

BIRCHWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday, March 10, 2004

Chairman Bobbi Wells called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. in the Chugiak High Library. Minutes from February's meeting were approved.

Larry Smith, Assembly candidate, spoke to the council about his bid for the seat being vacated by Dan Kendall. Retired from the Army and the Army National Guard after 28 years of service, Larry is currently a small business owner and has lived in this area for 22 years. He is well versed and well qualified to represent this area on the Assembly. Any questions in regard to his position on various issues, he can be reached at 223-8987 or emailed at lsmithassembly@aol.com.

Chief Gary Davis, Bruce Bartley and Bob Devereaux, representing the Chugiak Volunteer Fire Department attended our meeting to remind us to vote on April 6th, on the precedent setting ballot issue involving de-annexing Powder Ridge Subd. from their service area. CVFD is not supporting this ballot and are continuing negotiations for the location of a station house in that area.

Robert Mormon, resident of Birchwood, came to ask the council about specifics concerning an address change issue involving the Municipality.

Kevin Feldis, Federal Prosecutor from the U.S. Attorney's office, gave us information about a nationwide project, Safe Streets Safe Schools, that focuses on gun violence and violent crime. Outreach in Anchorage and Alaska with this program gives information on illegal gun possession, prosecution of cases under federal rather than state gun laws and working in close connection with the Cops in Schools Program among others. It also allows accountability to measure effectiveness and failures to rid areas of these crimes.

Leslie Bobo and Jim Sawhill, Eklutna, Inc., provided details of the current master plan to be used in the development of approximately 1000 acres of "T" zoned land to be commencing this summer. Building sites will range from 1/4 acre and larger lots that will have public water and on site septic systems. Collector roads and a trail plan are being worked on and established, possibly 30 to 60 days in planning, and will be revisited the council when ready. First phase of construction will be on the west side of Mirror Lake Middle School.

Informal discussion covered problems with street addresses and housing developments with designated lands for schools and fire stations. Bobbi updated us on an arrest for past burglaries in our area.

A motion was made and 2nded (Sandi Sumner/Jill Crosby) to ask the Mayor and the Assembly to require new property developments to reserve suitable land areas for schools and fire/emergency equipment stations for the goal of long range planning. Logic and legal aspect of this request to be reviewed before we fire it off.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m..