

Minutes: Scenic Foothills Community Council

April 3, 2014

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Treasurer Harry Crawford.

Minutes: February and March meeting minutes were approved as written.

Legislative Reports:

Dirk Craft, Rep. Pruitt's Chief of Staff via teleconference (Rep. Pruitt was on a plane en route to receive an award.)

Education bill will have second reading 4/5/14. Vote should be Friday or Monday.

Capital Budget vote 4/8/14.

Pipeline legislation moving through on Wednesday.

Question: What Capital Projects are relevant to us? Our area and most of the east side roads are mapped red, denoting horrible condition. Pleasant valley and Baxter Road were put in as priority road projects for Senate District M.

Senator Fairclough – via teleconference: Capital budget before Senate Finance Committee. Area wide money requested for Campbell Airstrip upgrades and Pleasant valley road upgrades are included.

Governor is looking at \$3 billion cash infusion to pensions until 2036. (She believes \$4 billion is needed).

Gas line conversation in the House.

Questions: Are you studying bankruptcy of bonds – will the bonds that passed yesterday be at the interest rate we are expecting? Pension liability is a big concern for Sen. Fairclough, but she says the state is in pretty good shape.

PERS and TRS are now drawing 6 or 8%.

Municipality of Anchorage Report – Paul Honeman, Assemblyman:

Meeting Tuesday, April 8. The next meeting will certify the election. On the radar, he is concerned with the Muldoon Park. Administration is dragging feet, postponing. Front parcel was to be sold to make money, but our assemblymen wanted all three parcels for park; this was passed by the Assembly. The Mayor vetoed it and Monday is the last chance to override the veto. This would have to be a special meeting. It would take eight votes to over-ride.

Question: Is there anyone who's heard of a business that is wanting to develop this land? It's all speculation.

First quarter budget is coming up. Legislative session ends in three weeks.

Encourages people to call about Base Student Allocation.

RTA – fast train from the valley to Anchorage continues to be explored.

Question: Asked about halfway houses in R1 zoning and the density allowed in a neighborhood. Lengthy discussion ensued about Title 21 and the problems with various care facilities popping up in neighborhoods. One neighbor has an 8-bed half-way house for female prisoners going in. Why was this not presented to council?

Pete Peterson suggested a new ordinance be looked at.

Title 9, Municipal Traffic Code, is going through rewrites. Previously, vehicle citations could be written by police officers. This rewrite expands the power to Community Service Officers. **Question:** Will something be done about bus stop at Fred Meyer, with people running across road? It is a known issue and there are plans to move it.

Overpass to Tikahtnu is number 2 on state projects. This was the first overpass in Anchorage. The bridge was not designed for the traffic we are seeing now.

Assemblyman Adam Trombley (was not present)

Pete Peterson: Still waiting for final results. Leading by 336 votes. Counting questioned ballots today. It may take until April 11th to find final results. He is hopeful. Have to override the veto on the park soon or the 21 day limit makes the veto impossible.

Public comments and concerns:

Concerned that Chugach Foothills is older than Pleasant Valley and they are getting the road emphasis. Cul-de-sacs are falling apart. Since the subdivision was put in in 1974, they have only chip sealed the roads. Who do we go do? Issue is there is not municipal money due to tax freeze. State money would be needed.

Neighbor clarifies that 32nd and Cherry have been done. Another suggests getting signatures to show neighbor support.

Michele Pamer - Our parks were grade F and we made noise and now they are B and C. This council has made great strides in getting roads, noise barrier and parks.

Concern about halfway houses and assisted living house going into neighborhoods.

More than parking issues, yelling, screaming, ambulances, police, supervision poor. Call assemblyman. You can find online who is managing and licensing these houses. State pays \$5,500 a month per person. Call ombudsman and if not, the mayor. Covered by Title 21.

Jerrienne Lowther – May 3-10 is city-wide cleanup and then creek cleanup May 10-17. Michele would like to propose e-mail asking for signups for specific parks and projects.

Election of officers is coming up at the next meeting; we need nominations.

Neighborhood survey will be going out to find out what we want on our priority (CIP) list.

Glaciation on the east side of Scenic Park; water is flowing down the hill toward the trail. Chugach Foothills flooding again. Drainage in this area of town is a continuing problem.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.