

OLD SEWARD/OCEANVIEW COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft Summary Minutes from the Friday, September 13, 2024 meeting, 6:30–8:30 pm

Join us live at **Rabbit Creek Church, Huffman Campus** at 12100 Old Seward Hwy or

Join the Zoom meeting at 6:15 pm at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84457950064>

Meeting ID: 844 5795 0064 All meetings are Audio and Video Recorded

2024 Schedule: Sep 13, WEDNESDAY – November 13 subject to change

Officers: President-Joan Henry, Vice President-Kevin Skiba, Secretary-Vacant, Acting Secretary-Peggy Kircher, Treasurer-John Henry, FCC Delegate-Gary Meaders, FCC Alternate-Gloria Lyons

1. Establish Quorum 13 Members/ 9 Guests, Called to Order – 6:30 pm

2. Zoom Meeting Protocol

3. Approval of the September 13, 2024 Agenda and Minutes from July 12, 2024 meeting

Motion to reorder and approve the agenda & minutes: Robert R.; second by Linda H

4. Officer's Report:

- a. Treasurer – as of September 13, 2024: Checking account balance is \$1,561.15 with \$.14 interest for July & August
- b. FCC Delegates – Presentation on “Demystifying Community Councils: Understanding Their Role in Civic Engagement”

5. Representatives/Community Reports

- a. Assembly Member - Randy Sulte presented the 2025 CIP List; AEDC – Project Anchorage; the alcohol plan and how to use the tax funds collected; AWWU and the Eklutna Dam 2024-2026 about decoupling of the water supply due to the 1991 agreement, how-to restore to the Eklutna River, how it will impact Anchorage drinking water, and stored hydro power; short-term rentals like VRBOs to provide certain data to the MOA; scrap dealers of catalytic converters – tracking them and how-to go after the criminals; APD needs \$5 million for repairs and maintenance on their cars; Varina is the contact for Housing and Homelessness committee with the Assembly; plans are needed for convicts coming out of jail and teenagers experiencing homelessness; the Solid Waste shelter will be used to house the homeless this winter; the Municipality is paying for hotels with 3 meals per day and tv with requirements to help like a hostel; unhoused means living on a couch, kids too; Catholic Social Services program pays rent for a month so they are not on the street; winter is coming. Questions for Randy included snow removal, APD's fleet of cars are older and repairs; \$5K month for housing; buildings that may be sold; the Navigation building and repurposing it.
- b. Assembly Member - Zac Johnson ***Unavailable
- c. AFD – “Ready, Set, Go” handouts and see our website for a link to the handout from the July 12, meeting.

Draft OSOVCC Summary Minutes_2024.09.13 meeting

Audio available for 30 days, by request: osovcommunitycouncil@gmail.com

- d. APD –Alaska Highway Safety Office ***Unavailable
- e. Alaska State Senator Cathy Giessel by Paige Brown – Cathy is working on energy solutions for Cook Inlet and establishing an energy authority; the Bradley Lake project; and bills that were passed into law to expand the supplemental nutrition bill.
- f. Alaska Representative Craig Johnson – Outlined legislative business; assisted with the Mary Ave, \$2 million grant from the State of Alaska for gutters & pavement but no sidewalks.
- g. ASD School Board member Carl Jacobs filled-in for Kelly Lessens – Seven people will swap every year going forward. Working on the “Right Sizing Plan” – student enrollment is down, population is in decline around Anchorage; there’s no long term fiscal plan yet; educators are not moving here; Elementary schools are at 50/70% capacity so there may be a multi-year closure plan with program consolidation; Charter Schools may get a school; Proposition 14 to use marijuana funds for childcare programs in schools with free or a reduced cost for teachers; school policy – amendment for anti-bullying with 2 times notification per year and anonymous reporting; considering revision of civic and patriotic recitations like Pledge of Allegiance daily and Junior ROTC in the schools. Questions asked: How to get list of raw land and buildings owned by the school district; building homes on the land; the amount of school district land available for future use; and an Inlet View school update.

