

BASHER COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING
May 10, 2018

Meeting called to order at 7pm.

Akis Gialopsos was present to speak on behalf of Representative Lance Pruitt who is still in Juneau. Mr Gialopsos's remarks were primarily directed around Pruitt's voting on the State's Operating and Capital budgets.

Assemblyman Forrest Dunbar was present to report for himself and on behalf of Pete Peterson. Spoke to the Muni's first vote by mail election. A record 76,000 votes were cast. All but 600 were counted. Of these uncounted votes, 300 represented ballots turned in late. Overall there were "remarkably few problems".

Sale of ML&P to Chugach Electric Association passed with a 2-1 margin. \$1Billion price tag. The sale won't take place until the Assembly takes a vote in favor of the sale. The election was about "Should the Muni sell ML&P to CEA". Now the Assembly needs to perform its own due diligence and determine if they WILL sell ML&P.

APD updates. 430 officers are now employed. Department moral is improving. APD has yet to address enhancing the non-sworn officer ranks at this time. APD and the Assembly will be focusing on this portion of the department over the next year, with intention to improve and fill vacancies in the support staff.

Dunbar was questioned about the cost of the mail in voting election. He acknowledged that it was higher than past elections, but learnings should reduce costs in future elections.

Ted Trueblood, LRSA Report Mr. Trueblood reported that Jeff Allen has stepped down from this board. Jack Walker was elected to replace him. Trueblood feels good about the current board. Three members have been on the board for thirty-five years (since inception). He would like to get a better geographic representation of board members across the service area. The members are currently residing in the Middlerock/Midden area.

Lower Campbell Airstrip (the new section) will be getting paint striping beginning this weekend. The Summer road maintenance program looks favorable. There is enough money available to improve sections of Basher with RAP. Farpoint will also be enhanced with RAP. Sweeping and pothole repairs are also scheduled. The LRSA is in good shape financially with sufficient monetary reserves. Our phone lines are open. Calling Harry will get results, but all the other members of the LRSA are available to help also.

Rep. Lance Pruitt called in to the meeting via speaker phone. He reported the operating budget was moved out of committee. \$600M to \$800M to be drawn out of the Earnings Reserve. Work also proceeding on finalizing the capital budget. Attempts being made to pare it down. Nevertheless, \$20M is expected to be added for repairs at the Port of Anchorage. \$100K earmarked in capital budget for Anchorage Community Patrols. Pruitt expects this to be approved.

Addressed SB26, passed by House and Senate. This legislation will limit the amounts future legislatures are allowed to take from the Earnings Reserve Account (ERA). The ERA currently has a balance of \$17B. SB26 protects this account from being "raided". SB26, despite a lot of mis-informed reports, does not impact the dividend formula. With Early Education bill passed, the next two years of education are funded. He concluded that he hoped to be gaveling out of session this weekend.

David Mathys Stuckagain Crime Task Force. Reported on recent activity. The first newsletter was sent out, but few residents have seen it. Quadrant representatives are visiting their neighbors to talk about the Task force, share the newsletter and ask for information to be used in database, if they choose to participate. Future newsletters will be mailed. The Contest for car decals (for residents) generated eleven submissions for design and color. These submissions were presented and votes were taken to determine which would be used. A winner was decided. The Task Force will continue it's efforts to get these stickers produced and distributed. Mathys produced magnetic signs for the Community Patrol and procured strobe lights and safety vests to being regular patrols around the neighborhood. He's currently using the signs on his own car, but the Task Force has six signs on hand which will accommodate three vehicles. He stated that the Task Force is still asking for volunteers to do community patrols.

Ann Gabler – Bear Preserve Advocate. Gave update on establishing a special nature preserve. She applied for and received a \$750 grant to develop signage. Getting an official set-aside for a wildlife corridor will require a lengthy public process. The MOA and AEDC are working on a larger nature preserve signage program which she hopes to draw some momentum from. She is asking for volunteers to help her with this program. She also needs to raise more money for more signs. She is a beekeeper and makes her own honey. She plans to partially help fund this program with sales of her honey.

Assemblyman Pete Peterson arrived late. He reported only that the mail in voting election produced the highest voter turnout in Municipal history.

Don Crafts, Council President brought up the Summer Block Party picnic. Troy Weiss mentioned people he's spoken with in his quadrant have mentioned having smaller quadrant parties rather than just one big party. That was discussed, but a desire to have just one party prevailed. Early August was suggested. Kat Karabelnikoff will discuss with her immediate neighbors about having this party near her house on Copper. Thursday evening, August 2nd was proposed and approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.