

Minutes of the Tudor Area Community Council
October 5, 2006
Rogers Park Elementary School

Sheli Dodson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM. There were six members and five guests attending. The council approved the minutes for the Sept. 7, 2006, meeting without objection.

Mr. Strickler, DOWL Engineers, was not able to attend tonight to brief on the Lake Otis Pkwy. and Tudor Rd. improvements. He will provide an update next month.

Legislative aide Kate Herring said that State Sen. Johnny Ellis is working on substance abuse regulations and other legislation.

Dick Traini gave the Assembly report. The Assembly will work on budgets for operations, capital improvements, Muni-owned utilities, and school district for the next month. The operations budget is \$403 million, up \$20 million due to increased payments, mandated by the State, to the Personnel Retirement System (PERS). Mr. Traini noted that if the Muni had to pay all of the PERS and TRS (Teachers Retirement System) shortfalls, it would amount to more than \$30 million.

The Assembly will continue the Wal-Mart rezoning hearing at its Oct. 10, 2006, meeting. Mr. Traini feels that the Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z) did its work properly, following all pertinent ordinances and planning documents in its rejection of Wal-Mart's rezoning request. He said Wal-Mart now wants the Assembly to politically override the P&Z commission, noting that "Wal-Mart has never been know as a good neighbor" anywhere in the country. They have not upgraded their mid-town store, he noted, and said that he is against the rezoning.

Mr. Traini said that he wants more police on the street; the Muni is 93 officers below the standard for a city of our size. He wants additional native Alaskans on the police force to make it more like our population. Rob Hune, the new police chief, has started work.

Sgt. Cindy Stanton presented the Police Dept. report. She discussed the statistical reports available to her and the council. The end of year numbers are scrubbed to accurately show incidents in their proper categories, while the monthly statistics are based on "calls for service". She said police had more total service calls in for the Tudor area in September (169) than in August (138), twice as many traffic stops, and triple the accidents (9), to August's 3. There were nine alarms in August, and only two in September. People asked for 12 welfare checks in September, versus four in August. Tudor area residents reported seven burglaries in August, none in September. She said burglaries peaked in September citywide.

Sheli Dodson presented a brief Federation of Community Councils (FCC) report. There is a new chairperson, and Assemblyman Ken Stout is the Assembly's new representative to the Council.

Old Business: The president asked Teri Peters of Muni Park & Rec. Dept to come to the November council meeting to discuss David Green Park. She also invited Jeff Dillon, head of the department, to come to the meeting. A council member has noticed an old blue pickup truck with a homemade wooden camper parking in the park's parking lot overnight.

The president also spoke with the Neighborhood Watch organization about making a presentation to the council. After discussion, the council decided to ask them to speak at a future council meeting.

New Business:

The president briefed the council on notices she had received. She has signup sheets for nominating families for Food Bank of Alaska assistance. Sheli asked that council members participate in the Food Bank's food drive, and to contribute items by Nov. 13. The School District is looking for folks to participate in their Capital Request Advisory Committee to spend five to ten hours a month working on district budgets. The Urban Design Commission will hold a public hearing on the new Fire Station 4 design. Comments are due by October 29.

There being no further new business, the chair adjourned the meeting at 8:00 PM.