


Haines Borough
Borough Assembly Meeting #90
February 21, 2006
MINUTES

Approved

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE TO THE FLAG Mayor **SHIELDS** called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Assembly Chambers of the Public Safety Building and led the pledge to the flag.

2. ROLL CALL **Present:** Mayor Fred **SHIELDS** and Assembly Members Jerry **LAPP**, Luck **DUNBAR**, Deborah **VOGT**, Stephanie **SCOTT**, and Scott **ROSSMAN**. **Absent:** Norm **SMITH**

Staff Present: Robert **VENABLES**/Borough Manager and Julie **COZZI**/Borough Clerk.

Visitors Present: Tom **MORPHET**/CVN, Patricia **BLANK**, Sean **MCLAUGHLIN**(KVFD Fire Chief), Chuck **MITMAN** (KVFD Asst. Fire Chief), Tod **SEBENS**, Lee **HEINMILLER** (Planning Commission Chair), Brian **CLAY** (School Board Member), Greg **STUCKEY**, Russell **SIMPSON**, Don **TURNER III** and others.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA & CONSENT AGENDA

M/S **LAPP/VOGT** Motion to approve the Agenda/Consent Agenda, as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES* January 24, 2006 Regular

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

CLAY offered to answer questions about the 65% school design documents because he is scheduled to attend another meeting and would not be available at that point in the agenda.

SEBENS explained that he is preparing an application for a grant to upgrade the Chilkat Center electrical and sound systems. The Chilkat Center Advisory Board recently considered it and has given its support. The grant must be applied for through the Borough. **SCOTT** asked what the timeline is and whether or not the topic could be added to the next meeting's agenda. **SEBENS** said there is no particular timeframe. The mayor said the topic will be on the next meeting agenda.

HEINMILLER expressed concern on behalf of the Planning Commission that the ice house plans they originally reviewed may have changed. He believes an ADA-accessible ramp will be built in the same location and has affected the ice house plans. If so, the Commission should relook at it.

STUCKEY said the CIA supports the Ice House project and said it would be a boon for the local economy.

6. MAYOR'S COMMENTS/REPORT

Mayor **SHIELDS** said he attended the Conference of Mayors recently in Juneau, and, in April, he will travel to Washington, D.C. with the borough manager, and possibly one assembly member, to meet with the Washington delegation on the boat harbor expansion project.

The mayor asked the assembly if they had any questions for **CLAY** prior to his departure. **VOGT** asked him to explain why the school board rejected the idea of moving Allen Road. **CLAY** said it was basically because of the expense involved. The mayor suggested revisiting it to see if the State would pay for it to provide the benefit of extra parking. **SCOTT** asked if sewer connections would be more expensive to install if Allen Road was relocated. **CLAY** said he is not aware of that but said it could be possible. He did agree that the total cost to move the road would be substantial.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Ordinance 06-02-135 - introduction and first hearing

An ordinance of the Haines Borough revising the FY06 budget to reflect the union wage agreement approved January 24, 2006, grants received by the Haines Borough Library, and changes to the property assessment budget.

M/S **LAPP/SCOTT** Motion to introduce Ordinance 06-02-135 and to hold the first public hearing at this meeting since it was appropriately published. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor **SHIELDS** opened and closed the public hearing at 6:45pm; there were no comments.

M/S **LAPP/SCOTT** Motion to advance Ordinance 06-02-135 to a second public hearing on March 14, 2006. The motion carried unanimously.

8. STAFF REPORTS

A. **Manager - VENABLES** summarized his written report covering the following topics:

- Ferry System Update
- FY07 Budget
- Taxing Cigarette and Alcohol Sales
- November 2005 Storm Damage
- New Borough Employees
- Misc. including dignitary visits to the Haines Borough, the Eco Orca appeal and Tanani Bay sewer services

Additionally, **VENABLES** said consideration should be given to consolidating fire service areas 1, 2, and 4 and asked that the Government Affairs & Services Committee address it.

- B. Borough Clerk
- C. Chief Fiscal Officer
- D. Chief of Police
- E. Museum
- F. Library
- G. Chilkat Center

9. COMMITTEE/COMMISSION/BOARD REPORTS

- A. Commerce Committee
- B. Finance & Budget
- C. Government Services/Affairs
- D. Personnel
- E. Planning Commission
- F. School Board
- G. Chilkat Center Advisory Board
- H. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
- I. Tourism Advisory Board
- J. Boat Harbor Advisory Committee
- K. Public Safety Commission

10. OLD BUSINESS - None

11. NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolutions

1. Resolution 06-01-082

A resolution of the Haines Borough Assembly asking the Bureau of Land Management to limit heli-skiing permits within the Haines Borough to those areas that appear on the map entitled *Haines Borough Helicopter-Supported Recreation Areas*.

M/S **SCOTT/VOGT** Motion to adopt Resolution 06-02-082.

