

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT JULY 2023 General Meeting

- This month was quite busy as we continue to be short staffed. We have been waiting on CH customers while attending to our other tasks. Thanks again to everyone for pitching in and cross covering for each other. Including for janitorial as John Sanchez has an injured knee.
- Septage update - Trevor Richards from Juneau Septic has made at least 3 trips (4 as of this report) using the small truck to pump individual households and other systems and has turned around four 4000–4500-gallon truckloads, plus 2-3 small truck loads on the ferry. This is at least 20K gallons removed from the tanks to date with more still in the tanks waiting to be removed and additional households to service.
- Received a Notice of Intent to Award that our Capital Improvement Project Planning Grant Application for the Septage Tank Project was reviewed by Village Safe Water (VSW) and approved for funding. Grant funding of \$88,000 will be provided by VSW, in partnership with the USDA Rural Development. According to ADEC, information and award documents will be provided as soon as possible.
- With Jim Mackovjak leading and Curtis Fincher of Agnew::Beck Consulting providing guidance we worked to submit the Safe Streets and Roads for All Planning Grant. It was a lengthy process requiring several federal forms for a maximum 2-page project summary. Let's hope we will be successful. If we are successful, DOT expects to obligate SS4A award funding and grant agreement within 12 months after awards have been announced. Although there was no indication of when awards would be issued, last year they were announced in February.
- Spent considerable time researching and gathering documents needed by our attorney for various legal issues.
- Updated a Healthy Communities Funding Request. Twice. DCCED had sufficient funding in their HEC budget to put out a call for equipment requests under an environmental component related to preventing COVID. I asked about a truck for the DRC and MFC to transport waste and other contaminants and they said to submit it. Since they received way more in requests that they had funds for they decided that rather not fund some, they wouldn't fund any, and reverted it back to original health and safety component under which I then submitted the "wildland firefighting truck with plow and skid unit" CIP Project Nomination Short Form documentation which was previously approved by the Council, and which was turned in to DEECD last week.
- Continue to attend weekly "Office Hours" meetings with Alaska Municipal League where they review various upcoming grants and infrastructure funding notices. They have granting agency and project consultant staff who explain upcoming funding opportunities. It's helpful to be able to ask questions where more knowledgeable folks can get back to us with clarifying information. For example, just this past Tuesday, the USDA liaison for SE AK let us know about grants/loans and is looking to see if GVFD is eligible to apply for funding for the water tender through the Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant Program in Alaska. That scoping document was approved by council last August.
- Met with Superintendent Ralph Watkins regarding possible support for a continuing preschool program with CSD in light of the governor vetoing 87 million \$\$ from the proposed education budget and lowering the BSA that the bipartisan legislature had worked on. It's preliminary as he doesn't have the district's final budget numbers and there are still a lot of unknowns in funding, a schedule, or numbers of students.
- Made a report with the Alaska State Troopers and spoke with Trooper Lemieux who was in Gustavus regarding vandalism and illegal motorized vehicle use on the west side of the beach which is degrading the vegetation and where someone graffitied and removed the fire pit culvert collar. I'm in the process of gathering and sending pictures.

- Created and executed a contract extension for FY 24 to Alaska Technical Services, our IT systems contractor.
- Created and executed a Professional Services Agreement for FY 24 with John Barry of Naval Engineering for continued project management and compliance reporting.
- As everyone now knows the Marine Facilities Coordinator position has been filled by Larry Platt. Ben continues to mentor him, and Larry has been organizing and setting up the MFC shed and working on projects besides being at the dock and boat harbor.
- We are still waiting for construction to begin on the Library Shelter Project.
- Planned, shopped and pulled off Pau's retirement party which I'm told was a hit. Thanks for all who helped and for Sol who manned the BBQ for hours!
- Reviewed the National Forest Receipt appropriations potential changes, where the recipient has options of which type of funding allocation to pick from, but it's way more advantageous to keep it the same and continue to use it for roads maintenance.

Any comments, questions, or suggestions?