

General Meeting MINUTES *final*
Huffman-O'Malley Community Council
Thursday, February 15, 2024@ 7:00 PM
WE ARE IN PERSON THIS MONTH

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

Location for the in-person meeting is Huffman Elementary at 12000 Lorraine Ave

- 1) Call to order at 7:00PM by Rachel Ries
- 2) Welcome and Introductions

Present: Executive Board: Rachel Ries- President, Gretchen Stoddard- Vice President, Shannon Wileman- Secretary, Trina Lovdahl-treasurer, Members- Katie Nolan, John Yeafoli, Lisa Huffman, Marcy Tompkins, Nick Mazzolini

Absent:

There is one open seat

- 3) Agenda
 - a. Call for additions and approval of agenda- None
- 4) Minutes
 - a. Approval of October 2023, November 2023, and January 2024 minutes
-Gretchen motioned to approve, Nick 2nd, approved unanimously
- 5) Presentation- Jack Gadamus, Municipal Assessor – Appealing Property Assessments- provided a slideshow.
 - a. Average residential value changes increased 9% in HOCC
 - b. High interest rates suppress demand for home ownership and selling to upgrade
 - c. Assessment notice mailed out on or before 1/15, Tax Bill mailed out 6/1, Tax Due 6/30
1st half and 8/31 2nd half
 - d. Deadline to file an appeal 2/12- Form on Muni website
 1. What evidence should one provide for an appeal?
 - i. Condition Issue- Bids to repair, Physical inspections by MOA, Engineers report, Cost to cure, inspection report, Relevant market data
 - ii. Market Value Issue- Comparable listings and sales, Appraisals, Comparable Market Analysis, Income and Expense (commercial)
 - iii. Equity Issue- Comparable assessed value, Quality of construction, Property's profile
 2. In 2023, 80% Appeals settled without a BOE hearing, 16% Owner at BOE and value upheld, 4% Owner failed to appear at BOE hearing.
 - e. Exemption applications are due 3/15
 1. State (\$150k) Disabled Veterans and Senior Citizens

2. Optional (40% up to \$75k) for Residential
f. The assembly is finalizing the budget and set mill rates in March/April

6) Political Representatives' Reports (4min each speaking, 4min questions)
a. Legislators

Senator Cathy Giessel- District E- not present

1. Contact her with any question/concerns
 - a. Sen.Cathy.Geissel@akleg.gov
 - b. (907) 465-4843
 - c. www.alaskasenate.org
 - d. Sign up to receive her newsletter via email or website above

Senator James Kaufman- District D- present

1. Contact him with any questions/concerns
 - a. Sen.kames.kaufman@akleg.gov
 - b. (907) 465-4843
 - c. www.senatorkaufman.com
 - d. Sign up for his email list or schedule a 15-minute meeting through his website above
2. Energy
 - a. Focus on Cook Inlet Gas shortages, considering short-term and intermediate term solutions for this year, to consider more in depth long term solutions in the future.
 - b. Short term solution possibilities include improving economics of the field, gas storage facility management, and rate structures
 - c. Intermediate term solutions include importing gas, improving the ability of producers to tap into proven reserves and in stranded resources.
3. Bills coming up
 - a. SB 34- Citizens' Advisory Commission on Federal Areas- The commission sunset in 2021 so this bill serves to reinstate it
 - b. SB 134- Would protect Alaskan's data from cyber attacks by requiring insurance companies to implement an information security program
 - c. SB 147- Re-employment benefits bill
 - d. SB 201- Creating an Office of Information Technology to help with IT overhauls of aging IT systems across the state
4. Legislative Town Hall at Cuddy Hall (UAA) 3/9 2-4pm

Representative Julie Coulombe- HD 11- present

1. Contact her with any questions/concerns
 - a. Representative.Julie.Coulombe@akleg.gov

- b. (907) 748-4377
- c. www.akleg.gov or www.julieforalaska.com
2. Legislative town Hall at Cuddy Hall (UAA) 3/9 2-4pm
3. Bills coming up
 - a. SB 140- Broadband Assistance Grant bill to increase broadband for eligible schools from 25 Mbps to 100 Mbps. Several amendments have been added to it- transportation, charter school issues, deaf and hard of hearing, civics, BSA increase, bonus for educators. Expecting to vote on it soon.
 - b. SB 200- Teacher retirements
 - c. HB 89- Childcare- tax credits to businesses who offer childcare to employees
4. Governor put out 12 executive orders, legislators have until mid-March to reject
5. Deadline to present STIP to feds is end of February

Representative Laddie Shaw- HD 9- Not Present

b. Mayor's staff- Not Present

c. District 6 Assembly Updates

Assembly Member Randy Sulte- Present

1. Contact: randy.sulte@anchorageak.gov, 907-229-2977
2. Is at Kaladi's on Old Seward/Huffman every Saturday 8-10am when he is in town.
3. 2/21- Homeless meeting
4. 2/27- Next Assembly meeting
5. Ballots mailed out mid-March, watch for them in the mail

Assembly Member Zac Johnson- Not present

1. Contact: zac.johnson@anchorageak.gov , (907) 206-0753

d. School Board Representative- Pat Higgins- Present

1. Contact: higgins_pat@asdk12.org , schoolboard@asdk12.org , [907-952-5871](tel:907-952-5871)
2. Superintendent contract was extended by 1 year
3. 6th grade is moving to middle school starting next and it does cost extra now and continues into the future.
4. School Board trying to decide how much of the reserves to use for running ASD 2024-2025.

e. Other representatives from Police, Fire, JBER, or schools- not present

- 7) Reports (2 min ea.)- Please announce if you have anything to report
 - a. Treasurer's Report- T Lovdahl- \$212.85 total
 - b. HALO – Nolan- Fire chief wants us to know that most of the fires this winter were caused by innovative wiring and alternative heating sources. Candidate Forum is 3/7 @7pm at the Zoo. Will include mayoral and school board candidates as well as a Park Service Bond Presentation.
 - c. Traffic Calming Report – new volunteer requested
 - d. Crime Report – New Volunteer
 - e. Outreach- Mazzolini- No questions
 - f. Attendance questions- Mazzolini- No questions
 - g. FCC – Stoddard- FCC will have interviews soon for a new manager.

- 8) President's Report
 - a. Incoming Correspondence- None
 - b. Outgoing Correspondence- None

- 9) New Business
 - a. HOCC Yard Sale- No further discussion at this meeting
 - b. Planned speakers/topics – community input.
 - c. **Next meeting Thursday March 21, 2024**
 - d. **Introduce Candidates for elected office – 2 minutes plus Q&A if time allows.**
 1. **Julie Coulombe announced that she is running for house again**
 - e. **Open forum for Other New Business- None**

Adjournment at 8:40pm

Email the HOCC Chair: 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- Thursday, March 21, 2024

Thursday, April 18, 2024