

BASHER COMMUNITY COUNCIL QUARTERLY MEETING
Basher Elementary School
May 11, 2017

President Don Crafts
Vice President John Beebee
Secretary Margaret Nelson
Treasurer Hillary Morgan
Directors at Large Dirk Sisson, Rick Kullberg

Meeting Called to order at 7:10pm by Council President, Don Crafts

Muni Assembly Update

Assemblyman Forrest Dunbar's report:

- The Assembly had previously approved expanding the number of taxis working within the Municipality of Anchorage. They started selling Taxi Permits via closed bids.
- Forrest is new Vice Chair of the Assembly and he is on the Transportation Committee.
- Pete Peterson was reelected to the Assembly and is Chair of the Legislative Committee that will begin to address more policy issues.
- The Muni Budget was revised and additional funding was provided for IT and Police.
- The Muni has proposed doing a study on Storm Water Utilities and to see how drainage issues are handled citywide and assess if it is feasible to unify all systems.
- The Port of Anchorage is out of compliance with the required 1000 foot buffer of fuel tanks from homes. The Muni will be evaluating this issue.
- Property taxes were increased due to new bonds and a settlement of the Eklutna Inc lawsuit with the Muni over the sale of landfill gas on Eklutna Inc. property.

Parks & Recreation Service Area Bond Issue

Bond Issue #2 that would have expanded the Parks and Recreation Service Area did not pass at the last Muni election.

Campbell Airstrip Road Upgrades Project Presentation

Rand Gaynor Project Administrator (Ph 343-8279) Work has begun on the upgrade project. Completion date is sometime in August. Excavation will begin shortly. Residence and visitors can expect about two to three weeks of delays on the road. Flagger and pilot cars will be used. There will be no work done on the day of the Mayors Marathon. After the excavation tree stumps and brush will be mulched and spread back on the ground after leveling and seed on the top not topsoil in order to keep as much of the natural vegetation as possible.

- **Open House on May 18 from 5:30 – 7pm to answer questions about the project.**
- **Location: 4700 Elmore Road at the PM&E Building, 1st Floor in the Training Room.**
The contractor will be available to further discuss the project and answer any questions.

Road Maintenance & Restoration

Great news! The road maintenance project by the MUNI Street Maintenance Department will begin in early fall and finish before the freeze. The Maintenance crew will do as much as they can until they run out of the \$200,000. Don Crafts has requested that residents don't interfere with the project or people so they can get the project completed. Don sent an earlier attachment with all the work that will be included in the project.

Additional good news, there will be multiple truckloads of waste material – (fill/silt) from the excavation that will be available for free to homeowners in Stuckagain. If you are interested in

having some fill delivered to your property **contact Don Craft to get on the list.** (w) 343-8451 © 952-4627 (H) 344-5666

LRSA Presentation

Ted Trueblood shared the summer program for our roads to include surfacing the extension from Far Point to the cul de sac, about ½ mile as well as street sweeping and road oiling. A future goal will be to resurface Copper and Atelier. Ted noted that heavy trucks are eating up the roads in our area and there is no type of enforcement that can be prevent this.

Fish and Game Presentation

Biologists Dave Battle and Corey from Fish and Wildlife were present to discuss the bear issues at the pullout and the presence of small bears around homes and into garbage cans in the neighborhood. Regarding the pullout, Dave was unsure if the same bears were using the big tree year after year. If the big “bear tree” were cut down the bears would move onto another tree. Residents were concerned that people were harassing the bears and that children and others were feeding them causing a potentially dangerous situation. The only way to fine someone for “wildlife harassment” and “negligent feeding” would be to take a picture of the individuals in the act and get a license number of the vehicle. A future solution would be to write a strong proposal on “negligent feeding” to Fish and Game. In the mean time, cutting down the tree might be the best solution. Not everyone in attendance was in agreement to removing the tree, the real issue being the people not the tree.

Dave told the group that “garbage left out” is a violation of Municipal Law which could be fineable. Bears learn “garbage cans” and will keep coming back. He also stated that it is very rare for a black bear to be aggressive but to keep dogs on leashes and have bear spray available.

New bear proof cans are due in the end of the month. The company that manufacturers the best bear can has trouble keeping up with need and production. The newest bear cans are being tested this weekend at the Zoo. Let’s hope the bears can’t open them!!

CONTACTS for Bear Issues:

Emergency: Call 911 if a bear is in your house or attacking someone.

Non- Emergency: 786-8900 Call the non-emergency APD number for other assistance with Bears

Call Trooper Dispatch: Ask for the “Wildlife Trooper” if you need assistance.

Neighborhood Crime Watch Presentation:

A representative from APD Neighborhood Watch Program discussed how to organize a Neighborhood Watch program in different areas of Stuckagain. She recommended that small groups be formed on streets or cul-de-sacs where neighbors can “see” each other. The process involves doing the work up front with the meeting and organizing. APD will facilitate the meeting, bring needed materials, and lead the meeting.

- Pick a small group and organize with the help of APD using their materials and assistance.
- 60% of the neighbors have to attend the initial Watch meeting in someone’s home.
- APD facilitates the meeting and shares information and how to set up an effective program
- Keep the Neighborhood Watch going as neighbors move in and out of the neighborhood.
- Crime maps are available and tips on incidence and reporting shared
- Homeowners inventory items / serial numbers as needed
- Meet one to two times a year

CONTACT INFO Neighborhood Watch 786-8585 www.muni.org/ncw or email: ncw@muni.org and ONLINE REPORTING TO APD: www.muni.org/apd

Emergency: CALL 911

Non-Emergency: 786-8900

Security System Presentation

Representatives from ADT and Guardian Security Systems attended the meeting and discussed security systems that are available from basic to advanced. Basic systems run about \$25-35 per month and more advanced automated systems using cell phones run \$36-50 per month. Both companies are very reputable and have been in the area for many years. We were cautioned about scam companies that show up in the summer and offer security systems that may never work. The representatives were: ADT - Cary Brooks Cell 350-5550 email: cmiller@adt.com and Guardian – Dan Locke Direct 646-8404 email dan.locke@gssiak.com Both are very knowledgeable and will come out and provide assessments and costs.

State of Alaska Presentation – Rep Lance Pruitt

Rep. Pruitt called in and updated the group on the status of the legislative session. The session had been extended through Wednesday the 17th and both sides have agreed to work this weekend. The Tax bill is in Committee but it is not moving. The Senate will be voting on a State Income Tax on Friday but it is not expected to pass. There is some agreement by the House and Senate to use dollars from the Reserve Fund to pay for some of the Education dollars that have been cut. Rep Pruitt noted that he did not vote for the censure of Rep. Eastman of Wasilla because he did not feel censure was the appropriate way to go. However, he did say that Rep. Eastman made a poor apology for his statements about women in villages. It was difficult for the group to hear the presentation on the cell phone.

Other Information from Don

- Information and date and location of the summer community BBQ will follow via email and the Neighborhood site.
- Don will attach other documents to the Neighborhood Document site.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.