

Eagle River Valley Community Council Meeting
Wednesday, March 14, 2018 7:00 pm
REGULAR MEETING
Gruening Middle School

Draft Minutes

Call to order at 7:05 pm by Crystal Kennedy
Quorum not established.

Introductions and Announcements:

Rebecca Logan – Mayor

Ms. Logan introduced herself, provided handouts and solicited questions. She encouraged all to visit her website loganformayor.com. In addition to information on the website, questions can be submitted, and she will respond. There is a mayoral forum on Thursday, March 15 at Chugiak that she invited everyone to attend.

Minutes: approval of minutes postponed due to lack of quorum.

Treasurers Report: No report

New Business:

Community Meeting – Integrated Corridor Management Study (ICM) of the Glenn Highway between Airport Heights Drive and Knik River Bridge

Ms. Jeanne Bowie, project engineer, Kinney Engineering, LLC, gave a presentation on the project and provided a handout. The ICM Study aims to identify ways to improve the efficiency and predictability of this stretch of highway as it relates to non-recurring congestion as caused by crashes, weather events, etc.

The project is in its first phase, data gathering. Sources of information include

1. an online public survey, currently available
2. obtaining information from all agencies that service this specific section of the Glenn Hwy corridor and
3. gathering historical statistics (traffic flow, incidents, etc.) on this section of the Glenn.

Subsequent phases include developing a vision for desired end state and identifying what changes must be made to achieve that end state.

Public input will also be solicited during subsequent phases including an open house event in late May/early June timeframe.

Ms. Bowie encouraged all to complete the online survey <http://dot.alaska.gov/glennstudy>. The survey has been publicized through the Traffic Facebook page and at all community council meetings. Approximately 1500 surveys have been completed to date.

Questions raised included adding access at Farm Road and addressing congestion at the Artillery Road exit. Ms. Bowie encouraged attendees to raise these questions on the online survey as well. Additional information is available at <http://dot.alaska.gov/glennstudy>

Bond presentations:

Proposition 7: Areawide Facilities Capital Improvement Project Bond (\$1.4M)

Ms. Nancy Clark, manager, Chugiak-Eagle River branch of Anchorage Public Library, presented an overview of the proposed improvements to Anchorage Public Library (\$590K).

These include:

1. Chugiak-Eagle River Library - Adding an Automated Material Handling System to improve service to patrons and reduce repetitive motion injuries for staff. There is no planned staff loss due to this improvement.
2. Loussac Library - Upgrading the security system including improvements to the library itself (for building and patron safety) and to municipal buildings security oversight which is also housed at this location.

This Proposition also includes improvements to Anchorage and Chugiak Senior Centers and Anchorage Animal Care & Control.

Proposition 2: Anchorage School District Capital Improvement Bonds (\$50.6M)

Mr. Jim Anderson, CFO, Anchorage School District, presented on the school district bond proposal and provided an historical view of some challenges facing the school district. The school district maintains 90 buildings including 87 schools. Half of the buildings are at least 30 years old.

In the past, the state reimbursed municipalities and boroughs for 70% of their school facilities costs. In 2008 the state reimbursement was reduced to 50% and in 2015 it was stopped altogether.

The proposed maintenance covered by this bond includes:

1. 5 roof replacements. These must be done to avoid further damage to the buildings.
2. 8 school roof repairs.
3. Addition of fire suppression systems and seismic, safety and code upgrades at several schools. Frequent fire drills are conducted at these schools. However, the fire suppression systems are required to help ensure safety of the buildings. Without this improvement, the school buildings could suffer catastrophic damage in case of a fire, resulting in much higher replacement costs.

Since 2008, school bond debt has been reduced from \$800M to \$500M including \$56M being retired this year. A consultant has been hired to look at facilities and possible school closures.

Old Business:

Eagle River Community Patrol - Cliff Cook

- There were 79.5 patrol hours logged in February. Our area has been “quiet.” A fourth patrol vehicle has been justified.
- Please be proactive and report all incidents or suspicious activities to Anchorage Police Department. This helps justify additional patrol activities.
- Cliff expressed thanks for donations and gas cards contributed to the Patrol. Tax-deductible donations can be made through Federation of Community Councils. Designate for “Community Patrol.”

Assembly Report - Susan Fischetti

Susan Fischetti's update included the following:

- Ballots have been mailed out for our first election by mail.
- There is a League of Women Voters brochure that covers all propositions included in this election.
- Consider Proposition 6: Anchorage Fire Service Area Fire Protection Bonds which directly impacts our community. Mile 5.4 is the starting point. Both the impacted community members and the Anchorage voters must approve the proposition for it to pass.
- There is a proposition to increase the residential property exemption and shift the cost to businesses.
- No Assembly report.

AWWU Water Tank

A question was raised regarding the status of the AWWU water tank.

Susan Fischetti reported that the property purchase has been delayed due to a snag regarding an easement. An out-of-state individual is being contacted to resolve the easement issue.

Crystal Kennedy will discuss topic with David Shade to request an update on the project status at a future meeting.

Committee Reports:

Federation of Community Councils - Tom Freeman

Tom's update included the following:

- Federation email addresses have been standardized.
- There was discussion and an ordinance will be proposed regarding greenhouses placed on top of existing buildings (e.g. greenhouse on top of flat garage roof). Contact Mark at 277-1977 for more information or to provide input.
- The municipality now patrols the highway from Turnagain Arm to Girdwood rather than the State Patrol.
- \$56M in Anchorage School District bonds is being retired this year.
- The ASD School Board has asked the Assembly to consider future payments based on this year's student headcount, even if the headcount continues to go down in the future.

Road Board - Crystal Kennedy

Crystal's update included the following:

- The 'hook ramp' that has been discussed in the past for Artillery Rd is currently on hold by DOT.
- Brooks Street behind Pizza Man will likely be widened/improved.
- DOT may be considering a round-about/traffic circle to improve traffic flow at Artillery Road.
- The Road Board approved the mil rate for capital improvements projects at approximately the same 1.9 mill rate as last year, in order to maintain status quo on the budget. The actual mil rate will depend on how the budget amount is figured based on the multiplier of the property valuations and could actually end up to be anywhere in the 1.89 - 1.92 range.
- There is a list of projects by street name, that is available for review.

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- The Road Board can assist with providing neighborhoods with community locking mailboxes. A 18 individual boxes and 2 package boxes unit cost is \$3500 and includes installation of a concrete pad and the mailbox unit. It's possible that smaller units are available. This is coordinated with the US Postal Service and residents can call the Post Office for more information.

School Board: Elisa Snelling - No Report

C/ER Consortium: Steve Skipper – No report

Education: Patsy Gunn: - No report

Parks and Rec: Pete Panarese - No report

Platting and Zoning: Pete Panarese: No report

Adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Next meeting on April 11.

ERVCC Board Members (Term Expiration) President: David Schade (2018) Vice President: Elisa Snelling (2019)
Treasurer & Education: Patsy Gunn (2018) Parks & Rec: Pete Panarese (2018) Consortium: Steve Skipper (2020)
Platting & Zoning: Pete Panarese (2018) Federation of Community Councils (FCC): Tom Freeman (2020) Road
Board: Crystal Kennedy (2019) Secretary: OPEN (2019) Susan Fischetti (2019)