

**General Meeting MINUTES *DRAFT***  
**Huffman-O'Malley Community Council**  
**Thursday, August 18, 2022 @ 7:00 PM**  
**Via Zoom Video Meeting**

Please visit <http://www.communitycouncils.org/servlet/content/19.html> for ZOOM link

We planned to meet in person and by Zoom in September.

1) Call to order at 7:00pm by President Stoddard

2) Welcome and Introductions-

Present: Gretchen Stoddard-President, Rachel Ries-Vice President, Shannon Wileman-Treasurer, Members- Katie Nolan, John Yeafoli, Lisa Huffman, Nick Mazzolini, Marcy Tompkins

Absent: Trina Lovdahl-Secretary, Member Jennie Bostick

3) Zoom Information

If you have problems with any Zoom invitation, please return to the HOCC website at the link in the Header. That link seems to consistently work. Next month we will meet in person and via Zoom.

4) Agenda-no changes

5) Minutes

a. Approval of May 2022 Minutes

6) Speaker Topic DOT O'Malley Road Reconstruction Phase II

Frank Lee, Project Engineer, Alaska Department of Transportation &PF, Project Office:  
(907) 644- 3989, Main Office: (907) 269-0450

AMATS: O'Malley Road Reconstruction Phase II Livingston Street to Hillside Drive

Mr. Lee reports:

Currently asphalt is torn up from Our Rd. to Birch on O'Malley, will continue with the excavating at night, bringing in gravel and building up roadway through 8/26, at which point there will be a road closures on the weekends Friday 7pm- Monday 4:30am at Little Campbell Creek to put in a multiplate to go across the road. After that gets cleaned up, will continue excavation and working towards Birch. After Labor Day weekend, will continue paving from Our Rd past Campbell Creek area and ending after the intersection of Birch for this year. After that all 3 lanes will be open from Livingston

to Birch. Plan is to pave about ½ of the pathways but won't open them up until the end of next year.

Gretchen asks about the logistics of children getting to school. Mr. Lee states that kids will need to walk to Birch and use the crosswalk there, as they had explored underpass/overpass options and they weren't viable options. He says they are working on placing flashing beacons but it is up to the Muni and ASD to work with DOT to achieve this. An additional crosswalk would only be feasible if the speed limit is reduced from its current 50mph.

Rachel asks if a traffic study was done. Mr. Lee states one was done, but at this point there are no real answers. Carmela Warfield shares that Hillside Community Council has been working with stakeholders for future improvements and safety measures regarding this traffic study.

#### 7) Speaker Topic, Fire Department

Captain Mark Stephens of Anchorage Fire Department, Fire Station 9, 13915 Lake Otis Pkwy reports:

The Fire Department will be hiring about 30 people per year over the next 3 years and encourages people who would like a job with them to go to [www.muni.org](http://www.muni.org) and click on the fire dept link for more info.

99.9% of calls are from people who don't know how their carbon monoxide detectors work. He highly recommends that everyone's forced air heating systems be serviced and/or inspected every year to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning.

Encourages those that have fireplaces to have them inspected every 1-3 years depending on frequency of use. Problems occur when fireplaces are dirty, overly used, or damaged without inspection or cleaning.

#### 8) Speaker Topic, Police Department Rep, Matt Barth, off duty citizen from HOCC area.

Sgt Barth reports from July:

- 131 overall
- 17 alarms-most were false
- 16 security checks
- 14 disturbances
- 6 traffic stops
- 6 mental health
- Several traffic violations
- 2 burglaries and 1 burglary in progress

Gretchen asks if we get charged in case of false alarms. Sgt. Barth states that there is no charge for the 1<sup>st</sup> incidence, \$125 for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> incidence, then \$25 increase from there for the following incidences. If the police unit is called off prior to arriving to the scene, there is no charge for residential. If it's a commercial alarm, they still show up on scene and won't cancel.

Diane Shellenbaum asks if we have problems in the Huffman/O'Malley area with the riff-raff rummaging through unlocked cars and back yards for untethered items at night. Sgt. Barth states this is a problem all over town including this area and reminds us to keep doors locked. Criminals are looking for easy targets and if doors are locked it will discourage them. Minor incidents can be reported online through [www.muni.org](http://www.muni.org) under police department.

#### 9) Political Representatives' Reports (4min each speaking, 4 minutes questions) -

It is encouraged that elected representatives have their contact information available so that members may be able to ask follow-up questions outside of the HOCC meeting.

