

Minutes: Scenic Foothills Community Council – March 2, 2017

Call to Order: President Roger Shaw, 7:05 p.m. February Minutes approved as presented.

Fire Station 14: Safety issues were presented – Check smoke detectors, sleep with door closed, have carbon monoxide detectors (check whether exhaust is getting blocked by ice and snow build up) and know that the detectors do expire after 5-7 years. Up for two bonds. Proposition 2 is to replace ambulances. Proposition 5 is to replace two fire trucks and do a roof replacement on the fire maintenance building.

Municipality of Anchorage Report:

Forrest Dunbar: If ballot measure 2 doesn't pass they will have to reduce the academy. Assembly passed an ordinance that medical providers must give an estimate of medical costs, if requested, within two weeks. They are still working on UBER and changes to the transportation industry. Currently, UBER drivers don't get Workman's Compensation. This is in conflict with our Assembly rules.

Pete Petersen: Federal grant for trail work on Campbell Airstrip Road upgrade. This has been number one on Basher Community Council's CIP list for 20 years. Municipal budget is \$7 million short of money the Muni was expecting. Cigarette tax, bed taxes were down and firefighters were over budget. There are 27 or 28 police officers in an academy and a new one starting soon. They hope to have 420-430 officers by next summer. Drone ordinance is being looked at.

Legislative Report (via call into Juneau):

Representative Lance Pruitt: Working on budget amendments due this Saturday, March 5th. You can testify 1-3 p.m. in Anchorage at the Legislative Information Office building. House Bill 115 deals with using Permanent Fund and bringing in an income tax. He is more in favor of using earnings reserve. Constituent meeting will be from 1-3 p.m. on March 18 at Wayland Baptist University. Representative Pruitt and Senator Cathy Giessel will be there. They will talk about opiate addiction, snow removal issues in our area, and crime.

Assembly Candidates Forum:

Pete Petersen: Finishing first term on the Assembly. Experience is what he offers. Legislature wants to cut their budget by sending the bills to Anchorage. This will be difficult. There is talk of some sort of sales tax. This takes a 60% vote and is hard to attain. He is chair of the Ethics Committee. Municipality is switching to vote by mail in 2018. They have a new voting facility near City Hall.

Don Jones: Unable to attend.

School Board Candidates were invited to a forum but were unable to attend.

Presentations:

1. **Fiscal plan for State of Alaska – Ian Laing, Executive Director, "Alaska's Future."** Came together to make tangible difference in the budget issue. We've had dips before in oil revenues but the real issue is the savings account is being drained. We are spending \$4.3 Billion and this leaves a deficit of \$2.9 Billion this year. Cuts alone won't fix the problem. Go to www.akfuture.org to view the presentation and get models of what tradeoffs plans have.

2. **Parks Service Extension Area – John Weddleton** – Proposed extension of Municipal Parks Service Area to certain areas of the hillside. Chugach State Park is seeing more visitors and access is limited. We cannot expand and improve parking to the area without extending the park service area boundaries. If the service area is expanded, the homeowners in the area would start paying park taxes. Residents already in the city limits would not have a change in taxation. Go to: weddleton.com
3. **Municipal Bond Proposals – Dean Karcz – “Anchorage Tomorrow.”** Advocating for Propositions 2,3,5, and 6. This includes Muldoon Town Square Park, Inclusive playground equipment for Chugach Foothills Park. For more information: <http://www.anchoragetomorrow.org/>

Minutes: were approved as presented at 8:32 p.m.

Neighborhood Concerns: Resident raised concerns with off-leash dog parks in our area.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:35 p.m.