



Meeting Minutes

Upper Susitna Seniors Center, Thursday, Feb. 4th, 2016 at 7:00 P.M.

- I. Establish Quorum** - Kimberly, Robert, Trevor, Mark, Pete
- II. Call meeting to order** 7:10 pm
- III. Pledge of Allegiance**
- IV. Minutes and Treasurer's report** (Peter / Mark)
 - a) Checking \$61.60
 - b) Savings \$2,338.85
- V. Approval of meeting agenda** (Peter / Mark)
- VI. Persons to be Heard (5 minutes suggested)**
 - a) Eric Denkwalter - Acting Fire Chief
 - a. 22 Firefighters now and 6 going through classes
 - b. Equipment getting fixed
 - c. Board of advisors - First meeting 2/5/16 at 1 pm
 - d. Public has requested to increase service district and is being taken under consideration now that staffing has increased, but it is a political issue.
 - b) Donna Dearman - Meals on Wheels
 - a. Grant check has been cut.
 - b. Requested change to MOA to help purchase a new vehicle as well as general operating costs.
- VII. Correspondence**
 - a) Received - Numerous letters regarding underpass to
 - b) Sent - None
- VIII. Committee and Governmental Reports**
 - a. Road Service Areas (15 & 29) - Bill Stearns - No new report - good road conditions
 - b. Borough Assembly update - Sewer situation will be moving forward this month - Kowalke
 - c. Bylaws Committee –Change of Meeting Date (Mark / Kimberly)
 - a. March meeting begins the Third Thursday of the month meeting schedule
 - d. Grant Expenditure Committee - Monday work session to issue checks 2/8/16 at 5 pm.
 - e. Trails Committee - no action
 - f. Ways & Means Committee-Financial Reporting - currently being issued and will be issued monthly
 - g. Cemetery Committee - Denise Chappel -
 - a. Articles of incorporation nearly ready to send.
 - b. First draft of bylaws are out for approval.
 - c. Starting work on rules and regulations.
 - d. Funding sources are being vetted.
 - e. Location options are also being considered.
 - f. Monthly meetings will be Tuesday before the council meeting.



X. Old Business

- b. IRS 501(c)(3) - no report
- c. Revenue Sharing Grants
- d. Sunshine Creek Improvements - tabled until Spring
- e. Parks Highway Undercrossing at Susitna Valley Jr/Sr High School
 1. MOA now under the control of SCC
 2. We do not have funding guaranteed, nor the insurance for liability
 3. Larry Dearman - The SOA has serious budget issues due to oil industry down. A lighted crossing with a button 1500 feet each way would have solved this issue without spending issues. Grant monies will likely decrease due to budget crisis as well.
 4. Scott Holcomb read a written statement- the project began discussions over six (6) years ago. DOT agreed the under-crossing was the best solution. The SCC supported this project. There is a history of building underpasses for fisherman and winter athletes. This is a safety issue and therefore falls within the bailiwick of the council. Requesting the council signs the MOA. There are means and ways to find the funding for maintenance.
 5. 2 Million of federal monies are already allocated to build this project. It is fully funded!
 6. Council responded with the reminder of the DOT representative in November 2015 who said they would NOT accept a volunteer crew to maintain the underpass.
 7. Outstanding issues include but not limited to:
 1. liability,
 2. financial,
 3. the responsibility would be in perpetuity,
 4. concerns about increased speed limit to 65 mph,
 5. and should the government be privatizing public safety
 8. There must be a guaranteed income source to fund maintenance annually in perpetuity and \$10,000 is a more reasonable amount to handle all maintenance issues as they arise as well as liability insurance, as stated by Bill Stearns. Forming another 501c3 would be the best way to handle this.
 9. The maintenance must be outsourced to a legal entity who is capable of handling, per the DOT.
 10. Assemblyman Kowalke - reported he looked for money from the borough, the school district and spoke with Senator Mike Dunleavy. Dunleavy is outraged but the DOT has pointed the finger at the State that their budget was cut. Personal recommendation may be to call their bluff. DOT doesn't want the lights and/crosswalks because they want the speed limit to be 65 mph all the way to Dead Horse.
 11. There is no expiration date, but has been suggested to act fast.
 12. The construction of this project is scheduled to start 2017.
 13. Several other community members voiced support of the project.
 14. Community members are encouraged to contact Governor Bill Walker, Senator Mike Dunleavy and Representative Wes Keller, and the DOT contact.



15. Shelis Jorgensen, Director of the Sunshine Clinic, voiced her support of the project and will send a copy of her letter of support to community members to utilize to contact the SOA reps.

XI. New Business

a. Request to change MOA for Meals on Wheels (Kimberly, Peter)

XII. Board Member Announcements

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

XIV. Adjournment 8:25 pm