

Mayor's Report – December 15, 2016

Since our last Council meeting on December 6:

- The Council met with the Economic Diversification Commission to be presented the study on the Four Seasons Ski Area on December 7.
- December 8 – 9, I attended the RCAC Volunteer workshop, Science Night, Long Range Planning workshop and volunteer appreciation dinner in Anchorage. The training on RCAC past, present, and future was very good information and included an excellent presentation on the current escort tugs and the new tugs that will be brought into use in 2018.
- Our City Manager resigned as of January 3rd and is currently on vacation for the holidays. He will return on the 27th. Mr. Wegner is the acting CM until the 27th.
- The School Board meeting was well attended on 12/12 with the highlight being the presentation by the VHS band and choir students on their trip and performance in Hawaii for the 75th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor.
- The Health Advisory Council met on 12/13 and had the hard task of figuring out how to distribute \$200,000 that the Providence system wanted given to non-profits that fit the three top areas of concern, Obesity, Primary Care, and Mental Health. These areas were identified by the community through the health needs assessment survey.
- A gravel extraction/dike/ flood task force meeting was held on 12/14. This was a very action packed meeting and a big thank you to AnnMarie Lain for putting together such a well-organized agenda. Recommendations will be forth coming to the council.
- Edison Chouest was in town for three days to talk about their building projects and show example drawings of the houses to be built. They met with local contractors in the hopes of having much of the construction completed with local labor. I attended their presentation for the P& Z Commission. P& Z approved their rezone.
- I met with Alyeska officials to touch base on current issues on 12/15.
- The Valdez Arts Council hosts the Annual Community Christmas Program to take place on 12/17 and I was asked to do the honors of MCing the event. After this program, the City Christmas party hosted this year by the Parks and Recreation Department will be held. Both of these events will bring much fun and holiday cheer.
- I want to wish the entire community of Valdez a very safe and cheerful Christmas and New Year. May 2017 bring health, happiness and prosperity to all.

Respectfully submitted,



Ruthie Knight, Mayor City of Valdez