

Minutes: Scenic Foothills Community Council – December 7, 2017

Call to Order: President Jamie Lang, 7:00 p.m. November Minutes were approved as presented.

Legislative Report:

Representative Lance Pruitt updated us on special session. SB 91 changes were made including a joy riding provision. Also, sex offenders have to complete training before leaving prison. There was some controversy about the bill, including lengthening the time in prison for Class C Felonies. No tax was passed. There is no way to tax or cut our way out of the budget crisis, so more difficult work will need to be done in upcoming sessions.

Municipality of Anchorage Report: Assemblymen Pete Petersen and Forrest Dunbar

Reported about public safety meeting with the topic of car thefts. They have had a 71% increase in arrests for car theft, 25-30% more arrests for other crimes. More money has been given to the prosecutor's office to handle this increase.

– Muni will be leasing an electric bus to test. Other utilities are interested in seeing the results.

Passed 2018 budget, November 21st.

Passed an ordinance that would allow removal of homeless camps after 10 days instead of 15 days.

– Grand Harbor grand opening 4:00 p.m. 12/8/17. This will offer transitional living and permanent housing.

– Passed a 10 cents per gallon excise fuel tax, which goes into effect in March.

– Chance to lower property taxes will be on the ballot this spring.

– Vote by mail is coming. Muni employees will do a mock election to try it out. Polls will not be open for this next election. There will be drop boxes at high schools for those who don't want to mail it.

– Meeting with State DOT to discuss snow removal issues 12/18/17.

School Board Report: Tam Agosti-Gisler, ASD Board President

– Moved from 49th in the nation to 13th in the nation in rigor and has received an "A" grade. Since 2005 there has been a push to increase standards.

– Settled four of six contracts with zero raise. Will go back to the table after the holidays.

– Doing lots of shared services to make savings.

– Bonds are being presented to the Assembly.

Neighborhood Concerns:

Kerry Reardon reported on the new signage on the bridge at the South end of the Bulldog Road, saying there is a safety hazard, and that she has contacted Buck McHenry from JBER and Josh Durand from Parks and Rec. The Corps of engineers for JBER have deemed it unsafe. The bridge is structurally unsound and the railing is in poor shape. She communicated that we would want to be involved with helping to keep this open. Kerry has a contact from the Corps of Engineers and we will invite them to come to discuss problems.

Discussion about problems reporting hoarders in the neighborhood. Jack Frost is the point of contact and reports go through Anchorage Works.

Meeting Adjourned 8:10 p.m. with social time afterwards with cider and cookies.

Next Meeting: February 1, 2018