

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, May 16, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** (Quorum 5+ Elected Board Members) 7:02 PM

2. **INTRODUCTIONS** (Board Members / Presenters / Guests from outside the Chugiak Community Council area)

- Jake Horazdovsky, President (at large)..... Present Excused Absent
- Blake Merrifield, Vice President (E. Peters Creek/ Mirror Lake)..... Present Excused Absent
- Paul Schneider (at large)..... Present Excused Absent
- Burke Wonnell, Treasurer (Eklutna/Thunderbird)..... Present Excused Absent
- Darryl Parks (Fire Lake) Present Excused Absent
- Will Taygan (E. Peters Creek/Mirror Lake)..... Present Excused Absent
- Matt Hickey (W. Peters Creek/Mirror Lake opened to At Large)..... Present Excused Absent
- Rashae Johnson (W. Peters Creek/Mirror Lake)..... Present Excused Absent
- Tom Looney (alternate, at large)..... Present Excused Absent
- Harold Parker (alternate, at large)..... Present Excused Absent

3. Meeting Opened as a meeting of the whole and only 4 board members were present for approximately 5 minutes and then a 5th board member arrived to give us a quorum. Meeting called to order officially at 7:30 after updates. No official actions taken until 5 board members were present.

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- Moved by Jake and Seconded by Burke, passed Unanimously.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – May Minutes Presented

- Minutes Approved as Amended – Motion Passed.

6. **UPDATES**

- Legislative
 - Kelly Meyrick – Senator for Chugiak and Eagle River
 - Provided an update from the senate this past spring.
 - No new taxes
 - Starnier Bridge Funded and construction is in progress
 - They passed a balanced budget on time while still delivering a 1700-plus dollar PFD.
 - And Much Much More
 - Kelly got 2/3's of the Starnier bridge funding and Dan got the other 1/3. Way to go Kelly and Dan!!!!
 - Rep Dan Saddler
 - Provided an update in conjunction with Senator Merrick.
 - The education federal funding was discussed
 - STIP funding – the state missed a significant amount of federal dollars this year and it will be a huge hit to the state contractors.
 - 5 Bills passed after midnight and then vetoed by the governor these were discussed.
 - Dan was able to move forward and pass a critical minerals bill.
 - Specialty license plate issued passed

- Dan was the speaker of the house and did a wonderful job for us.
 - Supported a Veterans help desk
 - Supported both traditional and renewable energy
 - Natural Gas – Hilcorp can't meet the obligations and Enstar has implemented a plan to import gas. The state is for a gas line, but it is not a sure thing
 - Dan supports increase to government funding. The governor vetoed and so they did a one-time funding for the year. This will be a big priority next year.
 - Aurora Borealis – issue was resolved.
 - Will noted and thanked Dan and Kelly for sponsoring for the bill to get the Eklutna lakeside tray.
 - Will thanked Dan for trying to get the funding for south Birchwood Loop Walking trail to help get the kids off the roads.
- Assembly – Scott Myers gave an update
 - Lots of changes at City Hall with the new administration.
 - Chugiak Council is the best at submitting our CIP priorities.
 - New Municipal manager
 - Body Camera Bill Passed
 - HUD Housing Action Plan
 - Housing is an issue throughout the Municipality.
 - Proposal for a sales tax that will directly offset sales tax.
 - Air BNB rentals bill – a bill to study the short-term rentals market and these vendors will
 - Scrap Metal Bill / Catalytic converter bill – better tracking of recycling to reduce stealing of them.
 - There was much more discussed.
 - Chugiak Senior Center - there are 200 people (3 year) waiting list to get into the Senior Center in Chugiak – Scott would like input to know if residents think that we should work on funding an expansion of the senior center. Scott would like a letter of support if that is something that this council should support.
 - Volunteer opportunities – All the boards and Commissions need more members so if you want to get involved please apply. Go to Muni.org Click Mayor LaFrance and then Boards and Commissions.
 - Muni Surveys are needed
 - 10-year boundary review.
 - Chugiak Volunteer Fire Dept. – Scott Fisher Fire Chief
 - 39,361 Volunteer Hours
 - 708 calls total for the year.
 - In April - 108 Volunteers
 - April Responses 88
 - 57 Calls EMS Patient Contact The remainder were Fire related
 - Insurance Audit – We are likely to maintain our current insurance rating this affects rates. In four years, they are looking to improve that rating a little.
 - ASD Update
 - Darryl gave an update from Andy Holleman.
 - There was a shot gun shell found in one of the schools
 - School consolidations will be looked at again. Right Size ASD
 - Chugiak Eagle River Chamber
 - The Chamber is looking for Candy Donations for Boo at the Beach.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- None

