



**Haines Borough Administration**  
**Mark Earnest, Borough Manager**  
(907)766-2231 • Fax(907)766-2716  
mearnest@haines.ak.us

**January 24, 2012**

The past several weeks have been eventful for the Borough. Crews have been busy dealing with a number of issues, including the water treatment plant roof, a broken grader, and the Oceanview-Lutak slope movement, each of which have required some form of emergency response action. Now we have learned that the 26-Mile Repeater has suffered catastrophic failure.

### **Oceanview – Lutak Slope Movement**

This Oceanview-Lutak slope movement became a major concern on Tuesday, January 17, 2014 when large cracks were reported on both Lutak and Oceanview Roads, as well as in the hillside between the roads. As of January 24, the ground in the affected area is continuing to move. The fill that was placed on the roadway surface and subsurface cracks last Friday and Saturday is already compromised with several large new tensional cracks forming in the same locations as the original cracks.

We have set up a command center to coordinate the flow of information. Roc Ahrens has been designated as Emergency Coordinator for this event. Along with Representative Thomas and Senator Kookesh, the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities and Department of Military and Veteran's Affairs, Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management and U.S. Department of Agriculture are involved in the response. I have taken action through emergency contracts with PND to bring a drill rig and crew from Juneau to Haines and survey equipment and provide training.

Due to concerns for the life and health safety of residents, the threat to public and private property, and potential disruption of commerce, I as Borough Manger deemed it necessary and in the public interest to immediately enter into two sole source contracts with PND pursuant to Section 3.60.180 of the Haines Borough Code as an emergency procurement.

#### **3.60.180 Emergency contracts.**

Whenever, because of any emergency, it is deemed necessary and in the public interest by the manager to enter into any contract without following the applicable competitive bidding procedures required by this title, the manager shall authorize such emergency contract if the estimated sum involved does not exceed \$50,000. If the estimated contract sum involved is greater than \$50,000, the manager shall refer any proposed emergency contract to the assembly for its approval and authorization to waive the competitive bid procedures. (Ord. 07-08-163)

The contract for the drilling program is in the amount of \$30,847, and the contract for the survey work is \$10,831.

### **Grader Replacement**

On the morning of January 4, 2012 the Borough's 1980's vintage Caterpillar 140G road grader broke down. This grader is a critical and indispensable component of the Borough's snow removal and road

maintenance program. In consultation with representatives from the Caterpillar Company, it was determined that the cost of repairs would far exceed the grader's value. Upon reaching this informed conclusion we began the search for an emergency replacement of the grader. With Public Works already stretched in its efforts to clear the record breaking snowfalls we are experiencing this season even with a full complement of equipment it made replacement of the grader an emergency situation.

We had no success in finding a rental piece of equipment that met our needs. We checked with equipment rental companies throughout Alaska the Pacific Northwest and the Yukon Territory. With assistance from Representative Bill Thomas' office and ADOT&PF, a surplus grader suited to our needs was being made available to the Haines Borough. The equipment was located at the ADOT&PF station in Fairbanks. The Borough sent a mechanic and driver, in a truck and lowboy trailer rented from SRI, to pick the grader up. The grader is in service on the streets of Haines.

Due to concerns for the life and health safety of residents, I as Borough Manger deemed it necessary and in the public interest to immediately enter into a sole source contract with State of Alaska pursuant to Section 3.60.180 of the Haines Borough Code as an emergency procurement.

### 3.60.180 Emergency contracts.

Whenever, because of any emergency, it is deemed necessary and in the public interest by the manager to enter into any contract without following the applicable competitive bidding procedures required by this title, the manager shall authorize such emergency contract if the estimated sum involved does not exceed \$50,000. If the estimated contract sum involved is greater than \$50,000, the manager shall refer any proposed emergency contract to the assembly for its approval and authorization to waive the competitive bid procedures. (Ord. 07-08-163)

The contract with the State of Alaska for the grader was in the amount of \$16,700. All other costs, including truck rental, fuel, labor, are estimated at \$5,750, bringing the total acquisition cost to \$22,450.

I am comfortable with the decision to purchase the equipment administratively for the following reasons: (1) we needed to act immediately on this purchase in the interest of public safety; Brian Lemcke and staff were unsuccessful in locating a suitable grader elsewhere in Alaska, the Pacific Northwest, and the Yukon for a rental unit or a comparable grader for sale; (2) the purchase is through a generous offer by the State of Alaska at a substantially discounted rate, and we know the condition and maintenance history; and (3) the purchase price for the "new" used grader from the State was less than \$3,000 more than budgeted repairs.

### **Water Plant Roof Update**

The Water Plant roof has been secured. The job is substantially complete, and although there are items remaining, the plant is fully functional. The final items are expected to be completed in about one week. Funding for the repairs is proposed to be included in the FY12 Budget Amendment scheduled for first public hearing at the January 24, 2012 Assembly meeting.

### **Solid Waste**

Work is continuing on the solid waste issues of sludge and screenings. We have a system in place dealing with the sludge on at least a temporary basis, and we are working with HDR to present a long-term solution for the screenings. Several options are being explored. In the mean time, the screenings are being collected and stored.

## **26-Mile Repeater**

We have a major failure of the 26-mile repeater. Apparently the communications equipment is completely shot and needs to be replaced, and the building needs to be refurbished. Besides the Borough/KVFD, it is used by the Alaska State Troopers and ADNR, Division of Forestry. Brian Lemcke is getting information and quotes put together.

## **Haines Port Development Request for Qualifications**

The Haines Port Steering Committee (HPDSC) met on January 11, 2012 to rank and make a recommendation to the Assembly regarding the Qualification Statements from firms in response to the Borough's Request for Qualifications to assist in the Haines Port Development project. The HPDSC is recommending that the top two ranked QS – namely KPMG/CH2MHILL and Northern Economics be invited to submit confirmation statements that they are willing to perform the scope of services outlined in their statements, as well as a fee proposal. The HPDSC is scheduled to meet again on February 8 to go over the responses, and make a recommendation to the Assembly for action at the February 14 Assembly meeting regarding a final selection.

## **Haines Borough Facilities**

Due to recent events that have preempted many of our ongoing efforts, I am requesting that this matter be brought up at the February 14 Assembly meeting. This is in regards to the suggestion for consideration adding to the Budget Amendment funding in the amount of \$50,000 for the Chilkat Center Roof Repairs advanced engineering and \$150,000 for the Borough Facility Master Plan.

## **Picture Point Park Ordinance**

I met with Rob Goldberg, Chair of the Planning Commission, to make revisions to the Picture Point Park Ordinance. The revised ordinance was approved by the Planning Commission at their last meeting and they recommend adoption of the substitute ordinance.

## **RFP/RFQ Update**

We are currently working on the following Request for Proposals and Request for Qualifications:

- Lutak Port Development RFQ (HPSC narrowed the field to two and request proposals from the top two teams)
- Community Center RFQ (Qualification Statements received – pending review by SC)
- Chilkat Center Roof RFQ (alternate plan – scope and cost estimate provided by JYL)
- Borough Land Sales RFP (on hold pending Comp Plan)
- Junk and Impound Vehicle RFP (on hold until spring)
- Excursion Inlet Hydro Reconnaissance Study RFP (currently being developed)