

OCEANVIEW/OLD SEWARD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

C/o 240 PACIFIC VIEW DRIVE, ANCHORAGE, AK 99515

NEWSLETTER March 2004

The March meeting is ALL ABOUT BONDS. You will have the opportunity to hear both city and school district representatives discuss their respective bond packages. Now is the time to get answers to your questions before you get in the voting booth in April.

We are collecting membership dues for 2004: five dollars for an individual, ten for a family.

Our monthly meeting is March 10 (Wednesday), 7pm, at the Ocean View Elementary School (Library) on Johns Road.

We are scheduled to meet through May, break for the summer, and meet again in the fall.

LEGISLATIVE & ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIVES

Senator Ben Stevens (Senator.Ben.Stevens@legis.state.ak.us) will provide updates on his bills and what the Senate is doing about the Budget shortfall. Do you have any comments on AMATS response to questions posed during our joint meeting with Huffman/O'Malley CC last October?

Representative Lesil McGuire (Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us) will provide updates on her bills and what the House is doing about the Budget shortfall.

We will also hear the latest from our Assembly representatives Janice Shamberg (jcshamberg@gci.net) and Dick Tremaine (tremained@muni.org) What are their views on the city and school district bond proposals and the mayor's proposal for a convention center?

From our Assembly Representatives, we would like to know how many people appealed their property taxes compared to last year -- now that there is a fee to appeal?

Besides bonds and property taxes is the city considering other ways to generate revenue for infrastructure and services? In other words, what about the city's budget shortfall?

FCC MEETING

Report from Vicki Hudson

VOTE on Resolution supporting AS&G petition for a collector/industrial access road through Pennisular Cir. Between C St. and Lang Drive. Support for 2-way access for frontage road at C St. and AS&G plant.

APRIL ELECTION -- Bonds

Both the Municipality and the School District are sending representatives to discuss their Bond Proposals for the April Election. We have asked them to provide a financial picture of the city's current bond indebtedness and rating both with and without the proposed bonds and a schedule of bond retirements. Of course, we want to know what these bonds are for and why are they needed. Now is the time to ask all the questions you have ever wanted to ask about bonds.

APRIL ELECTION -- Candidate Meeting

Since the election is April 6 and our next meeting is April 14, our community council will have an opportunity to meet the candidates in a forum sponsored by HALO (Home and Landowners' Organization). **Come to Candidate Night, April 1, 7pm, Holy Spirit Center, corner of O'Malley & Hillside.**

AMATS

Copy of AMATS response to questions posed at October 2003 joint meeting with Huffman/O'Malley CC will be available at the March meeting.

AMATS did not answer all of our questions.

During the last session, the State Legislature passed a bill that limits municipal (AMATS) spending on transportation enhancements to 10%. AMATS is still using 15% in its current budgets. Is AMATS going to comply with this bill?

NEWSLETTER

We have been notified by the Federation of Community Councils that community council newsletters will no longer be mailed by US Mail. So please advise FCC of your Email address to councils@alaska.net and copy our treasurer Mary Whitmore at emwhit@alaska.net who maintains a database of Oceanview Community Council members. These measures are a result of recent cuts to the municipal budget.

Don't forget that community councils are the link in the local government chain between the resident and the municipal government and that community councils are only as effective as you, the membership want to make them by participating in the monthly meetings.

GENERAL INFORMATION

For those who want more information on what's happening in the City, consult the Municipality website www.muni.org

CONTACT US

If you have any questions or concerns, contact your Community Council officers listed below:

- President Tim Bridgman 345-3614
- Vice President Hank Hosford 522-8638
- Secretary Margaret Klatt 345-5848
- Treasurer Mary Whitmore 344-2831
- FCC Rep Vicki Hudson 345-0011

Oceanview/Old Seward Community Council meets on the second Wednesday of the month at the Ocean View Elementary School on Johns Road. Meetings start at 7:00PM.

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