

Eagle River Valley Community Council Meeting Minutes Wednesday, February 11, 2009

President Bill Holland opened the meeting at 7:06 p.m. Introductions were made.

President's Report: Bill Holland distributed CIP list for review, the council will need to vote for approval and/or changes at the March 18 meeting. Bill observed that the second road access for Eagle Crossing subdivision at Eagle River Lane is a concern. The developer was originally required to provide the road connection in 2008, but the date was pushed back until summer 2009. Now the developer is proposing to delay the connection construction until 2011 and reduce the number of sidewalks (from both sides to only one). **Bill Holland nominated Austin Zimiga as chair of the Planning & Zoning Committee, Tom Freeman second, unanimously approved.** Bill requested volunteers to assist with the board nominations, election during May 6 annual meeting.

Approval of minutes: Quorum present, **Craig Goodrich moved to approve November & December 2088 minutes, Tom Freeman second, unanimously approved.**

Treasurer's Report: submitted by Sarah Wright. Heritage Estates Well Compensation fund has been turned over to an accountant(s). Sarah requested assistance from community council member to review her accounting.

Assembly Update: No Assembly members present.

INVITED GUESTS, SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Anchorage Fire Department (AFD) Chief Craig Goodrich introduced firefighters/EMTs from Station 11 and spoke about extending the fire protection district beyond mile 5.5 Eagle River Road (Alascom dishes). Currently when AFD goes on a call outside the fire protection district, there is a \$500.00 charge. Chief Goodrich said last year the area in question (beyond mile 5) had 13 total calls, only 4 were fire-related, the rest were EMT. Chief Goodrich acknowledged adding the fire service district "is a complicated issue...walking both sides of the fence". The Chief discussed service areas, staffing patterns, insurance rates, response times and types of calls. Usually area residents have to vote to be included within the district (since their mil rate would increase), however there is language within Municipal Code that if an area has less than 10% of the overall square miles of the Municipality and has less than 1,000 residents, the Assembly could decide the issue. Goodrich observed that if the fire protection area is extended 'back valley', residents insurance rating would immediately improve after the vote (even though station not built or staffed). Funds for station construction would need to be funded by a bond. Goodrich reminded residents that the most dangerous time of year is March/April (before 'green-up') and encouraged individuals to request an assessment and stop at Station 11 for fire prevention information.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Federation of Community Councils (FCC): Tom Freeman reported that Federation of Community Councils grants are declining and asked council members for their feedback about the percentage formula FCC charges when administering grants (usually a percent of grant amount, percentage decreases as grant amount gets larger). The FCC has changed their bank to Alaska USA Federal Credit Union. Currently FCC is planning

to host the 2010 National Convention in Anchorage.

Education: Linda Kelly reported that there will be two school bonds on the April ballot. Usually State of Alaska provides 70% debt reimbursement for local schools. Linda observed that during the last few years the number of bonds retired equals the number of new bonds indebted. This year Anchorage School District (ASD) retired 46 million bond indebtedness. Four ASD Board seats are up for election in April, and the one seat currently vacant on the board has 30 applicants. Currently there is a maximum mandatory class size bill before the state legislature, the ASD preference is student teacher ratio instead of limiting class size. Linda reported that the Economic Stimulus Package will benefit Alaska schools primarily in special education and capital improvements for the next two years.

Emergency Preparedness: Lisa Andersen reported that Anchorage Fire Department is requesting monies to replace the tender that burned in the Moosehorn fire. During the April ERVCC meeting there will be a CPR review (just basic info, not for a card). Lisa reported that Anchorage Police Department is reporting minimal traffic violations on Eagle River Road.

Parks & Recreation (P&R): Sarah Wright reported that Beach Lake trail conditions are marginal due to lack of snow and Eagle River High School (ERHS) trails are even worse! P&R has dedicated \$75,000 towards providing lighting on ERHS trails, but two items must occur before the lights go up:

1. South Fork Community Council and Eagle Pointe subdivision members must approve the lighting
2. Funds must be raised by the Nordic Ski Club for electrical labor and supplies

Beach Lake Regional Park Master Plan is moving forward even though the gravel extraction process has not been resolved. P&R has set aside \$1 million for MacDonald Center expansion and asked Rasmussen Foundation for a loan to cover the remaining cost. P&R would then repay the loan with 0.5 mil rate C/ERP&R established for capital improvements, however the foundation is limiting grants to a maximum of \$25,000. Sarah reported that work continues on the Towne Center building (interior gutted, new plumbing/electrical installed), anticipated completion September 2009. During summer 2009 P&R expects to inventory all parks for improvement/secondary use, complete all capital improvement projects and not start any new projects except for the BMX/Skateboard park (possibly purchase vacant lot across street from Towne Center)

Road Board: Bill mentioned the possibility of getting an update on the progress of Eagle River Road upgrade beyond mile 5 (there have been some challenges with right of way permits).

Zoning & Platting: No report.

Chugiak/Eagle River Consortium: No report.

Tom Freeman moved to adjourn the meeting 9:10 pm, Sarah Wright seconded. Unanimously approved, meeting formally adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Therese Voehl.