VOGT explained that the borough's helicopter map permits almost every BLM-permitted area. **ROSSMAN** noted that the borough's map is meant to be fluid, and he is not inclined to support this resolution. **LAPP** said the resolution is rhetorical and not needed. BLM has the right to permit their lands as they will, and they require their permittees to follow local regulations anyway. **VOGT** said it is just intended as a message to BLM about the borough's desire to be consistent. **SCOTT** said it is nice when there are regulations in place that are not in conflict. This resolution would prod the BLM to do that. She believes it is good government. **VOGT** said it is just housekeeping and would not make much difference to what the BLM does anyway. She offered to withdraw the resolution from consideration.

M/S **SCOTT/VOGT** Motion to table the resolution indefinitely.
The motion carried unanimously.

B. Ordinances for Introduction - See also Item 7-Public Hearings

1. Ordinance 06-02-136

An ordinance of the Haines Borough amending Title 18 Section 18.80.030 (pertaining to setbacks and heights) to change the residential use setbacks in the commercial zone from twenty feet to ten feet from right-of-way property lines; and from ten feet to five feet from adjacent property lines.

M/S **LAPP/DUNBAR** Motion to introduce Ordinance 06-02-136 and to advance it to its first public hearing on March 14, 2006. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Other New Business

1. School Project 65% Design Approval

M/S **SCOTT/LAPP** Motion to approve the 65% design as amended. The motion carried unanimously in a roll call vote.

2. Borough Loan of up to \$85,000 to Purchase a Replacement Pumper Truck for Fire District #3 (Klehini Valley)

M/S **LAPP/DUNBAR** Motion to loan up to \$85K to the Klehini Valley Fire Department (KVFD).

LAPP asked if **MCLAUGHLIN** would speak to the request. **MCLAUGHLIN** said the KVFD currently has no reliable means of carrying fire-fighting gear and water to a fire. He said the department is looking for a used or refurbished pumper truck and has located four potential trucks. The department has no money to buy the truck but can make payments. The mayor added that the KVFD is willing to make small interest payments on the loan to cover inflation costs. **DUNBAR** asked how much it would cost to repair the current truck. **MCLAUGHLIN** said it would cost more to repair than to buy what they are looking at. **MITMAN** explained the poor condition of the current pumper and what would be required to repair it.

The motion carried unanimously in a roll call vote.

3. Award Contract - PC Harbor Boat Launch Ramp Rehab Project

M/S **LAPP/ROSSMAN** Motion to award the PC Harbor Boat Launch Ramp Rehabilitation contract to Southeast Road Builders.

SHIELDS said this is a great project that does not interfere with the plans for the boat harbor expansion. **VOGT** asked if the Planning Commission needs to review it. **VENABLES** said that since the existing ramp is being refurbished as opposed to building a new one in a different location, no Commission review is necessary.

The motion carried unanimously in a roll call vote.

4. Sales Tax Exemption Request - Haines Baptist Church

SHIELDS said this request is right in line with borough precedence.

M/S **LAPP/DUNBAR** Motion to approve the application for sales tax exemption from the Haines Baptist Church.

The motion carried unanimously in a roll call vote.

5. Upper Lynn Canal Transportation

M/S **VOGT/SCOTT** Motion to approve the letter addressed to Reuben Yost as drafted by Assembly Member Scott.

SCOTT said her draft letter discusses the need for ferry funding and says that the planned Juneau Road would significantly affect future ferry funding. She noted that the letter contains two empty spaces that she was hoping the manager would complete. **VENABLES** said "ferry construction" and "terminal repairs" would be good.

SHIELDS said he and the manager discussed some of these issues. In the background, Rep. Thomas no longer supports the current road plans and is now disturbed by the movement of dollars from other projects to the road. It may make a stronger statement if the borough supports Thomas' resolution. **SCOTT** said she believes both the letter and the resolution are warranted so that comments are in the record.

VENABLES suggested deletion of the letter's sixth paragraph and changing "36 avalanche paths" to "multiple avalanche paths" in the second paragraph.

M/S **SCOTT/VOGT** Motion to amend the letter to Reuben Yost by deleting the sixth paragraph, changing the number of avalanche paths stated in paragraph two from "36" to "multiple," and inserting "ferry construction" and "terminal repairs" in the two blanks.

The amendment motion carried unanimously.

The main motion carried unanimously. The letter will be sent as amended.

The resolution will be assigned the number "06-02-083." Rep. Thomas drafted the resolution and presented it recently to the Marine Transportation Advisory Board (MTAB). **VENABLES** said the MTAB unanimously supported it, and Thomas plans to present it to the State House.

M/S **LAPP/DUNBAR** Motion to adopt Resolution 06-02-083.