6. Committee Reports

- a. Old Seward/Oceanview Community Patrol -- Jeff reported that an abandoned camp in Oceanview Bluff Park was cleaned-up; sixteen year old Mason is still missing and are asking you to reach out to APD or his family if you have any information about him; thefts during summer in Oceanview; people wandering around checking vehicles, some on foot, autos, bikes; neighbors with cameras should contact each other; there was an attempted break-in at a Botanical Gardens home during the day by 2 young men, but a teenager who was home with their big dog drove the guys off; watch-out for your neighbors; it’s getting dark so before going to bed check that your garage door is down, vehicles locked, and take your keys to bed with you to use the panic button to sound your car alarm; turn on your outside lights so the Community Patrol can see if people are around your house; more thefts are going on around Pettis Ave. and Mary Ave; mail thefts are going on and don’t leave the flag up on your mailbox; check out the Community Crime Map by zip code in Anchorage by using the LexisNexis Community Crime map to identify problem areas; as winter comes crime activities change; more people are following FedEx, UPS, and USPS trucks to pick-up your packages; Huffman and O’Malley are dark areas as well as some areas of Oceanview when there is no moon.
- b. Eldon Subdivision WDID and LID presentation by Joe – In 2006 the project started with neighborhood champions; the cost of installing water and sewer is \$130K to \$150K per lot; they worked to get petitions signed for Eldon Subdivision; Senator Murkowski, her staff, and Senator Geisel helped to get a \$2.2 million dollar grant; in 2023/2024 Senator Giesel went door to door and listened to everyone in the subdivision about safety, health, and land issues; AWWU staff met to start putting the project together, which goes to assembly on October 5, 2024. 2025 is the estimated time to start construction. If project costs are higher than the grant funds, property owners will be subject to an assessment.
- c. Johns Road Alleyway between Daily Ave. and Huffman Road – still pending MOA action
- d. 120th Ave. Upgrade – pending Eldon Subdivision water and sewer upgrades

Draft OSOVCC Summary Minutes_2024.09.13 meeting

Audio available for 30 days, by request: osovcommunitycouncil@gmail.com

7. Old Business

- a. OSOVCC Resolution 2023-01 “10-Year Review of Community Council Boundaries” update
 - Passed 13/0 December 8, 2023, and delivered to Planning and Zoning in January 2024
 - October & November 2024 is the public comment period
 - December 2024 will be the public hearing to provide verbal testimony to supplement the written resolutions
 - 1st Quarter 2025 – The Assembly will receive the Planning and Zoning Commission’s recommendations, hold a public hearing, and make the final boundary decisions
- b. Report a Homeless Camp –go to Muni.org for the form
- c. Project Anchorage – announced that it will operate on a 3% Sales Tax
- d. Secretary Position remains open

8. New Business

- a. Mary Avenue drainage and upgrades
 - Bill Johnson, PE with CRW Engineering Group, Inc. will join us in January or February 2025
 - If you live on Mary Ave. Bill would like to speak with you

9. Announcements / Current Issues of Note

- a. Volunteer(s) needed to report on the Anchorage Metropolitan Area Transportation Solutions (AMATS). To attend in-person or zoom upcoming meetings, and report on how their planning will affect Anchorage and OSOVCC.
- b. 2024 Protected Bike Lane Pilot Project
 - Protected Bike Lane Survey
- c. Public Restrooms
 - When Nature Calls Where Do You Go?
 - Public Restrooms Survey
 - Public Restrooms Map
- d. Alaska Regional ER at the corner of Old Seward & Industry Way – Hank Grinold will join us at the November 13, 2024, meeting
- e. Liquor & marijuana licenses up for renewal-none
- f. Alaska Rhodiola Enterprises, LLC – Petra will join our November 13, meeting to introduce the manufacturing company and product – info at: akroseroot.com
- g. Overhead to Underground Powerline Project – Huffman Rd from Old Seward to Gregory Road on the North side and Gregory Rd to Lake Otis on the South side
- h. OSOVCC new meeting day, Wednesdays, starting November 13
- i. OSOVCC Board member elections will be held at the November 13, 2024, meeting
- j. Complaint from a member regarding the Anchorage Sports Complex, “Apple Park,” call the Municipality’s Parks & Recreation Department at (907) 343-4355

10. **OSOV CC Members only**

- Robert R– Amazon delivery is available at satellite locations in Anchorage for UPS & FedEx delivery
- Craig Johnson – sign-up for the US Post Office “informed delivery”
- Jeff C – due to the record snow dump he helped pull people out of ditches; talk to your neighbors about driving or not driving during big snow dumps
- Lori P – welcoming week for the immigrant refugee garden in Mt. View. Catholic Social Services Grow North Farm
- Larry B – upcoming November 5, 2024, election reminder

11. **Guests**

Chuck Kopp – The Alaska Railroad Corporation Right of Way (ROW) – Governor Dunleavy’s political push regarding a transportation corridor vs. recreation; Fish Creek area; legislation to describe what the ROW can be used for: no additional burden on landowners, landowners right of possession, and their easement
Steven C - Timberlane Drive needs speed bumps, special designation for the school bus route
Craig Johnson – Resolution from both Community Councils.

12. **Motion to Adjourn:** Motion by Robert R. and second Chuck F., all in favor