7. NEW BUSINESS

- Chugiak/Eagle River Transportation Priorities Survey – Daniel Mckenna-Foster
 - Survey provides a long-range basis for funding priorities in the area.
 - 10 or 12 Question survey that
 - This will build on the 2006 Chugiak Eagle River Comprehensive Plan
 - Please take the survey and tell everyone you know to take the survey.
 - Residents asked if we would get our own chapter of the comprehensive plan. – The plan is currently to have a separate chapter to the plan for our area.
 - Residents Noted that we have been struggling with AMATS for years since our voice is drowned out by the Anchorage Bowl.
 - There was discussion on the existing plans and the need to update them.
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- Judicial Selection and Retention Process – Matt Peterson
 - Lawyer for over 25 years
 - Retired from law practice but still active as a mediator
 - Judicial Retention Election happens every two years.
 - There is an extensive process for the retention of judges.
 - A presentation was provided and there was discussion on the issue.
 - For More Information go to www.qjc.state.ak.us
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8. REPORTS:

- CBERRSA - Blake Merrifield
 - Starnor Bridge is getting fixed and is currently in construction. The state is being reimbursing the cost of the bridge.
 - The new bridge is strong enough for motor graders and fire trucks.
 - If there are additional funds left over it will be used to fix up Aurora Borealis Road.
 - They have the funding to do a pedestrian pathway along Ski Road. That will likely be done next year.
 - The South Birchwood Loop Hill Road path is funding.
 - The Mill Rate Increase went through however the budget is still tight.
 - The road board will likely submit a request to the assembly to increase the cap on the mil rate.
 - And Much More
- CER Advisory board – Jake Horazdovsky
 - Nothing to report
- Federation of Community Councils (FCC), Darryl Parks
 - Meeting Last night
 - CIP Training November 20th 6pm to 8pm in Anchorage
 - Hired a new wildland fire person for Anchorage.
 - 10 Year Community Council Boundary Survey
 - Mixed Use Zoning – There is push for it statewide.
 - And Much More
- Financial – Burke Wonnell
 - No Changes
- Parks and Recreation Board of Supervisors –Will
 - Mirror Lake and Edmonds Lake Master Plan is out of review.
 - Huddle Alaska was the landscape Architects did the plan.
 - It seems to be a good plan.

- More Parking
 - More walking trails, more skijoring trails and more mountain bike trails.
 - Second parking lot back near the boy scout camp.
 - Development across the road is presented in the plan to build a parking long and provide access to that side of the park.
 - Residents are encouraged to review the plan and make comments.
 - The board of supervisors will likely act in the next month or two.
- Beach Lake Trail is in the works and the goal is to get the trail from the parking lot to the inlet done this year with the remainder being done next year.
 - Next Peters Creek Dog Park went through UDC in the spring and is approved.
- Secretary – Jake Horazdovsky
 - No comments
 - General Council Business – Daryl
 - Is there any interest in starting our meeting earlier. – Possibly start at 6:30. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

9. OPEN FORUM

- Loretta French Park – Recent tree clearing activity resulted in stumps that are sticking up on the sledding hill. Request that parks and rec cut these down to make the close to flush with the ground.

10. NEXT MEETING DATE:

- The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, October 17th, 7:00 PM

11. ADJOURNMENT:

- Moved Adjourn by **Burke Wonnell** seconded by **Jake Horazdovsky** 8:46 PM