SCOTT expressed concern about taking action on a resolution that was not on the posted agenda since there is an unwritten policy not to do that. However, she

agreed with the rest of the assembly that there is no problem with this particular resolution because the assembly already adopted a similar resolution recently that was posted. All agreed that, as a rule, a resolution will not be considered unless it appears on the posted meeting agenda.

The motion carried unanimously in a roll call vote.

6. Award Contract - Ice House Project

M/S **LAPP/ROSSMAN** Motion to award the ice house contract to W.E. Stone & Co (Wescold).

VOGT asked **VENABLES** to comment on **HEINMILLER**'s comments. **VENABLES** said that the ADA ramp project has been moved from that location so the ice house project before the assembly is the same as what the Planning Commission reviewed and approved in 2005. He will have a conversation with **HEINMILLER** to clarify the plans. **ROSSMAN** asked about the operation plan. **VENABLES** said the plan is to have the assistant harbormaster operate the ice house. The system will auger out 15-tons per hour, and it is not anticipated that significant time will be required. **ROSSMAN** asked if the company will train the personnel in maintenance procedure. **VENABLES** said part of the contract calls for training. **SCOTT** asked how much water and electricity will cost. **VENABLES** noted on the ice house budget sheet that the "cost of goods sold" includes water, electricity, depreciation, etc. He said that Stan Wood has reviewed the project and believes it is viable. **ROSSMAN** asked if the borough would evaluate the profit-loss after the first season and then make adjustments, as needed. **VENABLES** said the plan is for the ice house to pay for itself each year.

DUBBER was called upon, and he said that Wescold is a quality company and is not going to give the borough a "hose job." **TURNER** was called upon, also, and he said his own research shows this to be a reputable company. This project that will really help the fishermen.

The motion carried unanimously in a roll call vote.

7. Request for Non-Objection - Liquor License Renewal

SCOTT said she objects to the renewal of the liquor licenses. **LAPP** said he has a conflict of interest since his wife is one of the applicants; he recused himself.

M/S **SCOTT/DUNBAR** Motion to table this item indefinitely.

The motion carried 4-0 with **LAPP** recused.

8. Committee/Board Appointments

The mayor said that he has removed Walter Clayton from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, and the vacancy is being advertised. He said he wants to appoint Dennis Miles and Keith Brooks to the Fire Service Area #3 Board; Douglas Olerud to the Planning Commission; and Donna Swift, Bob Adkins, Chris Sharpe, and Jon Svenson to the Museum Board of Trustees. **SHIELDS** asked for assembly confirmation of his appointments.

M/S LAPP/SCOTT Motion to confirm the mayor's appointments.

ROSSMAN asked the mayor why he removed Clayton from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. **SHIELDS** explained that at the end of 2005 the chair of the Board met with him to request removal of Clayton from the board. The mayor attempted twice to speak with Clayton and also sent him a letter but he has continually refused to meet with him. Therefore, regretfully, he has chosen to honor the board chair's request. He wishes Clayton had met with him.

The motion carried unanimously.

12. SET COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

The Government Affairs and Services Committee will meet Friday, March 10 at 4:00pm to discuss the Tanani Bay Sewer system and the consolidation of Fire Service Areas 1, 2, & 4.

The next Finance Committee meeting will take place on March 28th at 5:30pm.

The Southeast Conference Mid Session occurs March 21-22 in Juneau. Dunbar said he may be able to participate in it.

13. PUBLIC COMMENTS

BLANK thanked the assembly for agreeing that they will never again support a resolution that is not on the agenda. She did agree that tonight's added resolution was appropriate.

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS/ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

DUNBAR will be absent from the March 14 assembly meeting.

SCOTT asked the assembly members to come to her meeting on Wednesday, 2/22 regarding prevention of substance abuse in the Haines borough. A lot of work has gone into the project. She thanked the borough assembly for sponsoring one of the twelve advertisements to get the word out to the community.

LAPP asked the manager to look into ways to cut the IPEC electricity costs. \$.51 per kilowatt is the current cost. In the townsite, people are paying \$.17. Something needs to be done. **VENABLES** said he has been talking with Rep. Thomas

about it, and one of the main reasons is IPEC's debtload. He will make sure the assembly's concern is brought to his attention.

ROSSMAN asked about adding a parking lot across from the small boat harbor that would require only dirtwork. **VENABLES** said the Boat Harbor Advisory Committee will review the idea at a future meeting.

LAPP said he would be interested in going to Washington D.C. in April. It was agreed that he would participate.

SHIELDS said the March 14th assembly meeting will be held at the library. **SCOTT** said it was almost impossible to hear the last time the assembly meeting took place there, so she requested a configuration that would address that problem. The clerk said she will work with the library staff on the meeting setup.

15. ADJOURNMENT - 8:20pm

M/S **SCOTT/DUNBAR** Motion to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

Fred Shields, Mayor

ATTEST:

Julie Cozzi, Borough Clerk