACE has determined that a ship simulation study conducted at the U.S. Army Engineering Research and Development Center's Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory Ship/Tow Simulator facility in Mississippi will be an effective and cost efficient way to analyze the proposed deepening of the entrance channel to Dutch Harbor.

This portion of the feasibility study will conduct simulations of ships coming in over the bar at the entrance channel at varying depths and in varying conditions. The Alaska Marine Pilots are the piloting agency for this region and are the only organization with pilots qualified to participate in this study.

The City of Unalaska has committed to participating in this feasibility study through a cost-share program. This program is designed to split the costs of the feasibility study with the USACE. The USACE has requested that City pay for the travel expenses, per diem and salaries of two marine pilots to run through the various simulations. The city will receive full credit for the amount paid as part of our in-kind contribution to the project. This cost will be paid out of the project budget approved by the Council in the previous budget cycle and no additional funds for the project are required to accomplish this task.

Simulation tests are tentatively scheduled for the end of January 2018, and this resolution authorizes the payment of the travel expenses, per diem and salary for the two pilots to travel to Mississippi. Having the City pay for this portion of the Ship Simulation study will help expedite the process for the USACE and enable the simulation testing to happen in a timeframe that works with the study deadlines.

The USACE representative has reviewed the Alaska Marine Pilots' expense proposal and agrees that it is reasonable for the costs associated with traveling to the simulation. The USACE will be paying for all other costs of the simulation study (approximately \$90,000).

By conducting the simulations in January, the USACE has indicated that the feasibility study will remain on track for completion within the allotted three year study timeline.

Staff recommends approving the funding for the pilots in an amount not to exceed \$17,000.

ALTERNATIVES: Council could choose not to support Resolution 2017-71.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: This payment will be considered an in-kind payment toward the City's agreement with the USACE for the feasibility study for the dredging of the entrance channel project.

LEGAL: Not applicable.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approving this Resolution 2017-71.

PROPOSED MOTION: I move to approve Resolution 2017-71.

CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS: I support approval of Resolution 2017-71. This USACE Ship Simulation study will provide real-time ship simulations with harbor pilots to analyze the deepening proposal for the Dutch Harbor Entrance Channel Dredging project. This information is critical to the success of the project. Having the City pay for the Marine Pilots expenses is a beneficial way to meet our in-kind contribution requirements for the project.