

**Old Seward/Oceanview Community Council (OSOVCC)**  
**Minutes of Meeting – November 27, 2019**

**Called to order at 6:30 p.m. Steve Beardsley**, President presiding. Quorum in place.  
**Agenda approved. Minutes of October 23, 2019 approved.**

**Treasurer's report: Bank account balance is \$1,538.90.**

During introductions, Roselyn Cacy introduced the DOT Road to be built at Scooter Drive and newly proposed People Mover bus routes.

**Steve Beardsley** mentioned the following: The Sisters of the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus inquired about meeting to discuss their package liquor store application. OSOVCC discussed the application at the October 2019 meeting and sent a comment letter to the Assembly. The Sisters did not attend the meeting. Also mentioned that the Jeff Dusenberry bike park wants volunteers to help with design ideas.

**Tim Sullivan** from the Alaska Railroad (ARR) detailed the current earthquake remediation project along the railroad corridor in the area of Jarvi Drive. The project involves moving gravel by train; the groundwork timeline will be completed by late December with seeding of the area in Spring 2020. Also mentioned was the ARR Christmas train to begin in early December which will mean more train traffic through Oceanview.

**Federation of Community Council (FCC) Notes: Nancy Beardsley** discussed: 1) Anchorage Fire Department is implementing rolling shutdowns for response because of the current budget shortfall in compensating overtime hours for fire crews. There will be a 2020 bond proposal to remodel and expand fire stations. 2) The FCC office is obtaining insurance policies for community councils to hold meetings in public venues. 3) The 2020 budget has been approved for the Mayor. 4) Homeless funds via a grant have come in; however, they are payable to a private charitable entity as they applied for the grant. 5) AMATS is working on off ramps to the Glen Highway. 6) The Municipal Assessor provided a slide pack at the meeting that describes how property taxes are assessed. 7) Hamilton Park funding needs input from local users. Maeve Nevins at Parks and Rec is the project manager and wants public comments. OSOVCC will discuss at the December CC meeting.

**Community Patrol: Jeff Childs** – We have had a couple of vehicle thefts and burglaries in our area. Please watch out for neighbors and turn on exterior lights and make you home look unwelcome to deter crime.

**Senator Natasha von Imhof** – No report

**Representative Chuck Kopp** – A mailout to District members will be sent shortly so the update to the OSOVCC was not read aloud. Representative Kopp can be reached at email [Rep.Chuck.Koff@akleg.state](mailto:Rep.Chuck.Koff@akleg.state)

**For Suzanne LaFrance – Josh** representing – Briefly reported on the following: 1) The Municipal Light and Power/Chugach Electric merger transaction is moving forward. 2) Life safety access roads require separate funds, and conflict with road service areas are being worked. 3) The newly proposed municipal Stormwater utility is looking for advisory volunteers. 4) Port tariffs. 5) Coastal infrastructure bond.

**John Weddleton, Assembly** – Briefing provided regarding the following:

1) The Alaska municipal league met and thinks there should be a state bond to fix Alaska's ports. Q - raised about how many and which ports will receive funding. A - Unsure how many, but port funding will be prioritized.

- 2) The MLP/Chugach merger will provide \$15 Million for a facility for mental health, social, and addiction programs likely near the Clitheroe Center on muni land. Q – What happens to the current vested members of ML&P in PERS (the state retirement system). A – There are not that many and it will be addressed.
- 3) Regarding AFD rolling closures, budget shortfalls and a dysfunctional SAP payroll system has led to the compensation crisis and necessity for closures. SAP does not handle payroll functions well. Q – Why are penalties not imposed on the designers of the SAP program to meet municipal needs? A – The initial design contractor was sued and paid financial penalties; however, the problems with payroll exist but are getting better.
- 4) The 2020 Opex budget funds an AFD Academy to get more personnel on board.
- 5) The private charitable group receiving a \$40 Million grant to deal with homelessness is working with the city to discuss forward plans. This is different funding than the allocation from the \$15 Million from the MLP/Chugach merger which the muni will use for homelessness resources.
- 6) Scooter/Academy DOT project will impact the community on Vanguard Drive increasing daily traffic from 1,000 vehicles per day to over 14,000. This is bad for the community. The project was initiated over 20 years ago, and because of subsequent road system improvements since that time, the Assembly does not find the project as a necessity any longer, does not find the project to be a benefit to the community, and cannot provide the municipal contribution to this project at requested levels. Assembly voted against it in November. Q – A request was made to change the name of Scooter Drive. Q – Point was made that pedestrians frequently try to run across the Seward Hwy as there is no other way to get across the area. The idea of a pedestrian tunnel was strongly advocated by a CC member.
- 7) New bus route proposed from Old Seward/Diamond to the Loussac Library, especially for attendance at Assembly meetings.
- 8) Member suggested and asked for earlier season openings and later closings of the municipal wood lot to meet the need of residents. Residents are requested to conduct removal of fire hazards/trees/snag yet we have no place to take the wood debris. The Fire Marshall and Wood Lot manager should be contacted. A – JW will check on it.
- 9) The city will be studying the feasibility of a local incineration facility to mitigate landfill impacts into the future. Also – muni efforts continue to be the Port and the Stormwater utility.
- 10) A map of the marijuana retail establishments was presented. Q – Is there a limitation on the number of locations in a condensed area similar to the restrictions for liquor stores? A – This is so new that the answer is no, currently.

**Not Present this time - Anchorage School Board** - Starr Marsett. May try to make it to meetings quarterly rather than monthly.

Point made that the School Bond proposal for the April ballot will be brought to the Assembly for review in December.

**Not Present this time – Anchorage Police Department**

#### **Announcements:**

- 1) The OSOVCC is seeking assistance in getting APD to attend a Community Council meeting since we have not had participation in over 3 years by APD or AFD. Jeff Childs with the Community Patrol will mention this in their next meeting and ask for participation.
- 2) AT&T digital communication cell towers are being placed on streetlights in the neighborhoods – to be discussed at the OSOVCC meeting.
- 3) Hamilton Park improvements will be discussed again in December.

**New Business** – OSOVCC has had a community meeting board stolen and requests funds to replace it. Motion made by Nancy Joseph to spend up to \$200 to replace the board; however, to spend no less than \$75 by the end of December 2019 to meet FCC's reimbursement requirement for this purpose, and to spend future monies in 2020 based on a review of the needs for new signage. Discussion covered whether the signs are needed (members were polled as to who attended because of the signs), the design, the costs for boards (~\$70-\$210/each) and decals (~\$90/per board). Motion carried by vote. John Weddleton believed the municipality would provide the FCC with \$10,000/year for certain expenditures; however, it was clarified that the amount was lowered recently by Assembly Member Felix to \$5,000/year.

**OSOVCC Elections Held** – By Quorum votes, results are:

**Steve Beardsley** – President, **Roselyn Cacy** – Vice President, **Stan Moll** – Treasurer, and **Nancy Joseph** – Secretary. Due to a change in residency, the previous Secretary Mike Fenster no longer lived in our council area, and the Bayshore/Klatt CC was unwilling to allow his new residence location to be included in the OSOVCC area.

**Adjourned at 7:45 p.m.**

Nancy Joseph, Minutes-taker - alternate