##### a. Legislators

Senator Josh Revak-Not present

Senator Roger Holland-Not present

Representative Laddie Shaw-Not present

Representative James Kaufman-Not present

##### b. Mayor's staff- Portia Erickson

-Ms. Erickson announces there is a Hmong festival this weekend 8/20-21

-There will be a job fair at 4<sup>th</sup> floor of Loussac Library 9/23

-For non-emergency calls use 311 instead of 911

=Mayor's office is working diligently on homelessness winter plan

##### c. District 6 Assembly Updates

Assembly Member Suzanne LaFrance

-Ms. LaFrance states the assembly approved \$52M to be split between 72 different projects

-\$11.9M to Rasmussen for homeless housing

<https://ancgov.info/AR2022-178s>

[www.muni.org/recovery](http://www.muni.org/recovery)

Nick asks if final bill for restoring the Sullivan Arena after housing homeless there. Ms. LaFrance states it is in the millions but she doesn't have an exact number.

Assembly Member Randy Sulte-Not present

d. School Board Representative – Dave Donley & Andy Holleman

- Mr. Donley is taking over for Mr. Holleman for reporting to our community council
- Bus driver shortage situation is improving- about 50 drivers in the pipeline to replace the 70 that were lost at the beginning of the school year
- \$60-100M funding shortfall projected for '23-'24 school year
- Will need to make difficult budget decisions, may be looking at closing schools, will know more after an analysis is completed

e. If any candidates are present, we will have a short presentation period at end of meeting.

10) Report of Changing Title 21 Muni Code- Rachel and Julie will dig into this- deadline is 8/22

11) Reports (2 min ea.)- Please announce if you have anything to report

- a) Treasurer's Report- S Wileman- current account balance is \$917.84, keeping in mind that \$400 could go back to HALO unless we use it to pay for more information from the city regarding property assessments
- b) HALO – Nolan- [www.anchoragehalo.org](http://www.anchoragehalo.org) has seminar on property appraisals  
Candidate forum on 10/6, contact Katie to volunteer [presidenthalo@gmail.com](mailto:presidenthalo@gmail.com),  
HALO would like \$400 returned to purchase FOIA from the city re: tax appraisals
- c) Traffic Calming Report – new volunteer requested
- d) Crime Report – New Volunteer requested
- e) Outreach- Nick and Rachel will work on setting up Facebook/Nextdoor/email  
Considering contact through PTA's of Huffman, Bowman, and Rabbit Creek Elementary schools, snow fun day with kids, etc.
- f) Attendance questions- Mazzolini
- g) FCC - Stoddard or other

12) Committee Reports (2 min ea.) Organizing, if anything to report

- a) Land Use
- b) Ordinance and Public Comment

13) HOCC May Election summary- changes- Julie was elected president but is now running for state house so she can no longer be in that position. Gretchen will step up as president for now, Rachel as vice president, but will be stepping down when she runs for assembly starting January 2023. 1 open position, looking for additional future board positions, Request for Volunteers

14) HOCC Planning summary for year and possible speakers

September- Constitutional convention- Cathy Giessel against, someone else pro

October- Traffic/pedestrian problems on Huffman/O'Malley with schools- Portia or Brad Coy (municipal traffic) or a state rep? Seems like there is a disconnect between DOT and municipality, we need to dig into how to prevent accidents

Future- ASD funding issues, school choice, municipal tax assessments

15) Continuing Business

16) President's Report

- a. Incoming Correspondence
- b. Outgoing Correspondence

17) New Business

**Next meeting September 15, 2022 – In person at Huffman Elementary (hybrid with zoom)**

Lorraine St, Anchorage, AK 99516

Introduce Candidates for elected office- 2 minutes plus Q&A if time allows.

Roselynn Cacy- running for state senate in district E, [www.roselynnacy.com](http://www.roselynnacy.com)

Cathy Giessel- running for state senate in district E, co-chair of [www.defendourconstitution.com](http://www.defendourconstitution.com), puts a newsletter out every Wednesday morning about state issues

Julie Coulombe- running for state house district 11, [www.julieforalaska.com](http://www.julieforalaska.com)

Walter Featherly- running for state house district 11, [www.electfeatherly.com](http://www.electfeatherly.com)

18) Open Forum

19) Adjournment at 9pm

Email the HOCC Chair: [HOCCPresident@gmail.com](mailto:HOCCPresident@gmail.com)

Visit our website: <http://communitycouncils.org> go to Huffman O'Malley Community Council

Visit our Facebook page: Huffman/O'Malley Community Council

**Next Meeting: September 15, 2022- Election of New Officers**