

MINUTES: ABBOTT LOOP COMMUNITY COUNCIL

February 22, 2018

Meeting called to order by President Bruce Roberts at 6:40 pm at Abbott Loop Elementary. 23 people were in attendance.

Officers and Board members present: Bruce Roberts, Josh Revak, Patti Higgins, Susan Soule, Calvin Schrage, Jeff Foster, Jamie Donley.

Minutes from January 25, 2018 were approved.

Treasurer's Report: \$1767.23 in credit union plus \$59 cash. Outstanding debits: HALO \$50; WFK Park \$1,500; \$1.60 Parks & Rec for pavilion. Balance is \$216.89.

PNA: Elise Huggins a volunteer Landscape Architect says there is a \$20K Matching grant with the Anchorage Parks Foundation to raise \$40K. This project started one and a half year ago. They will improve existing trails, build an obstacle course, rock climbing wall. It will benefit Hanshew Middle School & Springhill Elementary. The students will help spread mulch and clear brush. The Anchorage Park Foundation has a link for people to donate to the project.

Motion to support Ruth Arcand Park development as described moved and seconded by Calvin Schrage/Susan Soule.

Motion passed 11 yeas/0 nays.

Representative Charisse Millett: R.C.M. is in Juneau, Hans Rodvik gave her report. The Representative is on the Special Olympics Board. Next week the working budget might be ready. She is looking for efficiencies and reductions. She supports education funding but disagrees on the funding source. Senator Murkowski gave the legislative report. Two bills SB 91 fix bail schedules and 2 Alaskans with developmental disabilities. April is Sex Assault awareness month. Looking for a long terms fiscal plan; rewrite sex harassment policy. There will be a meet and greet Saturday at Little Italy from 10-12. She has a weekly blog. You can contact her at rep.charisse.millett@akleg.gov

Representative Birch via Pres. Bruce Roberts: March 3 @ UAA Rasmussen there will be a town hall from 2-4 pm with Anchorage legislators.

Assemblyman Traini: MOA is taking over police patrol along Turnagain Arm because the State Troopers have stopped patrolling. In March a 10 cent fuel tax kicks in and \$4 million will go to patrolling Turnagain Arm. On March 13 ballots will be mailed. Ballots may be mailed, put in drop box at O'Malley on the Green.

Assemblymember Weddleton: Spoke against the Muni paying for the cost to run the road under the Seward Hwy.

Assemblymember Suzanne LeFrance: There will be discussion regarding the opioid problem. Problems with storage and disposal of these drugs. 80% of heroin users started using prescription drugs.

Jared James Mayor Berkowitz' representative: The 6-year Capital Improvements Process (CIP) is about to start on March 1. Vote by Mail is starting and handouts can be made in other languages if needed. Town Hall March 5, Monday at 6 pm at Loussac in the Assembly Chambers.

School Board member Dave Donley: Happy Fur Rondy. The ASB is retiring \$56 million in bonds and asking for \$50 million in new bonds. There is a layoff of 61 teachers; 25 of the reduction are due to decreased student enrollment. Abbott Loop Elementary is on the Muni bond: we are one of the last two schools with no fire suppression system.

Copies of all documents can be found at: <http://www.muni.org/Residents/Pages/MuniMeetings.aspx>

Candidate David Nees spoke regarding his campaign for school board.

Candidate Irene Weisman spoke about her race for school board.

FCC Bruce Roberts: 2040 Land Use Plan is now published and we have two copies. Secondary Dwelling units and greenhouses up to 10 feet tall on top of existing structures are new. They are revising the alcohol law: for example brew pubs serving on site are not allowed under the old laws. They are looking to identify any historic sites. The FCC will march in the Fur Rondy parade.

Roads and Projects –Bruce Robers: Phase II begins at Birch on Abbott Rd and the same for O'Malley next year - Dimond to O'Malley underpass.

Parks and Trails Committee – Susan Soule –PJ at Little Italy donated free pizza and soda and hosted the very successful fundraiser for Whisper Faith Park. People can still buy a biscuit for \$25. Animal control has given the project their approval. After Parks and Recs final approval the project will go to the Assembly for final approval.

P & Z Committee – Cade Inscho: There were no concerns expressed over the pending liquor licenses.

Cannibus Committee- Amanda Hesser: Nothing to report.

Abbott Loop Community Patrol: Some members have their car signs and warning lights. Grover, Phil, and Patti went on patrol in Independence Park for the initial run. Please talk to Grover if you would like to participate.

Old Business

Ken Caron gave the committee report on cell towers. They looked at Base stations. Ours has three antennas, two uplinks and one downlink. Communications are done through radio frequency waves (RF). Since they are forms of non-ionizing radiation they cannot damage the DNA of human cells. RF limit – damage is from heat and the 30-300 Hz is 0.1% - 0.15% so the towers have no effect on human cells.

New Business

Calvin Schrage moved and Phil Parks seconded that we allocate \$160 to reserve the Abbott Loop Community Park pavilion for our June 28th meeting. Motion passes with 12 yea/0 nay.

Sale of MLP: Mark Johnston MLP The utilities were not allowed to merge, there had to be a buy-out. There were four other bids. Chugach was chosen. Julie Hasquit, Communications Manager Chugach. You can go to <http://poweranchorage.com/> for more information about Prop 10. The Ballot is only giving authorization to sell ML&P; it does not require the sale. It will then go to the Assembly and the State Regulatory Commission. Everything else stays the same. If one of the other four bids won there would be no economies of scale – we would still have two utilities. Authur Miller with Regulatory affairs. This will give us lower electrical rates. The extension of Beluga River gas will be acquired with the purchase of ML&P. There are also several joint projects. Q: Does this create a monopoly? A: There are already monopolies. Chugach and ML&P do not compete with each other. Other comments: The Regulatory Commission will not approve if it results in higher cost. Q: What about the ML&P rate differential? A: the residential rate is about the same. Small commercial slightly lower. Rates won't increase. There is 4-5% employee attrition anyway. Q: Why lower the vote min from 60% to 50%? A: State Constitution and the Charter require 50% for changes. With the sale of ATU they just asked voters to sell; there were no terms, no information about what to do with the windfall.

Notes: 10% of output has "spill." ML&P has Bradley Lake, etc. so there will be savings. On March 5 at 6pm the Assembly will have a Town Hall. Chugach and ML&P will be there.

Announcements – 3/13 Comm meeting at The Center (600 E 36th Ave.); Paint the Town is looking for houses that are in need of paint and minor exterior repair and the owner is unable to maintain.

Next meeting will be Thursday, March 29, 2018 at Abbott Loop Elementary from 6:30pm to 8:30pm.

Meeting was adjourned.