

Spenard Community Council Meeting

Minutes for February 3, 2016

Called to order by Phil Isley 7:01 p.m.

Legislative Report- Candidates Forum will be held on Wednesday March 23rd. Anchorage Action Plan public comment period started on January 25th till end of February. Reports given via telephone from Juneau by Chris Tuck, Matt Claman, Mia Costello and Harriet Drummond main issue continues to be the need to cut the budget.

Discussions on bills for new taxes such as state income, mining, sin tax and changes to the Permanent Fund as possible ways to pay for needed government expenditures. Phil asked if any bill has been brought forward regarding changing the Board of Directors for the Alaska Railroad, answer no have not taken up that subject, will call Phil to discuss further. Hearing this Saturday to discuss increase to motor fuels tax by .15 cents a gallon. There will be a public hearing at West High's Career and Technology Education facility to hear public input for the proposed criminal justice revisions. Phil repeated his question about the Railroad Board of Directors and Matt asked him to send him a letter with more detail of what his inquiry is about. Phil said he would and thanked him. Mia thank the members of the Spenard Community Council for attending this meeting and being involved in the process of local government. She is on the Commerce committee and added that a cruise ship head tax is being considered among the other taxes that were mentioned earlier. She met with Governor yesterday and he said trying to figure out budget cuts is like a puzzle. Bi-partisan work is going well in this difficult process. Senate Bill 128 was mentioned by Harriet that may impact the Permanent Fund dividend calculations. She is proposing an increase for sport fishing licenses as another option for additional tax revenue. Continuation of cuts has to be carefully in order to not depress the economy that causes additional problems for maintaining needed services. A survey is being 'snail mailed' within the next 7-10 days that she is requesting responses from constituents. Phil thanked all the legislators for organizing being on line at the same time for a smoother report.

Anchorage Assembly report given by Tim Steele. Main topic is continuing with details of marijuana legislation. Several amendments were made in committee. Has to have legislation ready for February 24th when proposals for new businesses will be accepted. Continuation and completion of sections of Spenard Road is on the Bond package for upcoming election in April. The work will be done in one summer season. There was a structural fire in the neighborhood near Tim's house that woke the family up during the night and kudos to Fire Station 5 that responded quickly and saved his home from being impacted by the fire that was 15 feet away from the fence around the house. Question from a member of audience about a beer and wine license request from a "coffee cart" business in downtown area. Answer is that some restrictions have

been placed on this business though a compromise was granted for a 2 year period for a license as the owner's intention is to build a permanent structure in place of the temporary style cart now in the location. A comment from audience member was supportive of this business. The request from a home owner on Shakespeare Circle regarding the emergency access gate was brought to Tim's attention yet again and his response is he will bring it back to the Assembly again to get closure regarding this concern.

Airport Report- John Johansson reminded everyone that information is always available on the website for the airport. Reported on previously mentioned items such as impact of airline noise on the residents near the airport, consultants on this issue will present information at meeting on Feb 10th at airfield maintenance facility. Working on Lake Hood Master Plan for future uses based on input from community members who have some association with airport functions. Still soliciting comments on the Airport Communication plan can go to website. Alaska Airlines will have direct service to Spokane for the summer season only. Transportation Fair coming up at UAA Alaska Airlines Center Aux.facility tomorrow. Question about a rumor that SouthWest Airlines may begin service to and from Alaska. John said they speak often with SW but no decision at this time. Another question about China airlines passenger service to ANC. Only winter charters to Fairbanks for Japanese visitors wanting to see Northern Lights.

DA Office report by Michal Stryszak, with budget concerns in this department, as all muni depts. are in same situation, they are seeking input of suggestions from all community councils on ways to be more efficient in order to save money, call office 269-6300 with any comments. This office serves Anchorage as well as southwest Alaskan area communities. Question from a member regarding data on the status of population who are homeless and suffer from mental illness that are incarcerated. That info is not specifically collected. Dept. of Law and Dept. of Corrections are separate though have similarities in their responsibilities. Both Departments are trying to reduce spending in a variety of ways. Looking for alternatives to incarceration as it is most expensive and does not always reduce recidivism.

Charlie's Coffee Shop owner Seo Jung requested approval from SCC to apply for a beer and wine license as they are expanding to include serving Korean dinners in the evening. After some questions a motion was made and seconded and members voted in favor of her request,15-2.

Jay Stange reported on the Working Committee that several people volunteered to be on regarding the issue of getting public access to Railroad right of ways that is in contention.

Lee Henry reported on "Northwood traffic studies" related to a proposed high density housing unit along Northwood Drive, plan includes 7 seven story apartment buildings that will have 680 units. There is some concern from SCC members about several aspects of this proposal. Lots of comments and questions addressed to Mr.

Henry. This is the 3rd time he has attended a SCC meeting about this issue, the members are still not clear on what exactly this presentation is really about. Jay Stange made a suggestion that Mr. Henry returns to a meeting in the future with more detailed information as requested.

Minutes from last month's meeting were approved.

Election of new officers for the Spenard Community Council- nominations made last meeting include Jed Smith for President, he gave a short speech on why he would be pleased to run for President, Jay Stenge withdrew his name from Treasurer but is willing to fill Vice President position; Peggy Auth willing to accept Treasurer job since Alan Thornhill can no longer continue in position due to having moved to Sand Lake council area, Jason Bergerson willing to be 1st Auditor and Bill March 2nd Auditor. Irène Persson-Gamble is willing to continue as Secretary for the upcoming year. Nominations closed and accepted slate of nominees, voted on the above slate and passed unanimously.

Next meeting March 2nd

Adjourned 8:55

Announcements:

Phil mentioned Spenard Community Council has received an invitation to the Firefighters Academy graduation May 21st at 7 pm Neighbors welcome!

Asked if anyone interested in reviewing Title 21 changes regarding Boat sales, repair & storage concerns and townhouses/multifamily dwellings. The person can be their own committee and report back to the SCC on what they think of the changes. Also review all the liquor renewal licenses that come in as it has not been done regularly. Still looking for volunteers:)

Brick House Asian Grill by the Paradise Inn requesting beer and wine license. Alan Thornhill commented that it would be nice if the owners of an establishment that is requesting PCC approval show up in person to present their request. Phil said he would ask if they would attend the June meeting. Any comments need to be voiced by May 29th, June 2nd for SCC to comment and final determination on June 12th.

Tesoro Station, on corner of Spenard and Wisconsin, wants to expand their liquor store by 150 sq. ft and is requesting approval from SCC.

Regina McKonkly has requested a SCC committee to look into Traffic calming on Lois Drive as the speed limit is often exceeded. She was not able to attend meeting tonight

due to a death in her family. Condolences. Will look into options.

Asking for an incroachment variance off 25th Ave and Spenard near Minnesota Drive, no other information given.

A second, (or third) request from an Assembly 'naming committee' to name the Spenard Community Recreation Center for an employee of the municipality who worked on development of the building has been unanimously voted down at least twice by the SCC membership and Phil stated that no more such requests be brought before Spenard Community Council.

CIP committee did not report tonight as Jason Bergerson was going to but had to leave early so will request a follow-up on this report.

Meeting adjourned 8:50