

Debra Thompson

From: Stephen Giesbrecht
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2023 2:19 PM
To: Assembly
Cc: Department Heads
Subject: RE: high level recap of meetings

One correction – see below

From: Stephen Giesbrecht
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2023 11:16 AM
To: Assembly <assembly@petersburgak.gov>
Cc: Department Heads <department_heads@petersburgak.gov>
Subject: high level recap of meetings

Assembly Member Lynn and I met with Senator Stedman and Representative Himschoot in Juneau last week. We also met with the Southcoast Regional ADOT Director and multiple members of his staff.

It appears, based upon the conversations with Bert and Rebecca, that school funding and the size of the dividend will be the dominating issues for this session. It is likely it will take significant time for these issues to be worked out.

The Schools and many legislators are pushing for a large increase of around \$1,000 to the Base Student Allocation. The Governor has not yet weighed in on his direction for school funding, but his support for an increase of \$1,000 to the BSA is unlikely at this time.

Jody and I met with Erica and Karen (School Finance Director) several weeks ago, and they initially asked the Borough for an increase of \$1M for the upcoming budget year. This was later reduced to \$500K, although we do not yet have this in writing and the school is still working on their budget.

The School also would like help for repairs to the roof of the middle and high school. Price Tag of about \$4.5M. This may have to involve a local bond issue to get the repairs completed.

Senator Stedman spoke to us regarding the plans for the future hospital and a meeting he had with Phil Hofstetter. He stated to Bob and I, he did not feel funding for this project will come from State appropriations **this year** and we should look to other sources to complete funding for the project.

The Senator indicated there will be little to no capital spending unless school funding and the Dividend issues are resolved.

Bob and I did discuss in detail the ongoing progress with ADNR and both Senator Stedman and Rep. Himschoot promised to stay involved on this issue.

ADOT seemed to indicate they are moving forward with discussions with the City of Kupreanof regarding their dock. If this happens, the dock would be given to the Borough, and the Borough would need to pass it on to Kupreanof if that is the continued wish of the Assembly.

It also appears there is additional discussion on extending the Kake road from 12 mile to 6 mile. This is a project that has the support of Senator Stedman.

All for now, but let me know if you have any questions. Bob, please weigh in if I missed something.

Thanks

Steve