

**Russian Jack Community Council**  
**Meeting Highlights**  
**October 14, 2015**

21 present, including presenters

**(important news and information is highlighted in yellow for your convenience)**

**Legislative Report**

**Sen. Bill Wielechowski:**

- Special session next week for 30 days
  - If AK should buy out TransCanada's share of the pipeline or not for 78 million dollars. Pros and cons either way.
  - Gas reserves tax
- Gov Walker not going to pursue the 127 (92 plus interest) million dollars that Exxon still owes AK from Exxon Valdez oil spill

**Rep. Geran Tarr:**

- Special session – reiterated that it's time to make a decision about buying out TransCanada or not
- Gov will put out a budget package in next few weeks with budget ideas/solutions– but not part of special session
- Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at Clark Middle School, public Legislative update 12-3pm. All are welcome to attend any part or all of this day's topics of discussion to include budget, neighborhood watch, gasoline, and other topics. **FREE FOOD WILL BE AVAILABLE**

**Rep. Gruenberg:**

- Attended military and veterans' event today
- Working on revision of AK military crime issues
- Bill to transfer vehicle upon death

**Sarah Evans, representing Jonny Ellis:**

- From Dillingham, new aide to Ellis. Hemp bill to define what industrial hemp is, provide civil and criminal immunity to those who want to grow it. Looking for folks to be added to the email list.

**Anchorage Assembly Report**

**Assemblyman Pete Peterson**

- Introduced next year's budget at last meeting, work session each Friday of the month, open to public
- Looking at deficit this year, majority is caused by reduction of revenue sharing by the state. Cuts of 2% across each department in the Municipality
- Will increase taxes to make up the short fall
- 5 Million extra dollar going into the 3 police academies and additional support to police force
- Added LGBT to the anti-discrimination muni ordinance recently
- Peterson is leading committee to re-write cell tower ordinance in muni. Meeting at 10 am wed 4700 Elmore road, room 107, open to public
- SAP system has been paused, will decide to continue with installation or not
- Muni putting bid in for some assets that Conoco Phillips is selling up at Prudhoe bay
- Title 21 – committee meetings every Wed, complex. **Passed ordinance last night re: basic re-write of Title 21**

**School Board Report**

**Kathleen Plunkett**

- Reviewing financial audit soon for school board, working on new budget due in Jan, waiting to hear from gov regarding funding

**Wonder Park Elem report (given by Ed Leach):** Parent teacher conferences next week, feel free to contact him with questions

**Sen. Wielechowski, Road work in Russian Jack:** Traffic calming funding for RJ area includes possible Caribou ave, East 22<sup>nd</sup> and Lionheart from Davis to Camelot. These are on the Muni list and may be eligible for traffic calming.

**AK Literacy Program, Polly Smith:** Just did upgrade on building for energy efficiency, writing application to city for competitive community development block grant to install lift at the building for aging/disabilities students and teachers.

Needs community support. Frank McGuire moved to write letter of support for AK Literacy Project, seconded. 13 in favor, 0 opposed. Passed.

**Jon Sessel, MOA Planning, Preliminary plans for Russian Jack:**

- Long range plan for land use in Anchorage, looking at where the city will grow and develop. Projections show that 82,000 addtl people will move to the city. Look at Muni.org at planning division to get updates on the land use and planning project.
- Some community councils have asked for 60 additional days to review the map and materials before implementation
- The land use zones map and planning project is tied in with the Title 21 project
- Requests resolution of support from RJCC in near future
- Looking for interested volunteers from neighborhood

**Vietnamese Pho Lena restaurant on Boniface. Applied for new beer and wine license.**

John Ralston made motion to endorse application to renew application. Seconded by Daniel George. 7 In favor, 2 opposed. Passed.

Russian Jack Skate park discussion, some opposition from Northeast Community council member that attended the meeting. This will be year-round skate park. Request to share news about this project and keep other neighboring communities informed in the decision process.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22pm.