

Susitna Community Council Meeting Minutes September 2nd, 2010

- I.** A **quorum** was established, with Tami Hamler, Robert Coleman, Cari Sayre, Phenie Miller in attendance. Scott Holcomb was seated as an alternate.
- II.** The meeting was **called to order** at 7:15.
- III.** The **Pledge of Allegiance** was said.
- IV.** Cari moved, Robert seconded, to **approve the minutes of the August meeting** as written. Motion passed. The **Treasurer reported** \$70 in checking.
- V.** Tami moved, Scott seconded to **approve the meeting agenda**. Passed.
- VI. Persons to be Heard (5 minutes suggested)**
- 1) **Linda Cline**, secretary of Caswell FSA, nominated two CIP projects. First is for two turn lanes (for north & southbound) at the junction of Parks Hwy and Hidden Hills Rd. (just south of Sheep Creek) -- contact person is Cheryl Newsome. There have been accidents there due to people trying to turn where the speed limit is 65 mph. People are unsure whether this would be included in the highway plan north of MP 83. Moved to new business.
- The second project is in reference to Upper Caswell Lake, in which the water level has been lowered by humans tearing out the beaver dam. Birds are not reproducing due to low lake level, weeds are growing, wells are going dry, and fire service has no water source for filling trucks. Caswell FSA recommends building a concrete spillway, which would help to maintain lake level. Moved to new business.
- 2) **Henry (Hank) Olson**, from Caswell RSA, nominated the project of rebuilding and/or chip-sealing Caswell Lakes Rd. The road is 3.9 miles long, running from Hidden Hills to Bendapole. The school bus drives this road, and in the spring the road is a "mud hole." There are only 2 roads accessing the Caswell Lakes subdivision. Moved to new business.
- 3) **Larry Cline** spoke of needs of the Caswell FSA. First, there is a need for a fire station in Caswell. The MSB has identified a piece of property in the area. The FSA has money to build a temporary building (like a garage) in the spring. The CIP project would ask for \$2.5 million to build a permanent fire station.
- The second proposal is to fund the purchase of a fire engine. This project would cost about \$600,000. Moved to New Business.
- VII. Correspondence**
- Received:**

See Correspondence sheet

Sent: none

VIII. Committee and Governmental Reports

- a. **Road Service Areas** (15 & 29) – no report
- b. **Borough Assembly** update – **Vern Halter** spoke of the planned meetings for Oct. 14, which will be held at the Willow Community Center at 9:30am , and another at the Upper Susitna Senior Center at 1:30pm The meeting will include MSB staff, and representatives from local community councils and RSAs.

The deadline is still Sept. 15 for CIP nominations.

He reminded us of the **Oct. 5 borough election**, where one issue is to decide our form of local government (strong mayor or manager). There are also two school bonds (one includes SVHS track and hockey rink), a road bond (Vern encouraged us to vote in favor).

He commented on the CIP projects that were suggested earlier in the meeting. Regarding the Caswell fire station, he noted that Lake Louise had a warm storage building built for \$850,000, and suggested looking at their design.

Tami Hamler, Art Mannix & Vern made a presentation to the school board about the **wood-fired boiler for SVHS**, and the board voted unanimously to support it and to encourage the borough to write a grant.

- c. Bylaws Committee – no meeting
- d. Grant Expenditure Committee – Scott and Tami will work on that committee in lieu of Wade Bartel, who is resigning from the council.

IX. Old Business

- a. IRS 501(c)(3) state non-profit has been granted; the council is waiting for grant money to apply for federal tax-exempt status.
- b. SCC website – no update
- c. Records Storage – Cari will contact Senior Center about this.
- d. Sunshine Creek Outhouse – The outhouse is built, the gate is in, the road is moderately improved / the worst holes have been filled, there is less trash by the creek. The atmosphere is changing because of the more formal facilities, and MSB parks employee is keeping it picked up.
- e. AK. DOT STIP Nominations – no action
- f. MSB CIP Nominations – SVHS safety crossing. Scott mentioned a website www.state.ak.us/stwdplng-saferoutes (Safe Routes to Schools). Tami moved that the SCC submit this project to CIP list. Cari seconded. Passed. Terrence moved to list a trail system connecting Talkeetna winter trails with Willow trails. Scott seconded. Passed.
- g. MSB 10/14 Meeting – mentioned above

X. New Business

- a. Election Committee – The committee will consist of Phenie Miller, Patti Coleman and Cari Sayre. We will ask Mary McCrum to help with the election.
- b. CIP nominations -- Tami moved to write a letter of support for the three Caswell FSA projects listed earlier (fire truck, fire station building, spillway). Scott seconded. Passed. Tami moved to write a letter of support for the Caswell RSA project to upgrade Caswell Lake Rd. Scott seconded. Passed. Tami moved

that the community council, in the interest of public safety, sponsor the Hidden Hills turn lanes and the SVHS Safety Crossing. Phenie seconded. Passed. Tami will write these letters.

c. AT&T tower at mile 1, Spur Rd – Cari moves that we write a letter of no objection to the tower, asking that they situate the tower far enough back that it could not hit the power lines or fall into the road, and that it be lit with a steady red light (not a strobe). Scott seconded. Passed. Cari will write.

d. Close nominations – Tami moved, Scott seconded to close nominations. Candidates for regular seats include Chris Humphries, Marlene Chilkoat, Panic Holbrook, Willi Prittie, Ellie Henke, Susan Halseth, and Justin Koles. For alternates, Terrence Shanigan, Scott Holcomb, Eric Runstrom.

XI. Board Member Announcements

XII. Announcements -- Donations are welcome of up to \$50 per calendar year to help defray administrative costs of carrying out council business.

XIII. Adjournment at 8:40

Susitna Community Council
Serving the Upper Susitna Valley
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