

GOVERNMENT HILL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

c/o Community Councils Center • 1057 West Fireweed Lane, Suite 100 Anchorage, AK 99503

Jody Sola, President
Margy Hughes, Vice President
Peggy Wilcox, Secretary
Zoe Lowery, Treasurer
Bob French, FCC Representative
Belinda MacIntire, Ron Clark, Pete Murphy At-Large Board Members

GHCC Minutes 1.18.2024 Taken by: Peggy Wilcox

Meeting was called to order by Jody Sola, president at 6:30pm

Agenda was approved. Moved by Margy Hughes, seconded by Ron Clark. Passed unanimously.

Election of 2024 Officers: Slate of officers was presented. No other nominees were announced from the floor. Moved by Margy Hughes, seconded by Pete Murphy to accept slate as presented. Passed unanimously.

Legislative Update:

Sen Tobin: Day 3 of legislative session. Discussed effort to override the veto of K-12 funding, and other efforts to aid schools through base student allocation increase (SB 140) and better broadband access (SB52). She will be meeting with the DOT Commissioner to talk about Government Hill's transportation issues and how proposed large projects are not meeting the neighborhood's needs.

Rep Groh: Rep Groh. New session staffer Sophie Weiser. Discussed support for alternative energy projects - Mt Susitna and Little Shovel Creek projects. His office would like to focus on roads and encourages residents to call about snow removal.

Anchorage Assembly

Assemblyman Volland: Noted it is the time of year where bonds are being crafted, plans to look for \$100K for Government Hill area improvements/planning for parks and trails. Explained how public safety and transit budgeting process works. Housing: Assembly recently reviewed and strengthened requirements for fire sprinklers in triplex and fourplex code fire sprinklers – passed. Discussed a pilot program for modular units such as pallet shelters for controlled camping. Overview of "Anchorage Goes" public restroom project, 1 public restroom will be provided per Assembly district. Recapped the AMATS policy committee – voted to add tract J emergency access road to NTP. This will keep it on the STIP

Assemblyman Constant:

Touched on Volland comments. Discussed Tract J. Assembly has formally asked the Port for a definition of "emergency" means when the term "emergency road/access" is mentioned. It could mean 2400 trucks/day, 5 days a week.

The port has been renamed the "Don Young Port of Alaska". Noted that past growth rate predictions for the port has been overestimated and the Assembly has asked for an economic analysis. Port revenue bonds for Terminal 1 will be on next muni ballot.

Other: The Mobile Crisis Intervention Team currently available 8 hours a day, are working towards expanding to 24 hours a day. Noting the winter's heavy snow, the Assembly will be taking up an ordinance that will allow for temporary snow storage.

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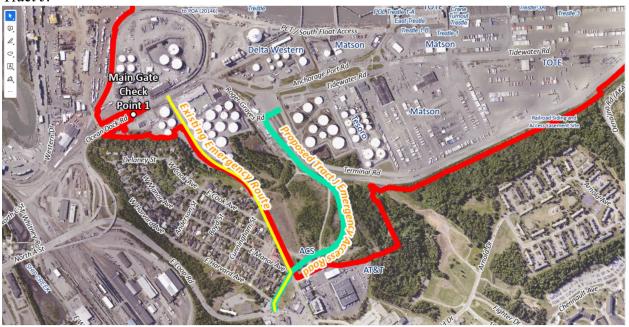
Anchorage School Board:

Dave Donley: Noted there is a lack of safety personnel in the schools, 11 SROs for 90 schools. Government Hill Elementary is looking at increase in class size- 8 more students per class in grades 4 and above if budget shortfalls are not met. Board adopted new minutes procedure. No motions without a second will be recorded.

ARR: Did a walkthrough of the Tesoro building with DOT trying to provide some clarity. Question was raised about plans to shovel the roof.

<u>Port-</u> Jim Jager on behalf of Steve Ribuffo, POA Manager: North Extension stabilization finishing this spring. Adding a warm storage building for sand near Check Point 1. Roger Graves road will be repaired this summer. Security screening will be happening in same area – the old tent structure is wearing out.

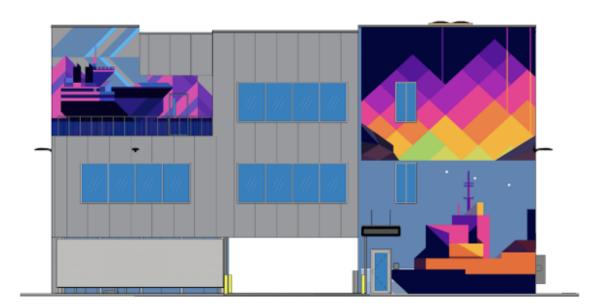
Tract J:



Access: Main gate on Ocean Dock. Secondary is bluff drive (in yellow). Third is already established JBER gate is route is a backdoor route through JBER. All three pass through Subway/Taco King area. The yellow road, Bluff Road, has been used twice. In 2017-18 to accommodate a gas leak the other was 2016 when an accident closed the road. The emergency road project will cost apx \$5.5-6M and require one construction season to complete. Plan is to complete the design in 2024 and build in 2025. It was noted that the tract has been designated as park land by the Assembly.

Art work for the new Port Administration building: Gideon Gerlt, curator of public art for the Muni, stated that new art has been commissioned for an exterior mural and the inside visitor area. Here are the final designs:





AFD Update: Mark, then duty Cpt at Sta 1. Reports Anchorage has 17 new recruits. Fire safety: 1) 4 fire fatalities so far this year- all of them involved places w/o working smoke detectors. The new ones have 10 yr batteries. 2) Cold snaps, people get complacent. When grilling, make sure you aren't under an eave and keep cords and outlets clear.

<u>Curling Club:</u> GHCC Resolution 2024-001 supporting retaining the Curling Club as an anchor for Harvard Park_was presented. Susanne DiPietro moved to accept as written, seconded by Pete Murphy. Motion passed by a show of hands unanimously, 13 yea, 0 nay, 0 abstain.

<u>Municipal Parks</u>: Nicolette Dent, planner MOA Parks & Recreation presented. Government Hill improvements is on the parks bond this year for wayfinding kiosks and signage.

AYEP will be improving Sunset to Alderwood this (2024) summer 24. Expect a week or so on trail improvement.

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GH Commons, current fence is encroaching into ROW. Parks is looking at keeping it where it is. Maybe next year. Richardson Vista play equipment, removing gravel and replace it with a better surface. Alderwood improvements (swings and train). Working with Port on platting Tract J. Previous supervisor, Steve Rafuse, moved out of state, and new supervisor Taylor Keegan was appointed. The viewshed improvement for Susan Nightengale Park was not prioritized due to staffing issues but will be contracted this summer. Two volunteers are needed to adopt gardens at Harvard and Susan Nightengale Parks.



Old Business: Wireless building update at Feb. meeting. Other items have been discussed in other parts of this mtg.

Committee Updates: Bob French noted that AMATS postponed until February meeting.

Opened community comments/concerns: None received.

Motion to adjourn: Pete Murphy, Seconded: Zoe Lowery. Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm