Mayor's Report – October 3, 2017

Since our last Council meeting on September 19-

- Latest news from the Stepping Stones Day Care/Preschool and its temporary relocation from Ms. Galipeau is they are opening their doors at the First Baptist Church on Monday, October 2nd and will be in that location for a month. The current location is still being remediated and still has some issues. The troubling news is that Stepping Stones will be closing their doors permanently at the end of October due to this long break without income. The facilities current director is hoping to have a home day care situation established by the end of the month for children who will be left without child care services. The elementary school (Ms. Guisti) will stop the temporary afterschool at the end of September. Thank you to everyone who helped try and fill the child care gaps during this time.
- The PWSEDD Executive Director, Wanetta Ayers, reported that PWSEDD is in the process of relocating its office to 610 East 5th Avenue, Suite 104a. They will be located in the Alaska Travel Industry Association Building on the ground floor.
- The 2nd Annual Confluence Conference was held at the Civic Center on Friday, September 22. I was able to make some of the sessions and was very impressed with the caliber of the Keynote Speaker and the attendees. Lots of good planning and networking happened with this "small group of committed individuals".
- The joint work session the council had with the Economic Diversification Commission was good and the plan for meeting in this type of forum every quarter is an excellent one. We will need to get those established and on the calendar. Thank you to Jeremy Talbott and AnnMarie Lain who gave us and over view about their trip to Alberta and the future possibilities for a wonderful partnership.
- The Beautification Task force meet on Monday the 25th and discussed the future of the matching grant program, the Pipeline Workers' statue relocation, the funding level to ask from council for the upcoming year, and much more. The members were invited to the ECI work session.
- Today, I gave a 30-minute welcome to/introduction to Valdez presentation to the participants of the Conoco Phillips/Polar Tanker spill drill.
- I would like to thank ADEC, RCAC and Alyeska for the keeping me and the City updated on the terminal spill. Sounds like everyone got some real life practice and everything is cleaned up and set to rights. We all hope it stays that way and there are no more unfortunate errors in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

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Ruthie Knight, Mayor City of Valdez